



GLL NEWS

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

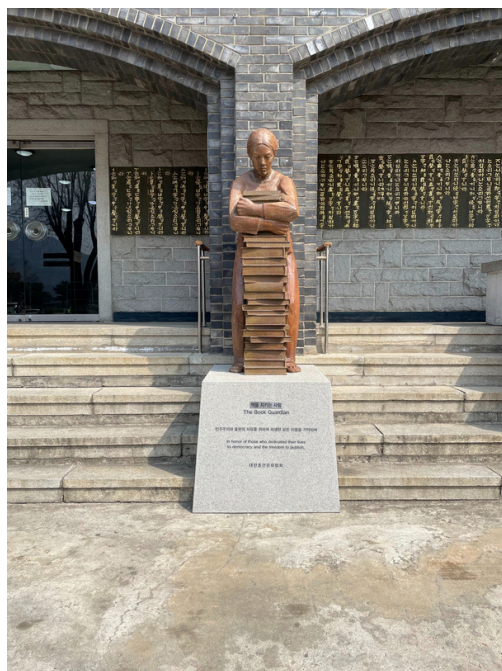
VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

[Amy Small, she/her/hers, Texas State Law Library](#)

Dear fellow GLLers,



In March of this year, I was lucky enough to go on a dream vacation to Japan and South Korea. While walking past Gyeongbokgung Palace, a royal palace in Seoul, South Korea, I happened across a statue of a woman clutching a large stack of books. Entitled "The Book Guardian," the statue is dedicated to those who gave their lives to democracy and the freedom to publish.



As an American, what was striking was not the direct connection between democracy and literacy. Jim Crow-era literacy tests designed to prevent Black voters from engaging in democracy are a very recent, personal, memory for elder members of communities. Rather, I was moved that freedom to publish was something deemed so essential to democracy that people would lay down their lives for it.

We're not there quite yet (thank goodness), but the firings of Dr. Carla Hayden, the first Black Librarian of Congress, and Shira Perlmutter, the Register of Copyrights, certainly feel ominous. I hope, despite this, you feel heartened that by your very role as a government law librarian, you too are a Book Guardian. Every

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VIEW FROM THE CHAIR, CONT.

day, we wake up and go to work at institutions where we strive to serve everyone who walks in the door equally. We are one essential link of many between the public and democracy and justice.

The upcoming Annual Meeting is a great opportunity for us to commiserate, learn, and be reinvigorated in the company of fellow Book Guardians. There are always an incredible number of events worth your attention, but here are a few I'd like to highlight:

- **Saturday, July 19th, 4 pm: GLL Happy Hour.** Location TBD, but we will all meet up prior to the opening reception for a drink or two, then head over together. Details to come on [MyCommunities](#).
- **Sunday, July 21st, 7:30 am: GLL Awards and Recognition Ceremony.** Washington Supreme Court Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis will be speaking to us about her experience as a tribal judge. Coffee and breakfast will be provided by our generous sponsors at LexisNexis.
- **Monday, July 22nd, 1:15–2:15 pm: Beyond "School House Rock!": Librarians as Civic Educators.** A panel full of GLL members will be sharing their wisdom about how to increase civic awareness and participation in your community.

There are many more sessions being moderated or presented by our GLL colleagues; please see pages 13–14 for a listing!

If you are unable to join us in Portland, **please join us for the Annual GLL–SIS Business meeting held remotely on Tuesday, July 15th.** Login details can be found in [MyCommunities](#).

Even if we are not sacrificing our lives to the cause of legal literacy, democracy, and justice, devoting our time and professional lives is worthy of recognition. Thank you for all you do as Book Guardians, and keep up the righteous work.

Amy

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

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

This issue of GLL News is a little different because I've moved the GLL Executive Committee Meeting Minutes to the end of the newsletter as "old business" instead of the beginning, where I've placed award winners and AALL Portland announcements as "new business." Please let me know what you think.



Tara

Special shout-out to [Abigail Bean](#) and [Britiny Hommey](#), our latest Newsletter Committee members, who contributed a lot to this issue. So glad to have you on the team!

GLL ELECTION

[Karen Westwood, Hennepin County Law Library](#)



This year's GLL Election ran from March 24 to April 11. Eighty-four ballots were submitted, which is down a few from last year. We'd love to see GLL increasing voter engagement every year— especially when we have multiple candidates for an office, as we did for Secretary/Treasurer 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.

Sara Pixon (Head of Public Services, Law Library of Louisiana) was elected as incoming GLL Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, and **Catherine McGuire** (Deputy Director, Maryland Thurgood Marshall State Law Library) was elected as the new Member-at-Large.

We had a contested election for Secretary/Treasurer between Brendan Starkey (Director, Orange County Public Law Library) and Sarah Larsen (Outreach Librarian, Minnesota State Law Library). I'm here to tell you that if this were a statewide election, there would have been an automatic recount; it was that close. In this instance, **Brendan Starkey** came out on top, but hearty thanks to Sarah Larsen for running and making this such a tight race!

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

**Karen Westwood, former GLL Chair, ran the election this year since the current Secretary/Treasurer, Sara Pixon, ran as a candidate for Vice Chair.*



Sara Pixon
Vice Chair/Chair-Elect



Catherine McGuire
Member at Large



Brendan Starkey
Secretary/Treasurer

2025 GLL-SIS AWARD RECIPIENTS

GLL-SIS Awards Committee

Please congratulate GLL member **Larry Meyer** for receiving the *Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession*, and **Emily Donnellan** for winning the *Dr. Joel Fishman Professional Publication Award* for her "State Documents Bibliography: Oregon."

[Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession](#)



Lawrence R. (Larry) Meyer
Law Library Director (retired)
San Bernardino County (CA) Law Library

[Dr. Joel Fishman Professional Publication Award](#)



Emily Donnellan
Reference Librarian
State of Oregon Law Library
"State Documents Bibliography: Oregon"
(Hein, 2024)

2025 AALL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to our GLL-SIS members/member libraries receiving AALL awards!

