



ALLUNY NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES OF UPSTATE NEW YORK
(Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries)

Volume 40, Issue 3
December - March (2015-2016)

Message from the President

(submitted by Laura Suttell)

First, I want to recognize Barbara Briggs for her work as ALLUNY newsletter editor. If any members would like to take the reins from Barbara, please contact me. The newsletter editor job seems suited to two or more people. Why not ask a fellow member to co-chair the newsletter committee with you? You'll never [write] alone.

I'm writing this letter to you from my post on Main Street in Buffalo, NY, and today this fair city's reputation for snow is true. Looking forward, Vice President and Education Chair Amy Emerson has done her homework; she's been scouting New York State locations for our Annual Meeting, in addition to planning the Spring Institute. You can read about locations, programs and speakers from past association meetings at the ALLUNY web site. It's a fun trip down memory lane for this 10+ year member. None of our meetings could take place without the enthusiastic assistance of our membership, and I'd like to recognize last year's annual meeting Local Arrangements Committee, Elaine Blum and Cyndi Trembley. They visited hotels, selected meals, so if you enjoyed last year's meeting, thank them! Not to be dramatic, but the meeting could not have taken place without them and without the

support of our loyal vendors and sponsors: Biel's Document Management; Bloomberg BNA; LexisNexis; New York State Bar Association; Ravel Law; Thomson Reuters; William S. Hein and Co.; and Wolters Kluwer CCH. Melissa Lamb and Angela Patti worked tirelessly to arrange vendor exhibits and meeting sponsorships. I'm so glad they've agreed to chair the Vendors ad Sponsors Committee again this year. Thank you.

I've read that this year's American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting is being held in Chicago. Please apply for a grant to attend this meeting or another that suits your fancy. You can find detailed information on grants at the ALLUNY web site. What are your thoughts about the national association's proposed name change? I'm looking forward to reading more of the post-vote discussion. Here's a shortened link to a recent story from *3 Geeks and a Law Blog* on the results:

<http://tinyurl.com/jpxozdz>

Food for thought - I'd like to hear your opinions, and I look forward to asking when I see some of you later this year at our annual Spring Institute in Syracuse.



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So here's what happened since last we spoke. I did not get elected to the AALL Board, but I did win a fabulous door prize at the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia (see photo of Hon. Stephen G. Breyer bobblehead). And I had a brief solo in the Buffalo Choral Arts Society Holiday Concerts. The library in our office on the east side of Main St. was renovated; it was beautiful. Shelves full of useful books (after significant weeding), lovely tables for spreading out your files. You could work in relative peace, some classical music playing quietly on the radio, a bowl of hard candy nearby, a box of tissues and some cough drops for that tickle, and plenty of Post-It notes (I'm a collector).



Then we became a new firm. Perhaps you read about us in the paper:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/buffalo/news/2015/12/10/year-in-review-buffalo-mega-firm-created-with.html>.

When we moved to offices on the west side of Main St. our libraries had to be combined, which meant more weeding. A lot of weeding! So much weeding and reorganizing and moving (and did I mention weeding?) that my colleague had to come from Syracuse several times so we could get it all done. I'm still shifting smaller components of the collection, pulling together state stuff, federal stuff, treatises dealing with practical matters like depositions, evidence and objections. It's an interior space, so the radio signal is bad. Thank goodness for Pandora - I have stations ranging from Bobby Darin (1936-1973) to Josquin des Pres (1440/55-1521). While writing this, I'm listening to classical Christmas music, Handel's *Messiah* and *Greensleeves* to name just two of the selections surfaced by the metadata. (You have to love a "radio station" that is based on metadata.)

True confession - I wasn't as organized as I could have been, as I should have been, as regards the name and address change. These months later, I am still "working" with publishers to get it all sorted out. If I ever do this again I will think it through and come up with a better way.

