



**PRIVATE LAW LIBRARIANS  
& INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS  
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION**



## **PLLIP-SIS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**AUGUST 2, 2021, HELD VIRTUALLY**

### **MINUTES**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting commenced at 4:03 p.m. Eastern

The Chair welcomed AALL Executive Board members, Emily Florio, Immediate President and Mary Jenkins, Secretary.

The Chair thanked PLLIP Summit sponsors, Lexis, Thomson Reuters, Fastcase, Bloomberg, and PLL-SIS.

The Chair thanked PLLIP Diversity Summit Sponsors, Fastcase, PLLIP-SIS. Acknowledged contributions of BLL-SIS.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Christine Sellers Sullivan moved to approve, Eugene Giudice seconded.

Minutes of the 2020 Annual Business Meeting on 7/14/2021 are unanimously approved via Zoom poll.

#### **BYLAWS CHANGE**

Executive Committee put forward suggested changes to Bylaws Article IV, Section 4. Nominating Committee.

Membership discussed appointment and number of members for clarification of language.

Caren Luckie moved to approve bylaws amendment as put forth by the Board, Christine Sellers Sullivan seconded. Bylaws amendment unanimously approved via Zoom poll.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Balance: \$84,869.33 as of 3/31/2021



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## CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chris Laut enumerated PLLIP-SIS accomplishments as listed in the Annual Report, including the inaugural Diversity Summit, Annual PLLIP-SIS Summit, and Procedures Manual updated.

In the next year the Board will focus on updating the SIS Strategic Directives, and incorporating AALL Annual Meeting program mentorship.

## CHARITY SPONSORSHIP

On 7/28/2021 the Board unanimously approved a donation of \$1,000 to SC4K and will encourage members to donate over the next year. Instructions will be shared on PLLIP listserv.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chris Laut shared Committee Reports as enumerated in the Annual Report.

- **Awards Committee.** Co-Chairs Karen Oesterle and Ronda Fisch. Awards were issued to recipients listed below.
- **Annual Meeting Planning Committee.** Co-Chairs Shari Berkowitz Duff and Alina Kelly. Acted as mentors/procured mentors to provide feedback for PLLIP members proposing Annual Meeting programs. Solicited programs from PLLIP members/advertised the opportunity for PLLIP program sponsorship at the AALL Annual Meeting. Hosted a PLLIP Webinar, "Gearing up for Cleveland – Tips and Tricks for Submitting Annual Meeting Program Proposals" on October 26, 2020, on the Ideascale website and program proposals. Highlighted PLLIP members' Annual Virtual Meeting programs and speakers by reviewing list of accepted programs and comparing to list of PLLIP members, and advertising the programs to the listserv. Updated PLLIP Procedures Manual Section for the Education for the Annual Meeting Committee.
- **Communications Committee.** Co-Chairs Andrea Guldalian, Julie Jones, and Roby McAllen. The Communications Committee solicits and sends Member News updates on a monthly basis to highlight PLLIP members' activities and PLLIP events. The Committee continues to monitor the PLLIP website to keep it updated. The Committee has also been working to keep the On Firmer Ground blog active by reposting member-authored articles, posting write-ups of webinars and other AALL/PLLIP events, and posting original content on topics of interest to the private law librarian and information professional community, and to the broader legal community. The Communications Committee aims to help keep

PLLIP members informed of events of interest to them, and to generate and disseminate content promoting the value of private law firm librarians.

- **Education and Professional Development Committee.** Chair Juli Stahl. The Education Committee coordinated with all the PLLIP committees for continuing education outreach, including offering value-added AMPC training for potential AALL Annual Conference presenters. Furthermore, the Committee delivered two education sessions for ALM LegalWeek: Virtual Everything – Keeping Attorneys & Staff Productive in a Remote Environment; and How I Met the New Client – Avoiding Embarrassing Conflicts.
- **Grants Committee.** Chair Elaine Knecht. Grants were awarded as listed below.
- **Membership Committee.** Marie Calvaruso. Membership increased by 55 new members since the 2020 AALL conference. The committee sent recruitment emails to 19 prospective members to promote PLLIP membership.
- **Nominations Committee.** Chair Julie Pabarja. The Nominations Committee began their work by identifying active PLLIP-SIS members who should be considered as potential candidates for the PLLIP-SIS Executive Board, including a concerted effort to select a diverse slate of candidates. The committee also asked PLLIP-SIS members for their nominations. We received a good response and the following slate was submitted to the Board: Vice-Chair/Chair-elect – Kim Serna and Christine Sellers Sullivan Treasurer – Andrea Guldalian and Clarence Robertson Member-at-Large – Ramon Barajas and Whitney Brionez. The committee would like to thank these candidates for their participation in the election. They all hold strong leadership qualities and would serve well leading PLLIPSIS. The candidates were featured on the PLLIP-SIS listserv along with their bio, personal statement, and their thoughts on why being a PLLIP-SIS member was important to them and what challenges in our profession should PLLIP-SIS address today. This gave the membership the opportunity to learn more about these candidates prior to the election. The committee coordinated with Allison Reeve Davis, PLLIP-SIS Secretary, and Chris Siwa at AALL to hold the election. The election was held March 22 – April 16. Election results are listed below. The Committee also drafted significant revisions to the Committee’s responsibilities for the PLLIP Manual including recommendations for term limits for committee members and chair(s) and setting a more concrete timeline for the nominations process. Additionally, the committee suggested robust guidance on seeking a more diverse slate of candidates and additional means of soliciting these nominations. These recommended revisions were then subject to approval by the PLLIP Board.
- **Summit Committee.** Co-Chairs Cynthia Brown and Mary Abigail B. Dos Santos. The 2021 PLLIP Summit was held on virtually on Friday, July 16, 2021. The theme for the Summit was Responding to Chaos and Change. April Rinne gave the Keynote. Following the Keynote, attendees broke out into



