



**LEGAL INFORMATION SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC  
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION**



## **LEGAL INFORMATION SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020**

The members of the Executive Board of the Legal Information Services to the Public Special Interest Section (LISP-SIS) for 2019-2020 were Artie Berns, Past Chair; Catherine McGuire, Chair; Pauline Afuso, Vice Chair/Chair Elect; and Jessica Almeida, Secretary/Treasurer.

### **SUMMARY**

The year began with great plans, most of which were successfully accomplished, notwithstanding the pandemic shuttering most of our membership and their libraries. Because our SIS extends across multiple time zones, much of our work was already virtual. However, each year, the Annual Meeting presents an opportunity for in-person events; these opportunities were lost in 2020 to the pandemic. That said, the SIS accomplished a number of wonderful initiatives, described below.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

The Business Meeting was held on June 24<sup>th</sup> via Zoom videoconference. Per the bylaws, the meeting ended independently of the officers' terms.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer, Jessica Almeida, reported a balance of \$8,920.47 in the LISP account, an amount consistent with the past few years.

### **AALL ANNUAL MEETING ACTIVITIES**

The LISP Board agreed to join multiple other SISs to sponsor the screening of the film *Change the Subject*, about the fight to change the Library of Congress Subject Heading "Illegal Aliens" to an alternate, non-derogatory term such as "Undocumented Persons." Information on the film is available at: [sites.dartmouth.edu/changethesubject](https://sites.dartmouth.edu/changethesubject).

Due to the virtual meeting, the usual CONELL Marketplace was held via Zoom. LISP members were present in the Zoom room to discuss LISP initiatives with interested persons.

### **BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

The Bylaws Committee was co-chaired by Luis Acosta and David McFadden. No bylaws amendments were discussed or proposed during the fiscal year. The Committee plans to work with the Web Committee



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to update the LISP website to include last year's bylaws change.

### EDUCATION

The Education Committee was co-chaired by Rebecca Sherman and Nicole Dyszlewski. The Committee planned and executed a joint 5 Conversations in 5 Days program with RIPS-SIS, PEGA-SIS, and PLLIP-SIS. The program, held in November 2019, was on the topic of interpersonal communication. The Committee proposed two programs for the AALL Annual Meeting, per the program proposal requirements. Program proposal titles were: (1) "Law Library Neutrality in a Time of Political Upheaval;" and (2) "Bring on the Beignets: Food Law & Social Justice." The AMPC chose the Law Library Neutrality program to be live-streamed, on Thursday, July 16, 2020.

The annual Joint Roundtable event with GLL-SIS and SR-SIS and the annual LISP Roundtable event were suspended for the 2020 Virtual Meeting.

### GRANTS

The Grants Committee was chaired by Stephen Parks. The Committee awarded the Janet Hedin AALL Leadership Meeting Grant to Sarah Larsen. Due to the pandemic and consequent move to virtual format, the Leadership Meeting incurred only a fraction of the usual cost. In addition, the meeting was pushed to later in the year. Therefore, grant funds reserved for this purpose were not needed in the 2019-2020 year.

Also due to the Annual Meeting move to virtual format, with the consequent reduction in registration fees, the Board approved a temporary amendment to the Kathy Garner Grant. The Grant Committee solicited applications for three grant awards for the Kathy Garner Grant funds, for Annual Meeting registration. There were, however, no applicants; therefore, the Garner Grant was not awarded this year.

### NOMINATIONS

The Nominations Committee was chaired by Lee Van Duzer. Committee membership included Heather Simmons and Julia Viets. The committee solicited nominations and provided the names of Vice-Chair/Chair Elect nominee Sarah Larsen and Secretary/Treasurer nominee Lisa Heidenreich. The election was completed in accordance with the timeline in the bylaws. Both candidates were elected to the nominated positions.

### PUBLIC LIBRARY TOOLKITS



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The chair of the Toolkit project was Artie Berns. The committee was restructured into regions with coordinators for each region. The coordinators will oversee the completion of individual state toolkits by volunteers.

**WEB COMMITTEE**

The Web Committee was chaired by Brian Huffman. There were limited updates to the web over the year. The Committee will make updates to the bylaws, education, and toolkit pages to complete the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine McGuire  
LISP-SIS Chair, 2019-2020