Better luck was had when dealing with some of the large computer-assisted legal research contracts. When, or if, you have to do this, collect numbers, talk to people (but don't just take their word for it when they tell you they use Resource X *all the time* - monitor their usage), request different packages, run the numbers, then run the numbers again. My personal philosophy is that you can always add to your contract, but it's much harder, if not impossible, to subtract materials or seat licenses.

Here's an idea for books and other print resources; if you try this and it doesn't work for you, I *will deny* that I suggested it. Look around at what's not being used, then make the executive decision to cancel it. If several weeks, or even months, go by without anyone noticing, you're golden. And if someone does notice, you can offer to get updated material at a local library, or even buy a current edition. Occasionally, when an attorney learns the cost of an item, it suddenly is not so important any more. I told my library partner that I intended to hide a \$20 dollar bill in a multi-volume treatise set that a particular practice group *insisted* we keep up to date. If a year goes by and nobody has discovered the bill, that might be a sign...

If you are a firm librarian, you will want to keep a detailed record not only of the money that's being spent, but also of the money that's NOT being spent (economies of scale and all that). Put that figure in your next report. Include anecdotal evidence of the value of the library as well, with quotes from patrons (you *are* stashing those complimentary emails in a personal folder, right?) to show that even while saving money, the firm gets top-notch service from its librarians and resources.

You are certainly not the kind of librarian that never comes out of the library, so you have perhaps thought of this already. Put your marketing skills to use to get your name, email address, phone extension and reputation out there. In a situation like ours, there are plenty of people who don't know you. Use champions who are already familiar with your work to recommend library services to their new colleagues. Offer to address practice area, paralegal and secretarial meetings. Deliver periodicals or requested books or printed out cases in person. I'm down a staff member right now, and sometimes the time spent in these deliveries doesn't appear to be as valuable as it really is. Take any opportunity to get your smiling face (you *ARE* smiling, right?) out there.

You may recall my saying this in previous articles - this is the time of year when I say "I'll do that after the holidays." One of the things I plan to do after January 1, 2016 is generate lists of what reference and research material the firm has at its disposal - what's current, what's on the shelf but not updated, what's included in or CALR contracts, what physical and electronic periodicals are available for circulation. We're going to start offering in-house training again (everyone's been so busy getting settled that we didn't have many takers for the few that were offered), share more links to webinars and telephonic training possibilities, and invite my daughter the pastry chef to provide a few trays of cream puffs for a library open house. Those cream puffs always pack them in!

Present:

President Christine Demetros; Vice-President/President-Elect Laura Suttell; Secretary Brian Detweiler; Treasurer Andrea Rabbia; Board Member Cyndi Trembley. Also present were members Nancy Babb and Amy Emerson.

The meeting was called to order at 10:13 am.

Demetros welcomed everyone.

Treasurer's Report:

Rabbia provided a written report which indicated the Association's bank balance, as of September 30, 2015, to be \$17,992.58. The Board approved the report (Babb, Trembley).

Committee Reports:

Education: Suttell submitted a report and would like to continue booking local authors to speak at meetings. Trembley suggested bringing a box of pictures from the Archives to the next meeting to display.

Government Relations: Emerson reported that Committee plans to re-introduce UELMA at the New York State Legislature this year. The measure died last year despite support in both houses.

Grants & Scholarships: Although not present, Chair Jean-Paul Vivian indicated to Demetros that there were applicants for the Breuer Award and Annual Meeting Grant. A discussion ensued over potentially raising the amount of grant awards to increase participation. Babb suggested creating language to clarify that online training is covered under the Miscellaneous Program Grant. The exact verbiage will be determined at the Business Meeting.

Listserv: Although not present, Listserv Manager Bob Weiner reported no issues to Demetros.

Membership: Babb submitted report; ALLUNY has 91 active members and 11 new members.

Vendors & Corporate Sponsors: Co-Chairs Melissa Lamb and Angela Patti did not submit a report, but were commended by Demetros for their efforts.

