



GLL NEWS

A Newsletter of the Government Law Libraries Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

[Karen Westwood](#), she/her/hers, Hennepin County Law Library



GLL Colleagues:

It’s hard to believe that I’m writing my last “From the Chair” column. The year has gone quickly and the AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in Chicago is on the horizon.

For those of you traveling to Chicago, please join us for our Awards and Recognition Ceremony, generously sponsored by LexisNexis, which takes place on Sunday, July 21st with coffee and treats at 7:30 a.m. and brief remarks and celebration commencing at 7:45. Our Sunday morning gathering will again focus on celebrating the achievements and accomplishments of our members, while also creating space and time to network and connect with one another. Our speaker will be David Mao - look for Catherine McGuire’s article on [page 4](#) of this issue introducing Mr. Mao. Come prepared with questions!

While in Chicago, please make sure to learn from and support your fellow GLL colleagues by attending the programs, roundtables and other events they are involved in. Stop by the AALL Activities Area and pick up some new GLL swag. And look for an announcement on “My Communities” about a no-host happy hour in a conference hotel bar.

The GLL Funding Task Force will have a poster in the exhibit hall. Look for “Fifty \$hades of Green: The Many Ways to Fund a Public Law Library” which will highlight

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VIEW FROM THE CHAIR, CONT.

the work of the task force and solicit additional information to incorporate into our results (which we hope to complete in 2025). Kudos to Pauline Afuso for the clever poster title, and thanks to our GLL members who were, or are, part of the Law Librarians Working Group of the Self-Represented Litigation Network who generated an early version of a spreadsheet we are using to capture the various funding models across the states.

Finally, for the first time to my knowledge we will join with the LIT-SIS for a reception on Monday evening. We'll gather between 5 pm and 8 pm at the Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago Kent College of Law at an event hosted by John Mayer at CALL headquarters. Some of us in LIT and GLL see more and more natural overlap as we contemplate technology and how it impacts access to justice. CALL is a perfect host for the organic conversations around these issues that are bound to pop up at the social. Look for the "My Communities" announcement and RSVP (to get an accurate food/beverage count) and contact me if you have any questions.

Whether you'll be in Chicago or not, you are warmly invited to participate in our GLL Business Meeting held online on July 9 at 1:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time). We have held the business meeting online since 2020 and continue to do so to include more members – please plan to join us. Further details will be sent out via "My Communities."

The work done by our various committees is tremendous, and committee annual reports will be on AALLNET shortly. If you're ever thinking about volunteering for GLL, feel free to contact me and I'll be happy to share with you the many ways getting involved can help you both professionally and personally. It's been a true honor to be your chair for this past year.

Warmly,
Karen

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

[Tara Cunningham](#), she/her, Law Library of Louisiana

Hello, GLL!

Happy summer! This issue of GLL News features election results as well as the recipients of 2024 GLL-SIS awards and grants to attend AALL Chicago. Speaking of grants, every donation helps fund them for upcoming years, so please give generously!

Kristin Neri wrote about her experience at the AALL Leadership Academy, where she embraced improv, so be sure to check out her article on [page 23](#). Rounding out this issue are the GLL-SIS Executive Board Meeting Minutes for February and April, as well as announcements from AALL.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK, CONT.

Finally, I just want to say thank you to the GLL Newsletter Committee for their help during my first year as editor of GLL News.



Have a great summer, and GLL News will be back in October!

GLL-SIS GRANTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

[Christine E. Morton, she/her/hers, 2023-2024 GLL-SIS Grants Committee Chair](#)



2024 GLL-SIS Annual Meeting Grant Recipients

The Grants Committee would like to congratulate the following GLL-SIS members who have been selected to receive a \$1500 grant to attend the 2024 Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois:

- **Taylor Berkoski**, Reference Librarian, Jenkins Law Library, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- **Eric J.H. Chapman**, Assistant Librarian, U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit Library, Pasadena, California
- **Alicia Friedman**, Librarian, Reference & Collections, Los Angeles County Law Library, Palmdale, California

Thank you to the GLL-SIS members who applied for a grant this year. If you have never applied for a grant, please consider applying for a grant this upcoming year! The Grants Committee looks forward to offering grants for conferences in 2024-2025.



2024 GLL-SIS AWARDS & RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Sunday, July 21, 2024, 7:30am - 8:30pm CDT

Location: Hyatt Regency Chicago Rm. Michigan 1

Sponsored by *LexisNexis*

The GLL-SIS traditional early morning gathering will be held in Chicago on Sunday, July 21, from 7:30a.m. to 8:30a.m. *LexisNexis* is sponsoring beverage service and breakfast treats. No registration is required for the event – just set your alarm (and maybe a backup!) and head over to Michigan 1.

This event is a celebration of our members with the presentation of awards, the recognition of longevity, remarks about annual achievements, and the confirmation of our new officers. In longstanding

tradition, we have invited a speaker to provide remarks. This year, we will hear from David Mao, who has recently been named the 12th Librarian of the Supreme Court of the United States, effective July 1, 2024.



David Mao
(*Georgetown Law News*, accessed 6/20/2024)



David has occupied some of the most recognized positions in our field. After starting his law library career at Covington & Burling in Washington D.C., he joined the Congressional Research Service (CRS). Subsequently, he served as the the first Deputy Law Librarian of Congress; then as the 23rd Law Librarian of Congress. Not stopping there, he served as Deputy Librarian of Congress and Acting Librarian of Congress. Along the way, David oversaw the renovation of the Law Library's public reading room; managed the many offices of the LOC, including the Copyright Office and CRS; with his team, organized a celebration of the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, including an exhibition of an original 1215 Magna Carta; and managed events like the National Book Festival and the awarding of the Killjoy Prize and the Gershwin Prize.

