



# LTAIG NEWS

NEWS, EVENTS, AND NETWORKING FOR THE  
LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF COMMUNITY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

March 2007

---

## INSIDE THIS

---

Meet an LTAIG Member	2-5
January Snapshot Survey Results	6-7
March Snapshot Survey	6
Blog Watch	8-9
Upcoming Events	9
BC Library Conference Preview	10
New Library Technician Association in Nova Scotia	11-13
2007 LTAIG Salary Survey Preview	13

---

Whether you're a student or a working library tech or assistant, this issue of LTAIG News has something for everyone. We'll fill you in on what LTAIG is doing at the annual BCLA conference, and some upcoming library events. Now that the LTAIG 2007 Salary Survey is complete, we share a few preliminary results, along with the results of January's Snapshot Survey on benefits. There is also a new survey for you to complete. In the latest installment of Blog Watch, Christine Hagemoen shares five of her favourite blogs, which includes the blog of a 17th century diarist. Intrigued yet?

In a new feature, "Meet an LTAIG Member", we profile three LTAIGers: Kyenta Martins, a library technician at the PR firm Wilcox Group; Miranda Mallinson, a library assistant at VPL who's enrolled in the online flexible participation Langara program; and Michael Betmanis, a full-time student in his second term at Langara. We hope this new section will help you to get to know your fellow technicians and soon-to-be technicians. We welcome profile submissions for the next newsletter, too.

We have some exciting news from Nova Scotia, where an enthusiastic and passionate group of our colleagues has just formed a provincial library technician association. I had the pleasure of interviewing Erica Smith, the new president of the Nova Scotia Association of Library Technicians (NSALT). Ms. Smith told me about all about the new organization and what they hope to achieve over the next little while.

Spring is almost here, and the LTAIG committee hopes that the season brings renewed enthusiasm for life and library work to our fellow library technicians and assistants across British Columbia and the rest of the country. As always, we welcome your comments on and suggestions for LTAIG News – hope to hear from you soon at [ltaignewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ltaignewsletter@gmail.com).

Emma Wood, LTAIG News Editor

*LTAIG News is published bi-monthly by the LTAIG Committee and is a source for news, events, opinions, and networking for members of LTAIG.*

*Feedback and suggestions are always welcome, and may be sent to [ltaignewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ltaignewsletter@gmail.com)*

**MEET AN LTAIG MEMBER****Name: Kyenta Martins (Wilcox Group)****We hear you have a cool job. Can you tell us a bit about it? What's a typical day like for you?**

Currently I'm working as the research specialist at Wilcox Group, a public relations company. WG specializes in crisis communications, a type of PR that allows us to work on time sensitive, confidential projects for companies that need help with their communications at a crucial time for those companies or for their industry.

I support the PR specialists by providing company and industry research and reference services. I work with another researcher in our Toronto office. We both provide services to everyone in the company. The two offices work as one, so we are constantly making use of our online communications tools, such as email and IM to keep in touch with each other and our client base.

My days are always different depending on what projects or clients we are working on. Typically I will start the day by reviewing my email and responding to reference questions that are already in from the Toronto office. I try to get in a quick glance at the headlines of the day to see if there are any upcoming issues with our clients. I also review popular Canadian and international news and current events blogs for the same purpose. Web 2.0 has become an important area in communications today, so I try to always stay on top of new tools and trends, and make sure our firm is aware of them.

Most of my day is spent filling reference requests to provide further information on specific companies or putting together reports on industries for which we need more information. I also provide stock information and prices as requested.

I have taken on the job of putting together new business PowerPoint presentations in conjunction with one of my colleagues. I typically provide research support and graphics help. I like working for a smaller company because it gives me the chance to work in areas I typically wouldn't. I really enjoy honing my skills in finding and modifying images and background graphics - it allows me to focus my creative energies towards something useful for the company.

Another one of my responsibilities is to update and maintain our website regularly.

