

Professional Engagement, Growth, and Advancement Special Interest Section 2017- 2018 Annual Report

The officers of the Professional Engagement, Growth, and Advancement Special Interest Section during 2017-2018 were: Deborah Schander, Chair; Malikah Hall, Vice Chair; Susan Gualtier, Secretary/Treasurer; Kristen Rowlett, Member-at-Large; and Michelle Hook Dewey, Immediate Past Chair.

Major Initiatives

SIS Organization – 2017-2018 was a “getting our ducks in a row” year for PEGA. While past years have focused on the transition from caucus to SIS and increasing our visibility, this year focused on tweaking the organizational structure to better serve our needs and the future of the SIS. We reorganized our committee structure somewhat, to better reflect the work and needs of the SIS. The Education and AALL Annual Meeting Programming Committees were consolidated into the Program & Education Committee; the Events Committee was renamed the Social Committee; the Marketing Committee was formalized and renamed the Outreach & Publications Committee; the Beer & Edits event was moved out from under the umbrella of the Social Committee and became its own Beer & Edits Committee; the Nominations Committee and Bylaws Committee remained unchanged. Committee terms were also extended from 1 year to 2 years, allowing for increased consistency and an alternating rotation of membership. The Executive Board intentionally sought to involve more members at the committee level this year, and plans to continue this successful effort next year. PEGA also updated our Bylaws for the first time since we became an SIS (membership vote pending).

Signature Initiatives – PEGA continued its signature initiatives this year, hosting both Beer & Edits and the PEGA Party social event at the Baltimore Annual Meeting. The newly-formed Beer & Edits Committee worked hard to transition this event into a year-round program for scholars. Plans for its first year include an ongoing dialogue with AALL publications, the creation of a match-making database for authors, a column in the PEGA=SIS Newsletter, and a virtual event to be held in Winter 2018.

Education – PEGA hosted its second webinar this year. Based on member feedback, this year’s webinar was a member-only event in April 2018 on the topic of librarian burnout. It was a welcome and well-attended event.

Outreach & Publications – PEGA continues to publish the quarterly PEGA-SIS Newsletter for members. In addition to continuing the Show Us Your Shelfie and Ask PEGA features, the committee added two new columns, one on developing hard skills and one on self-care. A new Beer & Edits column will premiere in 2018-2019. The PEGA blog was sunset this year due to lack of traffic. The committee also created the marketing materials for PEGA’s events at the Annual Meeting and the exhibit hall informational poster.

Treasurer’s Report

As of the most recently quarterly statement, which ended on May 31, 2018, PEGA-SIS had \$4292.44 in its account. This is over \$2000 more than we had last year at this time, and we are continuing to grow our funds with the goal of increasing our capability to sponsor programming and fund additional initiatives. Thanks to sponsorship from Hein, we did not have to contribute any of our own funds to the PEGA Party social this year.

2018-2019 Initiatives

Malikah Hall will be Chair in 2018-2019. Her plans for the year include hosting more webinars and possible educational program sponsorship, streamlining the PEGA website, increasing membership and involvement opportunities.