

RIPS-SIS

2015 Business
Meeting Report

20 July 2015, Philadelphia, PA

Table of Contents

2015 RIPS-SIS Annual Breakfast & Business Meeting Agenda.....	1
2014 RIPS-SIS Annual Breakfast & Business Meeting Minutes.....	2
Secretary/Treasurer Report for 2014 – 2015.....	6
Grants Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	6
Legal Research Teach-In Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	8
RIPS Law Librarian Blog Report for 2014 – 2015.....	9
Nominations Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	10
Patron Services Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	10
Program Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	12
Public Relations and Recruitment Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	12
Research Instruction Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	13
Distance Education Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	14
Legal Research Competencies Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	15
Webmasters’ Report for 2014 – 2015.....	17
Online Member Training Committee Report for 2014 – 2015.....	18

2015 RIPS-SIS Breakfast & Business Meeting Agenda

Monday, July 20, 2015, 7:45 am – 8:30 am
Philadelphia Convention Center Room 105B

- I. Welcome
- II. Introductions and Notices:
 - a. Sessions:
 - i. Saturday, July 18
 - 1. Workshop 1: AALL Hackathon – Co-sponsored by RIPS/GD/CS-SIS – Pierce College, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Pre-registration required)
 - 2. Joint Reception of the TS/OBS/RIPS/CS Special Interest Sections (a.k.a. “Alphabet Soup Reception”) – Marriott-Grand Ballroom Salon CD, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
 - ii. Sunday, July 19
 - 1. RIPS-SIS Distance Education Roundtable – PCC-Room 102A, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm
 - iii. Monday, July 20
 - 1. RIPS-SIS Business Meeting and Breakfast – PCC-Room 105B, 7:45 am – 8:30 am
 - 2. RIPS-SIS Executive Board Meeting – Marriott-Conference Suite 1, 3:15 – 4:15 pm
 - 3. RIPS-SIS Research Instruction Roundtable – PCC-Room 102A, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
 - 4. RIPS-SIS Patron Services Roundtable – PCC-Room 102A, 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
 - iv. Tuesday, July 21
 - 1. Session I4: Managing Challenging Patron Behavior: Stop, Collaborate, and Listen – PCC-Room 103BC, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the 2014 Annual Business Meeting in San Antonio, TX
- IV. Reports
 - a. RIPS Board Projects
 - b. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report
 - c. Programming
 - d. Distance Education
 - e. Grants
 - f. Legal Research Competencies
 - g. Legal Research Teach-In Kit
 - h. Nominations
 - i. Online Member Training
 - j. Patron Services

- k. Public Relations & Recruitment
- l. Research Instruction
- m. RIPS Blog
- n. Web Page
- V. Open Floor – Questions for the Board
- VI. Welcome to the New Board Members
 - a. Vice-Chair/Chair Elect – Katie Crandall
 - b. Secretary/Treasurer – Amy Taylor
 - c. Member-at-Large – Emily Lawson
- VII. Thank you for the two years of service
 - a. Secretary/Treasurer – Austin Williams
 - b. Member-at-Large – Sarah Glassmeyer
- VIII. Closing

RIPS-SIS Annual Breakfast and Business Meeting

Monday, July 14, 2014

San Antonio, TX

I. Welcome

Interim Vice-Chair Laura Ax-Fultz welcomed the members, first time attendees, and non-rips members to the annual breakfast and business meeting. Ax-Fultz notified the members that current Chair Jennifer Wondracek was not feeling well and that Ax-Fultz would be conducting the business meeting.

II. Introductions and Notices

Ax-Fultz notified the members of the RIPS-SIS events held at the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference.

The Joint Reception of RIPS/TS/OBS/CS SIS's was held on Saturday, July 12th.

RIPS-SIS had already held the Distance Education Roundtable on Sunday, July 13th, with two additional roundtables to come: (1) Patron Services Roundtable, Monday, July 14th at 11:45 am, HBGCC Room 207A; and (2) RIPS-SIS/ALL-SIS Joint Research Roundtable, Tuesday, July 15th at 7:15 am, Marriott Riverwalk.