[2025 Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award](#) -

Lawrence R. (Larry) Meyer,
Law Library Director (retired),
San Bernardino County Law Library
San Bernardino, CA



[2025 Emerging Leader Award](#) -

John Murphy,
Law Library Director,
Anoka County Law Library
Anoka, MN



2025 AALL AWARD RECIPIENTS, CONT.

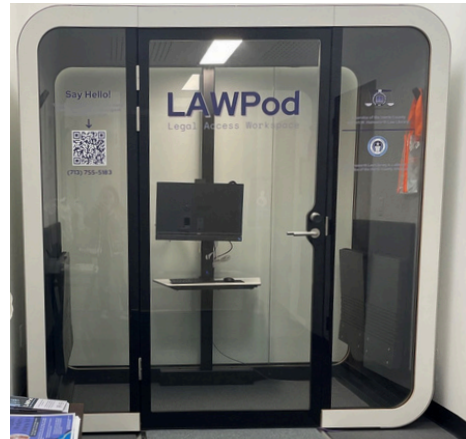
2025 Innovations in Technology Award -

Harris County

Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library,

Houston, TX,

for its LAWPods (Legal Access Workspaces)



2025 Volunteer Service Award -

Pauline Afuso

Public Services Librarian,

Bernard E. Witkin

Alameda County Law Library

Oakland, CA



2025 GLL (BREAKFAST) AWARDS & RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Sunday, July 20 – 7:30 a.m.
Portland Hyatt, Ballroom
Deschutes C

Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong, California Court of Appeal - 6th District

The tradition continues! The GLL-SIS early morning breakfast and awards ceremony will be held at the Hyatt in Ballroom Deschutes C, with breakfast once again sponsored by LexisNexis. Many thanks to this returning sponsor! No need to register, and we hope to see you there.



As always, this event will celebrate this year's award winners, recognize membership longevity milestones, and include the swearing-in of our new board members. This year, our guest speaker will be Washington State Supreme Court Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis.

Justice Montoya-Lewis has been a groundbreaker throughout her legal career. She earned her JD from the University of Washington School of Law in 1992 and went on to earn a master's in social work. She did not originally plan to become a Judge, though

2025 GLL (BREAKFAST), CONT.

she did start her legal career by clerking for New Mexico’s Justice Pamela Minzner. She originally planned to be a professor, and she did teach at the University of New Mexico School of Law and Western Washington University, and hoped to bridge the gap between the law and social work in her academic career.

However, her background as an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Isleta and as a descendant of the Pueblo of Laguna led her to a judicial role in tribal courts – first in her own tribe, and then in others. After moving to Washington State, she served as a chief judge for the Lummi Nation, the Nooksack Indian Tribe, and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, as well as an appellate judge for the Nisqually Tribe and the Northwest Intertribal Court System. After those experiences, she applied for appointment to a Washington Superior Court, and served on the Whatcom County Superior Court from 2015 to the end of 2019. She was elevated to the Washington Supreme Court by Governor Inslee in January of 2020 and won a contested election for the role later that same year.



***GLL Awards & Recognition
Ceremony Guest Speaker:
Washington State Supreme
Court Justice
Raquel Montoya-Lewis***

Justice Montoya-Lewis has Jewish and Native ancestry, and is the first Native American named to the Washington Supreme Court, and only the second Native American to serve on a State Supreme Court nationwide. As a Supreme Court Justice, she has continued to emphasize education and has taught social workers, advocates, judges, and lawyers about such topics as implicit bias, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and best practices in child welfare and domestic violence cases. She was the co-chair of the Washington Bar Licensure Task Force, examining how the bar exam could be administered during the COVID-19 pandemic, and possible improvements to the system afterward.

In 2021, she received the Betty Blinns Fletcher Leadership and Justice Award from the Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle, and in 2020, she was awarded the American Board of Tribal Attorneys’ Judge of the Year award from its Washington chapter. In 2018, the Brigid Collins Family Support Center recognized her with the Children’s Advocacy Center Community Leadership Award, and in 2015, she received the Dean’s Leadership Award from the UW School of Law.

2025 GLL (BREAKFAST), CONT.

GLL-SIS is also pleased to welcome [Rachele Selvig, Vice President of the Josephine County Library District Board of Directors](#), to the Annual Conference as our VIP guest. Each Special Interest Section has the opportunity to invite a VIP guest to the conference who is not a legal information professional, but who is someone that the SIS feels would find the conference and connection with law librarians valuable.



***GLL-SIS VIP Guest:
Rachele Selvig, Vice President of
the Josephine County Library
District Board of Directors,
Grants Pass, OR***

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 before its expiration. The community found itself in an unfortunately not-uncommon position – its beloved cultural institution was in jeopardy. Sadly, many of us can relate. IMLS cuts and the future of that agency have endangered many of our local public libraries as well. As librarians, we send our support to the Grants Pass community and recognize the great value that public libraries bring to our communities.

In addition to her service on her community's library board, Ms. Selvig is also a practicing attorney. We hope that by attending the AALL conference, she can learn about the ways that libraries like ours work with local communities and public libraries to close the justice gap.

Ms. Selvig plans to attend the Awards & Recognition Breakfast on Sunday, July 20th, at 7:30 am. If you see her, please give her a warm GLL welcome!



Last year's breakfast spread.

2025 GLL-SIS GRANT RECIPIENTS

[Christine E. Morton, she/her/hers, U.S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit](#)



The Grants Committee would like to congratulate the following GLL-SIS members who have been selected to receive grants to attend conferences this year:

- **Karen Westwood**, Law Library Director, Anne W. Grande Law Library, Minneapolis, MN- \$1500 ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference Grant
- **Kathy Orton**, Intern, Law Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.- \$1500 AALL Annual Meeting Grant
- **Leland Sampson**, Head of Content and Web Services, Thurgood Marshall State Law Library, Annapolis, MD- \$1500 AALL Annual Meeting Grant
- **Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong**, Law Librarian, California Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District, San Jose, CA- \$1500 AALL Annual Meeting Grant

There is still one more opportunity to apply for a grant this year! The Grants Committee is offering one (maybe 2!) \$1,500 grant(s) for the AALL Management Institute to be held in Fall 2025. More information will be available once AALL releases details about this conference. Please check the [MyCommunities](#) page for updates.

