

RIPS-SIS

2014 Business Meeting Report

14 July 2014, San Antonio, TX

Table of Contents

Business Meeting Agenda.....	1
2013 Annual Meeting Minutes.....	2
Secretary/Treasurer Report for 2013 – 2014.....	5
Grants Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	6
Legal Research Teach-In Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	7
RIPS Law Librarian Blog Report for 2013 – 2014.....	9
Nominations Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	10
Patron Services Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	10
Program Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	12
Public Relations and Recruitment Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	13
Research Instruction Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	13
Distance Education Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	14
Legal Research Competencies Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	14
Webmasters’ Report for 2013 – 2014.....	17
Online Member Training Committee Report for 2013 – 2014.....	18

2014 RIPS-SIS Breakfast & Business Meeting Agenda

Monday, July 14th, 7:15 am, Marriott Rivercenter, Salon I

- I. Welcome
- II. Introductions & Notices
 - a. Sessions:
 - i. Joint Reception of RIPS/TS/OBS/CS SISs, Saturday, July 12th at 7:00 pm, Marriott Riverwalk – Alamo Ballroom Salon D
 - ii. Roundtables:
 - 1. RIPS-SIS Distance Education Roundtable, Sunday, July 13th at 11:45 am, HBGCC Room 218
 - 2. RIPS-SIS Patron Services Roundtable, Monday, July 14th at 11:45 am, HBGCC Room 207A
 - 3. RIPS-SIS/ALL-SIS Joint Research Roundtable, Tuesday, July 15th at 7:15 am, Marriott Riverwalk Alamo
 - iii. RIPS-SIS All-Committee Meeting, Monday, July 14th at 5:30 pm, Marriott Rivercenter – Salon J
 - iv. RIPS-SIS sponsored Programs
 - 1. G1: Ditch PowerPoint and Pick Prezi for Your Presentations, Tuesday, July 15, 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm, HBGCC Room 214AB
 - 2. W1: AALL Hackathon, Saturday, July 12th, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, San Antonio Meeting Center
- III. Approval of Minutes of the 2013 Annual Business Meeting in Seattle, WA.
- IV. Reports
 - a. RIPS Board Projects – Jenny Wondracek
 - b. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report – Austin Williams
 - c. Programming – Laura Ax-Fultz
 - d. Distance Education – Jenny Wondracek (on behalf of Shawn Friend)
 - e. Grants – Lynn Murray
 - f. Legal Research Competencies
 - g. Legal Research Teach-In Kit – Shawn Nevers
 - h. Nominations – Maureen Cahill
 - i. Online Member Training – Robb Farmer
 - j. Patron Services – Genevieve Tung (on behalf of Jessica Randall Panella)
 - k. Public Relations & Recruitment – CJ Pipins
 - l. Research Instruction – Marc Silverman
 - m. RIPS Blog – Susan DeMaine
 - n. Web Page – Maribel Nash
- V. Open Floor – Questions for the Board
- VI. Welcome to the New Board Members
- VII. Closing

RIPS-SIS Annual Breakfast and Business Meeting

Monday, July 14, 2013

Welcome by Jason Sowards

- Welcomed first time attendees and non-RIPS members who are at breakfast and encouraged them to join RIPS
- Mentioned that there will be a call for volunteers to RIPS committees during the summer
- Thanked Melissa Serfass for getting the pens and styluses for giveaways and arranging coverage for the RIPS table in the Exhibit Hall and for CONELL

I. RIPS Board Projects

- Completed an inventory of the RIPS Strategic Plan to determine what had been accomplished and what still needed to be done
 - Uwe and the new Board are tasked with developing the new strategic plan
- Donation of \$100 to SR-SIS Book Drive
- Donation of \$100 to the Woodland Park Zoo to adopt a penguin as is our tradition

II. Treasurer's Report (Karin Johnsrud)

- Balance as of 5/31/2013 - 25,793.88
 - Revenue - 10,380.00
 - Expenses - 9,484.57
 - None of the Annual Conference expenses and most of the grant reimbursement are not factored into this balance
- More detailed Report is available on the RIPS Blog