The RIPS-SIS All Committee Meeting was scheduled for Monday, July 14th at 5:30 pm, Marriot Rivercenter.

RIPS-SIS also had two sponsored programs at the meeting this year: (1) AALL Hackathon, which was held on Saturday, July 12th, that a few present members attended; and (2) G1: Ditch

PowerPoint and Pick Prezi for Your Presentations, which will take place on Tuesday, July 15th, 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm, HBGCC Room 214AB.

III. Approval of Minutes of the 2013 RIPS-SIS Annual Business Meeting in Seattle, WA

The members present approved minutes of the 2013 Annual Business Meeting.

IV. Committee Reports

RIPS-SIS Board Projects

Ax-Fultz provided the members with an update on the boards current projects. The projects over the past year included the creation of new committees and assigning of committee members and volunteers, the adoption of a penguin in Fort Worth, TX, and the donation of \$100 to the SR-SIS book drive. Ax Fultz then invited the Secretary Treasurer and members of the committees to provide reports on the projects they have been working on over the past year.

Secretary Treasurer Report

The Balance as of 5/31/2013 is **\$22,179.80**. Revenue was \$10,875.00 and Expenses were \$14,489.88. It is important to note that this balance reflects reimbursements and expenses from the 2013 Seattle conference and some reimbursements made in advance of the 2014 San Antonio conference.

Programming

The committee selects one program for sponsorship by RIPS-SIS every year. The program committee received six program proposals and one workshop proposal. Of the proposals, Elizabeth Caulfield's "Ditch PowerPoint and Pick Prezi for Your Presentations" was selected for sponsorship, which will be held on Tuesday July 15, 2014 at 2:30 pm in HBGCC Room 214AB. The committee also offered to provide advice to any RIPS-SIS member submitting materials for Hot Topic/Coffee Talk/Poster Sessions.

Distance Education

The committee planned this year's roundtable, which was held on Sunday. The committee plans to work with the Teach-In Kit committee to create a resource on distance education compilation and produce a presentation on distance education technology.

Grants

The number of applicants this year was very low this year, with a reeducation by at least half. Academic – public services continued to be the most competitive category. No one applied for the law firm grant. The winners were: C.J. Pipins (Academic – public services), Robert Farmer (Academic – technical services), Janine Liebert (State/court/county), and Stacy Posillico (New librarian).

Legal Research Competencies

This is a new committee was by the RIPS-SIS executive board this year. Over the past several months the committee has added members, outline its goals, and created suggested initiatives for the 2014-2015 cycle.

Legal Research Teach-In

The committee published the 2014 Teach-In Kit in March to facilitate the preparation of programs in celebration of National Library Week. 2014 marked the eight year the kit has been offered as a full-text digital publication on the RIPS-SIS website. Laura Ax-Fultz also published "Taking Legal Research Instruction to the Next Level with the National Legal Research Teach-In" in the online *Spectrum* on January 28, 2014.

Nominations

The committee worked on filling two positions on the RIPS-SIS Executive Board in 2014: Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Member at Large. 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. The results were Laura Ax-Fultz as Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Catherine Lemmer as Member at Large.

Online Member Training

This is a new committee was by the RIPS-SIS executive board this year. The committee is tasked with soliciting, selecting, and implementing online training sessions of interest to all of RIPS-SIS's members. The committee texted several types of webinar software and decided upon Citrix GoToMeeting, which was already used by AALL and the PLL-SIS. The committee welcomes suggestions for topics dealing with patron services, technical services, and court and private law librarians.

Patron Services

The committee organized into subcommittees to work on a variety of projects over the past year. The four subcommittees evaluated best practices, tool kits, online roundtables, and access services white paper.