The availability of any grant is subject to change. Any changes in award amounts will be reported in the GLL-SIS News, website, and My Communities page.



2025 GLL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

[James Durham, Thurgood Marshall State Law Library](#)



Greetings, GLL-SIS friends and colleagues!

The upcoming 2025 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference in Portland, Oregon, provides a wonderful opportunity for the members of our section to network and learn. The GLL-SIS Grants Committee is once again sponsoring a fundraising campaign so we may continue to support our members. Remember that 100% of every donation, no matter how large or small, flows directly into our grants fund.

In 2024, our section provided fiscal support for three members to attend the Annual Meeting, one member to attend the AALL Leadership Academy, and three members to attend the Self-Represented Litigation Network (SRLN) Conference. Since 2001, our section has raised approximately \$100,000 to provide funding for travel grants benefitting over 100 of our members.

Members of our section who received grants last year to attend the Annual Meeting expressed some of their feelings in Volume 50, Issue 3, of the *GLL News*:

**Taylor Berkoski, Reference Librarian
Jenkins Law Library
Philadelphia, PA**

I would love to take a quick second to thank the GLL-SIS grants committee for awarding me their grant for newer law librarians in the profession. Using this grant, I was able to experience my first-ever professional conference, my first-ever AALL conference, and my first-ever trip to Chicago! It was truly an experience I will never forget, and I am extremely grateful.

**Eric J.H. Chapman, Assistant Librarian
U.S. Court of Appeals 9th Circuit Library
Pasadena, CA**

Chicago was fitting for the 2024 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference. Like the city's architecture, reflecting its history and future, the conference balanced discussions on the historical underpinnings of librarianship with those of a future shrouded by artificial intelligence.

**Alicia Friedman, Reference & Collections
Los Angeles County Law Library
Palmdale, CA**

First, I'd like to thank the GLL Grants Committee for selecting me as a recipient for one of the grants to attend the AALL Annual Conference in Chicago. There were several

2025 GLL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN, CONT.

reasons I wanted to attend this year's conference; I had never attended an AALL conference before and there were several programs I was interested in. Also, I wanted to meet other people in the profession outside of the Los Angeles area.

The AALL [donation page](#) states:

Donations made between June 17, 2024, through June 13, 2025, will be recognized in the 2025 AALL Awards Brochure and signage at the 2025 Annual Meeting & Conference. Donations made after June 13, 2025, will be recognized at the 2026 Annual Meeting & Conference. (In the brochure, donations will be listed as AALL donations, without the SIS designation.)

Please make donations by credit card, check, or money order. We are no longer able to accept cash donations.



CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

- 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 questions about navigating the online donation process, GLL-SIS Secretary/Treasurer Sara Pixon has graciously offered to assist at SPixon@lasc.org.

CHECK OR MONEY ORDER DONATIONS

- 1.) Make your check payable to "AALL" and write "GLL Grants Fundraiser" on the memo line.
- 2.) Mail check to GLL Secretary/Treasurer:

Sara V. Pixon
Law Library of Louisiana
400 Royal Street, 2nd Floor
New Orleans, LA 70130

Many thanks for your continued support of our grants program!



AALL 2025, happening July 19-22 in Portland, is just a few weeks away! With more than 65 dynamic educational programs, 60+ exhibitors showcasing cutting-edge legal tech and essential services, and countless changes to build your network, AALL 2025 will equip you with practical tools and fresh insights to elevate your work and your library's impact.

Make your case to attend – download our Justification Toolkit to show your employer the value of your participation.

Already registered? Be sure to reserve your room at one of AALL's approved hotels.

THE 2025 AALL STATE OF THE PROFESSION REPORT IS HERE

The newest edition of the AALL State of the Profession report is now available – offering a comprehensive look at the evolving legal information landscape.

The 2025 report highlights key developments shaping the field, including shifts in workforce dynamics, the rise of AI, and the continued evolution of library services, collections, and technology. Whether you are planning strategically, advocating for resources, or benchmarking within your organization, this report is an essential tool.

Available in digital, print, or bundle formats. Order your copy today on AALLNET.

RENEW YOUR 2025-2026 AALL MEMBERSHIP BY JULY 31

Stay connected to the AALL community and continue receiving benefits that support your work and professional growth. Renew your membership by July 31 to maintain uninterrupted access to exclusive resources and networking opportunities, timely insights on trends, tools, and support for professional growth, and a supportive community of colleagues.

If you have any questions, please contact membership@aall.org or call 312-939-4764.

AALL ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT.

UPCOMING VIRTUAL COFFEE CHATS

Be part of the conversation! Register for the next **Virtual Coffee Chat: What can Law Libraries Do to Comply with the New ADA Title II Regulation?**, happening on Wednesday, July 2 from 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. (CDT). Visit AALL eLearning to stay up to date on future topics and to register.

AALL STAFF NEWS

AALL Executive Director Vani Ungapen will be stepping down at the end of August to pursue a new professional opportunity. Since joining AALL nearly seven years ago, Vani has been a visionary leader whose strategic insight and dedication have helped guide the Association through significant growth and transformation – including increased membership and a stronger, more agile organization.

A Search Committee has been assembled to lead the process of selecting the next Executive Director. Read more in AALL's eBriefing.

SHARE YOUR COFFEE CHAT IDEAS

Contribute to the growth of AALL's community of experts by sharing cutting-edge trends, best practices, and innovations spanning a diverse range of topics, igniting inspiration among your fellow professionals. Do you have ideas or topics for future coffee chats? Please share your ideas with **elearning@aall.org**.

PROPOSE A WEBINAR TOPIC

Do you have an idea for a webinar? The Continuing Professional Education Committee is looking for fresh ideas to create engaging and relevant webinars, and we need your input! Submit a webinar proposal and share the topics that will support your professional growth. Your ideas will help shape upcoming programs tailored to your interests. Have questions? Please email **elearning@aall.org**.

GLL-SIS RELATED EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS AT 2025 AALL ANNUAL MEETING

PROGRAMS

*Denotes GLL member

SIS EVENTS

GLL-SIS Annual Breakfast Meeting

Sunday, July 20
7:30–8:30 a.m.

