

## AALL CHRONOLOGY

### AALL HISTORY IN BRIEF: A CHRONOLOGY

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- Spring 1906                      A.J. Small, curator of the Law Department of the Iowa State Law Library, issues a call to other state librarians, suggesting that they get together at the upcoming meeting of the American Library Association “to consider the advisability of a separate organization of law librarians.”
- July 2, 1906                      AALL is formed at Narragansett Pier, R.I., during the annual conference of the American Library Association. Twenty-four librarians had responded to Small’s message.
- How well some of us recall that first meeting in which we sat together in the lobby and parlors of the Hotel Mathewson, with a single purpose in view—that of making [law] librarianship a profession rather than simply holding a job. . . . How eagerly we set about to form an organization, having no ideas as to its extent and possibilities, but we were firmly convinced that an organization was necessary for the advancement of the libraries and cooperative work among the law librarians. — A.J. Small, “Reflections,” 24 Law Libr. J. 12 (1931).*
- May 24-28, 1907                      The 2nd Annual Meeting is held in Asheville, N.C. President Small reports that the Association has grown dramatically since its formation, now numbering 77 members.
- June 22-24, 1908                      The first issue of the Index to Legal Periodicals and Law Library Journal (published under one cover) is exhibited to the membership during the 3rd Annual Meeting, held on the shores of Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota.
- December 1908                      The Index to Legal Periodicals, issued in conjunction with the *Law Library Journal*, is published for the first time under the auspices of AALL.
- June 26-July 2, 1912                      The 7th Annual Meeting is the first to be held in Canada, with members convening at the New Hotel St. Laurien in Ottawa.
- 1914                                      Having begun to print ILP in April 1912, the H.W. Wilson Company assumes the business management duties related to the Index to Legal Periodicals.
- 1915                                      The first committee on the Index to Legal Periodicals and *Law Library Journal* is appointed, with Franklin O. Poole as chairman.

*That [the selection of Poole as chairman] was an historic event is shown by the fact that [he] remained as chairman until his death in 1943, guiding the Index through its hectic and difficult*

*years of expansion.* — Forrest S. Drummond, “The History of the Index to Legal Periodicals,” 49 *Law Libr. J.* 148, 149 (1956).

April 13, 1920 For the first time, a private law firm librarian, Mrs. F.A. Ballard of Haight, Sanford, Smith & Griffin in New York City, appears on the Association’s annual membership list published in the *Law Library Journal* (13 *LAW LIBR. J.* 16).

June 3, 1920 The first dinner meeting to culminate an AALL annual meeting occurs at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colo., during the 15th Annual Meeting.

*One of the very enjoyable features of the conference at Colorado Springs was the first annual dinner of the Association. . . . The suggestion that a precedent should be established, and such dinners become a regular feature at the annual conferences was met with enthusiasm.*

*The management of the hotel heartily cooperated with the committee having charge of the arrangements. A large oval table, seating 24, was laid out in the main dining room early in the day and tastefully decorated, which excited considerable interest and much favorable comment. . . .*

*It is suggested that at future gatherings of this character the whole evening be set apart for this purpose and, after the dinner has been disposed of, to hold a postprandial at which a short list of toasts be offered to which appropriate responses will be made.* — F.E. Chipman [President, Boston Book Co.], “A.A.L.L. Dinner,” 13 *Law Libr. J.* 50-51 (1920).

1930-31 Rosamond Parma, first librarian of the University of California Law Library at Berkeley, takes office as the first woman president of AALL. She serves a second term in 1931-32.

June 24, 1930 AALL’s Silver Anniversary meeting is held at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles.

*The 25th annual meeting . . . was called to order by President Frederick W. Schenk promptly at 8:30 p.m. After a few introductory remarks, he called upon Mr. Robert Owens, librarian of the San Francisco Law Library for an address of welcome. The cordial greeting of Mr. Owens was followed by a felicitous and urbane welcome by Mr. Thomas W. Robinson, librarian of the Los Angeles County Law Library. And the ceremony of hanging out the latchstring was completed by Mr. William R. Roalfe, then librarian of the University of Southern California. . . . To properly acknowledge these hospitable addresses, President Schenk called upon Mr. Klapp, librarian of the Minneapolis Bar Association, who responded to the graciousness of the greetings with an eloquent appreciation of California’s charm.* — “Proceedings of the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting,” 23 *Law Libr. J.* 117-18 (1930).

September 11, 1930 The “Roalfe Plan” is first glimpsed by members in the form of a letter written by William R. Roalfe, librarian of the University of Southern California Law Library, to President Parma, later published at 24 *Law Libr. J.* 60-63 (1931). Specific suggestions include establishing full-time staff at a permanent headquarters, enlarging the *Law Library Journal*, seeking financial assistance from a foundation,

and publishing a bulletin with lists of current legal literature.

- July 1932 The proceedings of the 27th Annual Meeting (April 1932) are the first to be published in a single issue of the *Law Library Journal*, appearing in Volume 25, Number 3.
- June 29, 1934 The membership of AALL unanimously adopts a resolution directing the officers to go forward with the Roalfe Plan, taking the first official step toward implementing its proposals.
- [The Roalfe Expansion Plan] is a matter that is probably of greater importance to the Association than anything else that has ever been before it, certainly since the early days of the Association, when we were considering the matter of starting the Index to Legal Periodicals. — Ernest A. Feazel, past president, opening discussion of the Report of the Committee on an Expansion Program at the 1932 Annual Meeting, 25 Law Libr. J. 192 (1932).*
- December 29, 1934 The Association of American Law Schools gives its formal endorsement of AALL’s expansion program embodied in the Roalfe Plan by a unanimously adopted resolution at its business meeting in Chicago.
- September 23, 1935 The Association is incorporated in the District of Columbia, with Richard C. DeWolf (Library of Congress), Mary Alice Matthews (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace), and Helen Newman (George Washington University) serving as incorporators. One of the fruits of incorporation is the ability to accept grants. Later in the year the Carnegie Foundation awards \$5,000 to AALL for the expansion of the *Law Library Journal*.
- January 1936 For the first time, the Index to Legal Periodicals and the *Law Library Journal* are published separately, following a recommendation of the Roalfe Plan.
- October 1937 Ten law librarians meeting at the University of North Carolina agree to organize the North Carolina Law Librarians. This group is destined to become AALL’s first chapter in 1940. Its name is subsequently changed to Carolinas Chapter and finally to Southeastern Association of Law Librarians in 1954.
- Regardless of . . . proximity, each library, librarian, and institution [in North Carolina] stood as a separate unit and operated on its individual standards. The librarians felt hopelessly isolated professionally. . . . [Those forming the North Carolina Law Librarians decided] . . . that meeting several times a year in the interest of fellowship, exchange of ideas, and cooperative projects would go far toward boosting the morale of the profession. — Sarah Leverette and Lucile Elliott, “History of the Carolina—South Eastern Chapter, 1937–1955,” 49 Law Libr. J. 180, 180–81 (1956).*
- December 29, 1937 Acting upon a recommendation from AALL, the Association of American Law Schools amends its Articles to require that each member school have “a qualified librarian, whose principal activities are devoted to the development and maintenance of an effective service.”
- April 18, 1939 The organization meeting of the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C. is held at the Hotel Twenty-Four Hundred, with 37 librarians in attendance. The group is formally organized on May 31,

- 1939, with 46 charter members signing the Constitution.
- July 1, 1939 Members board specially reserved Pullman cars of the Overland Limited in Chicago to travel to the 34th Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Many visit the Golden Gate International Exposition upon their arrival on July 4.
- 1940 “Reference Question Clearing House,” forerunner of the popular “Questions and Answers” column, makes its first appearance in the *Law Library Journal* (33 *Law Libr. J.* 97). The column is edited by Margaret Hall, longtime reference librarian at Columbia University Law School Library.
- December 1940 The List of Law Libraries in the United States and Canada is first published for the Association through the courtesy of Commerce Clearing House. Currently titled the AALL Directory and Handbook, it has been continuously published by CCH ever since.
- June 1942 The petition of the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C. to become a chapter of AALL is approved at the 37th Annual Meeting, making it the second regional law library group to be accorded chapter status.
- 1942-1944 Though no annual meetings are held during these war years, the work of the Association continues as the Executive Board meets, officers are elected, committees are appointed, and the *Law Library Journal* and the Index to Legal Periodicals are published.
- 1945 Helen Newman, the first executive secretary-treasurer of the Association, resigns her office which she has held since 1934. She also served as managing editor of the *Law Library Journal* from 1934 to 1942. She will later serve as president in 1949-50.
- [T]o some the AALL and Helen Newman are synonymous. Her work in it has been untiring and invaluable. . . . Week after week for many years, she set aside Saturday and Sunday for the Association’s work. — Bernita J. Davies, “Who’s Who in Law Libraries: Helen Newman, Associate Librarian, Supreme Court of the United States,” 39 Law Libr. J. 17, 18 (1946).*
- June 27-28, 1945 Annual meetings resume with the 38th occurring in Rochester, N.Y. The war-time flavor is evidenced by a panel discussion on “Law Libraries in the War” and a report on “Aid to Devastated Libraries in War Areas.”
- February 20, 1947 Seventeen librarians meet informally at the Chicago Bar Association and formulate plans for the creation of an organization soon to become the Chicago Association of Law Libraries. William R. Roalfe, now at Northwestern University Law Library, is subsequently elected its first president.
- 1948 The offices of secretary and treasurer are separated by vote of the Association at the 41st Annual Meeting, held in New York City.
- June 24, 1948 Following an informal development beginning in October 1946, the Law Librarians of New England is officially recognized as a chapter.

- October 24-25, 1952 A workshop on law library problems, sponsored by the Chicago Association of Law Libraries, is held at the Northwestern University Law School. Its success encourages AALL to develop its own institutes, the first of which is offered at University of California at Los Angeles in 1953.
- December 1952 The organizational meeting of the Southern California Association of Law Libraries is held at the University of Southern California with 15 librarians in attendance. The Association is granted chapter status at the 1953 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles.
- April 1953 *Current Publications in Legal and Related Fields* is published as a supplement to the “Current Publications” section of the *Law Library Journal*. Fred B. Rothman acts as business manager for the new nonprofit publication.
- June 1953 AALL’s Scholarship and Grants Program is initiated with contributions from law book publishers for awards to assist recipients in attending AALL institutes and annual meetings. By 1993, the program has expanded to include the awarding of 28 individual scholarships, 11 grants to the Winter Institute and 48 grants to the Annual Meeting in Boston.
- June 30-July 3, 1953 The first AALL Institute held apart from an annual meeting is offered on the campus of UCLA under the directorship of Miles O. Price of Columbia University. The topic is “Fundamentals of Law Library Administration.” There are 53 registrants.
- This gave us seven months to prepare, a process akin to fighting our way out of a featherbed. No one knew who or how many would come, or what they would want in the way of a curriculum, or who the “faculty” would be. . . . [After surveying the membership,] it was soon evident that, dictated by the character and accomplishments of the “pupils” . . . , the Institute was to be in effect a continuation school for experienced librarians. — Miles O. Price, “Institutes from the Point of View of a Director,” 49 Law Libr. J. 168–69 (1956)*
- September 1953 William R. Roalfe’s *Libraries of the Legal Profession* is published for the ABA’s Survey of the Legal Profession. The accomplishments and prospects of AALL are discussed in a chapter on “Cooperation Through Organizations.” Among his recommendations are the publication of a newsletter for the prompt communication of information of current interest.
- December 1954 President Marian Gallagher of the University of Washington initiates publication of a monthly President’s Newsletter. It will be published until 1970 when it is replaced by the AALL Newsletter.
- June 25-28, 1956 AALL celebrates its 50th anniversary with a Golden Jubilee Meeting, held in Philadelphia with President Carroll G. Moreland of the University of Pennsylvania presiding. The event is also marked by a special Golden Jubilee issue of the *Law Library Journal* (49 *Law Libr. J.* 81-237 (1956)), under the editorship of Dillard S. Gardner, containing numerous articles describing AALL’s development. *The annual banquet was held in the Ball Room of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. Felicitations on the occasion of its 50th anniversary were extended to the Association by Katherine Kinder, president of the Special Libraries Association; Ralph R. Shaw, president of the American Libraries Association;*

*Robert E. Mathews, past president of the Association of American Law Schools; David F. Maxwell, president elect of the American Bar Association.*

*Miss Margaret Coonan presented to Gilson Glasier, the Association's only active charter member, as a representative of the founding fathers, a silver tray in recognition of the services which that group had performed. — "Golden Jubilee Banquet," 49 *Law Libr. J.* 482 (1956).*

- June 24, 1959 William R. Roalfe is elected first president of the International Association of Law Libraries at the organizational meeting of the IALL held at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York; he will serve until 1962. The AALL Executive Board, acting on the recommendation of the Special Committee on the Creation of the IALL chaired by Roalfe, had invited all people interested in attending this meeting to consider creating an international group.
- June 25, 1959 At the Closing Luncheon session of the 52nd Annual Meeting in New York City, President Ervin Pollack presents special citations to Helen Newman, William Roalfe and Miles O. Price for their "outstanding contributions and dedicated services ... to the law library profession and to the Association."
- February 1960 The first issue of the *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals* is published by the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies at the University of London, in cooperation with AALL.
- April 1960 The first two numbers of the AALL Publications Series appear, containing the proceedings of the 1959 AALL Institute.
- 1961 Elizabeth Finley, law librarian for Covington and Burling in Washington, D.C., becomes the first private firm librarian to be elected AALL president. When she joined AALL in 1939, only one other firm librarian was listed on the membership rolls.
- Elizabeth was one of a kind. Never suffering fools gladly, she always gave as good as she got, was a tenacious advocate of any cause she loved as her long devotion to the work of the AALL plainly demonstrated. . . . [S]he started to work [for AALL] the minute she learned of its existence. . . . Beside her concern for this then relatively neglected group [of private law librarians], she willingly assumed many jobs earlier and later that were short on glamour but long on detail and hard work. . . .* — Jack Ellenberger, "Memorial: Elizabeth Finley," 73 *Law Libr. J.* 738 (1980).
- March 1964 The first edition of the *Biographical Directory of Law Librarians in the United States and Canada* is published by West Publishing Company for AALL. Data is provided for 533 professional law librarians. Later editions appear in 1971 (733 entries), 1977 (1,220), 1984 (1,800) and 1992 (2,500).
- June 16–17, 1964 At a special meeting in New York called by President Harry S. Bitner, the Executive Board approves establishing a permanent headquarters for AALL, to be located in Chicago and staffed on a paid, full-time basis. Lucille Pelletier is hired as AALL's first administrative secretary.
- June 22–27, 1964 The first in a series of rotating institutes designed to provide training in basic library techniques is

held at the University of Missouri at Columbia Law School Library, preceding the Annual Meeting in St. Louis. The topic is “Legal Bibliography” and the director is Morris Cohen.

