

Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section
Minutes of Executive Board Conference Call Meeting
January 20, 2006, 3:00 p.m.

Present: Michael Slinger, Chair; Suzanne Thorpe, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect; Carole Hinchcliff, Immediate Past Chair; Susan Lewis-Somers, Secretary/Treasurer; Carole Bredemeyer, Executive Board Member.

1. Call to order – Michael Slinger

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Membership issues

Letter to prospective law librarians

Susan will add the electronic AALL letterhead to Michael's letter, written to those who responded to his ALL-SIS listserv note soliciting interest in law librarianship. She will forward it on to Paul Moorman, Chair of the CONALL/Mentoring Committee, along with the individual email responses sent to Michael. Paul will send Michael's letter to each respondent via email.

Michael may also send the letter to the listserv, so the members who referred information to him about prospective law librarians may see what he sent to them.

New member packet

Michael sent a letter from the Chair to the Membership Committee, to include in the new member packet being prepared for mailing in about three weeks. The committee will order 300 customized post-it notes to include in the packets, and for other uses.

Website page on academic librarianship

Suzanne will develop a new page for the ALL-SIS website about academic law librarianship, to include useful resources relevant to the profession. She will post a request to the ALL-SIS listserv to request that members send her articles and other information about academic law librarianship.

Member survey

The Membership Committee had planned to run their next member survey in early March, but the Board will ask them to run it in late February, instead, to avoid having the survey run during the spring break for most law schools. The Committee should contact Susan Fox or Kim Rundle at HQ to arrange to use AALL's subscription to Zoomerang, and to get the HQ login to run the survey.

Suzanne will ask the Committee for a draft of the questionnaire, to allow the Board to review it before it is sent out to the membership in final form.

The Centennial and Collection Development Committees also plan to conduct Zoomerang surveys this spring, so the Board must make sure that the various surveys don't overlap.

3. Educational Summit

AALL will unveil a unified online calendar of future continuing education events being sponsored by chapters, SISs and other entities, at <http://www.aallnet.org/calendar/>, on January 23.

The Board may assign the Education Committee to coordinate our SIS continuing education events on the calendar.

4. Scholarships and grants

Michael spoke to Ed Edmonds, Chair of the Awards Committee, about draft language for several new grants. Michael will send the drafts to members of the Board for their review. The Committee will publicize the grants on the ALL-SIS listserv when the language has been approved, and applications will be added to the ALL-SIS website.

In 2006 there will be two CONELL Grants. Michael will contact HQ to reserve two slots on the CONELL program for the award winners.

In 2006 there will also be two need-based Centennial Grants, which will pay the recipients' costs to attend the Annual Meeting in St. Louis. Special preference for one will be based on hardship caused by the natural disasters of 2005.

5. Bylaws proposal

The Bylaws must be revised to conform to the ALL-SIS online election procedures. The Board will approve the changes recommended by the Bylaws Committee, and then submit the measure to the membership for a special election. Susan will check with HQ to see if the Bylaws measure may be added to the regular online ballot to elect new officers.

Carole will check to see if we are required to send the proposed Bylaws change to the AALL Bylaws Committee for their review before we submit the measure to the ALL-SIS membership.

6. Education Committee request to develop blog

Michael will ask the Committee to contact ALL-SIS webmaster Diane Murley, to discuss alternative means of creating a Committee blog. Michael will ask them to inform him of the outcome, after they have discussed the issue with Diane.

7. Annual Meeting update

Michael has been in touch with Phil Berwick, Local Arrangements Chair, about the ALL-SIS reception, to give him information about LexisNexis' sponsorship of the event. He will follow up with Phil to see how the planning has progressed.

Michael will contact Cindy Spohr of LexisNexis about the email invitation, the RSVP contact and the deadline for sending the invitations.

8. VIP invitation

Michael will check with Susan Fox to see if several VIPs being considered for an invitation by the ALL-SIS have already been invited to the Annual Meeting. Claire Germaine wants to host many VIPs this year.

9. Listserv discussions

To generate more substantive discussions on the ALL-SIS listserv, members of the Board will initiate new topical discussions on the listserv, in succession, every three weeks. Michael will begin in February by introducing a topic for discussion, to be followed by Suzanne in late February or early March.

10. Committee reports

The Nominations Committee has not yet announced its 2006 slate of nominees, so Susan will contact Chair Jim Milles to make sure they are on track to submit the names to Michael by January 30.

11. Next conference call – Michael Slinger

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at 3:00 EST.

7. Adjournment – Michael Slinger

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Lewis-Somers, Secretary-Treasurer