Room:
Hyatt Deschutes C

(Sponsored by LexisNexis)

ROUNDTABLE

MONDAY, JULY 21

LISP-SIS/ BLL-SIS/ GLL-SIS/ SR-SIS Joint Roundtable

12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.

Room: OCC B112

SUNDAY, JULY 20

Copyright Law Essentials in 60 Minutes

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms C123 & C124

(*Eric Chapman, U.S. Courts, 9th Circuit Library; Emily Florio, DLA Piper LLP; Cheryl Booth, Nova Southeastern University; Caroline Osborne, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

Teaching True Crime in Public Law Libraries: Murder and Oregon's Holy Rollers Love Cult

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 203

(*Rebecca Fordon, Ohio State University Moritz College of Law; Kate Irwin, Wake Forest Law; *Leland Sampson, Maryland Thurgood Marshall State Law Library)

Resistance is Not Futile: Strategies for Integrating a Critical AI Perspective in Libraries

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 202

(*Robert Mead, Washington State Law Library; George Edmonston, Jr., [ret.] Oregon State University Alumni Magazine)

¡Bienvenidos a la Biblioteca!: Welcoming Spanish-Speaking Patrons to Your Law Library

2:00–3:00 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms B113 & B114

(*Sara Pixon, Law Library of Louisiana; Mariangeli Lugo Zayas, Law School Library, University of Puerto Rico; Sarah Martin, Los Angeles County Law Library)

Fail Smarter: Learn, Adapt, and Thrive with Strategic Project Management

2:00–3:00 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms B113 & B114

(Kristen Naik, Sidley Austin LLP; Sara Baseggio, DLA Piper; Catherine Bondo, Harvard Law School; *Andre Davison, Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library))

Institutional Knowledge Management and Succession Planning: Best Practices and Where to Start

3:15–4:15 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 202

(Sabrina Sondhi, Penn State Dickinson Law; Amy Carr, Bowman and Brooke LLP; *Joy Shoemaker, U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit Library)

Beyond the Stacks: Reinventing the Law Library Tour

3:15–4:15 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms B113 & B114

(*Ana Delgado Valentin, Supreme Court of Puerto Rico Law Library; Jean Wenger, Chicago-Kent College of Law; *Laura Mooror, DC Court of Appeals; *Tara Cunningham, Law Library of Louisiana)

MONDAY, JULY 21

Bold Moves Ahead: Embracing Change in Your Career Journey

11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms B113 and B114

(Mari Cheney, BakerHostetler LLP; Michelle Hook Dewey; Mercer University Law Library; *Anna Russell, US Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit)

MONDAY, JULY 21 (cont.)

The Truth is Out There: Mastering Public Records Research

1:15–2:15 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms C123 & C124

(*Jennifer McMahan, U.S. Department of Justice; *Bridget Gilhool, U.S. Department of Justice; Alison Mallonee, Williams Mullen)

Beyond “School House Rock!”: Librarians as Civic Educators

*Sponsored by GLL-SIS and LISP-SIS

1:15–2:15 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms B113 & B114

(*Christine Morton, U.S. Court of Appeals, 2nd Circuit Library; *Ryan Metheny, LA Law Library; *Sara Pixon, Law Library of Louisiana; *Alexis Fetzer Sharp, Virginia State Law Library)**Wait, What?: Intergenerational Communication in the Workplace**

1:15–2:15 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 204

(Jennifer Mart-Rice, University of Alabama School of Law; Ariel Newman, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law; Allison Reeve Davis, Littler; *Amy Small, Texas State Law Library)

Rebuilding Lives: The Role of Law Libraries in Post-Incarceration Success

3:45–4:45 p.m. | Room: OCC Rooms A105 & A106

(*Diane Rodriguez, San Francisco Law Library; *Karen Westwood, Anne W. Grande [MN] Law Library; Aliza Kaplan, Lewis and Clark Law School; Enrique Rivera, Multnomah County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council; Tammy Ortiz, Ithaca S+R)

History at the High Court: Lessons from the Court’s Use of Historical Sources and Tips for Using and Teaching Historical Sources

3:45–4:45 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 204

(John Scherrer, George Mason University Law Library; Michelle Penn, University of Colorado Law School; Linnea Eberhart, George Mason University Law Library; *Joy M. Shoemaker, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit Library)

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Discussion Den: Innovative Networking Part 2: Turning Strategies Into Success at AALL

7:30 a.m.–8:15 a.m. | Room: OCC Room G131

(*Andre Davison, Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library)

To Boldly Go Where Everyone Else Has Gone Before: Generative AI, Policy, and Practice in Government Libraries

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 201

(*Jocelyn D. Stilwell-Tong, California’s Sixth District Court of Appeals; *Andre Davison, Harris County Robert W. Hainsworth Law Library; *Joy M. Shoemaker, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit Library; *Brendan Starkey, Orange County Public Law Library)

Hot Topic: Preserving Government Information in Changing Times: Preparing for the Unknown

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 203

(Caitlin Hunter, UCLA Law Library; *Robert Mead, Washington State Law Library; Jenny McBurney, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; Adam Anderson, Lewis and Clark Law School, Paul L. Boley Law Library)

Demystifying the Process to Request Classified/Declassified Information: How to Expedite Requests

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | Room: OCC Oregon 202

(Melanie Sims, LSU Paul M. Herbert Law Center; John C. McIlwain, National Archives and Records Administration; Malik D. Baker, New Mexico Law Offices of the Public Defender; Holly Grimes, Alabama Supreme Court and State Law Library)

