

## CALL/ACBD Legal Research & Writing SIG

Annual Report 2019–20

May 2020 – Virtual

**SIG Co-Chairs:** Hannah Steeves and Nikki Tanner

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

- **Annual Business Meeting (26 May 2019)**  
After addressing preliminary matters, the discussion turned once again to the legal research skills of law students and new graduates. This is a recurring theme at our annual meetings, and the desire and need for all law students to have the same basic and essential research skills is at the top of our priorities.
- **Instructional Materials Bank**  
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 instructional materials for CanLII in exchange for \$1000.00 per year (paid to CALL/ACBD). Last year, members of the working group surpassed the eight-item minimum, creating a total of 13 items, which are available via [canlii.org/en/info/CanLIIGuides.html](http://canlii.org/en/info/CanLIIGuides.html). This project is ongoing, and we're always looking for new members. Anyone interested in joining the working group can reach out to the SIG chairs to be added to the CALL/CanLII Working Group project on Basecamp.

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

- **Research Legal Research Practices**  
As stated above, the research skills of law students and graduates is a hot topic with SIG members. One course of action we might take is to research tactics employed by law schools across the country and canvass the membership—of the SIG and CALL/ACBD as a whole—to determine how other librarians address this issue. Perhaps, in addition to our materials in the Instructional Resources Bank, we could share information about various research refresher sessions we've held at our respective schools, as well as tips and tricks on getting students to attend (prize draws, free coffee, etc.).
- **Partner with the Academic SIG**  
We hope to connect with the Academic SIG to create a 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. This has been on our radar for years, and we hope to make it a priority going forward.
- **CALL/CanLII Working Group**  
The CALL/CanLII project will create another eight items in 2020.
- **New Co-chair**  
Finally, Nikki Tanner will be stepping down as co-chair in May 2020, and Matt Renaud will join Hannah Steeves as co-chair until May 2021, when her tenure is up.