

LECTEURS CORNER

contributors / collaborateurs

Appartenance grandissante

Bravo pour la part faite au français dans la dernière édition de *Voix active* (hiver-printemps 2010)! Dans un numéro double, cela commence à paraître... Le contenu original en français est apprécié, bien sûr, mais aussi plus de traductions («Readers' Corner», «Office Space», «Histoire de l'ACR»). Car lorsque, comme moi, on ne lit pas l'anglais, recevoir une revue remplie d'articles non accessibles est plutôt frustrant. Mais cette fois, j'ai vraiment eu l'impression que la revue s'adressait aussi aux francophones. Du coup, le sentiment d'appartenance grandit... Merci et bonne continuité dans ce sens!

Ginette Lachance
Québec-Atlantique

In the presence of greatness

Someone on the e-mail implied that those of us who raved about the joy of hanging out with each other were missing the point of the conference, which they thought should be the content of the sessions. But they are inextricably entwined. WE ARE Canadian editing. The content at the sessions would mean nothing if it was presented by ... accountants, or university professors. Listening to, and talking to, other incredible editors is learning in itself. The content gives us a framework for discussing what we do all day, but that doesn't necessarily mean we are constantly learning something "new." For me the sessions were often confirmations or reminders of things I knew, coupled with interesting discussion from people I find Great, rather than startling new concepts. Nothing wrong with that.

And I don't mean "great, they're cool." I mean Great, as in even if they haven't won a Fairley award, they're doing an amazing job at what I do, and the vibe of sitting beside them and the things I might learn talking to them aren't necessarily things I can enunciate all the time. Little things, learned almost without noticing it.

Not that I'm saying we shouldn't seek awesome content when we're rounding up presenters. Of course we should! I remember the session in Edmonton about the film editors who work with a 24-hour company, and their rush deadlines in Tokyo, Montreal, and Italy and the way they co-ordinate. It was cool and interesting, and maybe I can't put my finger on what I learned, but in a way I've absorbed information that helps me to be a good employee to someone across the world.

Jennifer Latham even said it in her pre-conference session: "It was a great room." She provided us with her information and advice about estimating, and we jumped in with questions or comments. And the editors in that room constituted Greatness. And to me, if you don't get off on the fact that you're talking to GREAT colleagues, then you're not getting the point of what an association, and a conference, is about.

And along that line, I certainly feel a much higher self-esteem after this conference than I did before it, because people made the effort to talk to me, or come to the session I offered and give me a compliment after, or buy me a glass of wine, or bring me a book, or lose bets to me so they had to pay me chocolate,

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or even just to say hello and let's chat about work. That was incredibly strengthening, and due to the luck of having colleagues who put out that effort in my direction. But I honestly believe that if I can blossom with EAC, then others can too.

Hope to see you (and your presentation!) at the next EAC conference!

Christa Bedwin
Prairie Provinces branch

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