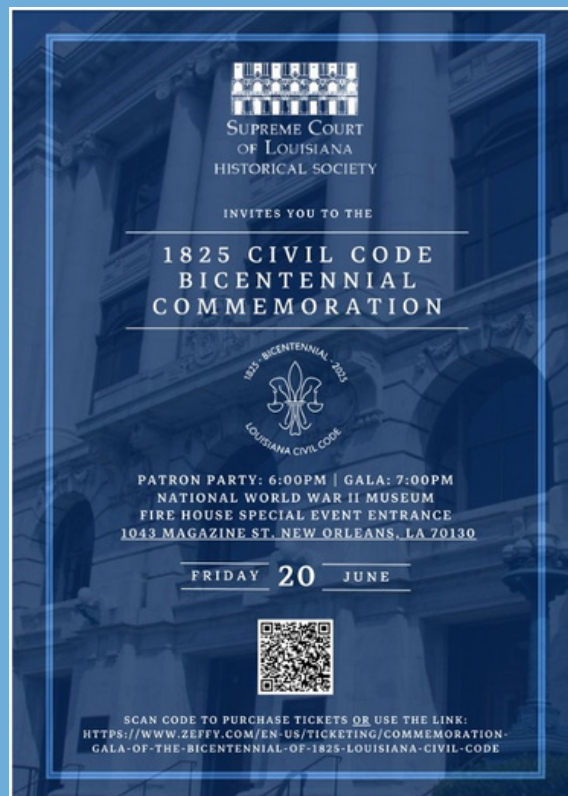
Learn more about GLL
at www.aallnet.org/gllsis/

GLL MEMBER NEWS

The Louisiana State Bar Association recently presented the 2025 John A. "T-Jean" Hernandez III Memorial Award for achievements in Francophone leadership to **Georgia D. Chadwick**, retired director of the Law Library of Louisiana.



A longtime advocate for legal scholarship and access to information, Chadwick currently serves on the Louisiana Supreme Court Historical Society's 1825 Civil Code Bicentennial Steering Committee, helping organize lectures highlighting the Code's development and the influential role of jurists of French heritage. Chadwick served as director of the Law Library of Louisiana from 2007 to 2016, concluding a nearly 40-year career in legal information. She began her tenure there in 1978, holding key roles including associate director, head of technical services, and documents librarian. Her earlier experience includes positions at law firms in New Orleans, Washington, D.C., and Dallas, as well as roles at the University of Texas, Southern Methodist University, and the Law Library of Louisiana. Chadwick holds a Master of Arts in Librarianship from the University of Denver and a B.A. in sociology from Tulane's Newcomb College.



GLL's Summer 2025 Marketing Mavens: Cliff Hoffman & Joy Hollerbach, Thurgood Marshall State Law Library

The Publicity & Public Relations Committee is casting a wider net to bring you marketing inspiration from both within and beyond GLL. This feature, coordinated by GLL member Leland Sampson, showcases the work of his colleagues Cliff Hoffman and Joy Hollerbach. We hope you enjoy it!

The Thurgood Marshall State Law Library began nearly 200 years ago. Over that time, the library has collected many unique and interesting books, artifacts, and art. Due to limited space, items are not often exhibited or viewable. In 2024, the library began a long-term project to surface noteworthy items through our website. Cliff Hoffman and Joy Hollerbach spearheaded the project.



Cliff Hoffman



Joy Hollerbach

What motivated you to market your library's Special Collections Room (SCR)?

Cliff: One of the challenges we faced with our SCR materials is that, due to their value and preservation needs, the materials "hide" in a locked, temperature- and humidity-controlled room. While patrons can find materials in our catalog, catalog records seemed insufficient in describing the historical treasures. Our SCR project was a means to draw attention to the collection by creating prominent visual and textual descriptions of the materials. Our hope was that our campaign would expand interest in, and use of, the materials in the SCR collection.

Joy: Our SCR is filled with fascinating historical treasures, and we wanted to expand access beyond our physical space. By showcasing highlights on our website, we can reach a wider audience and inspire curiosity—especially among history enthusiasts—who may then be motivated to visit the library in person to explore the full collection.

How has the program been received so far, and how will you evaluate its success?

Cliff: The feedback on our SCR marketing campaign has been positive. Patrons (and

GLL's Summer 2025 Marketing Mavens, cont.

staff) have offered comments on specific items highlighted in the SCR carousel. We'll evaluate the success of the campaign through web analytics that show engagement with the carousel and detailed item description pages, as well as requests to physically access materials in the SCR.

Joy: The program has been well-received. The website carousel combines engaging visuals with informative links that delve into the background of each featured item, making it both educational and visually appealing. We'll evaluate its success through website analytics, user feedback, and an increase in in-person visits and inquiries related to the collection.

What "if only I knew!" advice would you give others wanting to replicate the program?

Cliff: If you don't already have photo editing skills, spend some time working with photo editing software. Images play such a vital role in highlighting the historical materials. Most likely, the carousel image will be the "thing" that draws a user in. The better the image, the better the chance you have for user engagement.

Joy: Be sure to take high-quality photos early in the process. Inadequate images can set you back, requiring extra time with exhibits you've already moved on from. Good photography will save time and make a big difference in the final presentation.

What is your favorite featured item?



Cliff: [Picturesque America](#)



Joy: [Justice Sonia Sotomayor Bobblehead](#)

GLL's Summer 2025 Marketing Mavens, cont.

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

Cliff: As my dog will tell you, the best way to spend a day off from work involves a really long walk. She definitely knows when I have the day off and lets me know when it's time to head out. A good day also means spending time with my wife and daughter, whether we go to a concert, to the movies, or just hang out at home. While my wife and I both enjoy cooking, the best day off probably includes going out to a nice restaurant, so that we can get a break from the dishes.

Joy: The best way to spend a day off from work involves a morning latte, yoga, playing with my pets, binging my favorite show, and it ends with a homecooked meal with my husband and reading.

What are you currently reading?

Cliff: Right now, I am reading *Kisses of the Enemy* by Rodney Hall.

Joy: *Victorian Psycho* by Virginia Feito.

Equal Justice Conference: Karen's Hot Takes, and Why You Should Consider Attending

[Karen Westwood, Hennepin County Law Library](#)



The Equal Justice Conference is an annual gathering of legal services and pro bono advocates to learn about developments in providing legal services to low-income persons, with an emphasis on strengthening partnerships among the key players in the civil justice system. This year's meeting was in May in San Francisco, and GLL generously provided me with a grant that helped me attend.