III. Programming (Uwe Beltz)

- New process for programming this year – SISs did not get to review and rank program proposals as in past years
- Only able to sponsor one program
- Chosen by a Program Sub-Committee (since Uwe had proposed a program) – iCame, iSaw, iConquered: Our Year with the iPad – Tuesday, July 16 at 2:30
- Three Roundtables
 - Distance Education – held Sunday, July 14th
 - Patron Services – held Sunday, July 14th
 - Research Instruction – will be held Monday, July 15th at 11:45
- Any RIPS members with programs they want to mention
 - Jenny Wondracek – Emerging Technologies and Teaching for the 21st Century Librarian [Tuesday, July 16th at 2:30]
 - Jason Sowards – Success in the Classroom: Measuring Student and Teacher Performance [Tuesday, July 16th at 2:30]
- Question about timing conflicts in scheduling roundtables

- RIPS Research Instruction Roundtable was held at same time as ALL-SIS Legal Research Skill Roundtable
- Jason responded that there are very few timeslots to choose from and not all information is known when timing decisions have to be made
 - Suggested that this be brought up at the AALL AMPC Open Forum

IV. Distance Education (Jenny Wondracek)

- Founding year of the committee
- Roundtable was very successful with good turnout and lively discussion
- Projects
 - Survey of current distance education opportunities at law schools
 - Bibliography of distance education resources and articles
 - Repository of distance education materials
- New Chair is Shawn Friend
- Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Shawn

V. Grants (Lynn Murray)

- Grants this year were raised to \$850 and could be used to cover any AALL expenses, not just registration
- Application were again low for law firm librarian grant
- Winners of the six grants
 - Academic—public services - Donna S. Williams
 - Academic—technical services - Edward T. Hart
 - State/court/county - Jenny. R. F. Fujinaka
 - Law firm - Abby Walters
 - New Librarian - Ashley Ames Ahlbrand
 - Student - Avery Le
- Thanks given to the members of the grants committee

VI. Legal Research Teach-In (Laura Ax-Fultz)

- 21st National Teach-In Kit released –
 - Include 13 submissions
 - Organized into new categories – Presentations and course materials, Handouts and guides and Games
- Encouraged members to be ready for the next call for submissions in the spring
- Considering changing the call for submissions to be more of a rolling deadline because no longer producing the kit in print
- Thanks given to committee and special thanks to Maribel as Webmaster

VII. Nominations (Maureen Cahill)

- Thanks to the committee for their work in gathering nominations
- Full slate of qualified candidates
- Wants to work on having a higher percentage of members vote

VIII. Patron Services (Jessica Randall)

- Roundtable was successful and had good discussion
 - Topics included security, non-traditional circulation services and how to keep statistics
- Encouraged members to volunteer for the committee and to suggest project ideas

IX. Patron Services and Recruitment (Melissa Serfass)

- CONELL Marketplace – 50 people stopped by the RIPS table – great turnout
- Giveaways this year highly successful, especially the penguin pen
- Thanks for Jessie and Kelly for their work on committee

X. Research Instruction (Marc Silverman)

- Legal research textbooks book reviews were done again this year (done every other year to allow for plenty of books to be available for review)
 - Added specialized and topical research texts, not just general texts
 - 12 new texts to review
 - 8 completed and posted
 - 4 more will be posted soon
- Roundtable is scheduled for the afternoon – hoping for a good turnout

XI. RIPS-Blog (Jennifer Prilliman)

- Blog readership has been steady over the past year
- Recognized and thanked the bloggers for the past year
- New Blog editor – Michele Thomas
- New bloggers - Jamie Baker and Susan David deMaine
- Returning bloggers - Thomas Sneed, Shawn Friend and Catherine Deane
- Projects for coming year include a review blog policies and the succession guidelines

XII. Web Page (Maribel Nash)

- Completed the migration to the new CMS
- Requested suggestions for new organization of material on website
- Thanked Liz Johnson for her help with the webpage