Public Relations & Recruitment

The committee worked on updating the RIPS-SIS brochure, which will be finished in the fall of 2014 and ready for the 2014 Annual Meeting. Additionally, the PRR committee looked into creating a book more that lists reasons to join RIPS, along with other giveaway items like pens and coasters. Future projects include creating a LinkedIn account and writing articles for newsletters and AALL *Spectrum*.

Research Instruction

The committee worked on finishing up the research instruction book review project. Additionally, the committee coordinated with ALL-SIS to put on a joint roundtable research roundtable.

RIPS-SIS Blog

The blog ended the year with 34 new posts, three written by guest bloggers. Additionally, an updated blog header has been added to the site. One goal for the coming year is to have some point and counterpoint posts that may generate additional interest.

Web Page

The committee updated officers and committee chairs, posted grant applications and information for the 2014 Annual Meeting, posted the 22nd Annual Legal Research Teach-In Kit, and posted reviews of texts for the Legal Research Text Annotated Bibliography. For the coming year, the RIPS-SIS Board has asked Liz Johnson and Maribel Nash to lead the RIPS-SIS website task force, which will make recommendations for optimizing the RIPS-SIS website.

V. Open Floor – Questions for the Board

Question 1: Could the grants offered by the ALL/Bloomberg BNA Continuing Education Grants Program (CEGP) be used to fund the cost of the webinars? The CPE committee lacks applicants for grants.

VI. Welcome to the New Board Members

Ax-Fultz welcomed and recognized the new board members, Laura Ax-Fultz as Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Catherine Lemmer as Member at Large.

VII. Closing

The meeting was adjourned. The next all member meeting will be held in Philadelphia at the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference.

Secretary/Treasurer Report for 2014 – 2015

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

Balance (as of 5/31/2014)	22,179.00
Revenue	
Dues	8,815.00
Contributions	1,375.00
Total Revenue	10,190.00
Expenses	
Annual Conference Food & Beverage	6,979.94
Annual Conference A/V	995.36
Annual Conference Awards & Grants	4,697.33
Annual Conference Giveaways	1,014.64
Donations (and display)	180.00
Misc. Expenses	17.59
Telephone (conference calls)	101.11
Online/Internet (webinar)	987.36
Total Expenses	14,973.33
Excess Revenues over Expenses	-4,783.33
Balance (as of 05/31/2015)	17,395.67

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

- 2013 grant winners who received reimbursements after the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in San Antonio, TX.
- 2014 grant winners who received reimbursements prior to the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in Philadelphia, PA.

Grants Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

The GD-SIS Grants Committee for 2012-2013 consisted of the following members:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lynn Murray, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP (Chair) • Kristina Alayan, Duke University | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephanie Pearlman, University of Nebraska • Lee Ryan, University of San Francisco |
|---|---|

A. AALL Management Institute Travel Grant

The RIPS grants committee awarded a grant of \$1,000 to attend the AALL Management Institute. The grant was awarded to Richard Buckingham, Electronic Services & Legal Reference Librarian at Suffolk University Law School.

B. AALL Annual Meeting Travel Grant

The number of applicants in all categories was extremely low this year; some categories had only one application and a few had zero.

The recipients of the AALL annual meeting travel grants were:

- **Academic—public services**
Carolyn Hasselman
Reference & Instructional Services
Librarian
New York Law School
185 West Broadway
New York, NY 10013
- **Academic—technical services**
No award this year.
- **State/court/county**
Shawn Friend
Director
Maricopa County Superior Court
Law Library Resource Center
101 W. Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ 85003
- **New Librarian**
Anupama Pal
Reference and Government
Documents Librarian
Elon University School of Law
201 North Greene Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
- **Student**
Rena K. Stoeber, J.D.
Candidate for M.L.I.S.
Graduate School of Library &
Information Science
University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign
Champaign, IL
- **Law firm**
No award this year

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. 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 2014 – 2015

2014-15 Committee Members

- Anupama Pal
- Kerry Lohmeier
- Becka Rich
- Gail Partin
- Jane Bahnson
- Ashley Ahlbrand
- Grace Feldman
- Kelly Reynolds
- Laura Ax-Fultz, RIPS Board Liaison
- Shawn Nevers, Chair