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facilitated discussion groups. These groups were held twice during the Summit to allow participants to participate in as many topics as possible. David Lat sat down with attendees for a Fireside Chat. June Liebert interview David, who has unique personal perspectives on chaos and change. The final session of the day was a workshop entitled Restocking Your Change Toolkit: An Interactive Workshop, with Brie Leung. Bloomberg Law sponsored a virtual Social Hour following the Summit. Event activities included: Live music; a photobooth; and breakout rooms where fellow attendees could chat and relax. We are grateful for the sponsorship and support from each of the sponsors of the 2021 Summit: Bloomberg Law, Fastcase, LexisNexis; and Thomson Reuters. We are also grateful for the 2021 Summit Planning Committee members who worked diligently throughout the year. Their work cannot be underestimated and is greatly appreciated.

The inaugural PLLIP-SIS and BLL-SIS 2021 Diversity Summit was held on February 26, 2021 and over 250 attendees participated. The theme was From Difficult Conversations to Collaborative Action. The keynote was given by Michelle Silverthorn. The keynote was followed by a special panel Diversity Shares: Listen to Learn, moderated by Rachel Lyles. We would like to thank Fastcase and PLLIP for their generous sponsorship without whom this Summit would not be possible. We especially want to thank BLL-SIS for their willingness to partner with PLLIP in this venture. Finally, we owe a debt of gratitude to Denise Pagh and her firm, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe for the use of their Zoom account.

**THANK YOU TO VOLUNTEERS**

Alexandra Olson	Jamie Holdeman	Mary Abigail B. Dos Santos
Alina Kelly	Janet McKinney	Mary Cate Matta
Allison Reeve-Davis	Janice Henderson	Mary Jenkins
Andre Davison	Jessica Fields	MaryAnn Wacker
Andrea Guldalian	Johanna Bizub	Meg Kribble
Barbara Fullerton	Juli Stahl	Megan Moltrup
Blythe McCoy	Julie Jones	Michelle Gorospe
Caren Luckie	Julie Pabarja	Morgan Wood
Christina McKennerney	Karen Oesterle	Patricia Barbone
Christine Sellers Sullivan	Kathy Taggert	Rachel Lyles
Clanitra NejdI	Kevin Miles	Reed Nelson
Cynthia Brown	Krista Ford	Robyn McAllen Broughton
Cynthia Smith	Leanna Simon	Ronda Fisch
Denise Pagh	Lee Carnes	Sarah Hooke
Diana Koppang	Linda-Jean Schneider	Saskia Mehlhorn
Elaine Knecht	Lisa Fricker	Shari Berkowitz Duff



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Elizabeth Whitaker	Margaret Kribble	Theresa Greco
Errol Adams (BLL-SIS)	Marie Calvaruso	Trish Petitt

**THANK YOU OUTGOING BOARD**

Saskia Mehlhorn, Past Chair  
Leanna Simon, Treasurer  
Caren Luckie, Board Member-at-Large

**WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Christine Sellers Sullivan, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
Clarence Robertson, Treasurer  
Ramon Barajas, Board Member-at-Large

The full 2021-2022 Board:

Chair	Marcia L. Burris
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	Christine Sellers Sullivan
Past Chair	Chris Laut
Secretary	Allison Reeve Davis
Treasurer	Clarence Robertson
Board Member-at-Large	Ramon Barajas
Board Member-at-Large	Andre Davison

**ACKNOWLEDGE PLLIP GRANT RECIPIENTS**

- Virtual Management Institute – (two \$449 grants) Andrea Guldalian and Lindsey Carpino
- AALL Annual Meeting/CONNELL/PLLIP-SIS Summit (Past Awardees) – to be used in 2022 to: Katie Barrett Fuller, Autumn Collier, Eugene Giudice, Ronit Barenboim, Nicole Guerrero, and Megan Moltrup
- Virtual AALL Annual Meeting – (ten \$99 grants) – Michelle Trovillo and Stephanie Huffnagle
- PLLIP-SIS Summit – (unlimited \$25 grants for hardship) – One recipient

**PRESENTATION OF PLLIP AWARDS**

- Distinguished Librarian – Andre Davison, Operations Implementation Manager, Orrick



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- Best Blogger/Writer of the Year – Allison C. Reeve Davis, Library Manager, Littler Mendelson
- Hall of Fame – Loretta Orndorff, Director, Library Service, Cozen O'Connor
- Advocate of the Year Award – Eugene Giudice (phonetic – Judijay), Senior Research Services Training Specialist, Dentons
- Vendor/Outside Champion Award – Mike Bernier, Director, Knowledge Services and Library Relations, Bloomberg Information Group

## **PASSING OF JUSTICE AND GAVEL**

To new Chair, Marcia Burris

## **REMARKS OF NEW CHAIR, MARCIA BURRIS**

First thanked Past Chair, Chris Laut

Enumerated upcoming initiatives to continue diversity and inclusion efforts, including to continue the Diversity Summit; review and update the SIS Strategic Directives, committee chaired by Leanna Simon; implement mentorship for new AALL Annual Meeting speakers, committee chaired by Barbara Fullerton.

Announced 2021-2022 Committee and Caucus Chairs.

## **OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION**

Chris Laut congratulated Fastcase 50 recipient, Holly Riccio.

No other comments

## **ADJOURN**

Caren Luckie moved to adjourn, Christine Sellers Sullivan seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m. Eastern.