**What do you like best about your job? Anything you would change?**

I love the reference work. I am constantly learning new things and helping people expand their knowledge-base. I find that really rewarding and it makes me excited to come to work every morning.

**What's the last book you read?**

Currently I'm reading *The Weather Makers: The History & Future Impact of Climate Change*, by Tim Flannery. While taking the bus to work, I've been reading the December issue of *Wired* and the newest

(Continued on page 3)

## MEET AN LTAIG MEMBER, CONT.

### library Monkey

This blog is a natural product made from recycled electrons. The slight variations in spelling and grammar enhance its individual character and beauty and in no way are to be considered flaws or defects.

issue of *Business 2.0*, in which they have a number of good articles on the newest Web 2.0 successes.

**You have a blog called Library Monkey (<http://maggie-muggins.blogspot.com/>). How long have you been blogging? What do you blog about? What do you enjoy most about it?**

I spent a lot of time deciding whether my blog would be personal or professional. In the beginning I tried a bit of both. I decided to let it happen naturally and would only make it public once I had decided on a focus for it. It has evolved into a personal blog that focuses on my interests – one of my interests being libraries, access to information, and other issues within the information industry.

I like blogging because it is news and current events without the filter of popular media.

#### **What do you like to do when you're not at work?**

We are on the tail end of some renovations at home, so I'm really looking forward to having friends over within the next couple of months to 'debut' our home. I love cooking and have been busy trying out bunches of new recipes I learned from my in-laws from our recent trip to India. In the summer months, I love to hike and camp. I'm really looking forward to exploring more of BC's out-of-the-way campgrounds this season!

## MEET AN LTAIG MEMBER—STUDENT EDITION

**Name:** Michael Betmanis

**School:** Langara College. I am currently in my second term and my expected graduation date is May 2008.

#### **Why did you decide to enroll in the Library Technician program?**

I have always been interested in the organizing and processing of information, and I was drawn to the Library Technician program while I was researching different career choices. Through my position as a Library Assistant at Vancouver Public Library I had the opportunity to speak with Lib Techs who all spoke highly of the program and their experiences in the field. My own positive experience at VPL encouraged me to pursue a career in libraries.



#### **What has been your favourite class to date and why?**

While I have found all of my classes interesting, I have particularly enjoyed Cataloguing. Learning the

(Continued on page 4)

**MEET AN LTAIG MEMBER—STUDENT EDITION, CONT.**

specifics of each field in a MARC record and the detailed rules of the AACR2 has been like learning a new, yet logical, language. Another subject of interest for me has been Acquisitions and Technical Services. I enjoy searching for bibliographic records and verifying items.

**What type of library are you hoping to work in?**

Upon graduation, I hope to find a position in the Technical Services department of a library. I believe that I will find satisfaction cataloguing or working in acquisitions for a public or academic library.

*"My own positive experience at VPL encouraged me to pursue a career in libraries."*

**What are you most looking forward to in your library career? What part of library work excites you most?**

My current job at VPL has shown me to what degree a library can provide services for its patrons. I look forward to applying my skills in the accessibility of information, whereby my experience and actions are used to further promote library usage. I hope to work in an environment where I have the opportunity to continually learn something new and where I can play an active role in the library community.

**MEET AN LTAIG MEMBER—STUDENT EDITION****Full Name: Miranda Mallinson**

**School:** Langara College, Flexible Participation online, expected grad Spring 2010 (??!)

**Why did you decide to enroll in the Library Technician program?**

As a serious painter, I never went into a bona fide "profession". But I also wasn't interested in the "starving artist" routine, so I got a certificate in Early Childhood Education and worked part-time. After 12 years in the childcare field, I was ready for something else. I spent three years doing different jobs, trying to figure out what I wanted to do, and then got hired at VPL as a Library Assistant. I was very happy to be there—even when I was sorting and shelving books and gathering stray ones. After a year or so, I got to be on the public reference desk occasionally, answering "directional" and "specific" questions. I loved it more than any job I had ever done. The sense of fulfillment I got when people came to me lost or frustrated, and went away satisfied and happy, was incredible.