2015 Teach-In Campaign:

- In 2015, the National Legal Research Teach-In campaign celebrated its 23rd year of soliciting and publishing high-quality instructional materials for use in developing and advertising educational programs.
- The 2015 Kit contains fifteen submissions provided by fourteen contributors. The materials include exercises, assignments, activities, and guides. The Kit can be found at <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/rips/teachin/2015.html>
- The Teach-In Kit is published annually in conjunction with National Library Week. The 2015 Kit was published on the first day of National Library Week.
- This is the ninth 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 Webmaster, Maribel Nash, for uploading the Kit content to the website!

Cover Pages

- This year a vendor asked AALL that we take down one of our prior submissions because they felt like it contained outdated pricing information and it was highly ranked in Google searches.
- Our committee decided we would not take down or modify the content of the presentation.
- Our committee did decide that it would be reasonable to add cover pages to our submissions so that users would have more context if finding our materials directly from an internet search.
- When the online version of the Teach-In Kit was started, it was envisioned that users would access the documents by going through the table of contents on the Teach-In Kit page.
- Because of that, little identifying information was included on the actual documents posted to the web.

- The new cover pages provide the name of the submission, its author, an abstract, and that it was part of the RIPS Teach-In Kit for a particular year.
- This year we will be working backwards to include cover sheets on past submissions.

Index/Search System

- One of our subcommittees began investigating how we could provide better access to Kit materials.
- The subcommittee worked with Christopher Siwa at AALL to determine the current capabilities of the search capabilities on the RIPS webpage.
- This work is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Nevers

RIPS Law Librarian Blog Report for 2014 – 2015

The RIPS blog had an excellent year in 2014-15. I took over the editorship from Michele Thomas in July 2014, and, thanks to Michele's input, brought on six new regular contributors for a total of nine. The new contributors were: Ashley Aahlbrand, Janelle Beitz, Lindsey Ann Carpino, Catherine Lemmer, Tara Mospan, and Beau Steenken. The three returning contributors were Jamie Baker, Shawn Friend, and Thomas Sneed. With nine bloggers, we were able to publish two posts per week from August through the beginning of May with only occasional exceptions. Topics ranged from teaching competitive intelligence and using visuals to work-life balance and time management.

In August, I redesigned the blog with a new template, creating an updated look and greater utility. This change was approved by the board and has received numerous positive responses. In addition, the average number of visitors to the blog per month has nearly doubled over the previous year. I hope to increase this further by advertising new posts through the RIPS "My Community" list and other appropriate channels.

The RIPS Executive Board has reappointed me as editor for the 2105-16 year. Eight regular contributors and two to three "special projects" contributors have already been selected.

Submitted by,

Susan deMaine

May 28, 2015

Nominations Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

Three positions on the RIPS executive board required filling in 2015—Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Secretary/Treasurer and one Member at Large. After a call for nominations, the committee had few names from which to choose and so had to work hard to recruit a full election slate. Finally, the committee was able to present this ballot to the membership: For Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Katie Crandall and Rachel Gordon; for Secretary/Treasurer: Amy Taylor and R. Martin Witt; and for Member at Large: Emily Lawson and Becka Rich.

Voting was open from March 30 until April 13. 191 members cast ballots, and the election results were announced to the membership on April 29 -- Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Katie Crandall; Secretary/Treasurer: Amy Taylor; and Executive Committee Member at Large: Emily Lawson.

The 2014 RIPS-SIS Nominations Committee

Mon Yin Lung

Eric Young

Laura McKinnon

Trezlen Drake

Shannon Roddy

Maureen Cahill, Chair

Robin Schard

Patron Services Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

Chair: Jessica Randall Panella

Co-Chair: Genevieve Tung

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'. Over the last year we have worked on a number of projects to forward this charge.