David is currently finishing up his time as chief operating officer of the Georgetown University Law Center, where he was responsible for the school's administrative operations including financial affairs, employment services, facilities management, information technology, and public safety. In that role, he led the design and building of three new classroom spaces as well as the renovation of the Law Center's 370-seat auditorium.

A long-time AALL member with extensive involvement (his AALLnet profile runs a few pages!), David was profiled in AALL Spectrum shortly after his appointment as Acting Librarian of Congress. David holds a bachelor's degree from The George Washington University, a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center, and his M.S.L.S. from The Catholic University of America. We welcome David back to the GLL-SIS!



GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION



LEAD · INNOVATE · TRANSFORM

AALL 2024

July 20-23 / Chicago, IL

GLL-SIS RELATED EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS AT 2024 AALL ANNUAL MEETING

PROGRAMS

*Denotes GLL member

SIS EVENTS

GLL-SIS Awards & Recognition Ceremony

Sunday, July 21
7:30 a.m.–8:30 a.m.
Room: Michigan 1
(Sponsored by Lexis-Nexis)

GLL-SIS Annual Pau Hana / Happy Hour

Sunday, July 21
5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.
Location: TBD

GLL-SIS & LIT-SIS Joint Social Hour

Monday, July 22
5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
Location: Illinois Institute of
Technology Chicago Kent
College of Law

POSTER SESSION

TUESDAY, JULY 23,
9:45-11:15 a.m.
EXHIBIT HALL

FIFTY SHADE\$ OF GREEN: THE MANY WAYS TO FUND A PUBLIC LAW LIBRARY

Karen Westwood,
Hennepin County Law
Library; Pauline Afuso,
Alameda County Law
Library

SATURDAY, JULY 20

Preconference: Discover Foreign & International Law in the Second City

9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | Room: Atlanta

(*Jean Wenger and Adam Weber, Chicago-Kent College of Law; Dean Deane, University of California College of the Law, San Francisco; Aaron Gillett, Seyfarth Shaw LLP; Pádraig Manning, Consulate General of Ireland, Chicago; Hanna Maria Tetz, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany; Diane Wood, University of Chicago School of Law; Mandy Lee, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University)

SUNDAY, JULY 21

Partnerships to Increase Access to the Profession

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom A

(Jennifer Bedier, University of Arizona College of Law; Andre Davison, Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library; *Jennifer González, Law Library of Congress; Sarah Ryan, University of North Texas; Shamika Dalton, University of Colorado Law School)

Leading the Way: Solutions for Hiring and Onboarding in a Hybrid World

2:00–3:00 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom D

(Laura Dixon-Caldwell and Ashley Russell, University of Cincinnati College of Law; Susan Boland, University of Cincinnati; Tim Hennies, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP; *Lauren Morrison, Hamilton County Law Library)

Transforming the Legal Landscape: Access to Justice in Rural Communities

2:00–3:00 p.m. | Room: Grand Ballroom B

(Ashley Ahlbrand, Indiana University Maurer School of Law; Justin Iverson, William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV; Amy Koopmann, University of Iowa Law Library; *Franklin L. Runge, Montana Judicial Branch)

Generative AI: Revolutionizing Efficiencies for Law Librarians

2:00–3:00 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom C

(Karen Skinner, University of Colorado – Boulder; Cindy Guyer, O'Melveny & Myers LLP; *Leland Sampson, Maryland Thurgood Marshall State Law Library)

Diversity & Inclusion Committee Symposium: Stand Up Fight Back: How Libraries Keep Momentum on Their DEI Work Under Local Restrictions

3:15–4:15 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom C

(Josh LaPorte, St. John's University School of Law; Rebecca K. Glenberg, ACLU of Illinois; *Amy Small, Texas State Law Library; Nicole P. Dyszlewski, Roger Williams University School of Law Library)

MONDAY, JULY 22

Bridging Distances in Mentoring Relationships

9:30–10:30 a.m. | Room: Grand Ballroom A

(Mandy Lee, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University; Brandy Ellis, University of Georgia; *Jenny Silbiger, Hawaii State Judiciary)

Artificial Intelligence in the Library Workflow: Improving Efficiencies

9:30–10:30 a.m. | Room: Grand Ballroom

(Caren Luckie, Jackson Walker LLP; *Andre Davison, Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library; April Eudy, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP; Leanna R. Simon, Honigman LLP; Roger Skalbeck, Richmond School of Law; Aaron Eberle, LexisNexis)

ROUND TABLE

SUNDAY, JULY 21

LISP-SIS/
BLL-SIS/GLL-SIS/
SR-SIS JOINT
ROUNDTABLE12:45 p.m.–1:45 p.m. |
Room Michigan 1DEEP DIVE
SUNDAY, JULY 21
SIMPLY DONE: MANAGING PROJECTS BIG AND SMALL FOR WORK
AND LIFE2:00 p.m.–4:15 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom A
(Morgan Stoddard, George Mason University Law Library; *Jennifer Gonzalez, Law
Library of Congress; Kelly A. McGlynn, Skadden Arps State Meagher & Flom)

MONDAY, JULY 22 (cont.)