June 29, 1964

The Association approved a proposal to establish a permanent AALL Headquarters site in Chicago. The Headquarters Fund Drive is officially opened at the 57th Annual Meeting in St. Louis to raise the money needed to set up the AALL Headquarters. Its goal: to raise \$220,000 by 1967. The fund-raising campaign is chaired by Eileen Murphy from General Motors Legal Library. Later in the year, AALL will move into quarters on the 12th floor of the historic Monadnock Building, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., in the downtown Chicago loop, where it will remain for 45 years, until moving to a new Chicago location in spring 2009.

July 4, 1966

At the 59th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, the final report of the Committee on Certification, chaired by Mary Oliver of the University of North Carolina, is adopted, thereby establishing a detailed program for the certification of law librarians. The program includes the creation of a Certification Board and establishes the standards it must follow in evaluating the qualifications of candidates for certification. On July 7, the Board will appoint AALL’s first Certification Board: Mary Oliver, chair; and Richard Sullivan, Charlotte Dunnebacke, Stanley Pearce, and Mary K. Sanders, members.

July 7, 1966

Acting upon a recommendation of the Scholarships Committee chaired by Viola Bird, the Executive Board adopts a program of scholarships for professional education in librarianship. Two types of scholarships will be awarded annually: up to \$1,500 for a law graduate attending an accredited library school and up to \$150 with \$25 for incidentals to an AALL member taking a special course in law librarianship for credit at an accredited library school.

June 26, 1967

The first Joseph L. Andrews Bibliographical Award is presented to Anthony P. Grech of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York for a diverse series of bibliographies published during the preceding year. The award is established in honor of Joseph L. Andrews, longtime reference librarian at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

*[Joseph Andrews] knew his craft well, and he was always willing to share it with others. I was fortunate for all too brief a time to be his assistant, to learn from him the art of compiling bibliographies; and he believed that it was an art, not a technique. He believed that bibliographies should be compiled at their source, not through questionnaires or letters. . . .*

*He also taught me other things. He taught me a philosophy of librarianship and a philosophy of life. He believed that our profession was one of constant learning and self-renewal, dedicated to the service of others. He wasn’t a specialist. He was interested in, and had knowledge of, all types of*

*library activities; and he was interested in all kinds of libraries. . . .* — Anthony Grech, accepting the Andrews Award, “Proceedings of the Sixtieth Annual Meeting,” 60 *Law Libr. J.* 346 (1967).

April 5-6, 1968

William Murphy, AALL president, is the keynote speaker at the 1st annual meeting of the newly organized Western Pacific Chapter, held in Salem, Oregon. Mortimer Schwartz of University of

California at Davis is elected as the first president.

- 1970 The Law Librarians Society of Washington, D.C. publishes a *Handbook and Manual of Procedure* under the direction of President Jack Ellenberger. Covering the society's history as well as procedures for officers and committees, it is the first such manual to be published by a chapter.
- January 1970 The first issue of the AALL Newsletter is published, replacing the President's Newsletter. It is designed to provide a more frequent and regular means of communication within the Association. Its first editor is Mario P. Goderich from the University of Miami Law School.
- May 1970 The first *Statistical Survey of Law School Libraries* is published in 63 *Law Libr. J* 267-272 (1970). It is compiled by the Statistics Committee under the Chairman Alfred J. Lewis from the University of California at Davis.
- June 26, 1970 The Conference of Newer Law Librarians (CONELL) meets for the first time on the campus of American University. Peyton Neal organizes and directs the highly successful conference which attracts more than 100 registrants.
- The consensus at this point seems to be that those who were in attendance at this first conference went away with a much greater knowledge of their association . . . It will be the report of the Conference Planning Committee . . . that this idea be continued in future years, to give newer members of our association a chance to learn more about the association's activities.* — Peyton R. Neal, "Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting," 63 *Law Libr. J.* 441 (1970).
- June 27-July 2, 1970 The 63rd Annual Meeting is held in Washington, D.C., attracting a record 738 registrants. Nearly \$4,000 income is generated from the meeting.
- July 1, 1970 The Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries is unanimously approved as AALL's 12th chapter. Although active since its organization at Ohio State University in 1949, the group did not seek chapter status until AALL's bylaws were amended to eliminate the requirement that more than 50 percent of a chapter's members had to belong to AALL.
- December 1971 The Scholarship Program is reorganized, including the creation of an award to complete the final year of law school for qualified library school graduates.
- April 1, 1972 Total AALL membership now exceeds 1,500, increasing by 66 over the previous year to reach a total of 1,532.
- July 4, 1973 Student memberships are established.
- June 24, 1975 A Policy Statement on Job Security, Remuneration and Employment Practices is adopted by the Association. The Mid-America Association of Law Libraries is approved as the 13th chapter of AALL.
- June 25, 1975 The final report of the Task Force on AALL Reorganization (68 LLJ 391-94) is presented for approval

by its chair, J. Myron Jacobstein, at the third business session of the 68th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. The committee recommends creating three divisions (academic libraries; county, bar, and government libraries; and private law libraries) within AALL and establishing procedures for the formation of subject-oriented special interest sections. The membership rejects divisional organization but overwhelmingly approves a resolution endorsing an amendment to the Constitution that would allow for the creation of special interest sections.

June 1976

Alice J. Murray is announced as the winner of the “AALL Logo” contest in the *AALL Newsletter*. Murray’s contribution is significant since the stylized double As and Ls remain as the Association’s basic logo design nearly 20 years later.

*Moments before the absolute copy deadline for the newsletter was about to expire, AALL Secretary Pat Piper telephoned in the results of the AALL Logo Contest. AND the WINNER is Alice J. Murray. . . For her prize Alice receives a free registration for the AALL Convention in Boston in June. Our judge took too long with her deliberations and was not able to forward a copy of Alice’s design. However, she has assured us that it will be prominently displayed at the convention. — Lorraine Kulpa, “Alice Murray Wins AALL Logo Contest,” 7 AALL Newsl. 12 (June 1976).*

June 23, 1976

A Bylaw implementing the creation of Special Interest Sections is adopted at the 69th Annual Meeting in Boston (which draws a record registration of 990).

December 1976

The first seven Special Interest Sections are approved by the Executive Board: Contemporary Social Problems; Law Library Service to Institutional Residents; Government Documents; Private Law Libraries; Automation and Scientific Development; OCLC Law Libraries; and State, Court, and County Law Libraries.

June 26, 1978

At the first business session of the 71st Annual Meeting in Rochester, New York, two new chapters are approved: the Greater Hartford Law Library Association (later renamed the Southern New England Law Librarians Association) becomes the 14th chapter, and the Western Pennsylvania Law Library Association is recognized as the 15th.

September 1978

The AALL Code of Ethics is adopted.

June 19, 1979

AALL enters into a contract with Information Access corporation for the development of a new legal periodical indexing service, under the sponsorship of AALL. *Legal Resources Index* and *Current Law Index* begin publication in 1980.

August 1979

AALL membership reaches 3,002, including 115 student members, 181 life members and one honorary member. The Association has nearly doubled in size in just six years.

January 2, 1980

Fifteen past presidents submit a letter to the Executive Board in support of the proposal to create a new position of Executive Director. The Board votes to submit the proposal to the membership at the 1980 Annual Meeting in St. Louis.

*We are writing to you [the Executive Board] to express our support for the current proposal to create a new position of Executive Director . . . and to institute a dues increase to finance that step. . . Having served as the executive officer of the Association and having suffered keenly from the lack of an Executive Director, we feel that our testimony might have a unique relevance. . . .*

*The time required for our immediate efforts to keep the Association functioning . . . left virtually no time for the larger concerns which would affect or threaten the Association and law librarianship in the next years. . . . Daily attention to the trees left little chance to tend the health of the forest. . . . The present proposal for a full-time professional director can now fill that need. — Letter from 15 Past Presidents of the Association, 11 AALL Newsl. 79-80 (March 1980).*

- June 23, 1980 Chapters from Atlanta, Michigan and Northern California are approved by a vote of the membership at the St. Louis Annual Meeting, bringing the total number of chapters to 18.
- June 24, 1980 Although not actually executed until November 12, 1980, the agreement between the Association and the University of Illinois to establish a first-ever official AALL Archives to be housed at the university becomes effective. From its inception in 1980–81 to June 2008, the archives will grow from twenty series containing 18.1 cubic feet to 207 series containing 266 cubic feet.
- June 25, 1980 The Executive Board’s recommendation to increase membership dues in order to finance the office of executive director is adopted by vote of the membership.
- December 1, 1980 Production is completed on LAUNET COM 1, the initial phase of AALL’s effort to create a unified law library database. It contains 262 microfiche which hold 176,533 records from 53 participating libraries.
- March 4, 1981 Former AALL President Connie Bolden forwards “all files I have collected during my term in office, from approximately June 1978 to February 1981, for their inclusion in the archives of the American Association of Law Libraries.” Bolden, president when the AALL Archives deposit agreement became effective on June 24, 1980, is the first past president to deposit his papers with the archives. As of June 2008, the Archives contains papers from twenty- seven former presidents.
- June 1981 At the 74th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., a Council of Chapter Presidents is formed to coordinate activities among chapters and to facilitate communication between chapters and the national leadership of AALL.
- June 1981 The Contemporary Social Problems and Law Library Service to Institutional Residents Special Interest Sections vote to merge. Membership of the combined SIS is more than 70.
- June 29, 1981 Chapter status is approved for the Houston Area Law Libraries and the South Florida Association of Law Libraries. Thirty-five years later, on July 14, 2016, the AALL Executive Board will approve the dissolution of SFALL after several years of inactivity.
- September 8, 1981 William H. Jepson assumes his position as AALL’s first executive director.

- June 14, 1982 Chapter status is approved by vote of the membership for the Dallas Association of Law Libraries, the Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin, and the Law Library Association of Maryland. There are now 23 chapters affiliated with the Association.
- June 16, 1982 Margaret Moody is honored with a special certificate in recognition of her editorship of the *Harvard Annual Legal Bibliography* from 1969 to 1981 and her distinguished contribution to law librarianship.
- September 1982 Proceedings of the 74th Annual Meeting at Washington, D.C. in 1981 are published as Number 17 of the AALL Publications Series with the title, “Legal Information for the 1980s.”
- January 7, 1983 The Executive Board determines that publication of Annual Meeting educational proceedings is now economically prohibitive in hard copy form. The business meetings will continue to appear in *LLJ* but henceforth only audiotapes will be available for educational programs. An *Index to Annual Meeting Recordings* is later included in the AALL Publications Series produced by the Fred B. Rothman Company (1989).
- June 7, 1983 At its midwinter meeting in Cincinnati, the Executive Board creates a new scholarship to be awarded for graduate study leading to an MLS degree, with preference given to individuals with previous service to, or interest in, law librarianship, and eligibility limited to minority group members.
- June 25, 1983 The AALL Executive Board votes unanimously to recommend honorary membership for Mr. and Mrs. Harvey T. Reid, longtime supporters of the Association.
- June 26, 1983 The “Houston Daily,” under the editorship of Frank Houdek and John Hasko, makes its appearance as AALL’s first ever daily convention newsletter at the 76th Annual Meeting in Houston.
- June 27, 1983 The New Orleans Association of Law Librarians and the Phoenix Area Association of Law Libraries become the 24th and 25th chapters of AALL by unanimous vote of the membership in attendance at the Annual Meeting in Houston. On November 5, 2021, the AALL Executive Board, per the request of the leaders of the chapter known as the Arizona Association of Law Libraries since July 1994, will approve its dissolution after several years of inactivity.
- September 1, 1983 *Introducing the American Association of Law Libraries* is published for AALL with the assistance of Lawyers Co-Operative Publishing Company. Under the editorship of Frank Houdek, the handbook describes the history, organization, components, procedures, and activities of the Association. A second edition is published in 1986.
- 1984 With the completion of the cumulative volume covering 1980-1983 and the retirement of Willi Steiner, editor since 1967, responsibility for the publication of the *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals*

is assumed by the University of California at Berkeley School of Law, under the editorship of Thomas H. Reynolds.