Website & Social Media: Babb suggested creating a working group empowered to take control of outreach and communication, and assist with soliciting articles for the ALLUNY Newsletter and website. AALLnet provides the platform for ALLUNY's website, but development and maintenance is up to us. The ALLUNY website needs to be updated. Emerson suggested reaching out to an MLS student to redesign the site. Other suggestions included creating a SharePoint or WordPress site to facilitate collaboration. The idea of creating a working group for redesigning the website will be broached at the Business Meeting.

Old Business:

- Suttell will approach her friend about conducting an independent audit of ALLUNY's finances.
- Rabbia will prepare (non-binding) suggested budgets for committees and groups for Board approval at the Spring Institute Board Meeting.
- The new committee structure was proposed (Trembley, Suttell) and approved.

New Business:

- Demetros reported that she and Rabbia had a positive experience at CONELL over the summer and recommended printing a poster and participating in CONELL at next year's AALL Annual Meeting.
- A motion was made to pay Suttell's 2016-17 AALL membership dues (Demetros, Rabbia) and was approved by the Board.
- Demetros reported that Newsletter Editor Barbara Briggs received an email from a publisher asking whether any ALLUNY members would be interested in writing a book review. Suttell expressed interest in writing the review.
- Demetros suggested surveying ALLUNY membership regarding the direction of the organization, the format of the annual meeting, and preferred communication methods. She also indicated that she has access to Qualtrics through Syracuse University, which she may be able to use for administering the survey.
- Trembley reported all vendors except Westlaw, Lexis and HeinOnline received one registration each.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am (Rabbia, Demetros).

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Detweiler, Secretary

Incoming ALLUNY Board Meeting
Hilton Garden Inn, Pittsford, NY - Sunday, October 4, 2015
(submitted by Brian Detweiler)

Present:

President Christine Demetros; Vice-President/President-Elect Laura Suttell; Secretary Brian Detweiler; Treasurer Andrea Rabbia; Board Member Cyndi Trembley. Also present were members Nancy Babb, Amy Emerson, Jan Fleckenstein, Cindy Kesler, Elaine Knecht, Jeanne Seeds and Steve Weiter.

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 am.

New Business:

- Suttell suggested planning annual meetings two years in advance. Emerson will be Vice President at next year's meeting, and both Ithaca and Buffalo are being considered as possible sites.
- A motion was made to create and fund a new grant to pay AALL membership dues for one ALLUNY member for one year (Rabbia, Knecht). The motion was approved by the Board. Rabbia will inform Grants & Scholarships Chair Jean-Paul Vivian of the new grant and discuss specific language with him.
- Trembley reported that every registrant came to the Annual Meeting, and that Lexis paid for the Colonial Belle excursion on Friday afternoon.
- Trembley will push back on the conference hotel's pricing for peanuts during breaks, which came to over \$200. The hotel was conveniently located and minimum spending requirement at this site was \$4,000, as opposed to \$8,000 at other locations.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 am (Suttell, Rabbia).

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Detweiler, Secretary

This year we had one application for the AALL Annual Meeting Grant. It was awarded to Christine George of the University of Buffalo Law Library.

We also had one application for the Ernest H. Breuer Memorial Grant. This was awarded to Cindy Kesler of the Syracuse Supreme Court Law Library.

We did not have any applications for the Library Studies Student Grant or a Miscellaneous Program Grant.

There were no nominations this year for the Katie M. Deveau Spirit Award or the Anthony P. Grech Memorial Award.

**Respectfully submitted,
Jean-Paul Vivian, Chair**



Education Committee Report
(submitted by Laura Suttell, October 2015)



I was fortunate because three of the speakers for 2015's meeting came to me with suggestions for their presentations. What luck! I'll try not to boast as I say the association had a solid slate of programs and speakers planned. Since we had a Friday after dinner speaker at 2014's meeting (author Chuck D'Imperio), Cyndi Trembley suggested a member of her firm, Lee Woodward, give a talk about his book, "Another Christmas Carol: A Yuletide Fable", following dinner on Friday.