Then, VPL went through a major restructuring of staff deployment at the Central branch, changing the contingent of staff at the public desks to librarians and "Information Assistants". Many Library Assistants were given internal training and upgraded, but all of us below a certain rung on the proverbial ladder were pulled from the information desks. The changes meant that those of us who wanted to work as

*(Continued on page 5)*

**MEET AN LTAIG MEMBER—STUDENT EDITION, CONT.**

information staff had to get either an M.L.S. or a Library Technology diploma. I was 44 at the time, and would have had to raise my post-secondary GPA just to apply for SLAIS. It just seemed like too much to take on. Right at that time, Langara was initiating their "Flexible Participation" online option, meaning that students could take courses gradually, and do the whole program over the internet.

In the fall of 2004, I decided to try it out. I think if I'd known what I was in for, I would have declined the opportunity, but now, at the half-way point, my bitterness over the structural changes is fading, and there is a faint light at the end of the tunnel. Furthermore, I have completed most of the really "tough" courses, and am starting to do the courses that are more relevant to my areas of interest. And I will say here, for the record, that very little of what I have been "forced" to learn has been without value in my working life. Learning to create a MARC record has taught me to read one. Learning to write a formal report has taught me to evaluate them intelligently.

*"Learning to create a MARC record has taught me to read one. Learning to write a formal report has taught me to evaluate them intelligently."*

**What has been your favourite class to date and why?**

There have been some very challenging and infuriating exercises and assignments, along with some really exciting and rewarding ones. Among my favourite activities so far have been: creating my first web page (no, it wasn't written in raw code!), writing an XML file and watching it open when I finally got it right (that was exciting!), getting to survey the stacks of early children's literature, research overhead scanning equipment, and email professionals in the digitization field for a digital library proposal. Probably the thing I have loved most though is starting to answer mock reference questions and succeeding in finding the information.

**What type of library are you hoping to work in?**

At this point, I'm still pretty fond of VPL, and would like to work on the information desks there. The one other thing that I would love to try some day is to work in a library that focuses on fine art. It's my passion in my "real" life, and it would be a joy to share my knowledge and enthusiasm for that in my working life.

**What are you most looking forward to in your library career? What part of library work excites you most?**

Probably what I'm most looking forward to is finding information for people. I love the treasure hunt aspect, and I love how happy people usually are when you help them. It is a very powerful and, to me, meaningful experience. One encounter like that can make my whole day. Also, a couple of weeks ago, I got to sit in on part of an AskAway session, and was very inspired and excited by what the service can do—I'd like to try doing that at some point. I'd also be interested in working on web pages, especially as software develops so that I can use my design sense without having to become a master coder. I also think that given the rate of change over the past twenty years, there are likely going to be aspects of library work that will excite and interest me that we can't even imagine now.

## JANUARY LTAIG SNAPSHOT SURVEY RESULTS

In January, we asked what benefits you receive as part of your job, and what benefits are on your wish-list. The results were hugely varied, and show that library technicians and assistants enjoy generous non-salary benefits ranging from extended health plans to flex days to tuition reimbursement.

Of 75 respondents, here's how the benefits break down:

- ◆ 65 receive an extended health plan
- ◆ 43 receive conference attendance (either paid or subsidized)
- ◆ 30 receive free tuition for courses held at their place of employment
- ◆ 20 receive professional membership dues (either paid or subsidized)
- ◆ 12 receive a recreation allowance (e.g., for gym membership or sporting goods)

We also asked you to describe other benefits that weren't listed in the first part of the survey. The answers were, in many cases, quite enviable! Many employers are using creative incentives to encourage their employees to take care of themselves physically, mentally, and emotionally. Here are some examples of health-related and work/life balance benefits.