- January 5, 1984      The Executive Board approves the abolition of both the Ethics Commission and the Certification Board, as a result of a study indicating that such activities might jeopardize the AALL's tax-exempt status and because of a concern that properly conducting such activities was not feasible.
- March 9, 1984      The Final Report of the Task Force on Nominations Procedures, formed in June 1992 with Laura N. Gasaway as chair, is issued. Among the recommendations later adopted by the Association: expansion of the Nominating Committee from five to seven members, expansion of term of service to two years, and a direction to nominate at least two candidates for each office.
- May 1984            The Special Committee on Financial Planning, formed in 1982 by AALL President Leah Chanin and chaired by Lorraine A. Kulpa, issues its Final Report analyzing the fiscal condition of the Association and making recommendations to assure its future financial health. The report is published at *77 Law Libr. J.* 386-402 (1984-85).
- July 1984            The 4th edition of the *Biographical Directory of the American Association of Law Libraries* is published for the Association by the West Publishing company. Edited by Gail M. Daly and Suzanne Nevin of the University of Minnesota Law Library, it contains about 1,800 entries.
- July 2, 1984        The Colorado Consortium of Law Libraries becomes AALL's 26th chapter after a vote of the members attending the 77th Annual Meeting in San Diego. The name is soon changed to Colorado Association of Law Libraries (CoALL).
- July 4, 1984        Marian Gould Gallagher, past president of AALL and professor of law and law librarian emeritus at the University of Washington, receives the first-ever AALL Distinguished Service Award at the Closing Banquet of the San Diego Annual Meeting. The award will be renamed in her honor in 1990.
- Trying to write anything about Marian Gallagher's life . . . is like trying to carry milk across the room in a sieve—a lot is lost in the process. . . . [Listing her professional accomplishments provides] a very incomplete picture of the real Marian Gallagher. You miss what I think she regarded as the most important part: her natural inclination to find the humor in most everything. Marian was fun at work or play. She enjoyed life and made the best out of it. Marian was a rabid Husky football fan, loved to play golf, drink, and play poker. — Penny A. Hazelton, "Memorial: Marian Gould Gallagher," 82 Law Libr. J. 399–400 (1990).*
- July 4, 1984        The first Law Library Publication Award is presented to Duke University School of Law Library at the Annual Meeting Final Banquet in San Diego. The award is given for the library's *Research Guide Series, D.U.L.L. News and Library Guides*. The award is discontinued in favor of a Law Library Public Relations Award commencing in 1995.
- January 4, 1985      The Executive Board approves special interest section status for the Foreign, Comparative, and

International Law SIS. Although it is the eleventh SIS to be formally recognized, FCIL actually traces its origin to the Committee on Cooperation with Latin American Libraries, which was formed in 1947. Over time, its name was changed to the Committee on Foreign Law (1950) and then to the Committee on Foreign and International Law (1966).

- January 6-9, 1985      The first-ever AALL Winter Institute is held in Washington, D.C. following the annual meeting of the Association of American Law Schools. Ninety-one librarians attend the Institute on “Managing for Improved Results: A Seminar in Personal Effectiveness,” co- directed by Robert Oakley and Michael Gehringer.
- July 7-10, 1985      The 78th Annual Meeting, with a grand total of 2,336 attendees, is the largest AALL convention to date, breaking the attendance mark set in Washington in 1981. Chief organizers for the New York City affair are Diana Vincent-Daviss, program chairperson, and Jack Ellenberger, in charge of local arrangements.
- July 9, 1985          At the Annual Meeting in New York City, Dan Dabney, Fred R. Shapiro and Arturo L. Torres present their winning papers in AALL’s initial “Call for Papers” competition. The recipients of the awards are selected by a special panel of judges comprised of Roger Jacobs, Margaret Leary, and Donald Ziegenfuss. This panel will be replaced by an AALL standing committee in 1987–1988. Later, the award will be renamed in recognition of sponsors who provide monetary prizes: Matthew Bender & Company in 1996, Lexis Publishing in 2000, and LexisNexis in 2001.
- August 1985          The *AALL Newsletter*, under the editorship of Mary Lu Linnane from DePaul University, is typeset for the first time in its history with the August 1985 issue (Vol. 17, No. 1).
- November 1985        The Special Committee on the Future of AALL, formed in 1983 by AALL President Kathleen Price and chaired by Sarah Wiant, completes its final report examining the law library profession and ways in which AALL can improve its role in serving that profession. The report is published at 78 *Law Libr. J.* 351-361 (1986).
- December 15, 1985    In Executive Director Bill Jepson’s report to the board, a new peak in AALL membership is noted: 3,800 members (1,731 institutional, 1,619 active, 67 associate individual, 68 associate business, 184 life, 130 student, 1 honorary).
- January 1986          *The Directory of Law Libraries* celebrates its Silver Anniversary with the publication of the 25th edition. Its editors are Anne H. Butler, Randall T. Peterson and Bardie C. Wolfe Jr.
- May 15, 1986          The AALL Occasional Papers Series is inaugurated with the issuance of the *SIS Handbook* by the Publications Committee. The Series editor is Anne Myers of the University of Virginia.
- July 5, 1986          Under the leadership of Ann Puckett, the Academic Law Libraries SIS establishes a Mentor Project at the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., pairing first-time attendees with experienced members. The program is so successful it soon becomes an Association-wide activity conducted under the aegis of

the CONELL program.

- July 7, 1986 Julius Marke, past president of AALL, receives the second Distinguished Service Award presented by the Association.
- July 4, 1987 The Executive Board approves the recommendations (summarized at 19 AALL Newsl. 19-21) contained in the report of the Special Committee on Committees, chaired by Vivian Campbell. Among the wide-ranging recommendations are ones concerning terms of office for committee members, adequacy of procedures, committee charges, appointment process, committee size, and selection criteria.
- July 6, 1987 The New Jersey Law Librarians' Association is approved as the 27th chapter of the Association by vote of the membership at the Annual Meeting in Chicago.
- July 8, 1987 Margaret Leary begins her term as AALL president-elect at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting in Chicago. Earlier in the spring, she defeated Carol Billings for president in the first contested election involving officers, the result of a change in the Association's Bylaws to require that the Nominations Committee "present at least two candidates for each Executive Board position and for each of the offices of vice president-president elect, secretary and treasurer." The change resulted from a 1984 recommendation of the Task Force on Nominations Procedures, chaired by Laura N. Gasaway. Billings will later serve as president in 1994-95.
- July 9, 1987 Guidelines for the AALL Legal Research Series, to be published by William S. Hein & Co. under the sponsorship of the Association, are approved by the Executive Board. *Congressional Hearings Calendar* by Carol Gray and Bernard Reams is the first item issued in the Series.
- October 8-10, 1987 The first regional meeting of chapters is held in Albany, New York. Under the co- sponsorship of 6 chapters, the theme of the Law Librarians Northeast Regional Conference is "Information: The Lawyer/Librarian Connection." Margie Axtmann of Cornell University serves as program chair.
- December 1987 The 1988 *AALL Directory and Handbook* is published for the Association by Commerce Clearing House. Under the editorship of Anne Butler, Randall Peterson and Bardie Wolfe, the volume is greatly expanded from previous editions, with a separate alphabetical list of members and a variety of new features.
- January 1, 1988 The *AALL Career Hotline* becomes operational, allowing callers to receive recorded messages featuring descriptions of positions available.
- January 6, 1988 The Executive Board approves Legal Information Service to the Public as the 12th Special Interest Section. The new group replaces the committee of the same name which had been formed in 1980-1981 as a special committee with Judith Foust as chair to address a growing concern about providing access to legal resources in public libraries.
- February 22, 1988 Martha S. Brown is hired at AALL Headquarters in Chicago as the Association's first ever professional

development officer, a newly created position designed to focus exclusively on the educational programs of AALL. The position will later be expanded and renamed director of programs.

- June 1, 1988 Mary Sworsky becomes the first professional editor for the *AALL Newsletter*, following approval of the paid position by the Executive Board in July 1987.
- June 26, 1988 The first-ever Annual Meeting opening day plenary session is held in Atlanta, with Nina Totenberg speaking on the “Supreme Court Nominating Process” from her unique perspective as legal affairs correspondent for National Public Radio.
- June 27, 1988 The Virginia Association of Law Libraries is approved by vote of the membership as the 28th chapter during the General Business Meeting in Atlanta.
- February 1, 1989 Judith Genesen, formerly director of information services at the Chicago Transit Authority, becomes the new executive director of AALL, replacing Bill Murphy who had served as acting director since the resignation of William Jepson in Fall 1988.
- March 11, 1989 The Executive Board merges the functions of the Education Committee and the Annual Meeting program chair; henceforth, the Committee will develop and coordinate programs, institutes and workshops, with the Committee’s chair also serving as Annual Meeting program chair.
- June 17, 1989 The Legal History and Rare Book Special Interest Section is approved by the Executive Board. Noted legal historian and past AALL President Erwin Surrency is elected as the first chair of the new SIS.
- June 19, 1989 Almost 25 years to the day on which the Headquarters Fund Drive is established at the conclusion of his presidency, Harry Bitner receives the AALL Distinguished Service Award during the Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada. Other recipients for 1989 are Leon Liddell and George A. Strait.
- June 20, 1989 Antonette (Babe) Russo is feted with a special celebration in her honor at the Reno Annual Meeting upon the occasion of her retirement as administrative secretary of AALL. A year later in Minneapolis she is inducted as an honorary member by a unanimous vote of the membership.
- It is fitting to pay tribute to Babe Russo on the listserv, since many of its users may not know her. Ms. Russo was the whole staff of AALL for years and she held us together with baling wire and library paste. She was devoted to the membership and always looking out for our best interests. Words can never capture the spirit of a person, and Babe Russo was a woman of great heart and spirit. She was a person who was part of our past and who ushered towards our future with grace and style. —Robert Berring, past president of AALL, remembering Babe Russo, Law-Lib electronic bulletin board, March 30, 1994.*
- June 21, 1989 Faced with a potential deficit budget of more than \$150,000 resulting from an expanding program of services and activities, the membership approves a substantial dues increase at the business meeting in Reno, the first such increase in nearly 10 years. Effective with the 1990-91 dues year, the dues of



- individual members is increased from \$65 to \$115.
- September 1989      Following an AALL resolution supporting Senate action calling for the use of permanent paper as a national policy, the *AALL Newsletter* begins publication on acid-free paper.
- October 5-6, 1989      The Law Librarians' Society of Washington, D.C. celebrates its 50th anniversary with a two-day conference titled "New Frontiers at 50," highlighted by an address from U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.
- On April 18, 1939, your executive secretary presided at the organization meeting of the Law Librarians Society of Washington, D.C. and was later elected one of the directors of this group at its meeting held on May 31, 1939. — Helen Newman, "Report of the Executive Secretary and Editor of the Law Library Journal," 32 Law Libr. J. 216 (1939).*
- October 26-28, 1989      "Navigating the Nineties: Resource Strategies" is the theme of the Midwest Regional Conference of Law Librarians held in Chicago, with John Edwards and Lori Hunt as program chairs. It is the second such multi-chapter sponsored meeting to be held.
- October 28, 1989      A Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award is approved by the Executive Board. Bruce M. Kennedy of Georgetown Law Library will later be announced as its first recipient for "Confidentiality of Library Records: A Survey of Problems, Policies, and Laws," 81 *Law Libr. J.* 733 (1989).
- March 10, 1990      The minority stipend becomes a permanent part of the scholarship program and is named in honor of George Strait, longtime librarian at Harvard and Iowa. The Executive Board also redesignates the Distinguished Service Award; henceforth it will be known as the Marian G. Gallagher Award for Distinguished Service. Its first recipients will be Viola Bird and Hibernia Turbeville, announced at the 1990 Annual Meeting in Minneapolis.
- May 31, 1990      The Special Committee on National Information Policy (1988-90), chaired by Robert Oakley, issues its Final Report. The Executive Board approves the Committee's recommendations at its meeting in June, adopting a Government Relations Policy which is published at 83 *Law Libr. J.* 177-194 (1991) along with the Final Report.
- June 17, 1990      Acting upon a recommendation in the Special Committee on National Information Policy's *Interim Report*, subsequently published in 83 *Law Libr. J.* 149, 164 (1991), the first annual legislative update program is held at the Annual Meeting in Minneapolis. The program continues to be held each year under the joint sponsorship of the Washington Affairs Office and the Government Relations Committee.
- June 18, 1990      The Law Librarians of Puget Sound, with more than 90 members, is approved by a vote of the membership as the 29th chapter of AALL. Within 4 years, the chapter takes on the task of hosting AALL's 87th Annual Meeting, in Seattle in July 1994.
- June 19, 1990      Margaret Lundahl receives a special Presidential Award at the "President's Luncheon" for her

exemplary duties as convention manager from 1989-1990.