XIII. Open Floor

- Jason Sowards is the incoming chair of AALL Council of SISs
 - Serves as liaison between SISs and the AALL Executive Board
 - Mentions that if RIPS has any concerns we want brought up to Board, we can contact Jason
- Raffle of stuffed penguin
 - For donation to Woodland Park Zoo, we received a stuffed penguin
 - Winner – Robert Ey of Pepper Hamilton

XIV. Passing of Puron

- Jason passed Puron to Uwe
- Uwe thanked Jason for his work over the past year
- Uwe welcomed the new Board members
 - Jenny Wondracek, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect
 - Austin Williams, Secretary/Treasurer
 - Sarah Glassmaker, Member-at-Large
- Uwe is looking forward to a busy and productive year

Secretary/Treasurer Report for 2013 – 2014

Submitted by Austin Martin Williams, Georgia State University College of Law Library
RIPS-SIS Secretary/Treasurer 2013-2015

Balance (as of 5/31/2013)	25,793.88
Revenue	
• Dues	9,500.00
• Contributions	1,375.00
Total Revenue	10,875.00
Expenses	
• Annual Conference Food & Beverage	6,581.16
• Annual Conference A/V	969.10
• Annual Conference Awards & Grants*	5,482.00*
• Annual Conference Giveaways	794.24
• Donations (and display)	207.60
• Misc. Expenses	324.35
• Telephone (conference calls)	131.43
Total Expenses	14,489.88
Excess Revenues over Expenses	-3,614.88
Balance (as of 05/31/2014)	22,179.80

*The Annual Conference Awards & Grants represents reimbursements made to:

- 2013 grant winners who received reimbursements after the 2013 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in Seattle, WA.
- 2014 grant winners who received reimbursements prior to the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Grants Committee Report for 2013-2014

The RIPS-SIS Grants Committee for 2013-2014 consisted of the following members:

- Lynn Murray, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP (Chair)
- Kristina Alayan, Duke University
- Kelly Browne, Sacramento County Law Library
- Stephanie Pearlman, University of Nebraska
- Lee Ryan, University of San Francisco

The number of applicants in all categories was very low this year, with a reduction by at least half from past years. As always, the academic—public services category was the most competitive category.

The recipients of the grants were:

- **Academic—public services**
Charles Pipins
Research Librarian
Thurgood Marshall Law Library
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
Baltimore, MD
- **Academic—technical services**
Robert Farmer
Acting Director
Faulkner University Law Library
Montgomery, AL
- **State/court/county**
Janine Liebert
Librarian, Programs & Partnerships
L.A. Law Library
Los Angeles, CA
- **Law firm**
No award this year (zero applicants; previously received one or two applicants in this category).
- **New Librarian**
Stacy Posillico

Reference Librarian & Library Webmaster
Gould Law Library
Touro College
Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center
Central Islip, NY

- **Student**

Nina Rose
Student at Florida State University School of Library and Information Studies
Miami, FL

I am not sure why the number of applications was so low this year. The announcement was posted at approximately the same time this year as in past years and it was cross-posted as well. Perhaps the meeting's location was unpopular, and/or the reduction of employer funded travel has made even a generous grant of \$850 insufficient.

I thoroughly enjoyed serving as Chair of the Grants Committee and working with my fellow Committee members. I look forward to continuing to serve the RIPS.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Murray

Legal Research Teach-In Committee Report for 2013-2014

The Teach-In Committee has been quite active this year and contemplates augmenting our slate of projects for the coming year.

2014 Committee Members:

Anupama Pal

Kerry Lohmeier

Becka Rich

Laura Ax-Fultz, RIPS Board liaison

Shawn Nevers, co-chair

Gail Partin, co-chair

Many thanks to our new 2014 Committee members, Anupama Pal, Kerry Lohmeier and Becka Rich, for their unflagging energy and enthusiasm!