I've enjoyed serving as chair of the Education Committee and would like to thank Christine Demetros for her help with the Annual Meeting as well as the Spring Institute.

Present:

President Christine Demetros; Vice-President/President-Elect Laura Suttell; Secretary Brian Detweiler; Treasurer Andrea Rabbia; Board member Cyndi Trembley. Also present were members Nancy Babb, Amy Emerson, Jan Fleckenstein, Cindy Kesler, Elaine Knecht, Jeanne Seeds and Steve Weiter.

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 am.

Demetros thanked Suttell and the Local Arrangements Committee for their hard work in organizing the Annual Meeting.

Due to their publication in the Newsletter, reading of the minutes from the last Business Meeting was dispensed with (Rabbia, Knecht).

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was approved by the members (Suttell, Trembley).

Vice-President's Report:

A written report from the Vice-President was provided to the Secretary commending this year's Local Arrangements Committee of Trembley and Elaine Blum. Suttell indicated she has been in contact with the Buffalo Convention and Visitor's Bureau in preparation for the 2016 Annual Meeting which may be held there. Suttell also thanked the co-chairs of the Vendors & Corporate Sponsors Committee, Melissa Lamb and Angela Patti, for securing seven vendors and two corporate sponsors for the Annual Meeting.

President's Report:

Demetros reported staffing a table at CONELL with Rabbia to promote ALLUNY and recommended continuing next year. Demetros announced that Emerson was planning to run for Vice-President and that Margaret Ambrose was willing to join the Board. Elections will be held later.

Committee Reports:

- **Government Relations:** Emerson reported that UELMA will be re-introduced this year.
- **Membership:** No names were offered when Babb asked for nominations for Life Membership.

Old Business:

- Demetros reported that the audit report has been published.
- Suttell will ask her friend for an independent evaluation of ALLUNY's finances.

New Business:

- The AALL table changes for chapters, SISs and Caucuses means that promotion of ALLUNY will be more like a poster session; this will probably impact other groups more than us.
- Demetros reported that the Board approved the committee reorganization, and stressed that it is a restructuring, not an elimination of committees. The operating manual will have to be updated to reflect these changes.
- The Miscellaneous Program Grant was amended to specifically include online training, conferences and workshops as being covered.

- Babb raised the issue of creating a Website Working Group to redesign the ALLUNY website and the group discussed alternatives to AALLnet, such as WordPress. Rabbia indicated that she may already have set up an ALLUNY website on WordPress for PayPal, and if so, will send the link to Knecht, who will begin working on the site.
- The Board will draft a survey to ask about the direction of ALLUNY and the Annual Meeting structure. There were several suggestions for revising the structure, including limiting the meeting to Saturday and Sunday, and holding the Business Meeting at lunch to increase attendance.
- Babb will create a Google Calendar to remind the Board and ALLUNY membership of important dates. The Board and committee members can have editing access.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 am (Rabbia, Trembley).

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Detweiler, Secretary



Vice President's Report *(submitted by prior Vice-President Laura Suttell)*

For the 2015 Annual Meeting in Pittsford, Cyndi Trembley and Elaine Blum served as co-chairs of the local arrangements committee. They visited area hotels during the spring and held meetings with the hotel staff at the Hilton Garden Inn. They did a terrific job. I believe Buffalo has been selected as the venue for the association's Annual Meeting in 2016. I've identified Sept. 16-18 or Sept. 23-25, 2016 as potential meeting dates. There are no civic or religious holidays during or near those dates. I've contacted the Buffalo Convention and Visitors Bureau for assistance with selecting a hotel, but as of this writing (October, 2015) they had not replied. I'll contact them again. (I used the services of Rochester's Convention and Visitors Bureau to narrow the hotel choices for the 2015 meeting. The staff was professional and very helpful.) There are at least three new hotels in downtown Buffalo.