- June 20, 1990      The *Northwood News* convention newsletter announces that the 1990 Annual Meeting in Minneapolis is the largest ever, with 2,645 participants and 145 exhibitors.
- November 3, 1990      The Executive Board approves a detailed *Strategic Plan*, prepared by the Long Range Planning Committee chaired by Kay Todd, outlining the direction to be taken by the Association for the next four years. The Plan is published at 22 *AALL Newsl.* 201-211 (1990).
- Recognizing that the availability of legal information to all people is a necessary requirement for a just society, the American Association of Law Libraries exists to promote and enhance the value of law libraries to the public, the legal community, and the world, to foster the profession of law librarianship, and to provide leadership in the field of legal information. — “Mission Statement, 1990–94 Strategic Plan of the American Association of Law Libraries,” 22 AALL Newsl. 201 (December 1990).*
- July 22, 1991      The Law Library Association of Alabama is approved by a vote of the membership as the 30th AALL chapter at the business meeting held during the Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The membership also approves a resolution increasing SIS dues from \$5 to \$12, the first such increase since the inception of the special Interest sections in 1976.
- July 22, 1991      Past presidents Connie Bolden and Morris Cohen are honored along with Anthony Grech, first winner of the Andrews Bibliographical Award in 1967, as the 1991 recipients of the Gallagher Distinguished Service Award. A special Presidential Award is presented to Patrick Kehoe at the Opening Luncheon in New Orleans recognizing his service as *Law Library Journal* business manager from 1975-1991.
- April 1992      The Executive Board, acting upon the recommendations of the Special Committee on Public Relations chaired by Edgar Bellefontaine, creates the position of public relations coordinator, along with a supporting advisory committee and a substantial budgetary allocation, to establish an ongoing public relations program for the Association. Frank Houdek is subsequently appointed as the first coordinator.
- May 1992      The National Legal Resources Committee, chaired by Claire Germain, publishes a plan approved by the Executive Board in April, titled “Training Foreign and International Law Librarians: The Next Generation.” The plan calls for conducting a sequence of five institutes over a three-year period, covering all areas of foreign and international law. The 1993 Winter Institute, “Introduction to Foreign Legal Systems,” co-directed by Richard Danner and Marie-Louise Bernal and presented at the Library of Congress on February 3-6, 1993, is the first course to be offered.
- July 19, 1992      Phyllis Marion, cited as a “role model for an entire generation of law librarians in technical services,” is awarded the first *Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship* at the business meeting of the Technical Services SIS, a group she helped

found in 1978.

- July 20, 1992 In her annual report to the membership, Executive Director Judy Genesen announces that the Association has recently surpassed 5,000 total members. It is later reported that the San Francisco Annual Meeting is the biggest single gathering of AALL members in history, with nearly 2,100 registered for the convention.
- July 22, 1992 President Carolyn Ahearn introduces a new means for members to communicate with AALL leadership—the Open Forum. Conducted at the conclusion of the General Business Meeting, the forum allows anyone to present an item of interest to the assembled members without the usual constraints of parliamentary procedure. Mark Estes moderates the initial forum, a transcript of which is published at 84 *Law Libr. J.* 866 (1992).
- July 23, 1992 The Executive Board recognizes the Council of Newsletter Editors as a formal component of AALL and agrees to appoint a liaison from the board to oversee its activities and provide guidance.
- December 1992 The fifth edition of the *Biographical Directory of the American Association of Law Libraries* is published for the Association by West Publishing Company. Edited and produced by Shackelford & Associates—Systems Design, it contains more than 2,500 listings.
- April 18-24, 1993 In conjunction with National Library Week and under the leadership of AALL’s Research Instruction Caucus, law librarians throughout the country participate in a “Legal Research Teach-In” to celebrate legal research instruction and to demonstrate the importance of involving more law librarians in teaching these skills. In 1995, the caucus, primarily a private law libraries AALL membership group, will merge with the Reader Services SIS to form the Research Instruction and Patron Services SIS (RIPS), which will continue to conduct the Teach-In on an annual basis.
- April 23-24, 1993 The Executive Board approves the “Research Agenda” submitted by the Special Committee on Research, chaired by Richard Danner, as the official statement of AALL research priorities and agrees to fund grants in support of research on the topics listed therein. A standing Committee on Research will be established in 1993-94 with Nancy Carol Carter as its first chair. The agenda is published at 25 *AALL Newsl.* 92 (1993).
- June 1993 Executive Director Judy Genesen announces in her *AALL Newsletter* column that “LAWNET, the AALL Electronic Bulletin Board, is now on the Internet” (24 *AALL Newsl.* 370). She notes that the weekly index to the Placement Database (heretofore only available by calling the Career Hotline) is online, and Gov-Line (with information about AALL’s Government Relations program) soon will be. LAWNET project coordinators are John Christensen and Mark Folmsbee of Washburn University. In spring 1994, LAWNET’s name will be changed to AALLNET.
- July 10-15, 1993 With 167 exhibitors and 245 booths, the Exhibit Hall at the Boston Annual Meeting is the largest ever. Another first at the meeting is the “Internet Room,” organized and coordinated by Anne Myers.



- July 12, 1993 In anticipation of her scheduled retirement and in recognition of her service from 1989-1993, Judy Genesen is made an honorary member of AALL by vote of members attending the final business meeting, at which she will participate as the Association's second-ever executive director.
- Fall 1993 With the generous support of LexisNexis, the Statistics Committee, chaired by Eileen Searls, conducts and publishes the first-ever salary survey to cover all parts of the AALL membership. It is distributed free of charge to all members. AALL will continue to publish the salary survey on a biennial basis and expand it in 1999 to include data on organizational characteristics, such as the size of library budgets.
- September 7, 1993 Roger H. Parent becomes the Association's third executive director, joining AALL after 14 years in various administrative positions with the American Library Association.
- May 1994 AALL's first endowed scholarship is established with funding from Mead Data Central. The scholarship honors John Johnson, a director at Mead and longtime law library supporter, who died in January 1994.
- July 7, 1994 "The Strategic Challenge 1994-1998" is unanimously adopted by the Executive Board as AALL's second long-range plan. The Long-Range Planning Committee responsible for its creation was chaired by board member Margie Axtmann.
- July 8, 1994 Following the proposal of the Preservation Committee, the Executive Board adopts an AALL Preservation Policy, subsequently published at 26 *AALL Newsl.* 239 (1995).
- July 9, 1994 The State, Court and County SIS celebrates its twenty-first birthday with a program at the Seattle Annual Meeting that honors its founding members. A special commemorative booklet is issued by the SIS in conjunction with the event. Richard E. Beer is presented with the first *Bethany Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession*, one of three Merit Awards established by the SIS in 1992. The other two are named in honor of Connie Bolden (recognizing scholarly publications) and O. James Werner (recognizing service to persons with disabilities).
- July 11, 1994 A special award is presented to Richard A. Danner at the Opening Luncheon of the 87th Annual Meeting in recognition of his 10 years of service as editor of *Law Library Journal* (1984-1994).
- November 1994 A new Unified Bylaws is overwhelmingly approved by a mail vote of the membership. The document combines the previously separate provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws, making stylistic changes but no substantive revisions.
- March 1, 1995 The Task Force on Citation Formats, chaired by Lynn Foster, issues its Final Report addressing the controversial issue of vendor and medium neutral citations to legal authorities. At a special meeting on July 18, 1995, the Executive Board adopts the report's recommendations regarding public domain case citation form. The report is published at 87 *Law Libr. J.* 577-633 (1995).
- March 11, 1995 The Executive Board adopts the Association's first-ever "Financial Long Range Plan." Developed by a

committee chaired by AALL Treasurer Judith Meadows, the plan covers the period 1995–1998 and documents the financial principles and policies adopted by the Association.

- July 6, 1995 Little, Brown and Company announces its pledge of \$50,000 for funding research grants to be awarded by AALL over a two-year period beginning in 1995-96. The first grant is awarded in March 1996 to Bert Dempsey and Robert Vreeland of the University of North Carolina School of Library and Information Science to support the development of a new Internet search engine specifically intended for legal research.
- July 15-17, 1995 The *National Conference on Legal Information Issues* is sponsored by AALL during the Association’s Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh. Under the leadership of President Carol Billings and Education Chair James Heller, the conference offers a wide range of programs exploring the theme “Connected for Justice.” The plenary session, “From Books to Bytes: A History of Legal Publishing,” features speeches by Robert Berring, Kathryn Downing and Toni Carbo Bearman, while Deputy Associate Attorney General, Paul Friedman confronts “Finding Justice in Cyberspace” during his keynote address. The proceedings of the conference are later published in the AALL Publications Series, Number 51.
- If everyone learned only half as much as I did during the conference, you will have advanced discussion of important legal information issues a great deal. — Letter from Paul Friedman, deputy associate U.S. attorney general, to Carol D. Billings, AALL president, September 5, 1995*
- I would urge AALL to continue to conduct national conferences. . . . The opportunity for representatives of all the segments of the legal profession to come together to discuss areas of mutual concern must be encouraged if it is to endure. —Letter from Daniel P. Anderson, presiding judge of the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, to Carol D. Billings, AALL president, August 17, 1995*
- July 18, 1995 During the general business meeting in Pittsburgh, President Billings announces that the Bureau of National Affairs has pledged a donation of \$40,000 over two years to support publication of the *Law Library Journal*.
- May 1996 Utilizing AALLNET, the Association’s home page on the Internet, AALL sponsors its first electronic roundtable discussion on “The Future of the Law Firm Library.” A variety of participants (including librarians, attorneys, information providers, consultants, journalists, and legal administrators) address questions about the library’s role within the firm, technology, outsourcing and downsizing the library over a four-week timespan. A transcript of the Roundtable is later published at 89 *Law Libr. J.* 99-149 (1997).
- July 19, 1996 The Executive Board establishes a new structure to oversee the educational program of the Association, following many of the recommendations by the Special Committee on Educational Policy chaired by Merle Slyhoff. The Education Committee is replaced by an Annual Meeting Program Selection Committee and a Professional Development Committee. Kay Moller Todd is later appointed to chair the first PDC; it is responsible for all AALL educational programming and policies outside the annual meeting. Seven years later, in July 2003, the Executive Board disbands the PDC as it “moves



forward with plans to implement a new career development program for Association members.”

The first annual Diversity Symposium is presented at the Annual Meeting in Indianapolis. Sponsored by the Committee on Diversity and co-chaired by Yvonne Chandler and Joan Howland, the symposium features presentations, an open forum and panel discussion, and a workshop on diversity issues and training, and is followed by a reception.

- September 1996 Replacing the *AALL Newsletter* is the Association’s new magazine—*AALL Spectrum*— launched with a four-color cover and new editorial direction. In addition to the Association news and legislative reports found in the Newsletter, the magazine will focus on broad information issues of interest to members and the larger legal community. Director of Publications Peter Beck serves as editor of the new publication.
- October 1996 *Access to Government Information in the Electronic Age* initiates the publication of “President’s Briefings” in 1 *AALL SPECTRUM* 21-24 (Oct. 1996). Other topics covered during the first year are copyright (Dec. 1996), technology and the courts (April 1997), and AALL history (July 1997).
- December 1996 After two years of intensive work, the report, recommendations, and materials of the Special Committee on the Renaissance of Law Librarianship in the Information Age, chaired by Kathleen Carrick, is printed and distributed for AALL with the assistance of West Group.
- March 20, 1997 AALL presents its first-ever satellite video conference, “The Future for Librarians: Positioning Yourself for Success,” jointly sponsored with the Special and Medical Library Associations and with assistance from LexisNexis. AALL members Mark Estes, Penny Hazelton and Anne Abate participate in the conference.
- May 1997 The first issue of *Chapter Leadership Bulletin*, a product of the “AALL-Chapter Alliance” developed by an Ad Hoc Chapter Relations Advisory Group chaired by Sally Holterhoff, is distributed. Another tangible result of the Alliance occurs later in the year at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore when Chapter Roundtables are conducted for the first time, covering the topics of finances, educational programming, meeting management, government relations, and public relations. Although the Bulletin will cease publication in 2002, the roundtables continue to the present day.
- May 1997 The Special Committee to Advance the Fair Use of Electronic Information Resources in Law Libraries and by Law Librarians, chaired by Laura N. Gasaway, completes “AALL Guidelines on the Fair Use of Copyrighted Works by Law Librarians.” Adopted by the Executive Board in July, the guidelines are published at 2 *AALL SPECTRUM* 14-16 (March 1998).
- July 20, 1997 A historic photograph of 43 past and present Executive Board members, representing 138 years of service, is taken during the Opening Reception at the Baltimore Annual Meeting. Stretching from Julius Marke (president 1962-63) to James Heller (newly elected president- elect), the group includes 17 presidents. Made with the assistance of BNA, Inc., the photo is later published at 2 *AALL SPECTRUM* 18-19 (Sept. 1997).

- July 21, 1997      The first-ever “Presidential Certificates of Merit” are conferred by President Frank Houdek during the General Business Meeting. Recipients include David McFadden, Catherine Hardy, Lynn Foster, Rita Reusch, Marcia Koslov, Sally Holterhoff and Patricia Patterson. At the same meeting, Justice George Nicholson of the California Court of Appeal is voted honorary membership for his many services on behalf of AALL.
- July 23, 1997      Celebrating the 90th annual meeting with the theme “From Narragansett to Now: Covering the Waterfronts,” Baltimore surpasses Boston in 1993 (attendance of 2,264) as the largest meeting yet when Executive Director Roger Parent announces that 2,335 attendees are registered.
- December 1997      AALLNET (<http://www.aallnet.org>) is one of only three national association Web sites to receive a 1997 Gold Circle Certificate of Achievement from the American Society of Association Executives. With 22 award categories, there were 1,062 entries from 500 associations.
- January 1998      “How to Hire a Law Librarian” is the first title issued in *Law Librarians: Making Information Work*, a new Resource Guide Series launched under the editorship of Michael Saint-Onge and generously supported by the Private Law Libraries SIS and LexisNexis. Future guides will cover such topics as expanding roles for law librarians and space planning.
- July 14, 1998      By unanimous vote of members attending the general business meeting of the Anaheim Annual Meeting, the San Diego Area Law Libraries (SANDALL) is approved as the 31st chapter of AALL. On November 4, 2022, the AALL Executive Board will approve the chapter’s dissolution when its leaders indicate that the membership has merged with that of the Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL).
- September 7-10, 1998      AALL joins with the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians and the Canadian Association of Law Libraries to co-sponsor the first “Joint Study Institute” at the University of Cambridge in England. With more than 60 in attendance, the programs of the JSI focus on the legal systems, law, and practice of law librarianship in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.
- November 14, 1998      At its fall meeting, the Executive Board approves a “Conduct of Election Policy” to clarify what is appropriate for candidates during the electoral process. They also approve the “AALL Publications Policy” and accompanying “Publications Program State of Purpose” to clarify the goals and practices for Association publishing.
- December 1998      The Government Relations Committee begins soliciting nominations for the first annual “AALL Public Access to Government Information Award,” approved by the Executive Board in November 1998. The first award is presented to the U.S. Government Printing Office for its *GPO Access* website at the 1999 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.
- April 5, 1999      An overwhelming majority of AALL members vote to approve the adoption of a new set of AALL Ethical Principles to replace the Association’s Code of Ethics. The Principles are the product of two years of work by the Special Committee on Ethics, chaired in 1997–98 by Margaret Maes Axtmann



and in 1998–99 by J. Wesley Cochran. They will be used for twenty years until members approve a revised set of principles on August 30, 2019.

