



**GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARIES
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION**



GLL-SIS ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

The officers of the Government Law Libraries Special Interest Section for 2024-25 were Amy Small, Chair; Christine Morton, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Karen Westwood, Past Chair; Sara Pixon, Secretary/Treasurer; Brendan Starkey, Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong, and Laurel Moran, Members-at-Large.

Annual Meeting

GLL usually celebrates the Annual Meeting by gathering together for an early morning meeting. This event has come to be known as the Awards and Recognition Ceremony. This year, it is generously sponsored by Lexis and will feature Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis of the Washington Supreme Court as our keynote speaker. Justice Montoya-Lewis is the first Native American to sit on the Washington Supreme Court. She has extensive service as a tribal judge, professor, and justice and we all hope to learn from her expertise, experience, and wisdom. We extend our gratitude to Board Member Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong for suggesting and securing Justice Montoya-Lewis as our speaker.

At the Awards and Recognition Ceremony, we will also be recognizing GLL-SIS members receiving longevity awards. The Membership and Mentoring Committee identified the following GLL-SIS members as having 20 years of AALL membership and 10 years of GLL-SIS membership:

- Gina Catalano, San Diego Law Library
- Karen Dibble, Dallas County Law Library
- Stacy Etheredge, University of Idaho Law Library
- Venita Hoover, Oklahoma County Law Library
- Patricia Petroccione, retired, The Walter T. McCarthy Law Library
- Peter Rooney, Sacramento County Public Law Library
- Melissa Serfass, University of Arkansas at Little Rock Pulaski County Law Library
- Jessie Tam, Maryland Thurgood Marshall State Law Library
- Michael Tillman-Davis, United States Court of Appeals – 11th Circuit Library

Many GLL-SIS members will be presenting at the Annual Meeting. The Education Committee, in partnership with the Publicity & Public Relations Committee, will be releasing a list of GLL-affiliated programs at the conference soon. The Education Committee also suggested two programs for SIS Sponsorship; ultimately selecting “Beyond School House Rock” to be co-



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sponsored with LISP-SIS.

The Awards committee identified a VIP for the conference. Rachele Selvig, attorney and member of the Josephine County Library District, will be attending the conference to learn about how government law libraries and local public libraries can and do partner to serve their local communities. Grants Pass in Josephine County was recently affected by a local controversy where the county commissioners unanimously voted to terminate the lease of the Grants Pass branch a year prior to its expiration. As a member of the library board, Ms. Selvig fought to maintain library services for her community. Thanks to her efforts, the library was able to stay open while its new location is being constructed.

GLL-SIS Awards

This year, the Bethany Ochal Award was given to Larry Meyer and the Dr. Joel Fishman Award was given to Emily Donnellan for the publication *State Documents Bibliography: Oregon* (Hein, 2025). Many GLL-SIS members also received AALL Awards. Larry Meyer received the Marion Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award, Pauline Afuso received the Volunteer Service Award, John Murphy received the Emerging Leader Award, and the Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library in Houston, TX, received the Innovations in Technology Award. We are so proud of the accomplishments of our members!

GLL-SIS Grant Recipients

The Grants Committee awarded the following grants:

ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference

Karen Westwood, Law Library Director, Anne W. Grande Law Library, Minneapolis, MN

AALL Annual Meeting

Kathy Orton, Intern, Law Library of Congress, Washington DC

Leland Sampson, Head of Content and Web Services, Thurgood Marshall State Law Library, Annapolis, MD

Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong, Law Librarian, California Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District

Other Activities

The Publicity and Public Relations Committee and Best Access to Justice Practices Committee teamed up to update language and links in [Law Library Insight Resource Guides #4 and #5](#).



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These committees have revised their charges to indicate future cooperation in reviewing and updating these guides for accuracy and currency.

The Publicity and Public Relations Committee continued its work of profiling Marketing Mavens (law libraries and librarians with successful marketing endeavors). They have expanded the scope of the Marketing Maven series beyond strictly GLL-SIS government law libraries. Future profiles may include non-member government law libraries or AALL members of other types of law libraries.

The Advocacy Committee weathered changes to committee leadership and political events. Due to the nature of the transition and the developing political events, their activity was minimal but they continue to monitor advocacy strategies and activities on the organizational level.

The Standards Committee reviewed and updated *County Public Law Library Standards* and *Appellate Court Libraries and State Law Libraries Standards*. These changes were approved by the GLL-SIS Board and will be forwarded to the AALL Executive Board for their approval. The Committee is also working to update the *General Legal and Self-Help Titles for the Public and Self-Represented Litigants: A Supplement to the AALL County Public Law Library Standards*. They plan to add links to WorldCat records for each title for the reader's convenience. Once that revision is complete, it will be sent to the GLL-SIS Board and AALL Executive Board for approval.

The Strategic Planning Committee and the GLL-SIS Board decided together to extend the 2021-2024 Strategic Directions through 2026 and to move to a five-year planning cycle for the future.

The Newsletter Committee has continued to do an excellent job of issuing three regular issues per year. The newsletter is full of information of interest to GLL-SIS members, including board minutes, AALL announcements, member news, election information, grant and award recipients, and more.

Officers for 2025-2026 will be Christine Morton, Chair; Sara Pixon, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Amy Small, Past Chair; Brendan Starkey, Secretary/Treasurer; Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong, Laurel Moran, and Catherine McGuire, Members-at-Large.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Small