The Promotion Proposal: Advice for Composing an Effective Promotion Statement and Dossier

9:30–10:30 a.m. | Room: Grand Ballroom B

(Ashley Ahlbrand and Susan D. deMaine, Indiana University Maurer School of Law; Margaret Butler, Georgia State University College of Law Library; *Janine Liebert, LA Law Library; Clanitra S. Nejd, Alyne Queener Massey Law Library, Vanderbilt University)

State Court Dockets: Demystifying Online Access and Coverage

10:45–11:45 a.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom B

(Shari Berkowitz Duff and Patricia Hoskins, Jones Day; *Andre Davison, Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library; Clare Gaynor Willis, Pritzker Legal Research Center Northwestern Pritzker School of Law)

Selector School 2.0: Weeding the Collection You Have Built

1:15–2:15 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom A

(Jennifer Mart-Rice, University of Iowa Law Library; *Jessica Mundy, Maryland Thurgood Marshall State Law Library; Lauren Seney, University of Colorado Law Library; Elisabeth Umpleby, University of Connecticut School of Law)

Systems Love to Hate: Educating Law Students and Practitioners on Bias in AI

1:15–2:15 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom D

(Tarica LaBossiere, Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad College of Law; Vicens Feliú, Nova Southeastern University; Vishnu S. Pendyala, San Jose State University; *Alexis Fetzer Sharp, Supreme Court of Virginia; Elizabeth Salsedo-Surovov, Robinson+Cole)

Debunking the Learning Styles Myth with Cognitive Science

1:15–2:15 p.m. | Room: Grand Ballroom A

(Alyson Drake, University of Houston Law Center; Monique Gonzalez, Norton Rose Fulbright; *Jocelyn D. Stilwell-Tong, California's Sixth District Court of Appeal; Rob Brownell, University of Houston Law Center)

Obscenity, Authoritarianism, and Blasphemy: The Global Context of Book Banning

3:30–4:30 p.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom D

(*Sarah E.M. Martin, LA Law Library; Emily J.M Knox and Andrew Zalot, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign School of Information Sciences)

You are Kenough: Overcoming Imposter Syndrome for Career Growth

3:30–4:30 p.m. | Room: Grand Hall LMN

(*Eric J.H. Chapman, U.S. Courts for the Ninth Circuit; Cindy Guyer, O'Melveny & Myers LLP; Madeline R. Cohen, Bloomberg Industry Group)

TUESDAY, JULY 23

Changing Dynamics in the Workplace: Redefining What is "Professional" in the Law Library

8:30–9:30 a.m. | Room: Grand Ballroom A

(Kris Turner, University of Wisconsin Law Library; *Jennifer Gonzalez, Law Library of Congress; Karen Wry and Brianne Scott, Holland & Knight LLP; Ajaye Bloomstone, LSU Law Center)

DEI Climate Assessment: The First Step to Impactful Results

8:30–9:30 a.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom C

(*Kirstin Nelson, USDA National Agricultural Library; Kaitlin Desselle, Strategic Diversity Initiatives; Jody Gray, University of Minnesota)

Making It "Count": Collecting Electronic Resources Statistics in Law Libraries

8:30–9:30 a.m. | Room: Regency Ballroom A

(Larissa Sullivant, The Ruth Lilly Law Library, IU Robert McKinney School of Law; *Carol Ottolenghi, Office of the Ohio Attorney General; Rick K. Ralston, Ruth Lilly Medical Library, IU School of Medicine; Michelle Trovillo, BakerHostetler; Brian R. Huffman, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa)

Learn more about GLL
at www.aallnet.org/gllsis/

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

Government Law Libraries – Special Interest Section Executive Board – Minutes

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 @ 12:00 Noon PT / 2:00 pm CT / 3:00 pm ET

Attended: K. Westwood, A. Small, H. Riccio, B. Starkey, P. Petroccione, J. Stilwell-Tong, S. Pixon, T. Cunningham

Meeting Leader: K. Westwood

Scribe: S. Pixon

Date of Next Meeting: June 20, 2024 @ 12:30 PT/2:30 pm CT/3:30 pm ET

Minutes

Preliminary Items / Previous Meeting Action Items:

- Call to Order: Karen called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm Central by acclamation.
- Approve Agenda: Karen moved to approve the agenda, Jocelyn seconded, no discussion, all in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Approve Minutes from 02/28/2024: Sara moved to approve the minutes, Karen seconded, no discussion, all in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Treasurer Remarks/Report: No updates.
- Action Items Status (see February Meeting Minutes): Karen suggested moving to Thursday, June 20 at 2:30 pm Central to accommodate Juneteenth conflicts for next GLL Board meeting. All agreed.

Other Business:

- Bylaws Proposals – Brendan: AALL approved GLL's proposed changes to the Bylaws – they are now ready to be voted on by the membership at the summer (virtual) business meeting. Brendan will send out to membership within the required 30 days notice.
- Technology Committee – Amy: Committee thoroughly reviewed GLL website – most changes are straightforward but there were questions/issues with regards to the toolkits and resource guides. The resource guides were meant to be print publications and some are quite old though the information is still relevant – Pub. & PR Committee is in charge of them. They are for law librarians to learn about best practices. Sue is current P&PR chair – Amy will follow-up with her. The toolkits are very out of date – they are also less curated than the resource guides, and more “link dumps” with many bad links. We do not know who is in charge of them or if they are even being used. Amy sees value in gathering resources for sharing purposes, such as collection development. Amy suggested taking it down for now and that we are considering updating/overhauling. Sara mentioned that there are current topics that would be

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

- valuable to include such as partnerships. Amy suggested “crowd-sourcing” the information in the future – libraries will send in links/docs to include. Karen said likely that this type of info is currently shared in My Communities, but that’s not very searchable for future information sharing.
- Grants and Awards (including fundraiser) – Sara: Sara reported that Grants is giving 3 grants out to the annual meeting. There is money leftover from not all grants being awarded that Grants will be requesting that money be rolled over. Sara also reached out to Gail Warren and James Durham about the fundraiser and will update the GLL Board once she hears back on the plan. There were not many nominations for Awards but they did choose awardees for the Fishman award.
- Other Committee updates: None at this time.
- Annual Meeting Preparation – Select Date for Business Meeting (virtual): Tuesday, July 9 in afternoon.
- Annual Meeting Preparation – VIP, Speaker for Breakfast: Sara and Karen are looking into menu options and in touch with AALL and their contractor. Karen and Amy are helping to line up a speaker with Awards. Karen would prefer people local to Chicago. The Board discussed options for VIP – Karen will follow-up. P&PR will be putting together a board for GLL. Brendan is volunteering to coordinate the GLL happy hour (pau hand). GLL is also co-sponsoring a social event with LIT with CALL.
- GLL Law Library Funding Task Force – Status Update (KW report): No updates at the moment.
- New business: No new business.
- Adjournment: Jocelyn moved to adjourn, Patty seconded, all in favor, no oppose or abstain, adjourned at 3:03 pm Central.