The white paper subcommittee, after an online survey, wrote a gray paper on disruptive patron behavior. Challenging patron behavior is a timely and needed area for evaluation in law libraries of all types. The paper includes a review of case law and relevant literature, survey results and a collection of best practices. Written by Nicole P. Dyszlewski, Kristen Moore and Genevieve Tung, the paper won the New Member Division of the AALL/LexisNexis call for papers awards. It is currently available on SSRN and will be published in Law Library Journal.

Dyszlewski, Nicole P. and Moore, Kristen R and Tung, Genevieve Blake, Managing Disruptive Patron Behavior in Law Libraries: A Grey Paper (February 2015). Stetson University College of Law Research Paper No. 2015-9. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2616264> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2616264>

In February, in partnership with LISP-SIS and GLL-SIS (formerly SCCLL-SIS), the committee assisted in moderating an online discussion on mental health issues in law libraries.

The tool kit subcommittee is working on a list of resources for new access services/circulation professionals which focuses on user services, interlibrary loan, building maintenance, and other topics.

The best practices subcommittee has started evaluating the 'Patron Services Committee Guides' area of the RIPS website. Changes will be made in the upcoming year to post information of use in topics relating to patron services. It will be a location for best practices, further white papers and tool kits.

Lastly, the online subcommittee plans to hold an online roundtable in 2015/2016.

Genevieve Tung has become co-chair.

I thank the committee members for their continued contributions and ideas. I look forward to what next year brings.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Randall Panella

Program Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

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 2014 – Annual Conference Program Development

The Program Committee received five program proposals and one workshop proposal. As usual, 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. This year, the committee chose, “Managing Challenging Patron Behavior: Stop, Collaborate, and Listen” presented by Nicole Dyszlewski, Genevieve Blake Tung, Lauren Rudick, and Kristen Moore on (Tuesday July 21, 2015 at 2:30 pm).

The Program Committee made a recommendation to the Executive Board to fund a portion of the workshop proposal, if financially feasible.

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

Public Relations and Recruitment Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

The 2015 Public Relations and Recruitment Committee has communicated throughout the past year and worked on a number of projects. We were asked to continue working on creating some kind of information item similar to a RIPS-SIS brochure. We have worked with AALL and the executive board to determine and evaluate our options. We have some copy and plan to explore ways to create a bookmark with important RIPS facts that we can pass out at future events.

We have also stated working on securing items that can be handed out at the AALL annual meeting in July 2015 while members promote RIPS at CONELL and in the exhibit hall. This year

we will again have the stylus pens with a picture of Puro on the side, as well as penguin flashlight/bottle-openers. In commemoration of the last time the AALL Annual Meeting was in Philadelphia with record-busting high temperatures we are also getting bell shaped hand fans. That way whenever anyone seeks relief from summer heat they are reminded of RIPS. Finally, RIPS has purchased 400 buttons that people can affix to their name tags or lanyards during the Annual Meeting. Other groups may have their own buttons, but the RIPS buttons are sure to be the highlight of everyone's button collection because our buttons have a penguin on them.

Two committee members, Nina Scholtz 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.

Several other projects have been discussed, such as creating a LinkedIn account for RIPS, and writing articles for various publications. Last October AALL's PR and Marketing Committee reached out to us in an effort to locate and support common practices among various chapters and SISs. We are looking forward to continued collaboration with the PR and Marketing Committee. These future projects will fall, mostly, on the very capable shoulders of the committee's new chair. Beginning in July Alexis Fetzer, Reference and Research Services Librarian at the University of Richmond Law Library will take over as chair of the committee.

Research Instruction Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

The 2014 - 2015 RIPS-SIS Research Instruction Committee was chaired by Marc Silverman for the first part of the term and Elizabeth Farrell Clifford for the latter half of the term.

Members:

Brian E. Cassidy

Kris Niedringhaus

Bianca Anderson

Stefanie Weigmann

Brian Anderson

The committee is coordinating the research instruction roundtable at the annual meeting and has solicited topic ideas from the committee members. At the annual meeting, the role of committee chair transfers to two co-chairs, Katie Brown and Jason Sowards.

