

Melanie J. Dunshee

Melanie J. Dunshee serves as Deputy Director of the Duke University Law Library, overseeing the operations of the library. She is responsible for developing the library's collections of print and electronic resources, and participates in reference services and legal research instruction. Melanie also coordinates library initiatives to collect and publicize faculty scholarship, including the management of an open access repository.

After practicing law for several years, Melanie began her career in law librarianship as an intern at the University of Michigan Law Library, while earning her library science degree. She worked as a law firm librarian in Detroit, Michigan for eight years before coming to the Duke Law Library in the fall of 1994 as a reference librarian. She served as the Head of Reference Services from 2001-2004, and assumed the duties of Deputy Director in June, 2004. Melanie has her J.D. and A.M.L.S. degrees from the University of Michigan and a B.A. from the University of Minnesota.

Melanie has been a member of AALL since 1990 and the ALL-SIS since 1994. She currently serves on the CONALL/Mentoring Committee and was on the ALL-SIS Awards Committee 2001-2003. She has also been a member of the AALL Awards Committee, and Chair of the Government Relations Committee of SEAALL.

Statement:

Academic law librarians face complex and diverse challenges and opportunities in building collections, providing access to a growing array of electronic resources, and developing new services and roles, while continuing to maintain traditional ones. While we wrestle with many common issues, the membership of the ALL-SIS is large and wonderfully diverse as well. From my perspective, our SIS has exhibited great energy and activity in recent years by establishing new projects and activities, raising outside awareness of ALL-SIS, and encouraging a wider spectrum of participation.

I would welcome an opportunity to work with all of the SIS committees and constituents to continue this momentum and contribute to accomplishing the goals of the SIS. I believe the Executive Board Member should help members effectively network and share ideas, and provide the support and coordination necessary to begin and continue successful projects.

The Academic Law Libraries SIS has much to bring to the profession of law librarianship, and I would be honored to serve its members as Executive Board Member.