Current Meeting Action Items:	Assigned to:	Date Due:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up with Tech and P&PR about updates to website and Resources Guides • Continue Annual Meeting preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy • Karen and Sara 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next GLL Board meeting • As needed

Interim Board Actions via Email:

Awards Committee motion to approve cost of GLL awards crystals, from Crystal Cave, at \$310 presented by Sara, seconded by Karen, all in favor, no oppose or abstain on May 13, 2024.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Government Law Libraries – Special Interest Section Executive Board – Minutes

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 @ 1:00 pm PT / 3:00 pm CT / 4:00 pm ET

Attended: K. Westwood, A. Small, H. Riccio, P. Petroccione, B. Starkey, J. Stilwell-Tong, S. Pixon, T. Cunningham

Meeting Leader: K. Westwood

Scribe: S. Pixon

Date of Next Meeting: April 17, 2024 @ 12:00 Noon PT/2:00 pm CT/3:00 pm ET

Minutes

Preliminary Items / Previous Meeting Action Items:

- Call to Order: Karen called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm CT.
- Approve Agenda: Amy moved to approve agenda, Brendan seconded, Karen commented to correct the time which Sara did, all in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Approve Minutes from 12/20/23: Jocelyn moved to approve, Amy seconded, no corrections or discussion, all in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Treasurer Remarks/Report: Sara reported funding is good, at about \$41,000 at last statement.
- Action Items Status (see October Meeting Minutes): n/a

Other Business:

- Committee updates: Karen reported that Education is approaching GLL members whose programs were not approved for annual to see if they wanted to do a webinar. Karen also reported that P&PR had several questions, most of which just need to be fielded by the Board as requests. One question had to do with prize drawings – Karen will follow up. Holly had questions about why we would offer a prize so Karen is going to get more info. Swag from last year is still available and is in Chicago. P&PR wonders if the Board objects to broadening their Marketing Mavens to all of AALL – most of the Board does not explicitly object but does not think it will be particularly useful but Karen pointed out that it's possible they could find librarians who could apply their marketing skills specifically to government law libraries. Tara will also increase outreach for the Mavens in the newsletter. Patty reported that StoryMap is making progress with ATJ, there will be a poster session at AALL. Brendan reported that Nominations candidate has lots of candidates this year – 2 for each position. Brendan also reported that Bylaws needs to get permission from AALL Bylaws in order to change GLL Bylaws – that won't happen in time for the online election but can happen

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

- at the annual meeting. Jocelyn reported that there are no updates on the hiring of a new Government Relations person (per Advocacy’s concern) but it is on AALL HQ’s agenda. Karen reported that M&M is working on the longevity pins. Sara reported that Grants offered one grant to a Leadership Academy, other grant meeting deadlines coming up. Sara also reported that the deadline for Awards is this Friday, they are also working on the speaker for the “breakfast.”
- Annual Meeting Preparation Begins – Sponsorship Requests (KW report – sponsorship, VIP selection, etc.): Our sponsorship request was funded by Lexis again so we can offer some (small) food this year! Karen is looking into Chicago area VIPs (it can’t be the same as the breakfast speaker). A judge would be a good option or a reporter, public librarians, ATJ people. Jocelyn has an idea for a VIP for Portland – she is connected to a WA Supreme Court justice. Amy mentioned someone from the Children and Family Justice Center as a possible VIP for Chicago. Karen will schedule GLL’s annual meeting for before AALL annual meeting.
- GLL Law Library Funding Task Force – Status Update (KW report): They are working on a 50-state survey. Not going to survey all the law libraries, just selected state and large county law libraries in every state. Ithaka S+R is working on law library services to incarcerated prisoners and will be including questions as part of their survey on law library funding (Diane Rodriguez is involved).
- Request from Storymap Folks: They were successfully paid and will be crediting GLL as part of AALL on the StoryMap for the funding.
- New business: We need a new date for June meeting as it is scheduled for Juneteenth. Election will be set up same as last year.
- Adjournment: Jocelyn moved to adjourn, Brendan seconded, no discussion – adjourned 3:55 pm CT.

<u>Current Meeting Action Items:</u>	<u>Assigned to:</u>	<u>Date Due:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Select new date for June meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By next meeting

Interim Board Actions via Email:

Grants Committee Budget Motion (see attached) presented by Sara Pixon on behalf of Grants Chair Christine Morton on March 4, 2024. Seconded by Amy Small. All in favor. Completed same day.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

MEMO

DATE: March 4, 2024

TO: GLL-SIS Executive Board

FROM: Christine Morton, Grants Committee Chair

RE: Grants Committee Budget Motion

Motion to Amend the 2023-2024 GLL Grants Committee Grant Budget

I, Christine Morton, as Chair of the Grants Committee, hereby move to roll over the unused grant funds allocated for 1 \$1500 grant for the ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference, to now offer 1 \$1500 grant for a GLL-SIS member to attend the Self Represented Litigation Network Conference, September 18-20, 2024, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The total grant budget for in-person conferences in 2024 will remain at \$10,790.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Morton

Grants Committee Chair, 2023-2024



WHO WE ARE

Originally established in 1977 as the State, Court, and County Law Libraries SIS (SCCLL-SIS), the Government Law Libraries Special Interest Section (GLL-SIS) of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) is comprised of more than 400 members representing a diverse group of law libraries of varying sizes, responsibilities, and governing organizations. Our members' libraries serve county, state, and federal courts and agencies, the practicing bar, and the public. While our parent organizations and missions vary, GLL-SIS members share a dedication to providing and improving access to justice.

