

CALL/ACBD Legal Research & Writing SIG

Annual Report 2018–19

May 2019 – Edmonton, Alta.

SIG Co-Chairs: Hannah Steeves and Nikki Tanner

Annual Business Meeting (May 27, 2018):

We had a full house at the LRW SIG's annual business meeting (unfortunately, our attendance sheet was misplaced, so we don't have accurate numbers). After addressing preliminary matters, the following topics were discussed:

- **The Instructional Resources Bank: Possible Collaboration with Academic SIG**
The Academic SIG wants to collaborate with the LRW SIG to populate the bank with videos that members can use for flipped-classroom teaching. Overall opinion suggests that the bank should be open to all CALL/ACBD members, not just LRW and Academic SIG members, and that students should *not* have access. Many members expressed a willingness to share their materials, as many videos are already freely available via sites like YouTube.
- **LRW Research**
Leslie Taylor (Queen's) is researching how law schools across the country teach LRW. She asked attendees their thoughts on possible survey questions, as well as how she should present the results. This led to a lively discussion on the legal research skills of law students and new graduates, and what we can do to improve their skills.

Instructional Materials Bank:

While the collaboration between the LRW and Academic SIGs was discussed at the AGM, no progress has been made in expanding and updating the bank.

CALL/CanLII Working Group:

In January 2019, the LRW SIG formed a working group to create content for CanLII. CanLII would like CALL/ACBD members to produce a minimum of eight instructional materials per year, particularly visual aids to assist users in understanding how to use CanLII (e.g., videos, infographics, etc.). In exchange, CanLII will pay CALL/ACBD \$1000.00 per year for the non-exclusive right to publish the content on CanLII's websites and social media accounts. Content creators would retain copyright or their work and receive proper attribution.

We have created a CALL/CanLII Working Group project on Basecamp, and there are 14 members. Many members have signed up to create materials such as handouts and videos, and, at the time of writing, members have completed one infographic on browsing case law, with a video to follow. We suspect most members will have more time during the summer months to create their content.

Anyone interested in joining the working group project on Basecamp can reach out to the LRW SIG chairs.

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

Our top priority will be to create content for CanLII and expand membership of the working group to ensure we meet the goal of eight items per year.

Furthermore, we hope to connect with the Academic SIG to create the aforementioned creative commons repository for instructional videos for use in classroom teaching. The goal is to have everyone who takes from the repository to contribute to it in some form, if possible, to expand the content and keep it fresh.

In addition, we hope to find a member interested in becoming co-chair in May 2020, as Nikki Tanner will be stepping down as co-chair at the 2020 AGM in Hamilton, Ont.