

AALL Legal History and Rare Books Special Interest Section (LHRB-SIS)

2018-2019 Annual Report

Membership

The officers of LHRB-SIS for 2018-2019 were Fred Dingley, chair; Christine George, vice-chair/chair-elect; Liz Hilkin, immediate past chair; and Ryan Greenwood, secretary/treasurer. Laurel Davis remains our webmaster. Elections were held in April. Linda Tesar was elected vice-chair/chair-elect. Membership in the SIS has remained around two hundred.

Annual Meeting

LHRB, in cooperation with Gale Cengage, held its eleventh annual Morris L. Cohen Student Essay Competition in the spring. The essay contest committee, chaired by Timothy Kearley, received eight essays and awarded first place to Jake C. Richards, a PhD candidate at Cambridge University (UK), for his essay, *Abolition as a sovereign project: the Auditoria Geral da Marinha, legal geography, and the testimony of slaves in ending the illegal slave trade to Brazil, 1850-1856*. Mr. Richards will present a webinar based on his paper on November 1, 2019.

At the annual meeting in Washington, DC, LHRB-SIS sponsored the program “Creating an Oral History Program: Capturing History and Building Connections.” Elizabeth Hilkin, Head of Special Collections at Tarlton Law Library at University of Texas-Austin, Joe Noel, Head of Access Services at Tarlton Law Library; Jane O’Connell, Associate Dean for Legal Information at Levin College of Law; Gail Warren, State Law Librarian at Virginia State Law Library; and Kenneth Durr, Vice President at History Associates. The program demonstrated how different types of law libraries documented their home institution’s history, described best practices for assembling an oral history, and showed how libraries can use oral history to promote the library and their home institution. LHRB member Carole Prietto, Law Center Archivist at Georgetown University Law Library gave a presentation on functional analysis that she first gave at the Society of American Archivists 2018 annual meeting.

The SIS also hosted its annual Host City History Roundtable, Capital Lawyers: The Supreme Court Bar in the Nation's History with speaker Kurt X. Metzmeier, Associate Director of the Law Library, University of Louisville School of Law. A substantial crowd attended the program and enjoyed the informative presentation.

LHRB scheduled an archives roundtable and a rare books roundtable.

HeinOnline provided \$1000 for the LHRB reception, held at Penn Commons, 700 6th St. NW. We charged \$10 per ticket and sold 44 tickets.

Publications

LH&RB, the SIS newsletter under the leadership of Kasia Solon Cristobal, Editor-in-Chief, produced a fall 2018 and a spring 2019 newsletter. *Unbound: A Review of Legal History and*

Rare Books produced its eleventh annual volume under the leadership of Mark Podvia, Publications Committee Chair.

Outreach

The @lhrbsis Twitter account has increased its followers to 295. The account chiefly retweets articles of legal history interest. Fred Dingley attended the CONELL marketplace during the annual meeting. He spoke to a number of new attendees who expressed an interest in the special interest section.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Dingley