

Feature Articles

News from Library Staff and Technicians Interest Group

André Vietinghoff, Convener

On March 8, three members of The Library Staff and Technicians Interest Group: Lana MacEachern, Alexandra Tome, and me, as well as an enthusiastic non-member Carolyn Theriault-Parker, gave an online presentation to the Library and Information Technology (LIT) program students at Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC). Mr. Bruce Ross, an instructor of the LIT program who kindly agreed to the presentation idea last autumn, was the meeting convener and recorder via Microsoft Teams.

The focus of this presentation was the work of library technicians in diverse types of libraries. Alexandra, who works for the Mount Allison University Libraries and previously worked for the Humber College Libraries, shared her experience as a library technician in an academic library setting. Lana, who works for the Nova Scotia Health Library Services, specifically at the Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow, represented the special library setting. Carolyn, who works for the Nashwaaksis Public/School Library in Fredericton, agreed to speak about her role as a technician in serving both the students and the general public in that library. The Q&A session afterwards elicited a fair response from Mr. Ross's students. We hope and believe that this was a valuable learning experience for the library and information technology program students at NSCC, and we are thankful both to Bruce Ross for agreeing to this presentation and to the three library technicians who worked hard and displayed knowledge and zest in talking about their careers.

The Library Staff and Technicians Interest Group normally hosts an online meeting the third Thursday of the month for networking, professional development opportunities, and games, but because of scheduling difficulties did not host an April meeting. The next meeting will be **May 19**. We have also created social media accounts on Twitter and Facebook so that we can reach out to members more easily and to share resources, news, and the occasional meme. If you have any feedback or would like to join, please email us at libtech@apla.ca and we can walk you through that process.

Lastly, the Library Staff and Interest Group will actively participate in the APLA 2022 Spring Conference by hosting an hour-long open forum on **Thursday, June 9 at 2:30 pm**. We encourage library technicians and other library staff to share what you do in your library regularly to help create a **diverse** and **inclusive** environment for library users and user groups. We hope for a good turnout and participation by all invitees and especially by members of our interest group.