Distance Education Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

The 2014/15 RIPS-SIS Distance Education Committee includes Shawn Friend, Alyson Drake, Jane Meland, Kyle Courtney, Susan DeMaine, Janelle Beitz, Katie Crandell, Joshua Phillips, Nichelle Perry.

The Distance Education Committee prioritized several items during the year. Specifically, members agreed that there continues to be an interest in a bibliography regarding distance education as well as a possible white paper regarding best practices. There is a significant overlap with other committees and groups (Teach-In, for example). The Committee also noted that there is an interest in a Listserv specifically for Distance Education. The Listserv (community) is easy to set up through IT at AALL, but plans for promoting it are the responsibility of the administrator, and further input on this will be sought at the Roundtable, below.

The Committee is planning the Distance Education Roundtable event, which is scheduled for Sunday July 19, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Philadelphia Convention Center, Room 102A. The discussion topics include — (1) Best practices for distance education: What resources are available? How would librarians like to be able to find or discuss those best practices (Listserv, Tool-kit, contest for best)? (2) Platforms available for use: Tips for different platforms and interaction – Camtasia, Storyline, alternatives. How do other libraries utilize distance technology? (3) Future of distance education: How are libraries using distance education? To what extent is distance education used now and how is that changing? This will include looking at expanding programs (like William Mitchell’s hybrid program) and challenges as more classes are conducted more through distance education. We look forward to a lively and engaging discussion of these topics.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Friend

2014/15 RIPS-SIS Distance Education Committee Chair

Legal Research Competency Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

Since its founding in February 2014, the RIPS Legal Research Competency Committee has spent the past eighteen months developing our Mission Statement and prioritizing a formidable list of action items to accomplish.

Legal Research Competency Mission Statement:

The Committee discussed a variety of goals and objectives, finally settling on the following as its mission statement:

- 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.

Activities Undertaken 2014-2015:

The Committee conducted a series of brainstorming sessions which resulted in a 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 is beginning to prioritize these ideas and has already undertaken the activities listed below. RIPS members are welcomed and encouraged to contact any Committee member with suggestions, comments or ideas pertaining to legal research competency and instruction.

Programs and Presentations

The LRC Committee proposed the following two programs and Committee members coordinated and served as speakers at each program. Both of these programs examine and evaluate various forms of assessment that can be used to quantify the competency of those students and lawyers that librarians instruct or train. Each program included speakers from both academic and law firm environments.

- Creative Assessment: Connecting Legal Research Instruction to Results at SEAALL, April 18, 2015.
- Creative Assessment: Connecting Legal Research Training and Instruction to Results, Program F-6 at AALL Annual Meeting, July 20, 2015, 2:00-3:00 pm.

Virtual Competency Talks

The LRC Committee has created a subcommittee on Virtual Competency Talks that is in the process of identifying a series of webinars that would focus on legal research competency and assessment topics. We expect to seek assistance from the RIPS Online Member Training Committee as we finalize our topics and program formats and prepare to launch the webinars.

AALL Legal Research Competency Information Center

<http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Advocacy/legalresearchcompetency>

Members of the LRC Committee conducted a thorough review of the Legal Research Competency webpages located on AALLnet to review content, check links and evaluate navigation throughout the webpages. Recommendations were made to the AALL Legal Research Competency Special Committee (LRCSC) for corrections, revisions and clarifications. The LRCSC expressed its gratitude and thanks for the LRC Committee's efforts and suggestions for making this information center a robust portal for interested stakeholders.

Information Gathering

Committee members attended various events and programs relating to legal research competency and assessment throughout the year and prepared notes to share with the Committee. Reports were provided about the PLL Summit, RIPS, ALL-SIS and SEAALL programs and roundtables, and potential collaborative relationships that could be developed. This information sharing will be useful as we prioritize and implement activities each year.