And what a conference it was! During this time of challenges from the federal level, colleagues in this space were both worried about economic hardships and galvanized to recommit themselves to their clients. Here are the sessions I attended (and one at which I presented), along with a "hot take" for each of them.

Key: (S) = Session; (HT) = Hot Take

(S) Ethical and Practical Considerations for Deploying a Generative AI Chatbot in Legal Self-Help Websites

(HT) Finally, a practical application for Generative AI. Use case for navigating family law forms on court website - but 42 pages of Q & A's to train it on just this topic? Yikes!

(S) Enhancing Legal Access Through Accessible Kiosks.

(HT) Using assistive technology to navigate legal websites - practical and transferrable information for law library websites.

Equal Justice Conference, cont.

(S) Collaborative Models for Pro Bono Engagement and Empowering Librarians to Address Legal Inequities

(HT) Hey! This was my session, and it could have used a better title. But I presented with fellow GLLer Pauline Afuso and Stephanie Baugh from the Louisiana State Bar Association (who works with GLL Chair-Elect Sara Pixon on the LEAP program). Lots of great information on how much libraries, bar associations, and legal aid have in common in terms of our patrons and service approach. You should think about presenting at EJC!



(S) Amplifying Client Voices: Practical Strategies for Curating and Elevating Client Stories

(HT) Government law libraries can do a better job of highlighting and celebrating patron stories – it's time to recommit to do this in my own library.

(S) Upstreaming Justice: Non-Attorney Interventions and Community-Based Solutions to Civil Legal Gaps

(HT) Medical/legal clinic partnerships were featured. On-the-ground ways to lean into the skills of non-MD/non-JD folks to maximize the effectiveness of programs. Where do law librarians fit into these partnerships?

(S) Awards Luncheon with William R. "Bill" Bay, ABA President, and April Frazier Camara, NLADA President and CEO

(HT) Bill Bay discussed the ABA "rule of law letter" and the need to stand firm behind the Constitution. Quote: "It's never too late to do the right thing. To the extent you haven't done what you believe you should have in the past, today is the day you can start doing it." April Camara addressed how a crisis can break you, and you will never be the same afterwards. Now is the time for legal aid organizations to ask anew what we stand for, and who we are going to be moving forward. These speakers were fire! Worth the cost of admission alone.

Equal Justice Conference, cont.

(S) Faith, Pro Bono, and Reproductive and LGBTQ+ Rights: Collaborative Advocacy in Complex Legal and Cultural Landscapes

(HT) Bob Berring* advised to always choose a program that doesn't bear a direct relationship to your work, and this one was that for me. Standout quotes: "Lawyers need to approach faith organizations with humility," and "Members of faith communities share a desire to help that aligns to a great degree with the goals of legal aid." And most memorably, "Faith organizations know how to use a language of love – lawyers could learn a lot from that."

(S) AI Co-Pilots for Eviction Defense, Reentry Services, and Beyond

(HT) Honestly? The last session of a conference is a hard sell, but the speakers were from A2JN (formerly SRLN), and I always want to build connections to that organization.

(S) NOCALL happy hour!

(HT) Diane Rodriguez (former AALL President) and NOCALL colleagues welcomed law librarians to the Bay Area. A half dozen of us who were in town for EJC enjoyed good company and tasty food – another reminder of how great law librarianship is!

(S) Featured Salon: Current Events in Context: A Constitutional Law Perspective

(HT) Erwin Chemerinsky was the presenter. 'Nuf said. No, really – a captivating, sobering analysis that offered legitimate concern sprinkled with hope.

(S) Panel on Bridging the Justice Gap: Economic Empowerment and Access to Civil Legal Aid

(HT) Discussion about funding and funding threats. I worked up enough courage to speak up and reminded everyone that people, especially in rural areas, rely on public libraries and law libraries to access court information. The mention of libraries elicited applause!

Tl;dr? Consider attending the Equal Justice Conference – there are a ton of interesting sessions, and it's a chance to connect with folks who share the same values and goals to help people access the courts and get justice. It was truly educational and inspiring!



Thanks again to GLL for the generous grant that made my attendance possible.

**UC Berkeley Law Librarian and AALL luminary who gave a CONELL talk for many years on how to get the most out of your annual meeting experience.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 19 @ 11 a.m. PST / 1 p.m. CST / 2:00 p.m. EST			
Attended:	K. Westwood	C. Morton	A. Small
B. Starkey	J. Stilwell-Tong	L. Moran	S. Pixon
T. Cunningham			
Meeting Leader:	Scribe:	Date of Next Meeting:	
A. Small	S. Pixon	Wednesday, April 16 @ 11 a.m. PDT / 1 p.m. CDT / 2:00 p.m. EDT	

Agenda

Preliminary Items / Action Items from Previous Meeting:

- Amy called the meeting to order by acclamation at 1:03 pm Central.
- Approve agenda – Christine moved to approve, Brendan seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Approve minutes – Brendan moved to approve, Laurel seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Secretary / Treasurer’s report – Sara reported on the most recent GLL statement, no issues.

Other Business:

- Committee updates by GLL Board liaisons – Sara reported that Awards is in the process of reviewing nominations and encourages the Board to submit more; Laurel reported that Membership & Mentoring was working on longevity award updates (as seen in interim board actions from last minutes); Christine reported that Grants is accepting applications for EJC and AALL conferences, also Victoria Williamson stepped up as Chair of Standards; Brendan reported that Bylaws has finished their work for the year; Brendan also reported Nominations has finalized their slate, there was some discussion over who should be announcing candidates, Sara suggested that maybe the bylaws should be clarified that it is the Nominations Committee who announces with follow-up by the Chair; Karen reported that Publicity & Public Relations would like access to Canva, Amy suggested reaching out to Chris Siwa at AALL HQ, P&PR would like also like to work with ATJ on resource guide revisions, but there is a question about whether or not we still need to attribute Lexis, Karen will follow-up with AALL HQ; Amy reported that Education selected a program for the AALL conference (see below).
- GLL-SIS co-sponsored Annual Meeting program: Beyond ‘School House Rock!’: Librarians as Civic Educators, coordinated by Christine Morton
- Status of sponsorship request for GLL-SIS Breakfast – Amy reported that Lexis has picked up sponsorship for our “breakfast” at the requested amount of \$3500, Sara and Amy will start looking at menus. AALL HQ has expressed concern about contact with sponsors, which Amy reaffirmed we will not do.