Melissa Lamb and Angela Patti have been co-chairs of the Vendors and Corporate Sponsors Committee. As with Cyndi and Elaine, I have the highest praise for Melissa and Angela. They kept in regular contact with potential vendors and corporate sponsors, and secured seven vendors as meeting exhibitors (Bloomberg BNA, LexisNexis, New York State Bar Association, Ravel Law, William S. Hein & Co., Biels Document Management, and Wolters Kluwer/CCH) and two corporate sponsors (LexisNexis and Thomson Reuters).

Seeking new Newsletter Editor!

Contact Laura Suttell if interested.



Upcoming Issues and Deadlines:

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>COVER DATE</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
41, 1	March 2016	03/18/16
41, 2	July 2016	07/15/16
41, 3	December 2016	12/18/16

Recent Activities:

Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton has graciously agreed to re-introduce the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) in the New York State legislature in 2016. You may recall that she initially introduced UELMA in 2015. It will carry the same bill number as last year.

See here for the text of the 2015/16 bill and information about its sponsors in the Assembly:

<http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A05631>

and here for the same in the Senate:

<http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A04606&term=2015>

I also participated in creating and distributing a nationwide survey to gather data on the current preservation status of each state's electronic legal materials. The goal of the survey was to learn more about what states are doing to preserve their electronic legal materials and to determine whether states are interested in open-source preservation solutions. The survey was developed by a group of law librarians and state leaders informally known as the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) Preservation Group, coordinated by Leah Prescott, Associate Law Librarian for Digital Initiatives and Special Collections at Georgetown University Law Library.

With regard to New York, the survey was completed by William Hooks, State Reporter, New York State Law Reporting Bureau. He responded in his formal capacity with regard to court decisions specifically, and indicated that New York has not digitized any paper-based legal materials and does not have any plans to do so in the next year. He also confirmed that there is not a long-term preservation strategy for the preservation of online legal materials in New York at this time, that he is not aware of any collaboration in New York between agencies that are publishing and maintaining electronic legal materials. In addition, he personally would be unlikely to explore open-source preservation solutions or participate in an interstate digital storage solution. This information will provide helpful context as we pursue the enactment of UELMA in the coming year.

We are continuing to collect responses from states and compile the full results.

At the Annual Meeting in October, some changes were made to the ALLUNY committee structure. The purpose of the restructuring was to join people and groups with similar objectives and tasks. There had also been some feedback that some committee charges were unclear and could use more detail. Below is the new organization, with the new charges. For more details about the committees and their work, please see the ALLUNY Operating Manual, posted at the Members Only section of the ALLUNY website.

Please select a committee you would like to serve on. Our organization can only be as strong as its volunteers, so please help us make ALLUNY the most relevant and productive we can be! If you would like to volunteer for a committee, please contact Laura Suttell.

Reorganized Committees

Archives

CHAIRS: Joan Hoolihan & Robert Cunningham

CHARGE: The Archives Committee is charged with storing and maintaining the archives of the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York. The Chair of the Archives Committee will be the Archivist.

Continuing Education Committee (WAS Education and Vendors & Sponsorships)

POSITIONS:

- a. Vice-President (Amy Emerson - appointed by Board, awaiting membership vote)
- b. Vendors & Corporate Sponsors (Melissa Lamb & Angela Patti)

CHARGE: The Continuing Education Committee acts as a clearinghouse for program ideas for the Association. This Committee is responsible for planning the Spring Institute and the Annual Meeting, as well as pursuing workshop and webinar ideas as they arise. As part of planning such events, this Committee will solicit vendor sponsorships and work with the venue to organize the Exhibits area at the Annual Meeting.

