

Legal History and Rare Books SIS Annual Report 2011-2012

The officers of LH&RB-SIS for 2011-2012 were Sarah Yates, chair; Michael Widener, vice chair/chair-elect; Stacy Etheredge, immediate past chair; and Joni Herbst, secretary/treasurer. In an online election conducted in May, Jennie Meade was elected vice chair/chair elect, and Kasia Solon Cristobal was elected secretary/treasurer.

LH&RB, in cooperation with Gale Learning and Research Solutions, Cengage Learning, held its fourth annual Morris L. Cohen Student Essay Competition in the spring. The essay contest committee, chaired by Rob Mead and Marguerite Most, reviewed several excellent entries this year. John Beerbower, a 3L student at the University of Virginia School of Law, won first prize for his essay, "Ex Parte McCardle and the Attorney General's Duty to Defend Acts of Congress." Second-place winner Zoey Orol, a 2L student at New York University School of Law, presented her paper "Reading the Early American Legal Profession: A Study of the First American Law Review" at an LH&RB program at this year's AALL Annual Meeting.

The education committee, chaired by Laura Ray, had another productive and successful year. LH&RB sponsored, cosponsored, or produced independently (i.e., outside the AMPC system) four programs in addition to the Cohen contest presentation: "The Law of the Salem Witch Trials," "Digitizing Legal History," "'Digging' Legal History in Boston: The Case of the Boston Strangler," and "Early Law Libraries as Historical Documents: Recording the Bookshelves of Long-Ago Lawyers."

Documenting all this activity and more were the publications and newsletter committees, chaired by Joni Herbst and Mark Podvia, respectively. Ms. Herbst and her group produced a new print brochure, which was distributed at CONELL and in the activities area of the exhibit hall. *LH&RB*, the SIS newsletter, came out thrice in 2011-2012, with each issue containing regular columns and features such as program reviews and member news, a robust selection of book reviews, and substantive articles by LH&RB members. Mr. Podvia is also the editor of *Unbound: An Annual Review of Legal History and Rare Books*, which republishes the best content of the newsletter, along with new material such as the running-up paper in the Cohen contest. The section is currently working with Hein toward the inclusion and indexing of *LH&RB* on HeinOnline, where *Unbound* is already available.

Sarah Yates, LHRB-SIS Chair
2011-2012