- May 1999                      The *Universal Citation Guide* is published for the Association by the Wisconsin State Bar. The Guide is a product of the Committee on Citation Formats, co-chaired by Marcia Koslov and Paul George. It contains recommendations for universal citation rules covering judicial decisions, statutes, and administrative regulations.
- July 19, 1999                AALL’s first-ever “Paraprofessional Forum” is conducted in Washington, D.C., under the directorship of Carolyn Ahearn and Stephen Margeton. The Forum includes a variety of educational programs for paraprofessionals who work in law libraries.
- July 20, 1999                President James S. Heller announces during the Business Meeting that the Washington, D.C. Annual Meeting has established a new attendance record: 2,606 paid registrants. Adding 285 Exhibit-Hall-only registrants and 1,085 exhibitors brings the grand total in attendance to nearly 4,000.
- October 25, 1999            An AALL press release announces that members voted overwhelmingly in favor of revising article 4 of the Bylaws to provide for an “open” membership; the only limitation is one reserving the right to hold elective office on the Executive Board to active and retired members.
- April 8, 2000                An “AALL Spectrum Article of the Year Award” is approved by the Executive Board. CCH Incorporated agrees to support the award with a \$500 cash prize and to contribute a similar prize to the existing Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award. The first recipient of the new award is later announced as Joanne Dugan for *True Confessions of a Copyright Wimp*, 4 *AALL Spectrum* 4 (Feb. 2000).
- July 13-14, 2000            The Executive Board approves a new AALL strategic plan for 2000–2005. Prepared under the leadership of Ruth Fraley, chair of the Board’s Strategic Planning Committee, and titled “Leadership for the 21st Century: New Realities, Changing Roles,” the plan establishes four strategic directions to be pursued by the Association during the next five years.
- July 17, 2000                The AALL Research Fund, an endowment established with a \$100,000 pledge from LEXIS Publishing, is announced during the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. The fund will provide a secure financial base for the AALL Research Committee to carry out the Association’s Research Agenda. It will be used to provide grants to library professionals seeking to conduct research critical to the profession.
- July 18, 2000                President Margaret Maes Axtmann presides over a “once-in-a-millennium” event when 41 time capsules prepared by AALL committees, Chapters, SISs and caucuses are “sealed” at a special ceremony in the Exhibit Hall in Philadelphia. Organized as a turn-of-the-century project by the Public Relations Committee and its chair, Sue Burch, the time capsules will be stored at AALL Archives at the University of Illinois until they are opened at the AALL Annual Meeting in 2025.



- July 18, 2000 The Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section uses the occasion of its annual reception to present Penny Hazelton of the University of Washington Gallagher Law Library with its first-ever Hicks Award. The award, named for Frederick C. Hicks, librarian at Columbia and Yale law libraries and the first academic librarian elected as AALL president, is designed to “recognize a colleague whose service to academic law librarianship has been exemplary in breadth and depth.”
- March 30-31, 2001 The AALL’s statement of “Competencies of Law Librarianship,” drafted by the Professional Development Committee, is approved by the Executive Board. Describing the “knowledge, skills, abilities and personal characteristics that help distinguish superior performance” of law librarians, the document is published at 5 *AALL Spectrum* 14-15 (June 2001). In July 2022, the Executive Board will formally replace the “Competencies” with the “Body of Knowledge.” Like its predecessor, the BoK serves as a universal benchmark for legal information professionals, defining competencies and skills in six domains of expertise that are required for success.
- April 2001 West Group donates \$150,000 to the George A. Strait Minority Scholarship Endowment, a fund used to further the education of minority students pursuing a degree in law librarianship. The scholarship is awarded to college graduates with law library experience who are members of a minority group and are degree candidates in accredited library or law schools and who intend to have a career in law librarianship. In June 2002, Mary Tu Thai, a first-year law student and former staff member of the Santa Clara County Law Library in San Jose, California, will become the first recipient of the newly endowed Strait Minority Scholarship.
- June 2001 AALL membership soared to its highest count on record—5,149— consisting of 5,068 dues-paying members, three honorary members and 78 life members. Since June 1, 2000, 598 new members, including 62 students, joined AALL.
- June 21, 2001 Sania Battalova of Kyrgyz Republic is announced as the first recipient of the FCIL- SIS Schaffer Grant for Foreign Librarians, established to provide financial assistance to foreign librarians attending the AALL Annual Meeting. Ellen Schaffer, librarian at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg, Germany, provided a substantial donation to establish the grant in the belief that foreign attendees enrich AALL events by sharing their global perspectives.
- January 17, 2002 Kay E. Newman, director of the Spokane County Law Library, is announced as the first recipient of the Institute for Court Management Scholarship established to encourage law librarians to attend the Court Executive Development Program at the Institute for Court Management, the premier educational program for court administration, sponsored by the National Center for State Courts in Williamsburg, Virginia. The scholarship was established in 1999–2000 with a donation from former AALL Executive Board member Marcia J. Koslov.
- May 23, 2002 Tanya Brown, head librarian at Spiegel & McDiarmid in Washington, D.C., and Donna Nixon, reference librarian at the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library at the University of North Carolina, are selected as co-recipients of the new Minority Leadership Development Award. They each receive



- \$1,500 to attend the AALL Annual Meeting, providing the opportunity to team with experienced AALL leaders who will serve as their mentors and to serve on AALL committees.
- June 13, 2002 The Colorado Association of Law Libraries (“As We Enter the New Millennium” annual institute) and Law Librarians of New England (seven part “Introduction to Legal Research”) are announced as the first recipients of the inaugural Chapter Professional Development Awards. Newly created in 2001, the awards honor professional development programs created by chapters for their members and others and recognize both individual programs or workshops of a half day or more and comprehensive programs of up to a year in length.
- July 24, 2002 In recognition of his “extraordinary contributions to law librarianship and to the Association,” honorary membership is bestowed upon Roger H. Parent who will retire as AALL’s executive director on Dec. 31, 2002.
- July 24, 2002 Upon receiving the gavel at the Closing Banquet of the 95th Annual Meeting in Orlando from President Barbara Bintliff, Carol Avery Nicholson, Assistant Director for Technical Services of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law Library, takes office as the first African American to serve as AALL president. She will later write that “my most satisfying and enjoyable position was having the opportunity to be the first person of color to serve as AALL president.”
- October 2002 AALL members vote to approve the Executive Board proposal to raise membership dues by \$45, phased in over three years. Dues will rise from the current annual amount of \$145 to \$190 in June 2005. The proposal was designed “to combat declining revenues and provide a more stable financial foundation for AALL” (AALL Press Release, October 2, 2002).
- October 15, 2002 Susan E. Fox, formerly CEO of the Society of American Archivists, becomes AALL’s fourth executive director. She will succeed Roger H. Parent, executive director since September 1993, who will retire on Dec. 31, 2002. Fox is profiled in the December 2002 issue of *AALL Spectrum*, while Parent is honored by several articles in the October 2002 issue.
- November 2002 The AALL Executive Board approves the *AALL Guide to Fair Business Practices for Legal Publishers*; the guide is later published as a supplement to *AALL Spectrum* and posted to AALLNET. The board also disbands the Special Committee on Fair Business Practices and authorizes creation of a Fair Business Practices Implementation Task Force to guide the distribution and promotion of the new guide as the accepted standard in the industry, and to monitor its ongoing interpretation, revision, and evaluation. See Carol Avery Nicholson, *New Year Promises Challenges, Opportunities*, *AALL Spectrum*, February 2003, at 4.
- December 2002 *Beyond the Boundaries*, the report of the Special Committee on the Future of Law Libraries in the Digital Age, co-chaired by Rita Reusch and Gail Warren, is published. The committee was charged with exploring the issues surrounding “the evolution of virtual and physical law libraries” and “outlining different scenarios or models to describe the law library of the future.”

As law libraries operate in an increasingly virtual world, the notion of physical boundaries changes dramatically. But . . . the boundaries of the law library of the future will change in other ways as well: in assuming new roles, providing new and different services, partnering with other units in various organizations and collaborating with external entities. The law library of the future must be flexible and innovative in defining the boundaries of its mission, but it must do so in light of the mission and direction of its parent organization. — Special Comm. on the Future of Law Libraries in the Future, American Association of Law Libraries, *Beyond the Boundaries 1* (2002).

April 2003

The Executive Board approves the AALL “Statement on the Value Added to Organizations by Law Librarians” drafted by the Public Relations Committee. Designed to help educate colleagues and employers, the statement focuses on four key areas of librarian expertise that benefit organizations: evaluating information, managing information, researching and teaching/training.

*RESOLVED, that the American Association of Law Libraries strongly opposes those provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act and of any other current or future legislation, regulations, or guidelines that erode the privacy and confidentiality of library users; and be it further RESOLVED, that the American Association of Law Libraries opposes any legislation, regulations or guidelines that have the effect of suppressing the free and open exchange of ideas and information.* — AALL Resolution on the USA PATRIOT Act and Related Measures that Infringe on the Rights of Library Users (April 3, 2004)

July 14, 2003

The membership approves a change in the Bylaws to shorten the Association’s nominations and elections schedule. Beginning with the nominations and elections in 2004 for the officers and board members who will take office at the Annual Meeting in July 2005, ballots shall be distributed prior to Nov. 15 and returned before Dec. 15.

July 14, 2003

During the Association Luncheon of the 96th Annual Meeting in Seattle, President Carol Avery Nicholson, AALL’s first president of color, presents the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award to Marvin R. Anderson, the second person of color, following George A. Strait in 1989, to receive the award.

April 3, 2004

The Executive Board endorses the Resolution on the *USA PATRIOT Act* and Related Measures that Infringe on the Rights of Library Users.

April 28, 2004

President Janis L. Johnston testifies in Washington, D.C., at the House Committee on Administration’s oversight hearing on the Government Printing Office on behalf of AALL, ALA, ARL, MLA, and SLA. Among other things, she asks members of Congress to reaffirm the core principle that the American public has the right to no-fee access to government information. She also reiterates the library community’s belief that the Federal Depository Library Program and depository libraries will continue to be crucial access and service points for the public in the 21st century.

July 10, 2004

“Promise, Purpose, and Potential: *Brown v. Board of Education* at Home and Abroad,” a symposium sponsored by the Diversity Committee, is the culmination of AALL’s celebration of the 50th

anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision. Previously, both *AALL Spectrum* and *Law Library Journal* included special features focusing on the case.

- July 12, 2004      During the Association Luncheon at the Annual Meeting in Boston, President Janis Johnston announces the successful completion of the fundraising goal for the George A. Strait Minority Scholarship endowment. The Executive Board also authorizes the creation of a Centennial Scholarship Fund at this Meeting.
- July 12, 2004      The membership adopts the Resolution on Constitutional Amendments Defining Marriage at the general business meeting during the Boston Annual Meeting.
- Nov. 15-Dec. 15, 2004      Sally G. Holterhoff is elected vice president/president-elect in AALL's first-ever online national election. Ballots are distributed electronically to all voting members on Nov. 15; the deadline for receipt of electronic ballots at AALL is Dec. 15. Paper ballots are provided to those who request them and to those for whom AALL does not have an e-mail address.
- April 10–16, 2005      During National Library Week, AALL members take part in “Day in the Life of the Law Library Community,” a nationwide photo contest to document law librarians working, meeting, teaching, and doing all that they normally do in their daily jobs. Fifty-five members from 47 different law libraries across the country submit more than 180 photos to the contest, sponsored by the Public Relations Committee. Winners in six categories and one overall winner are recognized in fall 2005 on AALLNET, in the December 2005 issue of *AALL Spectrum*, and during the 2006 AALL Annual Meeting in St. Louis.
- July 15, 2005      The Executive Board approves “Strategic Directions 2005–2010” as a replacement for the 2000–2005 strategic plan. The result of 18 months of study and reflection about trends in the legal profession, librarianship, and association governance, the new document identifies the core purpose and values of AALL and establishes a framework for action in the next three to five years comprised of three strategic directions: leadership, education, and advocacy. It also establishes several targeted objectives that will serve as priorities for Association initiatives during the term of the plan.
- July 15, 2005      The Executive Board establishes an Emerging Opportunities Fund to allow for AALL's participation in new and unbudgeted initiatives that are entrepreneurial in nature and that support the Association's three major strategic directions (leadership, education, and advocacy). Later in the year, the fund will be used to support SCALL's Inner City Youth Internship Program and to expand the Annual Meeting advocacy workshop, cosponsored by the Government Relations Committee and the Washington Office, from a half to a full day.
- September 15, 2005      Raquel Ortiz is selected as AALL's first coordinator of AALLNET, the Association's Web site. The position manages the content of AALLNET, coordinates information submissions with AALL entity providers, and directs the archival content functions of the site.
- September 23-24, 2005      Approximately 70 volunteers come together at the AALL Education Summit in Chicago to discuss

strategies for continuing education and the professional development of law librarians outside Annual Meeting programs. Participants identify priorities, set strategies for the next three years, and agree on the roles of AALL's chief entities (chapters, SISs, and AALL).