2014 Teach-In Campaign:

- In 2014, the National Legal Research Teach-In campaign celebrated its 22nd year of soliciting and publishing high-quality instructional materials for use in developing and advertising educational programs.
- The *2014 National Research Teach-In Instructional Resources Kit* contains twenty submissions provided by thirteen contributors. The materials include course materials, slide presentations, exercises, assignments, guides, and games.
<http://www.aallnet.org/sections/rips/teachin/2014.html>
- The *Teach-In Kit* is published annually in conjunction with National Library Week . The *2014 Kit* was made available on the RIPS website in March to facilitate the preparation of programs in celebration of National Library Week.
- This is the eighth year that the Teach-In Kit has been offered as a full-text digital publication on the RIPS website. <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/rips/teachin>
- The Teach-In Committee wishes to thank RIPS Webmasters, Maribel Nash and Liz McCurry Johnson, for uploading a substantial amount of the *Kit* content to the website in record time!

Teach-In Article in AALL Spectrum:

[Taking Legal Research Instruction to the Next Level with the National Legal Research Teach-In](#), by Laura J. Ax-Fultz was published in the online *Spectrum* on January 28, 2014. This article's timely publication in the midst of the Teach-In Campaign played a significant role in raising awareness of the 2014 call for contributions which resulted in a record number of submissions. Thanks, Laura!

Potential Projects for 2014-15:

Over the course of this year, the Committee has discussed undertaking several new projects to improve awareness and discovery of Teach-In materials. The following are some suggestions for the 2014-15 Committee to consider (not in priority order):

- Copyrights & Permitted Uses: Draft an author's rights statement and a users' rights statement to be posted on the Teach-In webpage. Review and revise, if necessary, the Teach-In Releases currently signed by authors.
- Create an index/search system on the Teach-In website for enhanced discovery of Teach-In materials. Possibly expand the discovery capabilities to partner with other groups who publish content relating to research instruction, such as the ALL-SIS Sourcebook or the AALL Legal Research Competency information center.
- In future campaigns, consider featuring a thematic approach to the year, soliciting and highlighting a specific topic, theme or type of material in that year's *Kit*.

- Propose creative programming at the AALL and RIPS Annual Meetings. Suggestions included “petting zoo” and “speed dating” program formats.
- Develop a webinar about the Teach-In to raise awareness about the annual campaign, its history, the variety of instructional materials offered, and featuring some of the high-value, cutting-edge content available.
- Digitize older print-only Teach-In Kits to provide full-text access to *Kits* published before 2007.

New Teach-In Committee Members:

Thanks to the outpouring of member interest in the Teach-In Committee, nine people volunteered to join the Committee in the coming year. We are already reaching out to these volunteers in order to get a head start on our enhanced list of projects for 2014-15.

Respectfully submitted,
Shawn Nevers
Gail Partin
Co-chairs, RIPS Teach-In Committee

RIPS Law Librarian Blog Report for 2013-2014

Editor: Michele Thomas, University of Arkansas at Little Rock Law Library

The *RIPS Law Librarian Blog* completed a successful year with 34 new posts, three of which written by guest bloggers. We had one blogger resign as a blogger in the middle of the year, which left a few openings. But posts were spaced to take up that slack.

Blog statistics were generally stable over the past year. 2011 and 2012 were very good years for the blog in terms of number of site visits. One goal for the coming year is to have some point and counterpoint posts that may generate additional interest.

An updated blog header has been added to the site.

The Executive Board has approved Susan deMaine, Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law Library, as the Editor for 2014-2015.

Nominations Committee Report for 2013-2014

Two positions on the RIPS executive board required filling in 2014—Vice Chair/Chair Elect and one Member at Large. After a call for nominations, the committee had six names from which the election slate was chosen. The committee presented this ballot to the membership: For Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Laura Ax-Fultz and Karin Johnsrud; For Member at Large: Catherine Lemmer and Amy Levine.

Voting was open from March 17 until March 31. 180 members cast ballots, and the election results were announced to the membership on April 1 -- Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Laura Ax-Fultz

Executive Committee Member at Large: Catherine Lemmer.