- ◆ MSP subsidies
- ◆ Dental plan
- ◆ Family illness leave
- ◆ Gratuity day for no sickness in a 3-month period - alternatively, "wellness benefit" where employee is paid a percentage of sick days NOT taken
- ◆ Subsidized or free yoga and Pilates classes, free use of on-site fitness facilities

*(Continued on page 7)*



### March LTAIG Snapshot Survey

In our second snapshot survey, we ask a question that comes up every so often on the LTAIG e-mail discussion list: If a library technician is willing and capable of taking on the job tasks that normally go to a librarian, should he/she be paid the same rate as a librarian? Why or why not?

Visit <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=186643506288> to sound off.

All responses will remain anonymous.

## SNAPSHOT SURVEY RESULTS, CONT.

- ◆ "Healthy lifestyle" points program: earn points by participating in certain activities or practices (for instance, losing weight, quitting smoking, volunteering, giving blood, etc.) – points then redeemable for cash payout.
- ◆ Paid entry in the Vancouver Sun Run
- ◆ Life insurance and short & long-term disability
- ◆ Maternity or parental leave
- ◆ Flextime
- ◆ One free legal service (e.g. a will)
- ◆ Free counseling from a registered psychologist

Employers also value continuing education and professional development. Some examples of these types of benefits include:

- ◆ 5 days of career development days (initiated by the employee, not the employer)
- ◆ Courses paid for or subsidized that relate to or enhance job
- ◆ Some funding available for courses taken at other institutions
- ◆ Annual budget for personal/professional development
- ◆ Conference/workshop attendance paid for or subsidized

Some employers facilitate savings and other financial endeavors by offering:

- ◆ RRSP matching and pension plans
- ◆ Interest-free loan to purchase computer
- ◆ Canada Savings Bond payroll program: have savings payments taken directly from payroll
- ◆ Monthly charitable giving through payroll

Dozens of other benefits were listed, including being excused from library fines; free coffee and baked goods; bonuses for referrals; subsidized transit passes; corporate rates on cell phones, movie tickets, discounts at nearby restaurants; and getting a free "moving day". One respondent spoke wistfully of the days when food was a part of working at agricultural research stations: "...we used to get apples and quinces at my present location, Orange, New South Wales. In Tamworth, New South Wales, we used to get test loaves of bread. They were shaped like loaves of bread but the size of a bread roll. Most of these perks have gone."

### *Wishlist*

Overall, we seem to be enjoying many different benefits, but there's always room for improvement. By far, the most popular items on the wishlist were paid conferences and professional membership dues.

Here are some of the other benefits respondents were wishing for:

- ◆ Elder care
- ◆ Optical coverage in health plan (glasses/contacts)
- ◆ Wider coverage on extended medical to cover alternative medicine
- ◆ Benefits for casual or part-time workers
- ◆ Flu shots
- ◆ Time off to pursue daytime classes
- ◆ A car would be nice, or a private jet :)

## BLOG WATCH

This month, Christine Hagemoen, a CBC media librarian, shares five of her favourite blogs. Christine combines her love of photography, food, and vintage cookbooks on her blog, The Urban Repast (<http://theurbanrepast.blogspot.com/>).

<http://www.librarianactivist.org/>



If you're interested in social and political issues from the perspective of a librarian and libraries, then take a look at [librarianactivist.org](http://www.librarianactivist.org/). Some of the many issues and topics covered include: alternative libraries; public domain; social justice; social responsibilities; alternative media; open access; and green libraries. The Librarian Activist also provides an excellent list of "Activist Resources". Originally established by Danielle Dennie, a science librarian at Université du Québec à Montréal, it was handed over to a new group of MLIS students and grads (and activists) in May 2006.