OUR MISSION

GLL-SIS fosters professional excellence and a strategic place for law libraries within their parent organizations by providing a common and open forum for collaborative networking, continuing education, and advocacy opportunities for our members and their libraries.

OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

GLL-SIS's current strategic directions are:

- Advocate the value of law libraries in a democratic society and of law librarians as the foremost leaders and experts in legal information, research, and technology.
- Promote a prominent leadership role for law librarians as a principal resource for furthering equal access to justice.
- Provide the education and training needed to meet and leverage the challenges of the changing information environment.

GOVERNANCE & MEETINGS

GLL-SIS is governed by an executive committee consisting of seven elected officers, including a chair, vice-chair, secretary/treasurer, immediate past chair, and three members-at-large. Although term lengths differ, elections for officers are held annually. GLL-SIS's annual business meeting takes place during the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference.

COMMITTEES

GLL-SIS provides numerous opportunities for members to participate by volunteering for a committee, including:

- Advocacy
- Awards
- Best A2J Practices
- Bylaws
- Education
- Grants
- Membership & Mentoring
- Newsletter
- Nominations
- Pro Bono Partnerships
- Publicity & Public Relations
- Standards

learn more at www.aallnet.org/gllsis/

Rev. 080422

WHAT WE OFFER

EDUCATION

GLL-SIS sponsors a wide variety of excellent educational programs, roundtables, workshops, institutes, and mentoring opportunities at the AALL Annual Meeting. Programs cover a broad range of topics relating to government law libraries. Examples of past programs include: implementing a library succession plan, marketing the law library, the role of law librarians with self-represented litigants, and suggestions to avoid the unauthorized practice of law in the library. Also at the AALL Annual Meeting, GLL sponsors a Prisoner & Pro Se Roundtable and meetings of Attorney General Law Librarians and State Law Librarians.

MENTORSHIP

The GLL mentorship program facilitates peer to peer assistance and input on more than 75 diverse areas of expertise and experience including change management, library space planning, strategic plans, social media, publishing, summer associate programs, curriculum design, one person libraries, community partnerships, interlibrary loan, and more.

GRANTS PROGRAM

Grants to attend various conferences are available to members of the GLL-SIS on a basis of financial need and a commitment to the law library profession. In the past, grants for the AALL Annual Meeting, the AALL Management Institute, the American Bar Association's Equal Justice Conference, and other professional development opportunities have been awarded. GLL-SIS sponsors a silent auction at the annual GLL-SIS business meeting to fund these grants.

AWARDS PROGRAM

The GLL-SIS Awards Program acknowledges outstanding achievements by members at our annual meeting. All awards accept nominations for considerations and are bestowed annually:

- **Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession** is presented to a member who has made a significant contribution to law librarianship and who is nearing the end of their career or has recently retired.
- **O. James Werner Award for Distinguished Service to Persons with Disabilities** honors a member who has made a significant contribution to serving or arranging for services to be provided to persons with disabilities, or for distinctive service by a person with a disability.
- **Connie E. Bolden Publications Award** recognizes a member's contribution through a scholarly publication on a topic of concern to government law libraries.
- **Dr. Joel Fishman Professional Publication Award** recognizes a member's contribution through a professional publication that promotes government law libraries, law librarianship, legal research, or public access to legal information.
- **Law Library Advocate Award** is presented to a law library supporter in recognition of their substantial contribution toward the advancement and improvement of a government law library's service or visibility. Nominees for this award are any person who has had a significant influence on a government law library and who is not a member of the law library staff.

WEBSITE & PUBLICATIONS

GLL's website, www.aallnet.org/gllsis/, provides access to many instructive and valuable publications:

- *GLL News*, the online newsletter published three times a year
- Resource Guides No. 1, *How to Hire a State or County Law Librarian*; No. 2, *The Value of a Public Law Library*; No. 3, *Management Essentials in the Public Law Library*; No. 4, *Self-Represented Litigants: A Guide for Government and Court Decision-Makers*; and No. 5, *Access to Justice: Best Practices for Public Law Librarians*
- *Appellate Court Library Standards* (2013) and *AALL County Public Law Library Standards* (2015)

LESS THAN A MONTH UNTIL AALL 2024 / JULY 20-23

AALL 2024 is just around the corner! Join us in Chicago to connect, learn, and engage with the brightest minds in the legal community. With over 60 exhibitors, carve out time to attend demos and connect with vendors to learn about the latest advancements in the legal market. Plus, take advantage of exhibitor showcase sessions, discussion dens, poster sessions, and fun events like the Opening Reception to make new connections or catch up with colleagues and friends. There is still time to register!

If you cannot attend the full conference, consider a single-day registration; you will still get access to a jam-packed day of learning and networking.



LEAD • INNOVATE • TRANSFORM AALL 2024

July 20-23 / Chicago, IL

REGISTER FOR AALL'S VIRTUAL MEMBERS OPEN FORUM

As part of AALL's ongoing commitment to fostering open communication and engagement, the Executive Board invites you to join them for a Virtual Members Open Forum on Monday, July 15 from 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. (CDT). This forum will provide you with the opportunity to connect directly with the Executive Board to learn more about AALL's activities and ask questions related to the Association. In addition to the live chat feature during the Zoom meeting, you may also submit questions in advance. The Members Open Forum will not be recorded.

AALL CAREER CONNECTIONS

If your institution is hiring and would like to answer questions about current open positions or host on-site interviews at AALL 2024, consider participating in AALL Career Connections. Employers can learn more about this opportunity and Job Seekers can view open positions on the AALL Conference website.

AALL ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT.

