

Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section
2006-2007 Annual Report

The 2006-2007 ALL-SIS board consisted of Suzanne Thorpe, Chair; Michelle Wu, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect; Linda Ryan, Secretary-Treasurer; Carol Bredemeyer, Member-at-Large; and Michael Slinger Immediate Past Chair.

Important initiatives for the year included creation of the program, "Challenging Conversations," by the Continuing Education Task Force, chaired by Lee Peoples. A grant from the AALL Continuing Professional Education Grants Program enabled this group to produce the program in streaming video format. It is now available on AALLNET. The Strategic Directions Task Force, chaired by Michelle Wu, reviewed the section's strategic plan and proposed changes that bring it into conformity with AALL's Strategic Directions. The Bylaws Committee, chaired by Jennifer Wagner, proposed language that clarified reimbursement policies, deadlines for nominee statements, and the schedule for nominating specific officers for election. Jonathan Franklin and Kory Staheli, co-chairs of the Statistics Committee surveyed ALL-SIS members to identify library "outputs" that law librarians believe are important to measure. Based on the survey responses, the committee began designing an instrument for law libraries that will help them measure their services and products. The Task Force on Job Titles, chaired by Ted Potter, was formed to provide definitions of various positions in academic law librarians for the AALL Economic Status of Law Librarians Committee to use in the AALL Salary Survey. Eric Gilson and Mary Hood, co-chairs of the Public Relations Committee, produced an attractive new ALL-SIS brochure and with the editorial and graphic art support provided by AALL. The Faculty Services Committee, chaired by Marianne Alcorn and Margaret Schilt, held two lively online discussions covering boundaries in faculty services and copyright.

ALL-SIS was responsible for numerous educational offerings during the 2007 Annual Meeting. Nine programs and one workshop that had been selected for ALL-SIS sponsorship by the Program Committee, chaired by April Schwartz, were chosen for the official program by the AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee. ALL-SIS funded two other programs, "Filling the Seats: Marketing Legal Research Instruction with a Certificate of Excellence Program" and Rising to the Challenge of Relevance in Legal Research Training," as alternate programs. In addition, Scott Childs organized a program for Middle Managers (with a breakfast sponsored by LexisNexis) featuring Donna Scheeder from the Law Library of Congress. Julia Wentz arranged a program for directors featuring Tim Coggins. ALL-SIS also partnered with the AALS Section on Libraries to sponsor a program on technical services for newer directors. The Legal Research Committee, chaired by Judith Anspach and Laura Cadra, the Collection Development Committee, chaired by Melanie Dunshee and Jennifer Lentz, the Relations with Online Vendors Committee, chaired by Monica Sharum and Marjorie Crawford, and the Faculty Services Committee also put together separate roundtables on their respective areas of interest.

ALL-SIS hosted two Valued Invited Participants (VIPs) at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans: Allen Easley, Chair of the ABA Questionnaire Committee (and Dean of the William Mitchell College of Law) and Dan Freehling, Deputy Consultant on Legal Education of the ABA Section of Legal Education & Admission to the Bar. During the ALL-SIS business meeting, sponsored by Thomson West, they addressed members on recent ABA developments related to the annual questionnaire and the Accreditation Task Force. Members also were able to exchange ideas and information with the VIPs during our annual reception. This lovely cocktail reception with traditional New Orleans food and music was sponsored by BNA and hosted by the Loyola University College of Law Library. Just prior to the reception, the ALL-SIS Mentoring Committee, chaired by Patricia Kidd and Kathleen Thompson, held an informal program for newer academic law librarians (NALLM) designed to introduce them to our section and academic law librarianship. During the reception, Awards Committee Chair, John Edwards, presented the 2007 ALL-SIS awards. The Outstanding Article Award was given to Bonnie Shucha for her article, "*The State of the Law Library Blogosphere.*" Lee Peoples received the Outstanding Service Award honoring his numerous contributions to the section. Two ALL-SIS grant recipients were also recognized: Yu-Hui Chuang, who received the CONELL grant and Maryellen O'Brien, who received a special grant to attend last fall's symposium, "Legal Information and the Development of American Law: Further Thinking about the Thoughts of Bob Berring."

In April, ALL-SIS held its election of new officers. This was the third year that the election was held electronically. The newly elected officers are: Filippa Anzalone, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and Marianne Alcorn, Member-at-Large. They join continuing board members Michelle Wu, Chair; Linda Ryan, Secretary-Treasurer; and Suzanne Thorpe, Immediate Past Chair.

Suzanne Thorpe