

CALL/ACBD (Webinar Sub-Committee)

Annual Report 2021 - 22

May 2022 – Virtual

Committee Chair(s):

Hannah Steeves

Members:

Krisandra Ivings, Matt Renaud, Doris Wagner, Melissa Firth, Yemisi Dina

Activities and initiatives that the committee has completed during this past year:

2021-22 Webinar Series

1. “*Inclusive Language*” presented by Grant Yocom

Tuesday, June 29, 2021, 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

Summary:

Language has power. It not only describes realities, but language also produces and perpetuates them. This workshop on the use of inclusive language introduces guidelines for using language in ways that do not exclude individuals or groups, does not perpetuate discrimination or stereotypes, and strives for equity. By using inclusive language, we prioritize respect and equity, while embracing the diversity of communities. This workshop is grounded in the several guiding principles: Respect for individuals’ and groups’ language preferences, recognition that terms that may be appropriate for members of a group may be inappropriate when used by non-members, remembering the diversity of experiences within groups, and the willingness to relearn. Since language constantly changes, we must be open to learning new inclusive standards. This workshop will offer tips and discuss inclusivity standards for both academic writing and in face-to-face interactions.

2. “*The Skin as Seen: Thinking Through Racial Justice with Levinas*” presented by Dr. Lana Parker

Tuesday, August 23, 2021, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Summary:

Drawing on the writing of French philosopher Emmanuel Levinas, one can begin to understand the interaction between two people as an ethical encounter, a face-to-face interaction that calls us each into question and renders us vulnerable. But what if, in the moment of encounter, your embodiment renders you less than human? How can we bring the imperative of ethical responsibility into conversation with racial injustice? This presentation will address the previous questions by first sharing insights into Levinas' ideas about ethical encounters. Further, the

difficulties of skin as "seen"—what happens when your body announces itself before you have had a chance to speak—will be examined. Finally, there will be a discussion on how one might recover ethical possibility by taking seriously the experience of pain and oppression as our individual and collective responsibility.

3. “*Savvy Negotiation Skills: A Toolkit for Law Librarians*” presented by Annette Demers

Thursday, October 14, 2021, 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Summary:

Some law librarians continue to be involved, to some extent, in negotiating contracts with vendors. Negotiations with large vendors can be intimidating, especially for newer librarians. This session will provide practical tools, tips and checklists to assist law librarians in the various phases of contract negotiation. Law librarians in all work situations and levels of experience are welcome to participate. Senior librarians are invited to share their experience and perspectives.

4. “*Meaning Making: Student Action and Indigenous Legal Education*” presented by Dr. John Borrows

Wednesday, March 9, 2021, 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET

Summary:

Student research, advocacy, negotiation and hard work are widening our views about what at times seems impossible - respecting Indigenous peoples' aspirations within and beyond Canada's legal frameworks. This work is slowly gaining momentum as students shed greater light on our collective past, present and future. In the process, this impacts society as a whole, as student ideas and research spreads beyond universities through their work. This seminar will address how Canadian legal education is responding to these processes.

Additional Tasks:

1. Updated Pricing

After consultation with members at the 2021 Open Members' Forum and the CALL/ACBD Executive a new pricing model was introduced. This has resulted in a notable increase in attendees. The new pricing model is shown below:

- Free for members
- \$15 for students + tax
- \$50 for non-members +tax

2. Updated Post-webinar Survey

The post-webinar survey was revised to shorten the survey, remove redundant questions, and improve feedback and requests for topics. Please note, despite direct and repeated requests via email, head office has either sent the survey out with significant delay (1+ week post webinar) or not sent the post-webinar survey out at all. This has resulted in diminished feedback and should be addressed for the 2022-23 webinar series.

Activities and initiatives that the committee hopes to tackle for the next business year:

Merge of Webinar Sub-Committee and Professional Development Committee:

The CALL/ACBD Executive approached both committees in the fall of 2021 to suggest an amalgamation. Both committees are in favour of this, though it has been noted that structural and logistical details will need to be clarified. A meeting involving the members of both committees will be organized near the time of the 2022 Annual Conference.

Zoom Hosting:

The members of the Webinar Sub-committee are now completely in charge of hosting the webinars using the Zoom platform. Head office has provided the login information to the Chair (Hannah Steeves) and are not present during the webinars for support. There have been no issues with this set-up to date.

2022-23 Webinar Series:

Upcoming webinars for 2022-23 include the following topics:

- Preservation, Discovery, and Accessibility: Talking Points of a Critical Nature (NELLCO Law Library Consortium Inc.)
- Decolonization/Indigenization of Cataloguing Practices (sponsored by Academic SIG)

Potential webinars for 2022-23 include the following topics:

- Disability Law
- Intellectual Property Law: Technological Protective Measures
- Library Planning Panel (strategic planning, succession planning, collection planning, etc.)
- Open Foreign and International Law Research

Other Activities for 2022-23:

A guidelines document is being drafted to provide clearer roles and tasks for members of the Webinar Sub-committee. It will support transition and new members. Hannah Steeves will be stepping down as Chair for the 2022-23 and is seeking nomination of a current member to transition into this role.