

RIPS STRATEGIC PLAN: 2006-2008

MISSION STATEMENT

The Research Instruction and Patron Services Special Interest Section serves as a forum within AALL on public services including reference, instruction, research, interlibrary loan, access, circulation, and outreach by organizing educational events, providing opportunities for discussion and collaboration, and producing publications.

VISION STATEMENT

The RIPS SIS is a thriving entity with a large membership of public services librarians working in all types of law libraries. Members value their participation in a wide-array of RIPS activities; service on diverse committees; authorship in the newsletter, Briefs in Law Librarianship, and Teach-In Kit series; and collaboration with other members to devise and share solutions on core issues in public services.

GOAL #1

RIPS CREATES A VARIETY OF PUBLICATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES LIBRARIANS

Strategy #1

Develop and clarify the Committee organization scheme and promote member participation in committee activities

Action Item #1

Review RIPS committee charges and rewrite them, if necessary, to provide specific direction for committee activities (Chair with Executive Board and Committee Chairs)

Action Item #2

Encourage members and CONELL attendees who show an interest in RIPS to join committees by solicitation at the Business Meeting and the online discussion list (Chair and Public Relations and Recruitment Committee Chair)

Action Item #3

Create a master document following each Annual Meeting for distribution to the Executive Board and Committees mapping out committee tasks and projects, with timelines for the upcoming year (Chair)

Strategy#2

Provide Support for and Encourage Participation in Long-Term RIPS Activities

Action Item #1

Assist the editor of the Briefs in Law Librarianship Series in recruiting authors and ensuring a high survey return rate (Chair with Executive Board)

Action Item #2

Review format, vendor sponsorship, and comparative value with ALL SIS Sourcebook to ensure that the Teach In Kit remains a unique, valuable tool for law librarians (Executive Board and Legal Research Teach-In Committee Chair/s)

Action Item #3

Provide support to the Teach-In committee to achieve a broader submission rate and to promote their annual event (Chair and Newsletter Editor)

Strategy #3

Encourage members to suggest new projects and initiatives relevant to their professional work life

Action Item #1

Solicit members at the business meeting and via the online discussion list to suggest projects they are interested in spearheading or would find professionally valuable (Chair and Vice Chair)

Action Item #2

Enlist attendees of the Program Committee meeting to pursue their program ideas as potential task force projects or to report on them in the newsletter or web page, if suitable (Vice Chair and Program Committee Chair, if distinct)

GOAL #2

RIPS HAS AN ACTIVE, INVOLVED AND DIVERSE MEMBERSHIP THAT SERVE AS LEADERS IN THE SIS AND IN AALL

Strategy #1

Increase RIPS visibility within AALL to encourage membership by all public service librarians

Action Item #1

Supply news for the SIS News Column in Spectrum and issue releases for inclusion in AALL-affiliated newsletters to the Council of Newsletter Editors in order to alert non-members of our activities (Chair and Public Relations and Recruitment Committee Chair)

Action Item #2

Promote all RIPS Annual Meeting events and programs to current section members and other AALL members via the online discussion list, the newsletter, and the Annual Meeting blog and newspaper (Chair, Program Committee Chair, and Newsletter Editor)

Strategy #2

Increase leadership and participation by members who work in non-academic law libraries

Action Item#1

Identify opportunities for cooperation and partnership with other Special Interest Sections around areas of RIPS interest, especially the Private Law Libraries SIS and the State, Court and County SIS (Liaisons selected by the Executive Board)

Action Item #2

Strive for at least one non-academic candidate for the Executive Board and strive for several non-academic committee chairs (Nominations Committee Chair and Vice Chair, respectively)

GOAL #3

RIPS EMPLOYS A VARIETY OF SUCCESSFUL TOOLS TO COMMUNICATE WITH ITS MEMBERS AND TO PROMOTE ITS CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACTIVITIES TO OTHERS

Strategy #1

Examine primary communications tools for members and consider more effective ways they can promote and support RIPS activities

Action Item #1

Revise and update the RIPS brochure (Vice Chair and Executive Board)

Action Item #2

Develop themed columns in the newsletter dealing with reference, research instruction, and circulation/ILL (Chair and Newsletter Editor)

Action Item #3

Solicit topic ideas and occasionally have moderated weeklong discussions on areas of RIPS interest using the online discussion list or an opt-in list created with AALLnet list software (Volunteers identified by the Executive Board and Online List Discussion Committee Chair)

Action Item #4

Continue to develop the content of the web page by adding content that reflects the output of committees and task forces and publicizes the ongoing activities of the SIS (Executive Board and Web Page Committee Chair)

Action Item #5

Promote RIPS activities and projects to AALL members by posting occasional releases to the Council of Chapter Presidents and the Council of SIS Chairs online discussion lists (Chair)

Strategy #2

Promote the work of the Programs Committee in facilitating the approval of educational programs relevant to members

Action Item #1

Continue to generate strong attendance at the Programs Committee meeting and support the work of the committee in facilitating the approval of member proposals following the annual meeting. (Vice Chair and Program Committee Chair, if distinct)

Action Item #2

Consider running RIPS-sponsored program proposals rejected by the AMPC as unofficial programs to run concurrently with AALL educational programs at RIPS SIS' expense (Program Committee Chair and Executive Board)

Action Item #3

Continue to run Roundtables (moderated discussion groups) on topics of interest to members at the Annual Meeting (Chair, Patron Services Committee Chair, and Research Instruction Committee Chair)