EXECUTIVE COMM. MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

- Updated Standards – Christine sent updated Standards out from the Committee, which primarily made updates to the language, we will vote by email. Jocelyn mentioned part of the issue is the Standards just had not been updated in a while, and maybe they don't need to be but just need an updated timestamp. It does not appear we need full membership vote but will announce and encourage feedback. Christine raised that perhaps we need to make specific standards for federal law libraries – she will bring to committee. GLL-SIS Handbook revisions – Amy reported that one remaining issue is whether we should be “Executive Board” or “Executive Committee,” we may need to revisit in Bylaws. Sara suggested that we maybe just use a “hereinafter referred to...” for the Board as there may be a reason it is called the Executive Committee.
 - o Approval of new charge for Bylaws & A2J committees for website – Amy reported that both committees asked for charge changes, we will vote on next week.
- Search for a VIP – which cannot be the same as the GLL speaker per AALL!
 - o Status of Jocelyn’s suggestion, Justice Montoya-Lewis – Jocelyn sent follow-up reminder.
- Spring election – slate & management – Karen will be handling the election since Sara is running; election will open March 24, deadline for ballots is April 11.
- Technology Committee’s lack of activities – Chair feels there is very little to do, since most edits are just passed along to Chris Siwa, Advocacy Chair feels similarly since there is no Government Relations person at AALL HQ; both committee wonder if they should be dissolved. Karen noted that Technology did a lot of updates last year so that may be why it feels like there is little to do this year. Laurel noted that it probably only need to be one person for Technology.
- Other business – Amy will be in Japan for most of March and won't have access to work email so please contact via personal email; Jocelyn is hosting a coffee chat on building community in remote settings on Friday 2/21; there was general support once again for the need to hire a Government Relations position at AALL HQ; Christine will reach out to LIT about our joint reception sponsorship request.
- Adjournment – Amy adjourned by acclamation at 2:08 pm Central.

Action Items From This Meeting:		
Action Items From This Meeting:	Assigned To:	Date Due:

Interim Board Actions Taken Via Email:

- 1) On 2/26/2025, Karen put forward two motions to 1. Approve revisions to the committee charges for the Bylaws Committee and for the Best Access to Justice Practices committee and 2. Approve the updates to the Appellate Court Library & County Public Law Library Standards. Brendan seconded. After motions were introduced, Karen noticed a typo in the charge for the Best Access to Justice Practices – she suggested an amendment. All in favor of both motions incorporating the typo amendment, no oppositions or abstentions. Vote completed same day.

EXECUTIVE COMM. MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

- 2) On 3/20/2025, Sara put forward a motion on behalf of the Awards committee to approve the honorees. Christine seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain. Vote completed 3/25/2025.

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 16 @ 11 a.m. PST / 1 p.m. CST / 2:00 p.m. EST			
Attended:	K. Westwood	C. Morton	A. Small
B. Starkey	J. Stilwell-Tong	L. Moran	S. Pixon
T. Cunningham			
Meeting Leader:	Scribe:	Date of Next Meeting:	
A. Small	S. Pixon	Wednesday, June 18 @ 11 a.m. PDT / 1 p.m. CDT / 2:00 p.m. EDT	

Agenda

Preliminary Items / Action Items from Previous Meeting:

- Jocelyn moved to call the meeting to order, Christine seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain. Meeting called to order at 1:04 pm Central.
- Approve agenda – Brendan moved to approve the agenda, Karen seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Approve minutes – Christine moved to approve the minutes as amended to correct a name spelling, Laurel seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Secretary / Treasurer's report – Karen will discuss the spring election per below agenda item. Sara reported that our ending 2024 balance was a little over \$33,000.

Other Business:

- Committee updates by GLL Board liaisons – Amy reported she will be sent the certificates for Membership & Mentoring longevity awards and will bring to the conference. Christine reported that Access to Justice and Standards are working on updates that will be published on the GLL website. Christine also reported that 3 grants were awarded to the annual meeting – the Grants committee decided to only award 3 out of 4 grants and may request to roll over some funds to a different conference, also SRLN not happening this year so those funds will also roll over. Sara reported that all awards honorees will be attending the breakfast so they can be honored in person. Jocelyn reported that Advocacy is keeping up with issues including the GRO position. Brendan reported that Bylaws does not have any updates. Karen reported that Publicity & Public Relations will be printing flyers for the conference, P&PR also wants a new banner. The board will wait to vote to approve once we get actual quotes. There were some questions about whether the AALL branding is required but Amy and Karen will verify. One member of P&PR is in Ohio so will be taking all materials back with her. Laurel reported that Membership & Mentoring is running smoothly without a chair and continuing its programming.
- Joint reception with LIT-SIS – last year we held the joint reception at CALI. This year we were not selected for sponsorship. LIT came up with some ideas for places to rent but the prices are not insignificant. Sara gave a general overview of our budget and where our expenses have been going the last few years and expressed concerns

EXECUTIVE COMM. MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

about spending such a significant amount. Karen suggested having a dutch treat get-together instead, where members pay their own way. Jocelyn suggested we could also consider a non-drinking get together. An additional concern Jocelyn raised is that it is a lot of money to spend for an event where not all GLL members even attend because they don't go to the annual conference. Amy moved to reply to LIT to decline the Board sponsorship and offer informal meetup instead, Brendan seconded, all in favor, no oppose or abstain.

