Legal Information Services to the Public SIS

Annual Report 2012-2013

The Officers for the Legal Information Services to the Public Special Interest Section (LISP-SIS) for 2012-2013 were Janine Liebert, Chair; Mary Rice, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Brian Huffman, Secretary/Treasurer; and Dan Baker, Immediate Past Chair. Due to a change in circumstances Mary Rice was no longer able to accept the position of Chair which led to new elections. For 2013-2014, the LISP-SIS Officers will be Janine Liebert, Chair; Brian Huffman, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and Janet Ann Hedin, Secretary/Treasurer.

This year, the section awarded two Kathy Garner Grants in the amount of $850 each. This year’s recipients were Emily Bergfeld and Nicole P. Dyszlewski.

The LISP-SIS was pleased to sponsor an independently produced program “Public Law Libraries in the 21st Century: An Opportunity to Rethink, Reinvigorate, and Redesign” at the 2013 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference in Seattle, WA. In addition, LISP once again co-sponsored the “Joint Roundtable on Services to Pro Se Patrons and Prisoners” with the SCCLL-SIS and the SR-SIS at the 2013 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference.

The LISP-SIS Business Meeting was held as a breakfast on Monday, July 15, at 7:00 am, and the section received sponsorship for this event from Lexis/Nexis, Wolters Kluwer Law and Business, Thomson Reuters and Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA. At the business meeting, the membership discussed changes to the model bylaws and ways to update LISP’s bylaws. The membership identified the following as priorities and possible initial projects: revision of the bylaws, coordination with the various state chapters to revise the public libraries toolkits; reinstatement of the LISP newsletter; development of a Civics 101 webinar in partnership with the RiPS-SIS and increased awareness of LISP at future AALL Annual Meetings via dissemination of popular freebies and giveaways at CONELL and the LISP display table.

The following committees were formed to take on the above-listed projects:

Outreach and External Relations Committee: Sarah Mauldin (Chair); Nicole Dyszlewski and Leslie Greenwood

Bylaws Committee: Luis Acosta (Chair); David McFadden

Education Committee: Janet Ann Hedin (Chair); Sarah Mauldin, Janine Liebert

Public Libraries Toolkit Review Committee: Leslie Greenwood (Chair); Heather Simmons and Brian Huffman

PR/Marketing Committee: Bret Christensen (Chair)

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Liebert
Chair, 2012-2013