- February 2006
- For the first time, a fully interactive calendar of professional education events is available on AALLNET. Responding to a need identified by participants at the 2005 Education Summit, the calendar lists a broad range of education opportunities available both in the United States and internationally. AALL members can post their events through an interactive form; nonmembers can submit their events to the calendar administrator.
- March 30, 2006
- The events of AALL's first year of existence, 1906, described on a special AALLNET page as "100 Years in 100 Days," prepared by Frank G. Houdek, makes its first appearance. Each of the Association's 100 years will be spotlighted, one year at a time, for 100 days, culminating with 2005 on July 7, the eve of the Annual Meeting in St. Louis at which AALL's centennial will be celebrated. Houdek later revises and expands the material in *The First Century: One Hundred Years of AALL History, 1906–2005*, published as part of the AALL Publications Series by William S. Hein and Co. in 2008.
- May 2006
- In response to suggestions at the 2005 Education Summit that AALL create a resource to help members locate speakers for continuing education programs, an AALL Speakers Directory is launched. The database is publicly available on AALLNET and enables members to share information about good speakers they have heard.
- June 12, 2006
- Celeste Smith joins the AALL staff in a newly created full-time position of education manager. Smith comes to the Association following six years with Productivity Point International, a training company providing technology-based solutions to the public and private sectors.
- July 8-12, 2006
- "Pioneering Change" is the theme of the 99th AALL Annual Meeting in St. Louis, which marks the culmination of a year-long celebration of the Association's centennial. To mark the historic event, President Claire Germain hosts a VIP dinner on Saturday night; other special events include a cabaret-style Centennial Variety Show on Tuesday night, a plenary session on law librarians and legal information presented by Past President Robert C. Berring, and a champagne toast and giant birthday cake at the closing banquet.
- November 1, 2006
- The first recipients of grants from the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program are announced in an AALL press release. They include four chapters, one library, and AALL itself. The purpose of the newly funded program is to assist entities in providing ongoing quality continuing education programming outside of the AALL Annual Meeting, which can be distributed to a wider audience.
- November 7, 2006
- Executive Director Susan Fox leaves her position after four years. Steve Ligda, who retired in August 2005 after 11 years as AALL's director of finance and administration, is subsequently appointed interim executive director and serves through the transition of Kate T. Hagan into the office of



executive director in July 2007.

- November 21, 2006 The *AALL Handbook*, formerly available in full only in the printed AALL Directory, is now available online via AALLNET. Under the direction of AALL Web Administrator Chris Siwa and AALL Director of Publications Julia O'Donnell, links in a table of contents for the AALL Online Handbook provides easy access to the various components of the handbook, including such items as AALL's bylaws; policies; guidelines and procedures; resolutions; membership statistics; and lists of honors and awards, past presidents, past Annual Meetings, and publications.
- March 2007 A second edition of the *AALL Guide to Fair Business Practices for Legal Publishers* is issued. Revisions to the guide, originally approved by the Executive Board in November 2002, were developed by the Fair Business Practices Implementation Task Force, chaired by Kay Todd, and approved by the board in July 2006.
- March 24, 2007 In an effort to ensure and promote equitable and permanent public access to legal information, the AALL Executive Board adopts a set of "Principles and Core Values Concerning Public Information on Government Web Sites" developed by the Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee.
- April 20-21, 2007 The AALL Summit on Authentic Legal Information in the Digital Age is held in Chicago. Approximately 50 delegates participate, including judges, state government officials, attorneys, and leaders of AALL and of other organizations, such as the American Bar Association. In line with AALL's goals for the summit—to explore legal and technological solutions, to develop an action plan and strategies for implementation, and to build new alliances with other organizations—delegates discuss the authenticity and official status of state-level primary legal sources, an issue raised in the recently-released AALL report, *State-by-State Report on Authentication of Online Legal Resources*.
- June 18, 2007 Kate T. Hagan, with extensive management experience for the American Bar Association and the Ohio State Bar Association, begins as AALL's fifth executive director. The Executive Director Special Search Committee that participated in the selection process was chaired by former AALL Secretary Susan Siebers.
- July 14-17, 2007 AALL's Annual Meeting in New Orleans is historic not only for being the 100th occasion on which the Association has convened a national gathering of law librarians, but also because it is the first time in which the meeting is conducted in four, rather than five, days. The new streamlined format features a first-ever Opening General Session on Sunday morning, a single business meeting on Monday afternoon, and the closing banquet on Tuesday evening. But even with one less day, the meeting features eighty-five educational programs and workshops, as well as more than two-hundred meetings of committees, SISs, chapters, and caucuses.
- July 16, 2007 Honorary membership is bestowed upon Steve M. Ligda during the general business meeting in recognition not only of his many years as AALL's director of finance and administration, but also because of his "exceptional contributions and loyal service" in coming out of retirement to serve as interim executive director of the Association.

- July 16, 2007 In presenting Frank G. Houdek with a presidential certificate of merit “for his thirteen years of dedicated and exemplary service as editor of *Law Library Journal*, 1994 to 2007,” President Sally Holterhoff notes that “things have come full circle,” since Houdek began the practice of bestowing presidential certificates by presenting the first one to her in 1997 for developing the AALL-Chapter Alliance program.
- October 1, 2007 The Special Committee on Committee Structure, chaired by Karl T. Gruben, issues its final report. Charged with reviewing all AALL committees, charges, and operations, the Special Committee’s recommendations include developing a vice chair/chair elect system, creating a committee to assist the president elect with committee appointments, combining committees that deal with related areas, and establishing three classes of committees (process, policy, and special). The report is adopted by the Executive Board at its November 2007 meeting.
- October 16, 2007 The Executive Board endorses a resolution honoring Robert L. Oakley for his meritorious service to the Association (100 *LAW LIBR. J* 249). Oakley, who died at the age of 62 on September 29, 2007, served as AALL’s Washington Affairs Representative from 1989 until his death. He also served as president in 2000-2001 and as a member of the Executive Board from 1991 to 1994.
- February 2008 The publication in volume 100, number 1 of an annotated list of “essential” pieces appearing in *Law Library Journal* since its inception kicks off a celebration of the *Journal’s* centennial volume. Prepared by former *LLJ* editor Frank G. Houdek, “The Essential Law Library Journal” culls from the first ninety-nine volumes thirty “articles that anyone involved in law librarianship, whether a novice or someone experienced in the field, should read and absorb.” The celebration continues during the year with additional Centennial- themed articles in *LLJ* and *AALL Spectrum* and a program and birthday cake at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Portland.
- April 4, 2008 The Executive Board approves the recommendation of the Government Relations Committee to establish a new annual award designed to recognize a member who has contributed significantly to the AALL policy agenda at the federal, state, local, or international level. Robert L. Oakley, AALL Washington Affairs Representative from 1989 until his death in 2007, will be announced as the first recipient of the Member Advocacy Award at the 2008 Annual Meeting. Beginning in 2009, the award will be renamed in his honor.
- October 3-4, 2008 Under the direction of the Leadership Development Special Committee chaired by Judith Meadows, the first-ever AALL Leadership Academy is conducted in Oak Brook, Illinois. Aimed at those in the early stages of their law library careers, the Academy is designed to provide attending fellows with the theory, skills, and strategies necessary to become leaders in both their workplaces and the profession.
- October 24–25, 2008 At its fall meeting, the Executive Board approves a name change for the AALL Washington Affairs Office to AALL Government Relations Office. Member research indicated that the new name would more accurately reflect the broad scope of the office, which includes advocacy efforts at national, state, and local levels. At the same time, Mary Alice Baish, serving as acting Washington Affairs



Representative since November 2007, is named director of the Government Relations Office.

- April 6, 2009 Marian Parker begins work as AALL’s first Vendor Liaison, a position created by the Executive Board in fall 2008. The position will be responsible for developing programs or initiatives for sharing expertise and creating a dialogue about library vendor issues and communicating about legal information policy issues from the law librarian perspective.
- June 13, 2009 After more than 45 years in the same downtown Chicago loop location—the historic Monadnock Building at 53 W. Jackson Blvd.—AALL Headquarters moves a few blocks to 105 W. Adams Street, on the 33rd floor.
- July 16, 2009 AALL launches a new and improved interactive job board, the AALL Career Center, available through AALLNET. With its focus on law libraries and legal information professionals, the AALL Career Center offers members, and the profession at large, a highly targeted resource for online recruitment.
- November 6-7, 2009 During its fall meeting, the Executive Board approves procedures for implementing new Association awards to recognize member contributions to AALL and the profession. Acting on recommendations of the Member Recognition Special Committee, chaired by Gail Warren, and the New AALL Awards Implementation Committee, chaired by Carol Bredemeyer, the new awards include the AALL Hall of Fame, an Emerging Leader Award, a Volunteer Service Award, an AALL Distinguished Lectureship, and an Innovations in Technology Award.
- March 2010 Marci Hoffman, associate director and international and foreign law librarian at University of California Berkeley, is chosen to succeed Tom Reynolds as general editor for AALL’s *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals*. During the business meeting of the 2010 Annual Meeting in Denver, President Catherine Lemann will honor Reynolds, who will retire from the position on December 31, 2010, for editing IFLP since 1983.
- April 2010 To recognize and thank members for their long-term commitment to the Association, AALL provides lapel pins to those individuals who have been members for 20 or more years and those who have been members for 40 or more years. More than a thousand pins are mailed by Headquarters staff as a result of this new initiative suggested by the Member Recognition Special Committee chaired by Gail Warren.
- June 15, 2010 President Catherine Lemann announces the members of the inaugural class of the AALL Hall of Fame chosen by a special selection committee chaired by Frank Houdek. The class of 78 includes 16 individuals designated as “Pioneers” because of the critical role they played in the formation and early development of AALL; 10 others deemed worthy of inclusion in the Hall, though not as pioneers; and the 52 recipients of the Gallagher Award from 1984 to 2009 who are automatic inductees. Future inductees will be chosen by the Awards Committee.
- July 8, 2010 Following a recommendation of the Annual Meeting Review Special Committee, the Executive Board approves the elimination of the Closing Banquet, beginning with the 2011 Annual Meeting in



Philadelphia, thus ending a tradition begun in 1920 during the 15th Annual Meeting at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs.

- February 28-March 1, 2011 AALL hosts its sixth vendor colloquium in Oak Brook, Illinois. The meeting focuses on responses by librarians and vendors to recent technological and social changes. Participants include representatives from five legal information vendors; academic, firm, and state, court, and county librarians; and members of the judiciary, law firms, and legal academia. At its conclusion, a working group is formed, with AALL Vendor Liaison Margie Maes as chair, to refine the shared principles identified by the colloquium participants and develop an action plan.
- March 25, 2011 At its spring meeting, the Executive Board approves the adoption of the AALL Law Student Research Competencies and Information Literacy Principles drafted by the Law Student Research Competency Standards Task Force, chaired by Sally Wise. At the same meeting, the Board also endorses a resolution honoring Morris L. Cohen, a former president and recipient of both the Gallagher and Andrews (twice) awards, for his meritorious service to the Association and his dedication to improving the profession of law librarianship.
- April 11, 2011 Julie M. Strandlie begins serving as AALL's Director of Government Relations, replacing Mary Alice Baish who left the position in January 2011 to become assistant public printer (superintendent of documents) for the U.S. Government Printing Office. Strandlie formerly served as director of grassroots operations and legislative counsel for the American Bar Association.
- July 12, 2011 The Uniform Law Commission approves the *Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act* during its annual meeting in Vail, Colorado. The act, inspired by the 2007 AALL National Summit on the Authentication of Digital Legal Information convened by then-AALL president Sally Holterhoff, requires that when legal material is published in an electronic format only, the material must be designated as official. It also mandates that official electronic legal material be authenticated, preserved, and made permanently accessible to the public. For her service as the reporter for the *UELMA* drafting committee, Barbara Bintliff will be presented with the 2012 Robert L. Oakley Advocacy Award. In April 2012, Colorado will become the first state to enact *UELMA*.
- July 25, 2011 Dr. Jolande E. Goldberg, Senior Cataloging Policy Specialist for Law Classification at the Library of Congress, delivers the first AALL Distinguished Lectureship Award address during the 104th Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. In a speech titled "De arte et de jurisprudentia: Some Aspects of Legal Iconography," Goldberg describes how visual presentations closely correlated to the written text were frequently used in early legal manuscripts and law books to teach the law pictorially.
- November 3-4, 2011 The Summit on the Future of AALL and Law Librarianship, initiated by President Darcy Kirk and organized by a committee chaired by David Mao, is held in Chicago. The Summit focuses discussion on the challenges of the environment in which law librarians work. For the subsequent implementation phase, a drafting committee chaired by Robyn Hagle will recommend in January 2012 that the Executive Board formulate strategies to address four overarching goals: advance law

librarianship’s relevancy through increased visibility; increase AALL’s transparency through improved communication; improve AALL’s responsiveness and personalize the member experience; and provide for cross- pollination opportunities. In July 2012, the Executive Board will approve a set of action items designed to achieve these goals.