JULY 31 DEADLINE – RENEW YOUR 2024-2025 AALL MEMBERSHIP

Over 2,800 of your colleagues have renewed their AALL membership for 2024-2025. Please renew your AALL membership before July 31 to ensure you remain part of this vibrant community. Take advantage of in-person education as well as free access to webinars and virtual coffee chats to grow in your career and network with fellow professionals.

If you have any questions about your membership renewal, please contact AALL Headquarters at membership@aall.org or 312.939.4764.

SUGGEST A FUTURE COFFEE CHAT TOPIC

Help enrich AALL's community of experts by sharing trends, best practices, and innovations across a wide spectrum of topics that will inspire your colleagues throughout the profession. Do you have ideas or topics for future coffee chats? If so, please share your ideas with Ashley Laverty at alaverty@aall.org by Friday, July 19, 2024.

MEMORIAL

Alma "Nickie" Singleton retired from librarianship after over 30 years in the profession. Before her retirement in 2014, she served as director of the University of Oklahoma. Prior to that she was assistant director at the University of Pittsburgh and served as a reference librarian at Nova University. Singleton joined AALL in 1984 and was a member of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section and served as a member of the Mentoring and Retention Committee from 1995-1996. She received her MLS in 1975 and her JD in 1979, both through the University of South Carolina. She passed away in November 2023.

AALL seeks news about members' achievements, job changes, and connections with the legal information community. Please send your news to Heather Haemker, AALL director of marketing & communications.

AALL NEW VOICES / THE LOSS OF THE "LIBRARIAN" TITLE

In the latest AALL New Voices post, Bianca Randall argues that removing the "librarian" title from job openings complicates job hunting for early career librarians, despite common reasons for avoiding the term.

Contribute to New Voices! Whether you recently joined AALL or are a longtime member aiming to become more involved in the Association, AALL is looking for your insights on any aspect of law librarianship.

AALL ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT.

Submissions should be about 100–600 words. If you are interested in being involved in the next round, please share your post with Heather Haemker, director of marketing & communications, with the subject line "New Voices Project" by 5:00 p.m. (CDT) on July 12, 2024.

STAFF NEWS

Anna Rasmussen, AALL's membership & engagement manager, will be leaving AALL after two years of service on June 28. Many of you have worked with Anna, and she would like to share these parting words: "It has been a true honor and privilege to work alongside AALL members, sharing in your strengths and celebrating your many accomplishments. AALL members are kind, passionate, and dedicated to the profession, and it has been a gift to witness this and be a part of your world in my time with AALL. I will miss having a role in this very special community—wishing you all the very best."



Please join us in thanking Anna for her dedication to AALL and wishing her well in all her future endeavors. You can reach out to Anna directly at arasmussen@aall.org.

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH AALL

AALL wants to know what's happening within your specialized groups. If your caucus, chapter, or SIS has any news items, upcoming events, or would like to highlight members' accomplishments, please contact Heather Haemker, AALL director of marketing & communications.



GLL'S SPRING 2024 MARKETING MAVEN: LAURA MOORER, LAW LIBRARIAN, D.C. COURT OF APPEALS

What motivated you to market your library with Libby via Instagram?

During the early months of the pandemic, I was working in our library and for some reason all the kik-steps were in one place. A friend who was with me commented, "hey, those kik-steps are not social distancing!" and at that moment I realized if I added some large googly eyes to one of them "she" could be the library's mascot and Libby the Kik-Step was born! Libby went live on Instagram in June of 2021. In the early months, it was a great way for me to keep our staff "connected" to the library and our historic courthouse. And Instagram seemed like the best social media platform to share her on and allowed her to follow many other library accounts as well.



Laura Moorer with Libby the kik-step.

How has the library mascot and her IG account been received so far, and how will you evaluate its success?

Libby has been a big hit! Our clerks love her and about once a month I get a photo of Libby attending an event in one of our judge's chambers, or a library event, or even just a stroll outside. I also created a Flat Libby for our clerks to borrow and Flat Libby has been to a Nationals baseball game and most recently to a happy hour at the Library of Congress. There is also a mini-Libby now, a small 3-D version, and that Libby visits other libraries and attends conferences. Libby has shown up in court videos and is always up to something fun. My goal was for Libby to provide basic legal research tips with the public as well as D.C. specific legal history, or D.C. history in general. I tend to see how many views she is getting on IG and also how much "talk" there is about her around the court to judge her success. Libby seems to be quite popular so far. One of our judges actually has a small Libby lapel pin he wears when on the bench.

What "if only I knew!" advice would you give others wanting to replicate a similar effort?

If I had had only known how much time and effort it takes to come up with weekly social media posts! I try to stay on top of current events, and pop culture, all the while keeping in mind we are a court library and I don't want to wade into an area that may be controversial. Also, I had no idea how many

GLL'S SPRING 2024 MARKETING MAVEN, cont.

strange looks I would get from the security officers when I take Libby outside and around the building for "photo shoots"! Overall, coming up with content takes time but I try to have something out weekly and jot down ideas weeks in advance, to make the process a bit easier.

What's the best way to spend a day off from work?

My husband is a park ranger with the National Park Service and in my opinion, grabbing a book, a yummy lunch, and hiking in the park to find a warm and sunny rock to sit on and read my book and enjoy my lunch is one of my favorite ways to spend a day off!

What are you currently reading?

My favorite book genre is historical fiction and I am currently reading All the Pretty Places by Joy Callaway and getting ready to read The Echo of Old Books by Barbara Davis.

For more information about Laura Moorer, please see her [AALL profile](#).



Libby the kik-step holding her own "en banc" session at the D.C. Court of Appeals Library.

2024 GLL-SIS AWARD RECIPIENTS

GLL-SIS Awards Committee

Please congratulate GLL members **Stefanie Pearlman** and **Melissa Serfass** for winning the *Dr. Joel Fishman Professional Publication Award* for their publication, *Animal Welfare Laws: A Legal Research Guide* (William S. Hein, 2023).