The 2014 RIPS-SIS Nominations Committee

Mon Yin Lung

Laura McKinnon

Shannon Roddy

Robin Schard

Eric Young

Maureen Cahill, Chair

Patron Services Committee Report for 2013-2014

Chair: Jessica Panella

Members:

Jessica Almeida Dziedzic

Carol Furnish

Phebe Poydras

Jamie Baker

Carolyn Hamilton

Michael Roffer

Maureen Cahill

Pamela Lucken

Charlotte Schneider

Nicole Dyszlewski

Kristen Moore

Genevieve Tung

Astrid Emel

Lisa Peters

Nolan Wright

The committee's charge is to focus on 'ILL, Circulation, and other topics relating to services provided to the patron'.

After years of limited activity outside the annual meeting , during the course of the last year, the Patron Services Committee has organized into subcommittees working on a variety of

projects. The organization included an evaluation of how we will communicate and get the work done. We completed a survey amongst ourselves of topics and projects of need and interest to the RIPS and AALL membership. Using ideas from past roundtable discussions as a starting point, we created four subcommittees evaluating best practices, tool kits, and online roundtables. Julie Krishnaswami, RIPS Member at Large, proposed an idea to write an Access Services white paper.

We are concentrating on the following:

- Customer Service
- Innovative / Nontraditional Services
- Service in an e-information world
- Patron access to library space
- The challenge of service when change is the new normal
- Articulating value in patron services

New Subcommittees:

Best Practices:

Jamie Baker
Phebe Poydras
Pam Lucken
Nolan Wright

Tool Kits:

Michael Roffer
Charlotte Schneider
Nolan Wright
Jessica Dziedzic

Access Services White Paper:

Julie Krishnaswami - Board Liaison
Genevieve Tung
Kristen Moore
Nicole Dyszlewski
Carole Furnish

Online Roundtables:

Kristen Moore
Lisa Peters
Carolyn Hamilton
Jessica Panella

I thank the members for their contributions and ideas. I look forward to working with everyone as the subcommittee's move forward.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Panella

Program Committee Report for 2013-2014

Members:

- Laura Ax-Fultz (Chair)
- Andrew Winston
- Colleen Williams
- Cynthia Condit
- David Zopfi-Jordan
- Diana Botluk
- Kerry Lohmeier
- Lee Sims
- Maureen Moran
- Laura McKinnon

Fall 2013 – Annual Conference Program Development

The Program Committee received six program proposals and one workshop proposal. All of the proposals were excellent and highlight the unique skills and interests of the RIPS-SIS membership. The committee reviewed all proposals and provided feedback.

The Program Committee selects one program for sponsorship by RIPS-SIS every year. One program proposal was withdrawn by the authors, from consideration for RIPS-SIS sponsorship. Of the remaining five program proposals, Elizabeth Caulfield's "Ditch PowerPoint and Pick Prezi for Your Presentations" was selected for sponsorship. (Tuesday July 15, 2014 at 2:30 pm).

The Program Committee made a recommendation to the Executive Board to consider some level of funding, if financially feasible, in support of the workshop proposal.

Spring 2014 – Annual Conference Hot Topic/Coffee Talk/Poster Session Development

The Program Committee offered to provide advice to any RIPS-SIS member submitting materials for Hot Topic/Coffee Talk/Poster Sessions. No proposals were submitted.

The Program Committee requested RIPS-SIS members presenting any program during the annual conference to provide program details which were posted on the website at <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/rips/meetings/Annual-Meeting-Materials>

Public Relations and Recruitment Committee Report for 2013-2014

Since beginning my time as the chair of the Public Relations and Recruitment Committee, I have communicated with many members of the committee and worked on a number of projects. We were asked to update the RIPS-SIS brochure, which we did. When we learned that there is an official process and timeline that needs to be followed for our brochure, we decided to just continue editing. That way, we will have a great final product to give to AALL's graphic artist sometime in the fall of 2014. This should mean we will have a fresh new brochure for various 2015 meetings. In lieu of a brochure for the 2014 AALL annual meeting, we are looking into creating a bookmark that lists reasons to join RIPS.

