

CALL/ACBD Committee to Promote Research Annual Report 2019-2020 May 2020

Committee Chairs: Michelle LaPorte and Elizabeth Bruton

Members: Christine Brown, Kim Clarke, Catherine Cotter, Helen Heerema, Amy Kaufman, Yasmin Khan, Vicki Jay Leung, Marianne Rogers, Leslie Taylor.

The committee continues its work to promote research among members of CALL/ACBD by managing the Research Grant application process and recommending awards to the Executive, by proposing programs for the conference, and by maintaining and updating the committee's web pages with information about awards and projects and links to web sites and organizations involved in the research process and resources.

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

In May 2019 the committee met in Edmonton Alberta for our annual business meeting. We said goodbye to our co-chair Susan Barker, who has retired from the University of Toronto. We welcomed our new co-chair Michelle LaPorte, Law Librarian at Leners LLP (offices in London and Toronto Ontario).

In October, the committee carried out, via Basecamp, conference proposal discussions for the 2020 Hamilton annual meeting. We submitted a proposal entitled: *Next Generation of Digital Legal Research - Developing Proficiencies in Data Analysis Tools like Hathitrust, NVIVO and Power B1 to Maximize Your Results*. Three of our committee members put their names forward as speakers: Christine Brown, Leslie Taylor, and Yasmin Khan. Although our proposal was not chosen for the conference, the collaborative discussion was quite entertaining with plenty of committee member input.

Committee Work: Research Grant

The Research Grant information is found on the CALL/ACBD website (under Learn – Scholarships and Awards). The main page has been updated with particulars about the criteria used to evaluate research grant applications, and general information for recipients of the grant.

We reviewed the progress of current research projects at the Edmonton business meeting. Megan Siu has moved into a new job and no longer has the opportunity to work on her research project. We granted Sooin Kim an extension on her paper so she can take advantage of a 2020 research leave. She wishes to update the work she has completed in the fast-changing area of open access and its impact on legal scholarship.

We advertised the grant via the newsletter *In Session* and within issues of the *Canadian Law Library Review*. In March we received a request for an extension from two CALL members interested in submitting a research proposal. It was not long after this that the Covid-19 pandemic changed most of the CALL/ACBC plans leading up to the Hamilton conference. The committee chairs sent out a general notice of extension until May 30, 2020 for research proposals.

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

At this point it is difficult to make firm plans given the general uncertainty surrounding the the Covid-19 pandemic. A call for a committee meeting will most certainly be sent out when research grant proposals reach us.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle LaPorte and Elizabeth Bruton
Co-Chairs
CALL/ACBD Committee to Promote Research
April 27, 2020