Stefanie Pearlman

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Professor of Law Library & Reference Librarian
Schmid Law Library
University of Nebraska College of Law



Melissa Serfass

Professor of Law Librarianship
University of Arkansas at Little Rock
William H. Bowen School of Law
UALR/Pulaski County Law Library

2024 AALL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Please congratulate these GLL members/member libraries for winning AALL awards.

The **Law Library of Louisiana** and the Louisiana State Bar Association won the 2024 *Excellence in Community Engagement Award* for their work with the Legal Education and Assistance Program (LEAP).

Marcelo Rodriguez, Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian at the University of Arizona College of Law Library, won the *Emerging Leader* award.



Sara Pixon, Law Library of Louisiana's Head of Public Services and LEAP coordinator, at the Louisiana Library Association conference.



Marcelo Rodriguez

MEMBER NEWS

Sara Pixon from the Law Library of Louisiana was selected as the representative for Special Libraries on the Louisiana Public Documents Depository Program Advisory Council. She will serve a two-year term and help advise on the operation and future of the Louisiana Public Document Depository Program.



2024 GLL-SIS ELECTION RESULTS

Sara Pixon, she/her, Law Library of Louisiana

This year's GLL Election ran from March 18 to April 12. Ninety-eight ballots were submitted—that is 2 down from last year, though last year was up 16 from the year prior. But I'd love to see us keep increasing voter engagement every year – especially when we have multiple candidates for an office, as we did for both open offices this year. About 1/3 of the total GLL membership voted. Please contact the GLL-SIS Board if you have any ideas on how to increase voter turnout next year.

Christine Morton (Librarian, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit) was elected as incoming GLL Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and **Laurel Moran** (Assistant Director, Legal Information Management, San Diego Law Library) was elected as the new Member-at-Large.

Thanks go to all of the candidates, and to all GLL members who voted. The more people participate in our SIS, the stronger we all are.



*Christine Morton,
incoming GLL Vice
Chair/Chair-Elect*



*Laurel Moran,
incoming GLL
Member-at-Large*

COMING THIS FALL - THE THIRD ANNUAL NEWER LAW LIBRARIANS GATHERING

***Come Together / Meet One Another / Get
Connected With Your Cohorts***

The GLL Membership and Mentoring committee invites all newer librarians working in government law libraries to gather, make new connections or deepen your connections with others, and engage in conversation with a long time GLL leader who will inspire, share and consider all of your questions, thoughts, and ideas. There are 100+ law librarians (and growing!) with five years or less experience in government law libraries. This is a time to convene and grow in company together.

***Watch your email box for more information and
Zoom link coming soon!***

For questions, feel free to contact anyone on the [Membership and Mentoring Committee](#).

For help from a subject area specialist mentor, visit the [GLL Mentorship Program](#) site.



ENSURING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR GLL MEMBERS

Gail Warren, she/her, Retired

The Government Law Libraries SIS has always believed its members should have access to quality educational programming, leadership training and access to justice networking. Since 2001 we have supported this goal by providing grants to members. By the time our section meets in Chicago, well over 100 of our members will have received funds to attend AALL meetings and institutes, the Equal Justice Conference, and the Self Represented Litigation Network Conference.



The GLL Grants Committee kicked off our 2024 fundraising campaign on June 10, 2024. We hope to receive as many donations as possible by Friday, July 12, 2024, so the results can be shared during our GLL-SIS Meeting on Sunday, July 21, 2024 at AALL. Remember, 100% of every donation, no matter how large or how small, flows directly into our grants fund.

There are two simple ways to make your donation this year: online or by check.

Online

You can make your donation online!

- 1) Navigate to www.aallnet.org/forms/PledgeFormPublic/edit and log into AALL's system.
- 2) Once logged in, double-check your personal information and scroll down to the middle of the screen where it says "Additional Comments/Instructions."
- 3) Enter "GLL" in the Additional Comments box.
- 4) Scroll again to the very bottom and enter the amount of the donation where it says "Any Special Interest Section (Specify Name of SIS in Comments), again ensuring that you entered GLL in the Additional Comments box.

If you have any issues using the online portal or have questions about navigating the online donation process, GLL-SIS Secretary/Treasurer Sara Pixon has graciously offered to assist. Sara can be reached at: SPixon@lasc.org.

Check

- 1) Make your check payable to "AALL" and write GLL SIS-Grants on the memo line.

ENSURING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, CONT.

2) Mail your check to the GLL Treasurer:

Sara Pixon, Head of Public Services
Law Library of Louisiana
400 Royal St Ste 200
New Orleans, LA 70130-8100

Please note: we are no longer able to accept cash donations. If you prefer to give Sara your donation during the GLL-SIS meeting in Chicago, she is only able to accept checks.

I'm taking advantage of the online portal to make my donation and am confident many of you will help us set a new fundraising record before we meet in Chicago on July 21st!

EMPOWERING SUCCESS: IMPROV COMEDY AND LEADERSHIP

[Kristin K. Neri, she/her, NYS Unified Court System Supreme Court](#)

As a lifelong lover of comedy, attending the Leadership Academy held in Chicago was a no-brainer. Would I attend the academy wholeheartedly?; 'Yes, and' would I catch an Improv show?; Yes [End Scene]. What I ended up discovering was an unexpected synergy between these two realms.



Embracing Opportunities with “Yes, And...”

One of the foundational principles of improv is the concept of “yes, and...,” which encourages participants to accept and build upon ideas. At the Leadership Academy, I found this mindset incredibly valuable. The Academy’s interactive workshop, mentorship programs, and collaborative discussions mirror the dynamic, spontaneous nature of improv exercises. By embracing opportunities and building on them, I have been able to enhance my critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills in a legal research context. Embracing opportunities and building on them helps foster an environment where team members feel valued and encouraged to contribute their ideas, enhancing our collective problem-solving and decision-making skills.