- November 5, 2011      Acting upon a proposal from AALL member Michael Ginsborg and other petitioners, the Executive Board approves the creation of an AALL Caucus on Consumer Advocacy. At the same meeting, the board also approves an Environmental Libraries Caucus.
- February 2012      Emily Feltren is appointed director of AALL’s Government Relations Office after serving as interim director since former director Julie Strandlie left in October 2011. Before that, she had served the Association as its advocacy communications assistant since November 2007. On October 14, 2022, Feltren will leave AALL after fifteen years of service.
- March 31, 2012      Following the recommendation of its Caucus Formation Policy Committee, chaired by Jean M. Wenger, the Executive Board approves Caucus Guidelines which cover the purpose, definition, creation, and governance of caucuses formed by AALL members. Under the guidelines, 15 members may form a caucus by submitting a written application for Executive Board approval, which, among other things, must explain how the objectives of the caucus will further those of AALL.
- July 2, 2012      Stacy Schuble joins the AALL Executive Staff as the Association’s first social media and communities manager.
- July 20, 2012      The Executive Board approves Law Student Information Literacy Standards and Research Competencies drafted by a task force chaired by Carol Bredemeyer. The standards are an outgrowth of Information Literacy Principles approved by the board in March 2011 and are designed to foster best practices in law school curriculum development and design, inform law firm training, encourage evaluation of bar applicants’ research skills, and inspire continuing legal education program development.
- October 31, 2012      Secretary Deborah Rusin announces the membership’s approval of a change in the AALL bylaws which broadens the category of “active member” by eliminating the requirement that such status is limited to an individual who “works with legal information in a library or information center or provides library services on an independent contract basis.” The previous category of “associate member” also is eliminated.
- April 4, 2013      The AALL Executive Board approves a Code of Best Practices for Licensing Electronic Resources, an update of the Association’s Principles for Licensing Electronic Resources originally drafted in 1997, and an accompanying Procurement Toolkit. Prepared by the Library Procurement Process Improvements Task Force cochaired by Katherine Lowry and Tracy Thompson, the Code and Toolkit are intended to provide guidance to both librarians and vendors engaged in the licensing process.
- April 5, 2013      The Executive Board approves the AALL’s first-ever Vendor Relations Policy to direct the



Association's advocacy efforts on issues related to legal publishing and legal publishers. The policy provides guidance for the AALL Vendor Liaison, the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors, and other AALL entities that interact with legal publishers and monitor issues relating to legal publishing.

- April 18, 2013 AALL sponsors its first-ever Local Advocate Lobby Day in Washington, D.C. Under the direction of staff from the Association's Government Relations Office, attendees first participate in a training session focusing on best practices for successful meetings with lawmakers. They then put their advocacy skills into practice by attending prescheduled meetings with their members of Congress and/or staff to advocate for AALL's policy positions.
- July 12, 2013 Following the recommendation of a task force chaired by Sally Wise, the Executive Board approves the AALL Legal Research Principles, Competencies and Standards for Law Student Information Literacy. Working from the Law Student Information Literacy Standards and Research Competencies previously approved in July 2012, the revised document is designed to foster best practices in law school curricula, inform law firm planning and training, encourage bar admission evaluation of research skills, inspire CLE program development, and effect law school accreditation standards.
- November 8, 2014 With a goal of increasing volunteer opportunities and satisfaction, the Executive Board adopts the report of the Committee Review Task Force chaired by Ron Wheeler. Included among the recommendations to be implemented over the next several months is a reduction in the number of standing committees, the addition of juries for selecting AALL award recipients, and increased utilization of project-specific, time-limited task forces.
- January 23, 2015 The Association issues "The Economic Value of Law Libraries," a 42-page research-based report developed by the AALL Economic Value of Law Libraries Special Committee, chaired by Bob Oaks, working with a study team from HBR Consulting.
- February 26, 2015 "Surveys: When to Use Them and Why," is the first of AALL's monthly live educational webinars to be offered free to members through a partnership with Wolters Kluwer Law & Business. Webinars were previously priced at \$30 each for members.
- June 10, 2015 The Executive Board approves name changes requested by two existing special interest sections. The Private Law Libraries SIS becomes the Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals Special Interest Section (PLLIP-SIS), and the State, Court and County Law Libraries SIS becomes the Government Law Libraries Special Interest Section (GLL-SIS).
- August 24, 2015 The Executive Board approves the formation of a new Law Repositories Caucus.
- September 15, 2015 In voting by electronic ballot, AALL members approve a Resolution on Sustainability in Law Libraries which was introduced by the Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section and the Environmental Libraries and Animal Law caucuses at the Association's General Business Meeting in Philadelphia on



- July 20, 2015.
- September 15, 2015 After five years, Margaret Maes serves her final day as AALL’s Vendor Liaison after the Executive Board decided to discontinue the position originally created in 2009. The Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV) will take on the responsibilities of the Vendor Liaison, with committee members acting as liaisons to legal publishers and suppliers and the CRIV chair handling questions, concerns, and complaints of AALL members.
- October 1, 2015 With the publication of volume 20, number 1, *AALL Spectrum* debuts a new design, enhanced content, and digital format for the Association’s popular magazine. Appropriately for the new forward-looking approach, the issue focuses on technology and the future of law librarianship.
- February 11, 2016 The membership overwhelmingly rejects a proposal from the Executive Board to change AALL’s name to the Association for Legal Information. The board had unanimously approved the proposal, part an AALL Rebranding Initiative launched in March 2015, at its meeting on November 7, 2015, but with nearly 60% of the members casting a ballot, only one in five voted in favor of the new name
- April 8, 2016 The Executive Board approved a request from the Micrographics and Audiovisual Special Interest Section to change its name to the Digitalization & Educational Technology Special Interest Section (DET-SIS), effective immediately.
- July 18, 2016 During the AALL General Business Meeting, held in Chicago but also shared via live webcast with the entire membership, President Keith Ann Stiverson and President-Elect Ronald Wheeler, Jr., unveil AALL’s new logo and tagline (“Your Legal Knowledge Network”). This new visual identity of the Association is part of the ongoing AALL Rebranding Initiative, whose goal is to establish a consistent brand that allows AALL and its members to better communicate the value of the profession. Three months later, on October 31, the Association will officially launch its new brand strategy, comprised of a visual identity, logo, tagline, and messaging all designed to support AALL’s strategic goals of fostering knowledge, community, and leadership and allowing it clearly articulate the role of law librarians in the legal profession and in the communities they serve.
- September 26–28, 2016 For the first time ever, AALL offers live webcast forums for its upcoming election of national officers, with a moderated Q&A session for secretary and Executive Board candidates on September 26, followed by a session for president-elect candidates Kathleen (Katie) Brown and Femi Cadmus on September 28. After opening statements by the candidates, member questions submitted in advance are posed to each candidate. The forums are recorded and made available on AALLNET, along with the candidate biographies and statements traditionally offered to members prior to the election.
- November 2, 2016 AALL releases a digital white paper, *Defining ROI: Law Library Best Practices*, providing strategies and solutions to help members demonstrate value and return on investment (ROI) in their libraries. Edited by Gregory R. Lambert, Jean P. O’Grady, and Holly Riccio, *Defining ROI* is comprised of ten separate articles that, together, constitute a set of engaging and practical guides garnered from the actual experience of their AALL member authors. The goal of the white paper is to spark creativity



and innovation for measuring value within the profession.

- November 4, 2016 The Executive Board approves the formation of a new “Encore” Caucus, organized under the leadership of former AALL President Sarah (Sally) Holterhoff and including 103 members at the time of its registration application. Among its stated goals, the new caucus seeks to provide a forum for AALL members who are approaching the end of their careers or who are already retired, to continue long-time connections with colleagues, with the Association, and with their profession.
- December 2, 2016 AALL serves as co-sponsor with Boston University School of Law of the National Conference on Copyright of State Legal Materials, a day-long event held at BU Law. The conference goal is to bring together legal information professionals, policymakers, copyright experts, and others to explore policy and practical issues related to copyrighted state legal materials and to discuss possible solutions to ensure more state legal information is in the public domain. Roger V. Skalbeck chaired the special committee that planned the conference.
- December 5, 2016 AALL Executive Director Kate Hagan announces the launch of KnowItAALL, an online daily newspaper designed to connect members to news that directly engages their library, legal, technological, and professional expertise. Megan Mall, director of content strategy, a new position created in August 2016, serves as KnowItAALL’s editor.
- July 14, 2017 President Ronald E. Wheeler Jr. issues a letter to the mayors and directors of convention and visitors bureaus of the major cities in Texas which states that “AALL will no longer host meetings in Texas due to recent moves by the legislature to discriminate against LGBTQ people.” He pledges that AALL will follow this course “until the repeal or reversal of these discriminatory policies.”
- July 18, 2017 The first-ever AALL Innovation Tournament is conducted at the Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, with preselected finalists presenting their innovation plans to audience members and a panel of industry judges. Katherine Lowry is named the Judges’ Choice winner for her Attorney-Facing Chatbot, and Jennifer Wondracek is selected as the Audience Choice Winner for her Virtual Reality Lab with Public Speaking Apps. With Bloomberg Law as a sponsor of the competition, the winners are awarded substantial cash prizes to support the development and implementation of their workplace innovations.
- November 3, 2017 At its Fall meeting, the Executive Board approves the formation of a new committee to oversee the annual award of the George A. Strait scholarship, created in 1990, and a newly established fellowship program, also named for Strait, longtime law librarian at Harvard and Iowa and a 1989 recipient of the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award. In the new program, each selected fellow will be matched with a host institution that can provide a rich and fulfilling work experience. The new committee will be appointed in March 2018 and begin work in July 2018.
- April 6, 2018 At its Spring meeting, the Executive Board follows the recommendation of the Awards Creation and Review Special Committee, chaired by Cassie DuBay, and approves a new association award for Excellence in Community Engagement. Its goal is to honor persons or groups, including an SIS,

chapter, library, or any other group affiliated with AALL, who have demonstrated excellence in community engagement, collaboration, visibility, networking, or member-to-member relationships. The engagement project or initiative may include digital or electronic technology, print materials, events, programs, or campaigns as a vehicle for promotion, marketing, or engagement. They may be a single promotional effort or related promotions conducted over the course of a year. The first award will be presented in 2019.

June 4, 2018

In its Weekly eNews, AALL announces the publication of a new digital white paper, *Legal Ease: Self Care for Library Staff*. The joint project of the Research, Instruction & Patron Services and Legal Information Services to the Public Special Interest Sections is edited by Nicole P. Dyszlewski, Jessica Panella, and Brittany Strojny. It includes essays by eight authors from different types of libraries and different stages of their careers that, taken together, present best practices about caring for the well-being of library staff members. Emphasis is placed on such issues as wellness, mindfulness, and work/life balance.

July 16, 2018

President Greg Lambert officially launches AALL's new "Body of Knowledge" (BoK), previously approved by the Executive Board in November 2017, at the annual business meeting conducted during the Association's 111th Annual Meeting & Conference in Baltimore. The BoK is designed to serve as a universal benchmark for legal information professionals, defining needed competencies and skills in six domains of expertise (professionalism and leadership, research and analysis, information management, teaching and training, marketing and outreach, and management and business acumen) that are required for success. In a subsequent press release on July 19, new president Femi Cadmus says that the BoK is "a blueprint for our members' professional growth and ... a tool in their myriad roles."

October 15, 2018

Oolagamani (Vani) Ungapen joins AALL as its new executive director, replacing Kate Hagan, whose 11-year tenure (June 18, 2007-September 30, 2018) is the longest of any individual in this position. Ungapen comes to AALL with more than 14 years of experience in management positions with other professional trade associations, most recently having served as manager of global education and membership for the National Association of Realtors. She began her professional career as a law clerk after earning a bachelor's in law from the University of Manchester School of Law in England and a master's degree in law from Stetson University College of Law in Florida.

April 16, 2019

The Association released print and digital versions of the *AALL State of the Profession 2019*, a first of its kind data-driven exploration of the contributions of current legal information professionals. A culmination of the work of the State of the Profession Advisory Group, chaired by Jamie J. Baker, the report provides quantitative insights on job satisfaction, user services, technology management, operations, budgets, and partnerships, while addressing such topics as research platform expertise, contract and vendor negotiation, AI development and implementation, metadata management, legal writing and research instruction, competitive intelligence, customer and client relations, and leadership. It also includes an inventory of expertise needed to succeed in the legal information field,



as well as competencies for library and law school graduates.

April 25-26, 2019

AALL conducts its first-ever Innovation Bootcamp, subtitled “Add+Venture Initiative,” at the offices of Sidley Austin LLP in Chicago. Designed specifically for legal information professionals, the event helps attendees amplify their skills, with a focus on navigating risks and challenges to implement projects, pitch ideas and solutions to stakeholders, network with problem solvers, build internal and external partnerships, and foster a culture of innovation. A popular topic is the “design sprint,” a method for solving problems and testing new ideas in just five days using five steps (design, diverge, decide, prototype, and test).

July 17, 2019

Representative Mike Quigley of Illinois enters into the Congressional Record a message congratulating AALL on “three decades of effective advocacy,” recognizing the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the association’s legislative advocacy program when the Executive Board appointed Robert L. Oakley and Joanne Zich as the first Washington representatives in June 1989. A few days earlier, on July 14, Todd Melnick had moderated a panel at the Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., about the history of this program, “30 Years on the Front Lines: The Past, Present, and Future of Information Policy Advocacy at AALL,” which featured both the current Director of Government Relations for AALL, Emily Feltren, and the previous longtime Washington Affairs Representative, Mary Alice Baish.

July 17-18 2019

Following the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference in Washington, DC, AALL offers its first Executive Leadership Institute at the Georgetown University Law Center to help executives, directors, and interim director-level professionals become more effective leaders. The institute gives attendees the opportunity to participate in candid, dynamic, and strategic conversations on topics affecting library services and legal information, including organizational challenges, changes in the legal landscape, and the continued evolution of information services.

