

GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES – SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION **ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021**

Officers for 2020-2021 were James Durham, Chair; Jenny R. Silbiger, Past Chair; Miriam Childs, Vice Chair / Chair-Elect; Karen Westwood, Secretary / Treasurer; Joseph Lawson, Member at Large; Liz Reppe, Member at Large; Amy Small, Member at Large; and Sara Pic, *GLL Newsletter* Editor (ex officio).

GLL-SIS award winners this year included John Adkins and Catherine Leman, who received the Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession. Angela Baldree, Robert Brink, Timothy C. Hunt, Mary Alice Kenny, and Lu Tuan Nguyen received GLL-SIS Longevity Awards. Caroline Nevin received the GLL-SIS Executive Committee ‘Above & Beyond’ Award.

GLL-SIS members have been named as recipients of AALL awards, as well. Catherine Lemann received the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award. Mariann Sears received the Robert T. Oakley Advocacy Award. The San Diego Law Library received the Excellence in Community Engagement Award.

GLL-SIS grants were awarded for members to attend virtual trainings and conferences. Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong received the AALL Management Institute Grant. Sara McMahan, Angela Reaux, and Gail Wechsler received Annual Meeting Grants. Sabrina Davis received the Equal Justice Conference Grant. The grants are funded by member donations, largely gathered during an annual and highly successful fundraising campaign, led by the GLL-SIS Grants Committee.

The GLL-SIS Strategic Planning Committee authored and distributed a questionnaire to the GLL membership, seeking to gather ideas for *Strategic Directions 2021–2024*. The final draft of the plan was unveiled in late spring, and was approved by the GLL-SIS Executive Board in June. The new plan incorporates an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as access to justice.

The *GLL-SIS Handbook* was updated, with new and amended sections for each GLL committee and Executive Board position. The new edition updates the original from 2015, allowing future members to benefit from the experiences of those who served previously.

The GLL-SIS Membership & Mentoring Committee worked to develop an updated GLL mentorship program and webpage. The Committee has incorporated additional areas of expertise and added new mentors.

The GLL-SIS Newsletter Committee has produced three substantive issues of *GLL News* this year. The first issue focused on issues related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and access to justice. Members have been generous with contributions to the newsletter this year, sharing personal stories, program summaries, and book reviews.

The GLL-SIS Education Committee has been active, providing remote education and support to GLL members over the past year. The Committee collaborated with the AALL Director of Government Relations

GLL-SIS
GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION

to plan a webinar called “Government Law Library Funding: Advocacy Training for Law Libraries.” The Committee also worked with Jenny Silbiger, Past Chair, to organize a webinar called “Systemic Racism, Implicit Bias, and Privilege: Cultivating Change in Our Workspaces and Communities.” The AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC) has selected a GLL-sponsored program that will feature Miriam Childs, Vice Chair / Chair-Elect, called “Legal Deserts in America: What is Meaningful Access to Justice for All?”

During this pandemic year, the GLL-SIS membership has shown great resilience, providing support and guidance to one another in uncertain times. Despite many challenges, our committees have sponsored meaningful programming and have worked to move our organization’s projects forward.

Respectfully submitted,
James Durham,
GLL-SIS Chair, 2020-2021