GLL-SIS ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

Officers for 2021-2022 were Miriam Childs, Chair; James Durham, Past Chair; Holly Riccio, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Karen Westwood, Secretary / Treasurer; Amy Small, Member at Large; Liz Reppe, Member at Large; Patricia Petroccione, Member at Large; and Sara Pic, GLL Newsletter Editor (ex officio).

The Board approved changes to the GLL Handbook regarding Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and Member-At-Large duties; the definition of the Law Library Advocate Award; and the newly-created GLL Above and Beyond Award.

GLL-SIS award winners this year included Kathy Carlson and Sara Galligan, who received the Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession. Alexander B. Burnett, Jessica Lundgren, and Ryan Metheney received the Dr. Joel Fishman Professional Publication Award. Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth County Law Library received the O. James Werner Award for Distinguished Service to Persons with Disabilities.


Several GLL-SIS members received AALL awards, as well. Steven P. Anderson received the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award. Sabrina Davis received the Emerging Leader Award. Deborah Hamilton received the Public Access to Government Information Award. Joe Lawson received the Volunteer Service Award. The Minnesota State Law Library received the Excellence in Community Engagement Award.

GLL-SIS grants were awarded for members to attend meetings and conferences. Thomas Baer, Kaden Taylor, Amy Small, and Sara Mauldin received Annual Meeting Grants. Kristen Matteucci 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 Advocacy Committee hosted a successful advocacy program for AALL chapters.
The Publicity and Public Relations Committee prepared for the first in-person AALL conference since 2019. The Committee updated and printed color copies flyers promoting GLL programs, mentoring, and the “About Us” flyers. The Committee reserved a display board in the Exhibit Hall activities area and the CONELL Marketplace, where these flyers will be available for conference attendees. The Committee also updated Resource Guide 1, “How to Hire a State or County Law Librarian” and selected Marketing Mavens featured on the GLL website.

The Standards Committee completed updated drafts of “County Public Law Library Standards” and “Appellate Court Law Library Standards,” but the Committee ultimately decided that the standards should be entirely rewritten.

The Best A2J Practices Committee worked on a project to develop and create a template for a collection development policy designed with self-help materials in mind. The Committee prepared a framework, using samples from other libraries, of a collection development policy focused on resources that would benefit self-represented litigants and provide them with the tools to achieve greater access to justice.

The GLL-SIS Membership & Mentoring Committee maintained regular outreach to the membership. The Committee hosted a spring 2022 gathering of newer law librarians in GLL and monthly Zoom sessions for newer members. It plans to offer another opportunity for new law librarians to network in the fall. The Committee will staff the GLL table at CONELL and the GLL display board in the exhibit hall. The Committee also updated its flyer promoting the GLL Mentorship Database.

The newsletter committee published three regular issues of GLL News this year (Fall, Winter/Spring, and Summer). This was the fourth and final year of editorship by Sara Pic. Sabrina Davis volunteered as incoming editor. Numerous GLL members offered material for publication, which resulted in issues covering a wide range of topics. Issues continued to include minutes of previous Board meetings, AALL announcements, Member News, and reports from various GLL committees, including regular updates from the Grants committee and information about GLL Award recipients from the Awards committee. Membership and Mentoring continued to submit book reviews. Publicity & Public Relations began regularly submitting Marketing Mavens profiles again.

The GLL-SIS Education Committee had a productive year. The Committee members drafted two program proposals, and received one from a GLL member. The committee-drafted proposals were ultimately submitted as the GLL-endorsed programs: “Bringing the Law Library to the Community: Access to Justice with Remote Services” and “Coping with Vicarious Trauma: Tips for Law Librarians on the Front Lines.”
The AMPC selected “Coping with Vicarious Trauma: Tips for Law Librarians on the Front Lines” as the GLL-sponsored program. The Committee confirmed that there will be a GLL/LISP/SR-SIS Roundtable at AALL. The Education Committee also co-sponsored a “5 Topics in 5 Days” discussion with the RIPS-SIS Mentoring and Outreach Committee. This discussion ran from June 13-17, 2022 and covered topics related to law library outreach. The discussion attracted nearly 70 members and generated robust discussion on library publications, orientations, job recruitment, collaboration with other organizations, and design and marketing. Restarting GLL’s participation in a 5 Topics discussion has been a goal of this committee for several years.

This year was the first since 2019 that GLL planned for an in-person annual meeting. Changes to AALL personnel and SIS sponsorship guidelines and deadlines presented unique and unforeseen challenges to the Board. Much time was spent working with the conference planning contractor and the conference hotel to plan and promote the annual breakfast and business meeting. Though attendance will be down this year, the Board is now aware of what to anticipate, and hopes for a return to previous attendance levels next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Childs,
GLL-SIS Chair, 2021-2022