We have also started working on securing items that can be handed out at the AALL annual meeting in July 2014 while members promote RIPS at CONELL and in the exhibit hall. Two committee members, Candle Wester and Michelle Hook Dewey, have agreed to represent RIPS at the CONELL marketplace. A schedule for staffing the RIPS table has been started, and we will soon ask the full membership of RIPS to help out by donating their time to sit at the table and promote RIPS.

Some future projects that we are considering include creating a LinkedIn account for RIPS, which would require approval of the executive board. Several members have expressed interest in writing articles for their local chapter newsletters as well as AALL Spectrum. We would also like to try and collaborate with various other committees to create and advertise continuing education opportunities for RIPS and AALL as a whole.

Charles A. Pipins, II, Chair
Research Librarian
University of Maryland School of Law

Research Instruction Committee Report for 2013-2014

The Research Instruction Committee spent the first part of the year finishing up the research instruction book review project. A few reviewers did not meet the deadline and their reviews needed to be edited and added to the RIPS web site. The rest of the year was spent coordinating the super roundtable to be sponsored in conjunction with the ALL-SIS at the annual conference in San Antonio. Discussion leaders were recruited and topics were solicited.

Marc Silverman, Chair
Director of Public Services
Barco Law Library, University of Pittsburgh

Distance Education Committee Report for 2013-2014

The 2013-2014 RIPS-SIS Distance Education Committee is chaired by Shawn Friend. Members include: Alyson Drake, Jane Meland, Catherine Lemmer, Kyle K. Courtney, Susan deMaine, Janelle K. Beitz, Katie Crandall, Joshua Phillips, and Nichelle Perry.

The Distance Ed committee is planning this year's roundtable event and also working to create resources for distance education applications. These projects are ongoing and are expected to help build more support for librarians as they work in distance education situations including technology assisted courses, online teaching and MOOCs.

The planned roundtable for this year is building upon the success of last year. Topics for this year are still being decided. Outside of the roundtable, the committee is considering several projects. The first project is creating a resource on distance education compilation. This may include a completed annotated bibliography of resources available as well as a materials repository. The committee hopes to post this resource to all members once it is complete. Additionally, the committee would like to produce a presentation on distance education technology.

RIPS-SIS plans to work with the Teach-In Kit committee on some of the above projects. The committee is excited about the projects we have started and is looking forward to exciting projects to come.

Shawn Friend, Chair
Head of Reference
Florida Coastal School of Law

Legal Research Competency Committee Report for 2013-2014

In February 2014, the RIPS Executive Board created a new committee, the Legal Research Competency Committee, and appointed Gail A. Partin as Chair. Since approval, eight additional volunteers have expressed an interest in serving on the inaugural Committee.

Committee Members 2014-15:

Alissa Black-Dorward

Dan Baker

Patrick Butler

Elizabeth Caulfield

Lauren M. Collins

Mary Jenkins

Pamela Melton

Mary Ann Neary

Gail A. Partin, Chair

Legal Research Competency Committee Goals:

As a newly created Committee, our first assignment from the RIPS Chair was to develop goals for the coming year. The Committee discussed a variety of goals and missions, finally settling on the following as its inaugural objectives:

- Develop a body of knowledge to support and inform stakeholders about the *Principles and Standards for Legal Research Competency*.
- Determine best practices for incorporating the standards and competencies into research instruction and competency improvement initiatives.
- Identify best practices for measuring legal research competency for instructional and performance evaluations.
- Strengthen the awareness of and commitment to the *Principles and Standards for Legal Research Competency* within the AALL community through outreach, educational and programmatic endeavors.
- Partner with the AALL Executive Director and Special Committee(s) to share information to join in the dialog with external audiences and to promote the *Principles and Standards for Legal Research Competency* to all stakeholders.

Suggested Initiatives for 2014-15:

The Committee conducted a brainstorming session which resulted in the following long list of worthwhile potential projects. It was immediately clear that these initiatives constitute a long term vision for the Committee and cannot be accomplished in a single year. Working cooperatively with other AALL groups, the Committee will prioritize these ideas with the

objective of beginning the planning and implementation phases very soon. RIPS members are welcomed and encouraged to contact any Committee member with suggestions, comments or ideas pertaining to legal research competency and instruction.