August 30, 2019

Voting electronically, members approve the first revisions to AALL’s Ethical Principles since their adoption on April 5, 1999, when they replaced the Association’s Code of Ethics. The Ethical Principles Special Committee, appointed by President Femi Cadmus and chaired by Amy Wharton, prepared the revisions after a lengthy study which concluded that the existing document, while remaining a solid foundation, failed to address the full range of ethical issues facing today’s legal information professionals. The Executive Board accepted the revisions in April 2019 and directed that they be sent to the membership for consideration.

April 24, 2020

In an AALL eBriefing, President Michelle Cosby and Executive Director Vani Ungapen announce the cancellation of the in-person Annual Meeting and Conference scheduled for July in New Orleans, because of continued concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic. This is only the third time in its history that the Association has cancelled the Annual Meeting, the other two occurring during World War II. Five weeks later, on June 3, another eBriefing will announce that the Association will hold “AALL 2020 Reimagined,” its first-ever virtual conference, in mid-July.



- June 8, 2020
- The Association announces the launch of AALL Consulting Services, a pilot project designed to connect members with organizations needing leadership from experienced legal information professionals in areas such as competitive intelligence strategy, data analysis and predictive analytics strategy, knowledge management systems, library assessment, legal research strategy, project management training, benchmarking and environmental scanning, and vendor contract negotiations. Under the program, AALL will match members with ten or more years of experience with clients based on the specifics of their projects. Femi Cadmus initiated the development of the consulting service during her presidential term in 2018–19.
- July 10, 2020
- In late spring 2020, the Black Caucus of AALL, originally formed in 2005, submitted a petition seeking to change its status to that of a special interest section. In approving this petition at its annual summer meeting, conducted virtually because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Executive Board created the Black Law Librarians SIS, the Association’s fifteenth section. The petition identified the goal of the new entity as furthering the professional development, recruitment and social interests of Black law librarians while educating AALL leadership on matters affecting the interests of the section’s members.
- July 13-17, 2020
- The first-ever AALL Virtual Conference, held in lieu of an in-person Annual Meeting because of health concerns raised by the COVID-19 pandemic, features a lengthy list of livestreamed programs; a keynote address by Jim Kwik, a mental coach and advisor to many of the world’s leading CEOs and celebrities; a virtual exhibit hall; and a Virtual Business Meeting and Members Open Forum. CONELL, the orientation program for newer law librarians which typically precedes the Annual Meeting and Conference, was conducted virtually on July 10, 2020. AALL will later report that the Virtual Conference had 1,245 registered attendees, representing 7 countries and 2 territories across 13 time zones, and included more than 40 educational sessions and 20 exhibitors.
- August 26, 2020
- Members receiving the electronic version of the September/October 2020 issue of *AALL Spectrum* are greeted with the debut of a new column, “Voices Across the Spectrum,” which the magazine’s editor, Steven A. Lastres, describes as “dedicated to reflections of diversity and inclusion in [the AALL] community.” The first column, written by Phebe E. Huderson-Poydras and Ronald E. Wheeler Jr, is titled “How Law Libraries Can Help Tell the Black Lives Matter Movement’s Story.”
- November 7, 2020
- Acting on a petition submitted by Joseph Lawson and supported by 46 founding members, the Executive Board approves the establishment of the First-Gen Professionals Caucus. The goal of the new caucus is to “connect and support all AALL members who are the first in their families to cross a threshold into a professional career,” including but not limited to individuals who are the first in their families to earn a higher education degree, come from a low income or working class background, or are the first in their families to become a U.S. citizen or immigrate to the United States. Specific objectives include promoting law librarianship as a career for first-generation professionals, supporting professional development efforts for this group, and representing its interests and



concerns within the AALL community. A history of the group's formation will be published in the March/April 2021 issue of *AALL Spectrum*.

- November 7, 2020 In accordance with the recommendation of its Finance and Budget Committee and Treasurer Cornell H. Winston, the Executive Board approves making the Association's premier publications, *Law Library Journal* and *AALL Spectrum*, digital only, although members will be given the option to request a print copy of an issue for a fee. According to the committee's estimates, AALL will experience a cost savings of nearly \$50,000 by moving to digital-only publication. *LLJ* will switch to a digital-only format at the start of volume 113 in winter 2021, while *AALL Spectrum* will become digital only beginning with the March/April 2021 issue of volume 25.
- February 26, 2021 The Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS and the Black Law Librarians SIS partner to present AALL's inaugural Diversity Summit under the title "From Difficult Conversations to Collaborative Action." Recognizing 2020 as a year of upheaval and change, particularly with regard to race, both in the world and within the law library profession, the sections seek to use the summit for much-needed discussions that can serve as the basis for developing a call to action in which all members of the profession can take part. Held as a virtual event because of continuing restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the summit provides attendees with the opportunity to learn how they can contribute to increasing diversity and inclusion within the profession.
- November 9, 2021 AALL and the Law Library of Congress cosponsor the Jane Sánchez Memorial Lecture on the Future of Law Libraries and Law Librarianship, a webinar honoring the legacy of the late Law Librarian of Congress. The panel of leaders in academic, government, and law firm libraries examining the future of the profession includes Emily R. Florio, AALL's immediate past president; David Mao, chief operating officer of the Georgetown University Law Center and former AALL treasurer; and Kim Nayyer, Law Librarian at Cornell Law School and president of the Canadian Association of Law Libraries.
- December 6, 2021 Fiore Barbini joins AALL as its director of education and learning. His responsibilities include overseeing the strategy and development of the association's educational programs and activities. Barbini replaces Celeste Smith who served as education director from June 2006 to August 2021.
- January 1, 2022 The AALL Headquarters office in Chicago moves from 109 W. Adams to 230 West Monroe Street, Suite 2650, only the third permanent location for the office since its establishment in 1964 in the historic Monadnock Building at 53 W. Jackson Blvd. The new space, although smaller, will be open and allow for greater collaboration, while also providing access to building amenities such as conference and meeting rooms.
- July 15, 2022 Acting on a proposal from the Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Awareness Special Committee, chaired by former AALL President Ronald E. Wheeler, the Executive Board approves the creation of an AALL Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Policy. The policy builds upon a resolution sponsored by the Black Law Librarians Caucus and approved by the AALL membership in May 2021, proclaiming "That



Black Lives Matter, Calling for a Diverse, Equal and Inclusive AALL and Legal Information Profession.”

July 16–19, 2022

After a two-year hiatus during which health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic caused the Association to hold its Annual Meeting virtually instead of in-person, more than 1,400 attendees convene in Denver for the 115th AALL Annual Meeting & Conference. During the Opening General Session, keynote speaker Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, chief justice of the California Supreme Court, recognizes the vital role law libraries play in advancing access to justice and the importance of collaborations to promote a strong judicial system.

July 15, 2022

The Executive Board approves the formal replacement of the “Competencies of Law Librarianship,” drafted by the Professional Development Committee and approved by the Board in March 2001, with the Body of Knowledge (BoK) it approved in November 2017. The BoK serves as a universal benchmark for legal information professionals, defining competencies and skills in six domains of expertise that are required for success.

July 18, 2022

The recently formed Educating and Diversifying the Next Generation Caucus (GenNext Caucus) holds its first official meeting during the AALL Annual Meeting in Denver. The new entity aims to provide a forum for all members who are interested in diversifying the profession and educating the next generation of law librarians. It hopes to break down barriers to the profession, create pipelines of diverse students to law librarianship, and recruit and train LIS professors, including practicing law librarians.

August 31, 2022

AALL announces the availability of a new resource that will allow information professionals and members of the public to easily locate free online primary legal materials, including session laws, statutory codes, registers, administrative codes, and court opinions. Online Legal Information Resources (OLIR), developed by the Advancing Access to Justice Special Committee and available on AALLNET, provides links to information for U.S. states and the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, U.S. Federal Government, and Canada. Chaired by Pauline S. Afuso, the committee was formed by AALL President Diane Rodriguez in 2021.

September 2022

Utilizing its eLearning Platform, AALL hosts a four-week course on “Managing Your Work Environment.” Under the direction of facilitator Judith Millessen, a frequent consultant to non-profit organizations around the country, the course covers various aspects of interpersonal and/or team development essential for effective management in the workplace.

November 4, 2022

The Executive Board approves the creation of two new caucuses at its fall meeting. The Next Generation Bar Exam Caucus, to be chaired by Dennis C. Kim-Prieto, will focus on ways to prepare students for the NextGen Bar Exam, including how the research and analytical skill sets needed in the practice of law should be included in law school curricula. The AALL Baseball Caucus, to be chaired by Diane M. Rodriguez, will help legal information professionals connect, share, and learn about baseball within AALL nationally, regionally, and locally.

- May 26, 2023                   The Executive Board approves a new AALL Harassment and Bullying Free Policy that covers all participants at all AALL activities and events. In accord with the association’s commitment to maintaining a professional environment free from harassment of any kind, participants are expected to respect the rights, opinions, personal security, and beliefs of others. Bullying, harassment, and retaliation based on race, color, age, sex, religion, ethnic or national origin, citizenship status, ancestry, marital status, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, military or veteran status, genetic information, citizenship status, domestic violence victim status, or any other basis protected by law is strictly prohibited by the policy.
- July 18, 2023                   June Hsiao Liebert’s term as president of the American Association of Law Libraries officially begins in Boston at the conclusion of Association’s 116th Annual Meeting & Conference. Liebert, director of information services at O’Melveny & Myers LLP and an Executive Board member in 2018–2021, is the first female Asian-American AALL president.
- September 25, 2023           During a virtual meeting, the AALL Executive Board approves an Antitrust Compliance Policy for the Association. It provides guidance to members on this important and complex issue to ensure that the Association remains compliant with the law, especially given recent changes in antitrust enforcement and guidance.
- November 4, 2023             During its fall meeting, the Executive Board approves the creation of the AALL Neurodiversity Caucus. The caucus provides a forum for AALL members who are impacted by or interested in neurodiversity. Geraldine Kalim, student services librarian at the University of Georgia, will serve as chair of the new caucus.
- February 1, 2024              Lisa Winkler, clinical services law librarian at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, Pritzker Legal Research Center, submits a request to the Executive Board for the approval of a caucus designed to promote an exchange of ideas, developments, and best practices between law librarians who support legal clinics. The board will approve the AALL Clinical Services Caucus at its spring meeting in April. Winkler will service as chair of the new entity.
- April 11, 2024                 More than thirty years after its introduction by President Carolyn Ahearn at the Annual Meeting in San Francisco on July 22, 1992, the Executive Board approves moving the in-person Members Open Forum annually conducted at the Conference to a series of Virtual Members Open Forums to be held throughout the year. AALL first used a virtual forum in lieu of an in-person event in July 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- July 19, 2024                 Recognizing that rapidly evolving Generative AI (GenAI) tools pose significant challenges related to security, accuracy, and intellectual property, the Executive Board approves a new AALL Generative Artificial Intelligence Acceptable Use Policy for AALL Staff. It outlines guidelines and principles staff must follow when using third-party or publicly available GenAI tools to generate content, work products, or perform tasks.



- November 19, 2024      The Executive Board approves the creation of three new caucuses: the Solo and Small Law Library Team Caucus, the Caregivers Caucus, and the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Caucus. According to its chair, Allie Penn, the purpose of the first is to provide support and camaraderie to those working as solo librarians or as part of a small team. Chair Genevieve Zook informs the Board that the purpose of the Caregivers Caucus is to provide support on issues of interest to those holding down a job while raising a family, helping aging parents, or facing childcare or other challenges that arise when trying to balance career and family obligations. Co-chairs June Liebert and Emily Florio outline the purpose of the AI Caucus as promoting knowledge sharing among AALL members about artificial intelligence and providing a forum for all AALL members to connect, share, and learn about AI as it continues to impact the legal profession.
- April 1, 2025      Responding to recent substantial revisions by the American Bar Association of accreditation standards for law school libraries, AALL conducts a webinar, “Academic Law Library Collections: Looking to the Future.” The program is designed to help the academic law library community determine the best path forward, particularly with respect to fundamental missions, stewarding and curating collections, and providing services when there is ever more reliance on licensing unstable content than owning physical collections. Incoming AALL President-Elect Jessica Whytock of U.C. Berkeley serves as coordinator/moderator of the webinar; Amanda Runyon of the University of Pennsylvania and Carissa Vogel of the University of Iowa as principal speakers.
- June 20, 2025      President Cornell H. Winston announces in an eBriefing to the membership that AALL Executive Director Oolagamani (Vani) Ungapen, will be “stepping down from her role at the end of August to pursue a new opportunity.” He also explains the process by which a search for a new executive director will be conducted, including the appointment of a special committee to oversee the search and the use of an executive search committee. Ungapen, who joined AALL on October 15, 2018, is only the sixth individual to serve in the position (not including three acting directors) since William Jepson was hired as AALL’s first executive director in September 1981. The longest tenure was that of Kate Hagan, who served for more than eleven years (June 18, 2007, to September 28, 2018), followed by Roger H. Parent (September 7, 1993–December 31, 2002), at nine years.
- July 18, 2025      The Executive Board approves the creation of the Environment and Climate Change Caucus. Caucus Chair Nicholas Stump indicates that it will provide a forum for AALL members working on issues in these fields, particularly topics related to teaching and course design, provision of services, scholarship, professional development, and service to the profession and society. It will also consider perspectives on environmental justice, international and comparative law, and climate justice for the Global South.