

## RIPS-SIS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

**DATE:** December 1, 2025

**TO:** ALL-SIS Members

**FROM:** RIPS-SIS Executive Board

**RE:** December 2025 Board Meeting

**In Attendance:** Sara, Theresa, Emily, Julia, Olivia, Heather

### OLD BUSINESS

Approval of the minutes for last month's meeting.

- Motion to approve the minutes
- Minutes approved

### NEW BUSINESS

#### COMMITTEE NEWS & UPDATES

- **Teach-In Kit Committee** – Submitted a proposal for a joint roundtable at the Annual Meeting focused on legal research and instruction alongside ALL-SIS Sourcebook Committee, our Research Skills & Instruction Committee, and TiK Committee.
- **TiK Task Force** - No updates from last time, but meeting scheduled later this month.
- **Scholarship Committee** – Submitted a proposal to do a Joint Roundtable at AALL. Writing group is in progress, and blogs are lined up and are being worked on with editors.
- **Research Skills & Instruction** - Will be part of the joint roundtable with Teach-In Kit at the Annual Meeting. Sub-committees have formed for various projects.
- **PR Committee**- Nothing for the annual meeting, but changed the “member accomplishments” to “kudos for colleagues”. Perhaps we can announce and promote at mid-year chair/vice-chair meeting.
- **Program Committee** - Good to go, the two proposals were submitted.
- **Patron Services** - Met last week, don't have any annual meeting activities planned, but would like to do some kind of AALL Coffee Chat this year.

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## RESEARCH INSTRUCTION & PATRON SERVICES SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION

- **Nominations** - Sara talked about a rough outline of the DEI position. Asked them not to advertise the position yet. They did ask for nominations for the member-at-large and Vice Chair position. They already have some nominees. It is also possible that at least one of those people might be interested in the DEI position when that is posted.
- **Grants Committee** - They have a lot of questions for the Board. We will email the questions so we can all view and comment on the answers and determine next steps.
- **DEI Committee** - DEI committee sent Sara and Julia suggestions of the purpose and duties as well as the candidate qualities for the DEI Board Member Position.
- **Outreach and Mentorship** - No update, do not have anything that will require sponsorship for this year's annual conference.
- **RIPS Blog** – Updated stats:
  - Since the last update (Oct. 27, 2025), there have been almost 4000 visits to the RIPS Blog (according to Wordpress stats)
  - Since the last update (Oct. 27, 2025), we've maintained consistent posting of 2 to 3 blog posts a week
  - Since the last update (Oct. 27, 2025), all regular blog contributors have continued to publish posts and we published one guest post by Tanya Thomas
  - I continue to document RIPS Blog Editor functions and other helpful information on the Google Drive to help with future editor transitions and I'm including the Co-Editor, Christine, on emails, decisions, etc

### ANNUAL MEETING EVENTS

- Does RIPS want to have a lunch event or request a room at AALL to have a RIPS meet-up or event?
- We could request a room at the annual meeting, where we let members know to bring their own lunch and eat together
- We could do a happy hour, since that could be more relaxing and wouldn't be squeezed between programs.
- We could do a dine around with pre-selected conversation topics. It would be an informal lunch-time dine around for RIPS members. We would send out a form for members to sign up, and they

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## RESEARCH INSTRUCTION & PATRON SERVICES

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would pick a lunch place to go to and a topic to discuss. We can reserve a room to meet at AALL, tell everyone to meet in that room, and once everyone arrives, we help them get into their dine-around groups, and everyone heads out.

#### PROPOSAL FROM JULIE TEDJESKE CRANE ABOUT FOR-CREDIT RESEARCH CLASSES

- Proposal to create a RIPS Committee for for-credit legal research classes. Julie hosted a Coffee Chat/Discussion about for-credit instruction and received good feedback. The consensus at the discussion was that a group about for-credit legal research instruction should belong in RIPS. The proposal for a new committee about for-credit instruction would include work such as collecting data and information across AALL membership about what kinds of classes are being taught at what schools by which individuals. This would be similar to how the Legal Writing Institute gathers information every two years in a survey. Other feedback also stated that the committee could be a space to share materials, syllabi, rubrics, etc.
- The Board discussed how our Research Skills and Instruction Committee does include for-credit instruction, but is also more inclusive and covers all kinds of research instruction. Could it be possible that we ask the Research and Instruction Committee to include this as part of their charge and work, and perhaps create a sub-committee that does this? Instead of creating a new committee, perhaps we could just expand and explicitly include this work in the Research and Instruction Committee. That committee tends to attract for-credit instructors, so it would not be necessarily out of their scope. We could also modify the charge to explicitly reference for-credit classes so that it attracts folks to this committee.
- Next steps – Olivia, as the liaison to the committee, can go to the Research Skills and Instruction Committee with the proposal and see if they are interested in having a conversation with Julie about it. It's something they could begin to work on this year and launch next year.

#### ACTION ITEMS

- Sara will send an email to the Board with all of the Annual Meeting items we need to vote on virtually and then will write up a memo
- Theresa will forward along the questions from the Grants Committee so we can decide next steps on tackling those questions
- Emily and Heather will work on drafting the DEI Board position language based on what the DEI Committee sent and in line with our Bylaws
- Sara will work on topics for the Mid-Year update