Government Relations/Advocacy (WAS Government Relations)

CHAIR: OPEN

CHARGE: The Government Relations/Advocacy Committee is to monitor legislative, regulatory and judicial developments that affect the membership of the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York (ALLUNY) and/or the practice of law. This includes, but is not limited to, the following areas: freedom of information, privacy/confidentiality, dissemination of government information, the New York Depository Library Program, telecommunications, intellectual property, funding for law libraries located within New York State, and censorship. The Committee shall work in conjunction with the AALL Government Relations Representative.

Members & Elections (WAS Membership and Nominations and Grants & Scholarships)

- a. **Membership** (Nancy Babb)
- b. **Nominations** (Christine Demetros)
- c. **Grants & Scholarships** (Jean-Paul Vivian)

CHARGE: The Members & Elections Committee will solicit and process new member applications and maintain current records of ALLUNY members in the Association's online directory. The Committee will solicit members to fill Executive and Committee positions within the Association. The Committee will solicit nominations for and administer all grants and awards presented by the Association.

Parliamentarian (WAS Constitution & Bylaws Committee)**CHAIR:** Steve Weiter

CHARGE: The Parliamentarian Committee is charged with maintaining the ALLUNY Bylaws so that they conform to those of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). The Parliamentarian Committee shall also ensure that actions of the Executive Board are consistent with the written Bylaw and Operating Manual of the Association.

Communications Committee (WAS Newsletter and Website and Electronic Lists and Public Relations Committees)**POSITIONS:**

- a. **Newsletter** (Barbara Briggs)
- b. **Website** (Elaine Knecht and **OPEN**)
- c. **Listserv** (Robert Weiner)
- d. **Social Media** (Christine Anne George)
- e. **Public Relations** (**OPEN**)

CHARGE: The Communications Committee is charged with publicizing the activities of ALLUNY members and the profession of Law Librarianship. This shall be done through the Association newsletter, website, listservs and social media presence. The Committee shall assist with print materials for ALLUNY and AALL events, and any other promotional opportunities that arise.

On behalf of the American Association of Law Libraries and its Scholarships Jury,
we would like to inform you of the available scholarships:

Marcia J. Koslov Scholarship (AALL)

provides funding for state, court and county law librarians to attend conferences, seminars and other live continuing education opportunities, for professional development, networking and increased leadership roles beyond the usual law library related conferences.

Scholarship for Continuing Education Classes (AALL)

available to all law librarians (not limited to state, court and county) who wish to register for continuing education courses related to their fields.

George A. Strait Minority Scholarship

is for degree candidates in law school or library school who belong to minority groups and who intend to have a career in law librarianship.

In the past, not many librarians have applied for these scholarships. AALL hopes that through publicizing them more, we will encourage more applicants. As with all AALL scholarships, applications are due on **April 1st**. Please help spread the word. Thank you and good luck!

<http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Resources/scholarships/Marcia-J-Koslov-Scholarship>
for information and application

<http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Resources/scholarships/Scholarship-Applications>
for application for AALL Educational Scholarships, George A. Strait Scholarship and Continuing Professional Education Classes Scholarship

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Membership Report
Volume 40, Issue 3 - Page 12

Submitted by Nancy Babb



ALLUNY Membership Report: Fall 2015 (as of 10/1/2015)

Membership Type:

Active	91
Associate	5
Life	31
Student	4
Unemployed	2
Total:	133

Library Type:

Academic	43
Court/Gov.	26
Firm/Special	25
Library (non-law)	1
Other*	35
Vendor	3
Total:	133

* "Other" includes life members, retired and unaffiliated

Membership as of October 2014 report: 133 (105 paid)

Membership as of May 2015 report: 128 (95 paid)

Current membership: 133 (99 paid)

Submitted by Nancy Babb, Membership Chair

October 1, 2015



The Fall 2015 membership report presents the good news that our membership numbers overall have remained steady since 2014; we continue to hold strong at 133 fantastic members. Although our ratio of dues-paying to non-dues-paying members has shifted, and we have fewer members in the combined active/associate categories, we have also welcomed a total of eleven (11!!) new members this year! Of these new members, seven are in the “active” category, two are in the “associate” category, and two are in the “student” category.

