

Legal Information Services to the Public SIS Annual Report 2017-2018

The members of the Executive Board of the Legal Information Services to the Public Special Interest Section (LISP-SIS) for 2017-2018 were Nicole Dyszlewski, Past Chair; Heather Simmons, Chair; Artie Berns, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, and Sarah Lamdan, Secretary/Treasurer.

Grants:

We awarded two types of grants this year. We awarded the 2018 Janet Hedin Grant for attendance at AALL Leadership Academy to Zanada Joyner (North Carolina Central University). We awarded the 2018 Kathy Garner Grant for attendance at the AALL Annual Meeting was split between two recipients: Cassandra Patterson (Charleston School of Law) and Brian Huffman (University of Hawaii). Unfortunately Cassandra Patterson was not able to attend the meeting, and did not use this award. Thanks to Brian Barnes for chairing the LISP Grants Committee.

Business Meeting:

LISP-SIS held its first virtual Business Meeting on April 30th. Since our bylaws state “[o]fficers shall serve until the adjournment of the annual business meeting,” rather than adjourn we suspended the meeting. We reconvened at the beginning of our roundtable discussions on July 15 just long enough to pass the gavel and then adjourned.

Education Initiatives:

Our annual Five Topics in Five Days online discussion did not happen in the spring. The planning is complete and it may be rescheduled for the fall this year instead.

Planning is also well under way for an AALL Continuing Professional Education Webinar on Immigration featuring immi.org. The new education committee co-chairs, Rebecca Sherman and Nicole Dyszlewski, will be working with headquarters staff to schedule this event in the coming months.

At the 2018 AALL Annual Meeting, LISP independently sponsored an educational program, *Uncertainty Management: A Tool to Assist Self-Represented Litigants*. LISP members Pauline Afuso, Paul Healey, and Karen Westwood spoke at this session. Our Exhibit Hall poster highlighted issues related to law library reference services to the public, as well as other LISP programs and activities at the conference.

LISP also participated in the annual meeting’s GLL/LISP/SR Joint Roundtable on Law Library Services to Prisoners & Public Patrons. LISP members co-presented at this event. In addition to addressing prisoner issues, this year’s roundtable addressed services for immigrants and refugees. Speakers were

- Sarah Larsen, Outreach Librarian, Minnesota State Law Library (LISP member)
- Malinda Muller, Director of Patron Services, LA Law Library
- Sara Pic, Research Lawyer/Librarian, Law Library of Louisiana (LISP member)
- Lauren Morrison, Law Librarian and Director at Hamilton County Law Library

In collaboration with RIPS Patron Services Committee, members of LISP are co-writing two white papers. AALL published the first one using a new white paper template. This white paper “Legal Ease: Self-Care for Library Staff” was published in June 2018. <https://www.aallnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Legal-Ease-White-Paper-FINAL.pdf>

Public Library Toolkits:

The copyright issues associated with the 50-State Public Library Toolkit Collection have become too cumbersome for two people to coordinate, so Leslie Greenwood and Heather Simmons have handed over

this activity to a committee. Pauline Afuso has been appointed committee chair, members are still being appointed.

AALL Annual Meeting:

The LISP-SIS Annual Business Meeting and Roundtables met on Sunday afternoon, replacing our previous tradition of breakfast meetings. Roundtable topics included Access to Justice, moderated by Latia Ward of Cornell, the 50-State Public Library Toolkit Collection, the new LISP/SR Blog, and Education program ideas for next year's annual meeting. LISP also held an unofficial off-site get together which drew a small but faithful crowd.

Communication:

LISP continues to implement changes to the new AALL SIS website.

A small team of volunteers led by Brian Huffman evaluated our website after it became live, and sent changes to Chris Siwa. Plans for the coming year include the formation of a Web committee to oversee this process going forward.

LISP continues to post to our Twitter account.

In 2018 LISP successfully launched a Blog, <https://lispsr.wordpress.com/>, in cooperation with the Social Responsibilities SIS. The plan is to alternate posts. Our next post will be about the Self-Care Whitepaper.

Treasurer's Report: (from Sarah Lamdan)

Our balance was at \$9,261.00 as of May 31, 2018. We collected \$1,495.00 in member dues from 8/31/2017 to 8/31/2018 and provided \$699.00 in grant money to membership in that time. We anticipate the continued receipt of revenue from dues over the summer.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to all our volunteers. The list is too long to include but this year has been busy and our SIS has accomplished much. Thank you to all who helped us move LISP forward this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather J. E. Simmons
Chair, 2017-2018