<http://insidethecbc.com/>



The official blog of the English media side of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, [insidethecbc.com](http://insidethecbc.com/) is written by the CBC's technology columnist Tod Maffin. It is meant primarily as a blog for employees, but it is open to everyone – it is the public broadcaster, after all. Best of all, content here is neither reviewed nor approved by CBC management prior to posting. So if you are at all interested in the CBC or a career in media librarianship, this is the blog for you. In particular check out past posts under: "Technology," "Working for the CBC," and the specific post called "Our Secret Weapon: The CBC Reference Library" (<http://www.insidethecbc.com/backstage/reflibrary/>)

<http://www.pepysdiary.com/>



If renowned 17th century diarist Samuel Pepys were alive in the 21st century, what would he do? Author a blog, of course! PepysDiary is run by Phil Gyford, who provides a new entry from the diary of Samuel Pepys each day. The premise is that a new entry written by Pepys will be published each day over the course of several years; 1 January 1660 was published on 1 January 2003. The Daily Archive allows new visitors to catch up with the diary thus far. Visitors' commentaries for each post are listed as annotations.

## BLOG WATCH, CONT.

<http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/>

## LibrarianInBlack.net

resources and discussions for the "tech-librarians-by-default" among us...

"LibrarianInBlack", Sarah Houghton-Jan, is an Information and Web Services Manager for the San Mateo County Library in San Rafael, California, who says she started her blog "out of my displeasure at having to wade through dozens of websites, blogs, & RSS feeds related to librarianship, technology, webmastery, and current issues to find those few posts that applied to me as a Tech Librarian. I hope this site can serve as a one-stop-shop for all us Techie Librarians...web design, technology news, library world news, reference stuff, funky gadgets, and other useful (or simply amusing) sites and posts." Houghton-Jan's blog imparts information in just the right balance for the self-proclaimed "techie" information specialist and the "techie wannabe" information specialist.

<http://www.dailylit.com/>



Though it is not a blog, dailylit.com is way too cool not to mention. If you spend hours each day on email but can't find the time to read books, then read them by email. DailyLit sends books in installments via e-mail. They currently offer over 250 classic public domain titles that can be subscribed to and read in their entirety for free. As someone who never had the stamina to read "The Divine Comedy" in its entirety, I can proudly announce that I have just finished all 38 parts of Dante's "Inferno", and will promptly sign up for the 33 parts of "Purgatorio".

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR TECHS & ASSISTANTS

**Friday, April 13:** "Friday the 13th Pub Night" - co-hosted by the SLA Western Canada Chapter, ALPS, SLA@SLAIS, and the BCLA/CLA student chapters. Location: Kingston Taphouse & Grille in downtown Vancouver, 4pm until closing. Everyone is welcome – please RSVP to Leslie Perkins ([lesley.perkins@cic.gc.ca](mailto:lesley.perkins@cic.gc.ca)) by April 12 if you're interested!

**Saturday, April 21:** Our annual LTAIG Social will take place on Saturday night after the 2007 BC Library Conference wraps up. Stay tuned to the LTAIG e-mail list and website for details closer to the conference!

## LTAIG AT 2007 BC LIBRARY CONFERENCE



This year's BC Library Conference, "**Beyond 20/20: Envisioning the Future**", is set for April 19 - 21 at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown, in Burnaby. Once again there are a number of sessions that will be of interest to library technicians and assistants, so we hope you will check it out!

The Library Technicians & Assistants Interest Group has joined forces with ALPS (Academic Librarians in Public Service) to sponsor one session this year. Titled "**The Social Library: A Showcase of Web 2.0 Tools in BC and Yukon Libraries**", this panel discussion will be held on Saturday, April 21 from 2:00 - 3:15 pm. Laurie Prange of Yukon College Library, Sally Taylor of UBC Library, Lindsay Ure of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC, and Rob Golbeck of Clark Wilson LLP, will discuss how blogs, wikis, RSS, social bookmarking, and other social software applications are used in each of their libraries and within the profession itself.

Other sessions cover a range of subjects: serving people with disabilities; copyright & fair use; access to information; developments in cataloguing; reference services; web design; aboriginal library services; and much more. And you won't want to miss this year's keynote address by **Steven Berlin Johnson** (<http://www.stevenberlinjohnson.com/>), author of several books, including *Everything Bad is Good for You: How Today's Popular Culture Is Actually Making Us Smarter*; *Emergence: The Connected Lives of Ants, Brains, Cities, and Software*; and *Interface Culture: How New Technology Transforms the Way We Create and Communicate*.

