



**GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES  
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION**



## **GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES SIS ANNUAL REPORT 2018 - 2019**

Officers for 2018 - 2019 were Joan Bellistri, Chair; Jenny Silbiger, Vice- Chair; James Durham Secretary-Treasurer; Carol Ebbinghouse, Joe Lawson, Rob Mead, Members-at-Large; Christine Morton and Sara V. Pic, Newsletter Co-editors; and Holly Gerber, Past Chair.

The Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession was given to Coral Henning, Director (in memoriam), Sacramento County Public Law Library; Carol Ebbinghouse, Law Librarian (retired), 2nd District Court of Appeals for CA Law Library; Terry Long, Librarian (retired), VA State Law Library; and Mariann Sears, Director, Harris County Law Library.

The Connie E. Bolden Publication Award was awarded to Stefanie Pearlman, Schmid Law Library, University of Nebraska for "Persuasive Authority and the Nebraska Supreme Court: Are Certain Jurisdictions or Secondary Resources More Persuasive than Others?," *The Nebraska Lawyer Magazine*, March/April, 2018, pp 35 - 39.

Dr. Joel Fishman Professional Publication Award was given to the Harris County Law Library Staff for *Pro Se Litigant Handbook and Manual para Litigantes Pro Se*.

Grants were awarded to Emily Bergfeld of the Alameda County Law Library to attend the AALL Management Institute and to Leslie Greenwood of the Minnesota State Law Library, Stephen Parks of the State Law Library of Mississippi, and Francis Norton of the Law Library of Louisiana to attend the AALL Annual Meeting.

The GLL sponsored programs for the Annual Meeting. The Education Committee coordinated "Surfing the Horizons: Law Libraries, Pro Bono, and Community Resource Partners for Access to Justice." The Advocacy Committee contributed to the GLL/SR/LISP-SIS Joint Roundtable on Law Library Services to Prisoner and Public Patrons on PACER.

GLL VIPs were Martha Bergmark, Executive Director Voices for Civil Justice and Steve Schultze, an associate at Hogan Lovells in Washington D.C. whose work focuses on the intersection of law, technology, and public policy.

GLL Committee reports detail their work, some highlights follow. The Awards Committee suggested a revised oath for the swearing in of officers. GLL now has a short as well as the traditional long oath. The descriptions of the publications awards have been revised for clarity. Best A2J Practices began work on a



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guide on working with public librarians. Membership and Mentoring's Skills Inventory grew. Publicity and Public Relations are worked on collecting GLL stories for a promotional video. Standards worked to establish a schedule for revisions and the Technology Committee has reviewed and updated the website. The Newsletter continued being published three times a year.

Officers for 2019 – 2020 will be Jenny Silbiger, Chair; James Durham, Vice- Chair; Karen Westwood, Secretary-Treasurer; Joe Lawson, Rob Mead, and Liz Reppe, Members-at-Large; Christine Morton and Sara V. Pic, Newsletter Co-editors; and Joan Bellistri, Past Chair.

Submitted by:

Joan Bellistri  
GLL-SIS Chair  
2018-2019