



LEGAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

ANNUAL MEETING

The Legal Innovation and Technology SIS (LIT-SIS) will meet after the AALL Virtual Annual Meeting on July 26, 2021. Our *Annual Meeting Program Planning Committee*, led by Julie Randolph, submitted a proposal for the Cool Tools programming as well as reviewed and sponsored the proposal *How Persistent Identifiers can Change the Impact Landscape for Legal Scholarship*, created by LIT-SIS members Aaron Retteen and Malukah Hall. Both proposals were accepted. Cool Tools will be delivered as a recorded session. Persistent Identifiers will be a live session on July 20. LIT award winners will be recognized during the virtual LIT-SIS Annual Meeting. Other activities will include representation at the CONELL along marketplace in combination with DET leadership and a virtual edition of Karaoke with Ken.

LIT/DET MERGER

Continuing work from prior years, LIT-SIS and DET-SIS worked to finalize the merger of our SIS groups. LIT-SIS membership signed a petition to merge with DET-SIS. We received 173 signatures and one rejection of the petition. We submitted that petition along with a request to merge to AALL leadership. In April, we were notified that the request was granted and DET-SIS and LIT-SIS will combine in July 2021 with the name LIT-SIS. The executive committees for both SIS groups are working to create a merged set of by-laws, committees, and combine the websites. The petition appears below:

LIT-SIS Petition for Merger with DET-SIS

WHEREAS, the current strategic plan for LIT-SIS states "The chair or designated board members shall reach out to leadership of Digital and Educational Technologies SIS and the Teaching Technology Caucus to identify areas of shared interest and potential collaboration. If those organizations are willing, leadership shall discuss whether some form of organizational consolidation is desirable.";

WHEREAS, the leaderships of LIT-SIS and Digital and Education Technologies SIS (DET-SIS) desire a consolidation;

WHEREAS, the membership of DET-SIS has voted to support a consolidation;

The membership of LIT-SIS finds:

LIT-SIS and DET-SIS share common goals of leadership and innovation in law library technology;

LIT-SIS and DET-SIS could better meet these goals as one, unified SIS; and

LIT-SIS and DET-SIS can better serve their memberships as a unified SIS with combined leadership and funds.

So, the undersigned members of LIT-SIS ask that the governing body of AALL:

Merge these two SIS groups;

Allow the newly formed SIS to waive any period as a caucus, as the existing SIS groups have demonstrated the ability to govern themselves;

Combine any existing funds from the two groups and deposit them into an account for the newly formed SIS;

Allow to use the existing elected officials of both groups to govern the newly formed SIS, with the SIS to resume a normal election cycle as needed;

Allow the two groups to operate independently until after the 2021 AALL Annual Meeting in order to preserve previous work on programming, grants, and social events.



GRANTS AND AWARDS

Many thanks to James Duggan and the Awards and Grants Committee for their hard work this year.

Tawnya Plumb will be awarded the Kenneth J. Hirsh Distinguished Service Award for 2021. Tawnya spearheaded the Strategic Planning effort that resulted in our merger with DET this year. She has also served on a number of committees, including Recruitment & Involvement, Website Content Review Task Force, Nominations, and Communications. Her leadership has been a consistent, important presence in our SIS.

LIT-SIS funded four AALL 20201 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE Registration Grants to Kimball Boone, Law Librarian, Wahab Public Law Library, Virginia Beach, Va.; Rachel Evans, Metadata Services & Special Collections Librarian, Alexander Campbell King Law Library, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga., and Emily Hoffman, Reference Librarian, North Carolina Central University Law Library, Durham, N.C.

We also funded one \$350 grant to the 2021 ABA TECHSHOW held virtually March 8-12 to Dr. Will Monroe, Assistant Director for Instructional Technology at LSU Law Library.

OTHER NEWS

- The membership voted to change its name to Legal Innovation & Technology SIS (LIT-SIS). The name change became official in October.
- LIT-SIS Members continued programming on issues related to the pandemic hosting a panel on virtual accessibility.
- An active *Blog* with tech-related topics, Member Spotlights, and more produced over 20 valuable blog entries this year.

OFFICERS

The 2020-2021 Executive Board included Chair: Amanda Watson, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Mari Cheney, Secretary/Treasurer: Shay Elbaum, Members-At-Large: Kenton Brice and Eli Edwards, and Immediate Past-Chair: Darla Jackson.

The 2021-2022 Executive Board will be Chair: Mari Cheney, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Will Monroe, Secretary/Treasurers: Jesse Bowman and Chelsey McKimmy, Members-At-Large: Kenton Brice and , Tanya Thomas, and Immediate Past-Chairs: Margaret Kiel-Morse and Amanda Watson.

Thanks to Darla Jackson and her committee members for providing an excellent slate of candidates. Due to the merger of DET and LIT and new shared leadership, our board will be normalizing in size over the next few years. No new vice-chairs were elected this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Bolles Watson, LIT Chair, 2020-21