The conference program and registration details are available on the conference website, at: <http://www.bcla.bc.ca/conference>. **Register before March 23 to receive the early-bird discount.**

Does your employer have a budget for **professional development**? Ask your manager or supervisor if your organization might be willing to cover some or all of the cost of registration. Many employers are happy to send their workers to conferences like this, so be sure to take advantage of it!

Or perhaps you will consider **volunteering**? Student volunteers receive "time-for-time" credit (for example, volunteer four hours and receive four hours at the conference for free), and full conference registrants receive \$50 credit towards registration for a minimum of four hours of volunteer work. For more information, contact Mari Martin, Volunteer Coordinator, at: [mmartin@lib.pg.bc.ca](mailto:mmartin@lib.pg.bc.ca), or check out the announcement posted in the News section on the LTAIG website, at: <http://tinyurl.com/2azy8y>.

There can't be a BC Library Conference without an **LTAIG Social**! Once again LTAIG will host a Pub Night after the conference, on the evening of Saturday, April 21. Whether you decide to attend the conference or not, we hope you will join us for an opportunity to meet some new faces, chat with old friends, and connect with your colleagues from around British Columbia. Stay tuned to the LTAIG email list and website for more details in the coming weeks. In the meantime, you can read all about last year's social event on our website here: <http://tinyurl.com/lthxj>. We hope to see you at the conference in April!

**NOVA SCOTIA'S NEW LIBRARY TECH ASSOCIATION**

We just received the wonderful news that the library technicians of Nova Scotia have established a provincial library association! LTAIG News editor Emma Wood recently talked to Erica Smith, presidential nominee, about the Nova Scotia Library Technicians Association (NSALT).

*Editor's Note: NSALT held their first annual general meeting on March 12, where Erica was elected president. Visit the [NSALT website](#) for more details on the AGM.*

**LTAIG: First of all, on behalf of BC's Library Technicians and Assistants Interest Group, I'd like to say congratulations on forming your provincial library technician group, NSALT!**

**Erica Smith:** Thank you. It is an extremely exciting time for Library Technicians in Nova Scotia.

**Could you tell me a little bit about the history of the group? Did the group originate as part of the provincial library association, or was it free-standing from the beginning?**

The founding members are really a group of library technicians who had been attending various workshops, conferences, and other continuing education opportunities throughout the Atlantic Provinces. We were never an official group under a provincial library association. The group would discuss issues facing library technician in Nova Scotia and ways to support LTs.

**Who were the key people involved in forming the group?**

Erin Purcell, Library Support Specialist - Halifax Regional School Board; Jo-Ann Johnston, Library Technician - South Shore Regional School Board; Pam Sanford, Library Technician - Tri-County Regional School Board; and myself. The founding group has grown to seven since those initial meetings last year.

**How long did it take to write the group's purposes and by-laws?**

I started researching other library technician associations from across the country last spring. The actual writing began in the fall of 2006 and continues even today.

*(Continued on page 12)*

***About NSALT's New President...***

*Erica Smith graduated from the Nova Scotia Community College Library Technician diploma course in 1997. She spent eight years as a library clerk and library assistant with the Capital Health - Health Sciences Library in Halifax. Erica is currently a Library Support Specialist in a junior high school with the Halifax Regional School Board. Other library experience includes the Halifax Regional Library, Nova Scotia Community College - IT Campus Library and the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History Library. Erica is also a past president of the Nova Scotia Library Association.*

**NOVA SCOTIA'S NEW LIBRARY TECH ASSOCIATION, CONT.****What was the process like?**

Since the founding members are spread across the province it was difficult. I basically drafted some by-laws and then circulated the copy. The group has looked to other library associations, provincial and library technician alike, for advice. We continue to make changes and adjustments now. Our AGM is in two weeks and we are still not quite there.