Committee Members 2014-15:

Alissa Black-Dorward

Lauren M. Collins

Patrick Butler

Melanie DuBard

Elizabeth Caulfield

Mary Jenkins

Pamela Melton

Gail A. Partin, Chair

Mary Ann Neary

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

Respectfully submitted,

Gail A. Partin

Chair

Webmasters' Report for 2014 – 2015

Jennifer Wondracek convened the RIPS-SIS website task force, co-chaired by Liz Johnson and Maribel Nash, co-webmasters. After completing a survey of all AALL Special Interest Section websites, in which the task force members noted features of each SIS website that could be implemented on the RIPS website, the task force compiled recommendations for the RIPS-SIS Board to prioritize and vote upon implementation.

Recommendations included:

1. Provide links to social media on the SIS homepage (although the links to AALL's social media on the right-hand side can lead to confusion; wish they hadn't arranged SIS pages that way).
2. Mirror how the CS-SIS menu bar looks.
3. Use our RIPS-SIS initials at the top of each page to brand our site like CS-SIS instead of AALL branding at the top of the page. Include a homepage link across the top in the navigation bar of pages.
4. Shorten the url to ripssis.org (e.g. cssis.org) instead of the longer web address using www.aallnet.org.
5. Vary the use of tables and different font sizes on the home page. Create subpages for the Teach-In Kit by category rather than organizing the toolkit by year. (Note: Any changes with regard to the display of the Teach-in Kit should be generated by and through conversation and cooperation with the Teach-in Committee)
6. Create a feed to the RIPS blog into the landing/home page.
7. Draw the main features of RIPS-SIS on the homepage and center stage.
8. Provide a last updated date.

9. Change "Officers and Committee Chairs" to "Leadership".
10. Putting a more prominent link to the RIPS homepage on all pages that are listed on the main menu.

Changes approved by the Board will likely be implemented in the 2015-2016 term.

Other content updates include:

- Updated officer and committee chair information, throughout the year
- Posting of the grant application and information for the 2015 AALL Management Institute and AALL Annual Meeting grants
- Inclusion of materials of programs featuring RIPS-SIS members at the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia
- Posting of the 23rd Annual Legal Research Teach-In Kit, for which we worked extensively with the Teach-In Kit committee

Special thanks to the members of the Website Task Force for their excellent work: Fred Dingley, Barbara Painter, Benjamin Keele, Carolyn Brown, and Anupama Pal.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Johnson and Maribel Nash
RIPS-SIS Webmasters

Online Member Training Committee Report for 2014 – 2015

Charge: Plan and coordinate online training opportunities for the RIPS-SIS membership.

Members

Jennifer Prilliman, Interim Chair Sarah Mauldin, Vice Chair Tina Brooks Rachel Gordon	Dan Donahue Stacy Posillico Avery Le Katrina Miller
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Activities

The committee's primary focus this year has been getting RIPS-SIS prepared to provide the membership access to Onstream Media, a webinar and conference software. AALL secured discounted pricing for this service for Special Interest Sections. This is an ongoing project. There are some concerns about the usability of the software, which will be explored this summer.

November 2014:

The Online Member Training Committee was reorganized in November. Jennifer Prilliman was appointed Interim Chair and Sarah Mauldin was appointed Vice-Chair.

January 2015:

RIPS-SIS' OnStream Media account was created.

February 2015:

The committee created a Google account. A public Google calendar was created to help market and announce online member training opportunities. Training materials may be posted and shared from this account in the future.

April 2015:

During the April committee meeting, the committee began preparing to market the and promote the software to the membership. The committee also came up with a plan for training and assisting other committees and members who wanted to make use of the software. The committee decided to solicit membership feedback at AALL about the types of online training they would like see.

June 2015:

The committee met in June and discussed the usability of the software. The committee also discussed ways to disseminate information about online training opportunities provided by other organizations.

Jennifer Prilliman

Associate Director, Chickasaw Nation Law Library