State, Court and County Law Libraries
Special Interest Section of the
American Association of Law Libraries

Report of the Grants Committee
2003-2004

June 25, 2004

The Grants Committee prepared and sent out a solicitation letter to 15 legal information vendors in hopes of receiving donations to the travel grants fund. At the request of AALL Headquarters, letters were not sent to Lexis, West or BNA. Only one vendor, William S. Hein & Co., responded, with a generous donation of $400.

The Hein donation was added to the proceeds from the July, 2003 Silent Auction, for a total of $2070. Additionally, the SCCLL Executive Board voted to give the Grants Committee $1330, making the total amount available for grants $3400.

The committee received 4 applications for travel grants and approved all 4, awarding each recipient $ 850.

Many of the vendors who received a solicitation letter responded that this was not an activity that they were prepared to fund. Some already support the annual meeting through other projects, and others indicated that their funds were limited. Several vendors did indicate that they would need to receive any requests prior to the end of the calendar year - this year's letter was sent in early March. Next year's committee should plan on sending the letters out in late November if they plan to pursue this type of donation. However, since the Committee has tried this method at least twice with disappointing (except for Hein) results, I don't recommend doing it next year.

The grant recipients for the 2004 AALL Annual Meeting are:

Scott Burgh, Chief Law Librarian, City of Chicago Dept. of Law

Catherine McGuire, Outreach Services Law Librarian, Maryland State Law Library

Jason Raymond, Public Services Law Librarian, Wyoming State Law Library

Patti Worl, Law Librarian, Skagit County Law Library (Mount Vernon, WA)

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Colwin, Chair
SCCLL Grants Committee

Committee Members: Rita Dermody Carol Suhre Karen Lutke

Boston to Mumbai: The World of Legal Information

97th AALL Annual Meeting & Conference
July 10 - 14, 2004
Boston, Massachusetts

SAMPLE VENDOR SOLICITATION LETTER

Dear:

I am writing to you on behalf of the State Court and County Law Libraries (SCCLL) Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries to request a donation to our Grants Committee. Our committee provides funds to assist our members in attending the AALL Annual meeting. Many of our members are not reimbursed by their employers for expenses – and with state and local budgets still in a downturn even more of our members are facing this possibility. The annual meeting provides our members with opportunities for professional development as well as serving as a forum for the informal exchange of ideas among librarians and vendors. For many librarians it is their only opportunity to meet with vendors and see new products.

The cost of attending our annual meeting has spiraled in recent years, and I hope that I can count on you for your generous support in the form of a donation in any amount up to $1000. Donors will be recognized at our annual section meeting in Boston and our members will be encouraged to visit them in the Exhibit Area and support their products.

Your contribution is very important to us and I thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Jane Colwin

SCCLL Grants Committee Chair 608-261-2340

cc: Susan E. Fox, Executive Director
American Association of Law Libraries

VENDOR LIST FOR TRAVEL GRANT SOLICITATIONS

Aspen – see Loislaw.com

Bernan

Tamera Wells-Lee
Director of Publishing
Bernan Associates
4611-F Assembly Drive
Lanham, MD 20706-4391

CCH, Inc.

Leslie Bonacum (Librarian Liaison)
2700 Lake Cook Rd.
Riverwoods, IL 60015

Claitor's Law Books and Publishing Division

Bob Claitor
P.O. Box 261333
Baton Rouge, LA 70826-1333

Court Record Services, Inc.

Jim Ruocchio
5301 Tacony St. Bldg. 210-3
P.O. Box 5920
Philadelphia, PA 19137-0920

CourtEXPRESS

Brandon Johnson
Director of Research
701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite C100
Washington DC, 20004

Fastcase, Inc.

Philip J. Rosenthal, President
Fastcase, Inc.
1916 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 302
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Gale

Dedria Bryfonski

Executive Vice President, Global Market & Customer / Market Services

Thomson Gale

27500 Drake Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48331