**The press release announcing NSALT's formation listed several purposes: to promote a wider understanding, acceptance, and advancement of the professional role of the Library Technician in Nova Scotia; to collaborate with other library associations and other organizations in response to issues that relate to the entire library community; to provide input into and information about continuing education opportunities; and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas between library technicians and library assistants.**

**In what practical ways is NSALT hoping to realise these purposes? How will NSALT appeal to library techs working in very diverse settings?**

The first task of the executive will be to promote the Association as a truly provincial organization. As I spoke with other executive members of provincial library technician associations, I realized it can be difficult to unite due to geographical difference.

The executive hopes to hold continuing education events around the province. Executive meetings will also be held in various regions as well.

The founding group really feels that NSALT should then consider a PR campaign for library technicians. I have spent time traveling the province and speaking with library technicians in school, public and special libraries. One clear message that I have heard is that the general public does not understand the role of the library technician in a library setting. Many patrons refer to a library technician as a librarian. Different types of libraries even use different terminology - library support specialist or library assistant. It is our hope that we can take some time and educate the public about LTs. We will work closely with the Library and Information Technology Program at the Nova Scotia Community College during this campaign.

**How will your members keep in touch with each other? Any plans for a website or e-mail discussion list?**

I am excited to announce that as of Saturday February 24th, the NSALT web site was up and running. You can reach us at <http://users.eastlink.ca/~ericasmith>. We also hope to have a listserv running within the next month.

*"It is our hope that we can take some time and educate the public about LTs. "*

*(Continued on page 13)*

## NOVA SCOTIA'S NEW LIBRARY TECH ASSOCIATION, CONT.

### What will the structure of the group be? What executive positions will be voted upon, and what will membership dues be?

To begin there will be five executive positions. We currently have nominations for the following four positions - President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The other position on the executive is Past President. Elections will take place at our AGM on March 12, 2007.

We have set membership dues as follows: Student, \$5, personal \$15, and institutional \$25

### As a Nova Scotia library technician, and an NSALT presidential nominee, what part of the association's future are you most excited for?

I am so excited that library technicians in Nova Scotia will now have an association that represents the needs and interests of library technicians. We are truly fortunate in Nova Scotia to have two other phenomenal library associations, the Nova Scotia Library Association and the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. NSALT completes the picture and ensures a strong support system for all library workers in the province.

## LTAIG'S 2007 SALARY SURVEY PREVIEW

LTAIG's 2007 Salary Survey closed on March 11. We received a total of 322 responses, with 259 of those from British Columbia. The LTAIG Committee would like to thank all those who participated in the survey. Your responses will help us to know more about the work and training of library support staff in 2007. **The full results will be published on the LTAIG website in mid-April.** If you have any questions or comments about the survey, feel free to drop us a line at: [ltaig@bcla.bc.ca](mailto:ltaig@bcla.bc.ca).

### A few quick stats:

Total respondents: **322**

Total from BC: **259**

**Of BC respondents:** **147** have completed a Library Technician training program...**91** have completed a Bachelor's degree...**225** are working in a library setting...**142** are in permanent, full-time positions...**96** were hired before graduating...**63** were hired within 3 months after graduation...**187** are members of a Union...**49** are not members of a union...**3** are self-employed...**83** hold the title Library Technician...**78** hold the title Library Assistant...**16** hold the title Librarian...**141** positions require library technician diploma... **121** respondents have volunteered in a library setting.

**Type of library (all numbers include relevant responses given for "other"):** Academic - **115**; Public - **95**; School - **40**; Special - **71** (includes all types of special libraries listed)

**Other provinces/states represented:** Saskatchewan (**7**); New Brunswick (**2**); Manitoba (**1**); Ontario (**3**); Fujairah, United Arab Emirates (**1**); Alberta (**14**); Nova Scotia (**4**).