1. Information gathering
 - Determine what other AALL groups are doing in the area of research competency.
 - Survey AALL members about how they are applying PSLRC competencies in their various workplaces.
 - Survey AALL members about how they are measuring PSLRC competencies in their various workplaces.
 - Survey legal writing faculty about whether they are aware of the PSLRC. If so, whether and how they are applying them and assessing research competency in their classrooms.
 - Compile results of this information gathering. Publicize our findings on the RIPS website and in various venues.
2. Compile experiences and best practices
 - Conduct empirical research in competency development, assessment measures, learning & teaching methodologies.
 - Compile examples and best practices for applying the PSLRC in law school and practice environments
 - Create assessment measures for research competency – both for learning and performance evaluation.
 - Publish findings and best practices in venues that reach both the law librarianship profession and the legal community.
3. Outreach to AALL community & law librarianship profession
 - Offer webinars, podcasts, coffee talks, CLE, etc. to both AALL, chapter and external groups on applying the PSLRC guidelines to improve research competency at all levels of the legal profession.
4. Collaborate with the AALL Executive Director and any AALL Special Committee(s) to:
 - Join in the dialog with the National Conference on Bar Examiners, who are contemplating adding a research assessment to bar exams
 - Partner with NALP to collaborate with professional development administrators to create instructional materials that improve research competency
 - Share information freely to facilitate a current and responsive Legal Research Competency information center on the AALL website.
<http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Advocacy/legalresearchcompetency>

The Committee wishes to thank the RIPS Executive Board for constituting this new group and for its efforts to solicit a robust slate of volunteers. To a person, we are all excited and enthusiastic to begin to engage our colleagues in conversations and collaborations about improving legal research competency.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail A. Partin
Chair

Webmasters' Report for 2013-2014

After last year's complete migration to the new AALL platform, few formatting changes were made to the site.

Content updates include:

- Updated officers and committee chairs, throughout the year
- Posting of the grant application and information for the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting grants
- Inclusion of materials of programs featuring RIPS-SIS members at the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio
- Posting of the 22nd Annual Legal Research Teach-In Kit, for which we worked extensively with the Teach-In Kit committee
- Posting several reviews of texts for the Legal Research Text Annotated Bibliography

Liz Johnson and Maribel Nash were asked to lead the RIPS-SIS website task force, which has until July 2015 to make recommendations for optimizing the RIPS website. We plan to convene the task force in Summer 2014 to begin the work of examining other AALL SIS websites and making recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Johnson and Maribel Nash
RIPS-SIS Webmasters

Online Member Training Committee

Report for 2013-2014

The Online Member Training Committee is a new addition to the RIPS line-up of committees. With budget cuts affecting us all, both with travel and available resources, affordable online educational options are more important than ever. This committee is tasked with soliciting, selecting, and implementing online training sessions of interest to all of RIPS's members.

The first task that the committee's members undertook for the RIPS Executive Board was to test different webinar software and make recommendations for which to use. After discussion, the initial recommendation was to use Citrix GoToMeeting, software already used by AALL and the PLL-SIS. However, the committee feels that field testing additional webinar products during upcoming online training sessions can benefit the SIS.

In the upcoming weeks, the committee will be soliciting ideas from all RIPS members for online training content. We would especially welcome suggestions dealing with patron services topics, technical services topics, and topics of interest to court and private law librarians. In the meantime, if you have any questions or feedback, please feel free to contact me. Special thanks to the following committee members:

Tina Brooks
Avery Le
Sarah Mauldin
Katie Miller
Jennifer Prilliman
Stacy Posillico
Dan Donahue
Rachel Gordon

Robb Farmer, Committee Chair
Acting Director
Faulkner University Law Library
5345 Atlanta Highway
Montgomery, AL 36109
(334)386-7521
rfarmer@faulkner.edu