Experiential Learning: Improv on the Law Library Stage

Experiential learning is essential to both improv and leadership. Just as improv

EMPOWERING SUCCESS: IMPROV COMEDY, CONT.

requires real-time adaptation to ever-changing scenarios, the Academy encourages us to apply our knowledge and skills in practical settings. Leading research initiatives or designing strategic outreach programs feels a lot like navigating an improv scene, every 'yes, and...' is a chance to learn and grow.

A key aspect of experiential learning is community learning. This involves engaging with the broader legal, academic, and public community to share insights, gain diverse perspectives, and collaborate on projects. Having been able to make these connections is largely why I am successful in my current goals.

Improv thrives on connections between performers and this is equally true in leadership. Networking and peer learning are vital components of the program. By interacting with peers, sharing experiences, and learning from one another, we build a strong professional network. Facilitating opportunities to network and learn from peers enhances professional growth and broadens our collective knowledge base. Whether through informal discussions, collaborative projects, committees and associations or formal training sessions, these peer interactions provide valuable support and fresh perspectives.

Stepping Out of Your Comfort Zone

Improv comedy is all about stepping out of your comfort zone, taking risks, and embracing the unknown. Pushing beyond familiar boundaries has allowed me to explore new areas of legal research and take on leadership roles I might have previously shied away from. For example, I nominated myself for a Secretary/Treasurer seat of a SIS Board and won! Encouraging folks to step out of their comfort zones fosters innovation and growth, both for them individually and for our library as a whole.

High Performance Team Development: Improv Troupe to Library Team

Just as an improv troupe relies on each member to contribute and support one another, building a high performance team in the library involves fostering mutual trust, clear communication, and a shared vision. It is important to create an environment where a team can work cohesively and achieve results.

Workplace Culture: Creating a Positive Environment

The collaborative and supportive nature of improv has profound implications for workplace culture. Creating a positive environment that embodies the inclusive, encouraging atmosphere of an improv troupe involves promoting open communication, celebrating successes, and learning from failures. A

EMPOWERING SUCCESS: IMPROV COMEDY, CONT.

positive workplace culture not only boosts morale but also enhances productivity and innovation. Cultivating this culture is key to maintaining a motivated and engaged team.

Recruitment and Retention: Attracting and Keeping Talent

Just as a successful improv troupe attracts talented performers, we must focus on effective recruitment and retention strategies. By fostering a positive workplace culture, providing opportunities for professional development, and encouraging continuous learning, your library can attract top talent and retain skilled employees. Implementing these strategies helps build a dynamic and capable workforce, ready to meet the challenges of the evolving legal landscape.

Knowing when to say “No”

Improv teaches the importance of recognizing when to steer a scene in a new direction. Knowing when to say “no” ensures that our creativity and efforts are focused and productive. Being able to make these strategic decisions helps keep projects on track and maintains the clarity and purpose of our work.

The Power of Mentorship

In improv, seasoned performers guide and support newcomers, fostering a collaborative environment. The Leadership Academy’s mentorship program works similarly. Experienced leaders offer invaluable insights and support.

Improv thrives on continuous improvement and learning from each performance. By investing in our development, we not only enhance individual skills but also strengthen the organization as a whole. Empowered employees become catalysts for positive change, driving innovation and elevating the institution’s reputation. Encouraging continuous improvement helps my team stay adaptable and forward-thinking.

Featuring George Karavattuveetil

Our journey at the Leadership Academy was enriched by the insights of George Karavattuveetil, President and Founder of Psyched!. George's unique blend of experience in technology and organizational psychology, combined with his dedication to high performance cultural change, provided invaluable lessons on leadership and team development. His expertise in fostering engagement, performance, and strategic vision aligned perfectly with the improv-inspired approach to leadership and teamwork.

EMPOWERING SUCCESS, CONT.

The Leadership Academy has become a stage for professional growth and organizational success, where the lessons of improv comedy intersect with the pursuit of excellence in the law library. This innovative approach ensures that our law library is not just a repository of knowledge but a dynamic environment where creativity and leadership flourish. Applying these concepts creates a team that is resilient, innovative, and poised for success.





GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION

WELCOME TO THE GLL MENTORSHIP PROGRAM!

THE GLL MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FACILITATES DIRECT, PEER TO PEER ASSISTANCE AND INPUT ON MORE THAN 75 DIVERSE AREAS OF EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE INCLUDING:

- Change Management
- Handling Press / Journalist Inquiries
- Library Space Planning
- Strategic Plans
- Adjunct Teaching & Instruction
- Social Media
- Publishing, authorship
- Summer Associate Programs
- Curriculum Design
- One Person Libraries
- Community Partnerships
- Inter Library Loan
- Library Systems Administration
- Emerging Technologies
- Collecting & Reporting Statistics
- Law Library Policies
- Project Management
- Vendor Relationships
- Internship Programs
- Job Searches, Interviewing, Resumes
- Serving as a Reference
- Collection Downsizing
- Legal Information Literacy
- Circulation Management
- Digital Reference Services
- Website Design and Development
- Digitization, Digital Repositories
- Bibliographic Management Software

GLL IS ONBOARD WITH SUPPORT! VISIT THE GLL MENTORSHIP PROGRAM, IDENTIFY A TOPIC AND REACH OUT TO A PARTICIPATING VOLUNTEER HERE:

WWW.AALLNET.ORG/GLLSIS/RESOURCES-PUBLICATIONS/MENTORSHIP-PROGRAM/

A COLLEAGUE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO CONNECTING WITH YOU!



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Chair (2022-2025) <u>Karen Westwood</u>	Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect (2023-2026) <u>Amy Small</u>	Past-Chair (2021-2024) <u>Holly Riccio</u>	Secretary/Treasurer (2022-2025) <u>Sara Pixon</u>
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