- GLL Happy Hour – Standards wants to organize a happy hour and invite everyone from GLL, so we may not need a separate one organized by the GLL Board (the “pau hana”). Brendan organized last year – if Standards decides not to organize, Brendan is happy to organize again.
- Breakfast Meeting and expenses
 - o Menu and associated expenses – last year we did fully a la carte and we had plenty of food. This year we could afford a service instead of a la carte. We could do it at 60 people and be just slightly over our sponsorship amount. Amy will get a quote and bring to the board. Sara mentioned that 60 was a guess based on past years – Brendan asked if there may be less attendees due to it being West Coast.
 - o Speaker and travel expenses – Jocelyn reported the speaker is booking one night at a hotel and will be driving down, plus food and beverage expenses. We will vote once we have estimated total.
- VIP Selection – Amy mentioned that we should consider one of Awards’ suggestions. Amy moved that we suggest to AALL that our VIPs are Josephine County public library Board Vice president Rachele Selvig (who is an attorney) and Adam Dodge - Founder of EndTab --Ending Technology-Enabled Abuse. Karen seconded, all in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Spring election – we will discuss via email after Karen has a chance to review the results.
- Scheduling the Business meeting – Amy and Jocelyn liked having it right before the conference, so Amy suggested the week prior. Lunch hour time/mid-day seems best. Amy will talk to AALL about using their e-meeting platform.
- Other business – Amy reported that the AALL Advocates community has been discussing that AALL can consider submitting an amicus brief on one of the lawsuits related to IMLS cuts/elimination. AALL VP Jenny Silbiger has made a statement on behalf of AALL opposing the cuts/elimination. There is a procedure for requesting that the AALL Board submit an amicus brief or write a letter of support. Karen drafted a request on behalf of the Government Relations Committee – she believes it is better to speak out on the ALA case (there are 2). It is currently in district court so she has been looking into what the actual “ask” of the Board would be. Karen gave an example of how law libraries refer to public libraries so we are directly impacted by the cuts/elimination – it is an access to justice issue. Brendan mentioned that an amicus that is basically a statement of support is also worth it. Karen said it also works to educate our own members. Additionally, she noted that there is some cost to the request to have an attorney actually draft it for us. Jocelyn moved that Amy work on a request for AALL to file an amicus or similar statement of support on behalf of GLL with help from the GLL Board, Brendan seconded, all in favor, no oppose or abstain.
- Adjournment – Amy adjourned by acclamation at 2:18 pm Central.

EXECUTIVE COMM. MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

<u>Action Items From This Meeting:</u>	<u>Assigned To:</u>	<u>Date Due:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Draft request for AALL to file amicus or similar statement in support of ALA/IMLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ASAP

Interim Board Actions Taken Via Email:

- 1) Sara moved on 5/6/25 to approve an additional expenditure of up to \$500 from the GLL general budget to cover the additional cost for the GLL breakfast beyond the Lexis \$3500 sponsorship. Laurel seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain. Vote completed same day.
- 2) Sara moved on 5/6/25 to consider whether GLL should co-sponsor a reception with LISP, with a capped attendance of 30 guests, but a cost of only \$480. Additionally, the venue is further away. Laurel seconded. All in opposition, no in favor or abstain. Vote completed same day.
- 3) Sara moved on 5/8/25 to pay for the costs of GLL awards crystals, a total of \$323. Brendan seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain. Vote completed 5/9/25.
- 4) Christine moved on 5/22/25 to reimburse GLL's VIP, Rachel Selvig, for 3 nights of hotel and meals at the appropriate rate. Brendan seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain. Vote completed same day.
- 5) Amy moved on 6/2/25 to pay for GLL Awards Reception meeting AV expenses of \$774.65. Karen seconded. All in favor, no oppose or abstain. Vote completed same day.



GLL-SIS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024-2025

Chair (2023-2026) <u>Amy Small</u>	Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect (2024-2027) <u>Christine Morton</u>	Past-Chair (2022-2025) <u>Karen Westwood</u>	Secretary/Treasurer (2022-2025) <u>Sara Pixon</u>
Board Member (2024-2027) <u>Laurel Moran</u>	Board Member (2022-2025) <u>Brendan Starkey</u>	Board Member (2023-2026) <u>Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong</u>	Board Member (ex-officio) (2023-2025) <u>Tara Cunningham</u>

GLL-SIS COMMITTEES 2024-2025

Advocacy

Chair - Amanda Hildebrand
Anna Russell
Amreet Sandhu
Board Liaison - Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong

Bylaws

Chair - Leslie Greenwood
Jennifer Dalglish
Maryruth Storer
Board Liaison - Brendan Starkey

Newsletter

Chair - Tara Cunningham
Abigail Bean
Taylor Berkoski
Amanda Hildebrand
Britiny Hommey
Board Liaison - Amy Small

Standards

Chair - Victoria Williamson
Cathryn Bowie
Rob Mead
Board Liaison - Christine Morton

Awards

Chair - Catherine McGuire
Elizabeth Caulfield
Catherine Lemann
Lee Sampson
Jean Wenger
Board Liaison - Sara Pixon

Education

Chair - Suzanne Corriell
Gail Wechsler
Kristen Matteucci
Board Liaison - Amy Small

Nominations

Chair - Geraldine Cepeda
Emily Carr
Linda Corbelli
James Durham
Larry Meyer
Board Liaison - Brendan Starkey

Strategic Planning

Chair - Robert Mead
Lisa Foster
James Gernert
Holly Grimes
Kaden Taylor
Board Liaison - Laurel Moran

Best A2J Practices

Co-Chairs - John Murphy,
Heather DiChiara-Schilling
Lori-Ann Craig
Joan Bellistri
Marilyn Floyd
Rebecca Greenlee
Gail Mathapo
Sara McMahon
Kristin Neri
Brittany Young
Board Liaison - Christine Morton

Grants

Chair - Christine Morton
Pauline Afuso
James Durham
Sandy Marz
Gail Warren
Board Liaison - Sara Pixon

Publicity & Public Relations

Chair - Sue Ludington
Amy Gregory
Holly Grimes
Laura Hankin
Ana Mendoza
Rebecca Sherman
Board Liaison - Karen Westwood

Technology

Chair - Jennifer Gonzalez
Pauline Afuso
Eric Chapman
Joanna Coelho
Angela Reaux
Alexis Fetzer Sharp
Board Liaison - Karen Westwood

Membership & Mentoring

Chair - TBD
Tonya Baroudi
Kathy Carlson
Alicia Friedman
Holly Grimes
Ann Hemmens
Adriana Mark
Jessica Mundy
Board Liaison - Laurel Moran

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