Six of these new members were welcomed in the Spring 2015 report. Please join me now in welcoming also:

- **Olli S. Baker**, Graduate Student, University at Buffalo
- **Samuel Braden**, Senior Administrative Analyst, NYS Department of Taxation and Finance
- **Malikah Hall**, Law Librarian, Cornell University Law Library
- **Margaret Rich**, Competitive Intelligence Research Specialist, Nixon Peabody LLP
- **Jeanne I. Seeds**, Reference Librarian, Hodgson Russ LLP

Cheers to all our new and renewing members! We are grateful for and esteem most highly all our members, and I send sincere thanks and appreciation to all. All members are encouraged to provide suggestions and feedback at any time.

To encourage future membership, I ask the Board to consider establishing some sort of outreach team, committee or framework for the association, especially to support and strengthen member services.

PRESIDENT

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Laura Suttell (see above listing, President)



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Why Join ALLUNY?

Impact

Being part of a group gives you the chance to have an impact in your life and to impact all members of law libraries in Upstate New York. This impact can be achieved by working on important legislative initiatives, providing important workshops and educational programs that will help educate your members or stimulating cooperation among area law libraries and library associations.

Networking

Exchanging ideas, obtaining informal help with difficult reference questions and filling interlibrary loan requests and sharing common goals with other law librarians is an excellent way to network. These relationships can lead to connections that will help you advance your career or help you to make important career decisions.

Advocacy

The Government Relations Committee gives you the unique opportunity to be educated on important legislative issues. This education includes information on relevant topics and ideas that can get you involved and get your voice heard by all law librarians throughout New York.

Education/Career Enhancement

ALLUNY works hard to develop and support meetings, workshops and presenters that provide valuable and pertinent information regarding topics and issues important to law librarians. Grants are available to support attendance at ALLUNY meetings and AALL conferences.

Information

ALLUNY strives to get vital information out to our members in a timely manner. Through the ALLUNY Newsletter and Listserv, our goal is to make sure our members know what is happening and how they can get involved and be heard.

Leadership

By becoming an officer, board member or committee chair, our members can learn valuable leadership skills. Important leadership skills can also be gained by volunteering for one of our committees.

Visibility

Being involved in an organization that gives you the opportunity to network with state, federal, court, academic, special and private libraries, as well as library science students can help you increase your visibility. This visibility can lead to important personal and professional opportunities.

Friendships

The most significant and lasting benefit of being a member is the reward of developing lifelong friendships with your fellow members. Imagine being in a room full of colleagues that are focused and energized on a common cause or issue and who share information about legal research. There is nothing quite like it. Whether it is laughing or working together, the relationships you make will be long lasting.

ALLUNY maintains several different platforms for communication among members. There is this Newsletter, of course, and the ALLUNY-L discussion listserv, and the website at:
www.aallnet.org/chapter/alluny/

There is also a blog at <http://alluny.blogspot.com/>,
a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/alluny>,



a Twitter account at <https://twitter.com/alluny/>,



and a LinkedIn group at:
<http://www.linkedin.com/groupinvitation?groupID=961107&sharedKey=1CC78E7C580C>



What is your favorite means of connecting with ALLUNY?
Would you like to be more involved?

All ALLUNY members are welcome - *indeed, enthusiastically encouraged!* - to participate.

The current web team includes co-webmasters Nancy Babb (babb@buffalo.edu)
and Elaine Knecht (eknecht@hblaw.com) and new
social media coordinator Christine Anne George (cgeorge@buffalo.edu).

This year, we hope to work on re-design and development of the website
and on expanding activities in our other forums. There is a lot to be done,
and we could really use your good ideas, time and energy.

If you are interested in joining ALLUNY's web team or participating in any aspect,
please let us know.

[URL for online application](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/alluny/forms/membership.pdf)

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