

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION (SR-SIS)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018-2019

The object of the Social Responsibilities SIS shall be to act as a stimulus to the Association and its members by focusing attention on, providing a forum for discussion of, exchanging information about, and proposing resolutions on critical social issues that affect library workers as members of the profession and as members of the human family. – SR-SIS Bylaws, Article II

SR-SIS projects

SR-SIS Education & Awareness Grant. The SR-SIS Education & Awareness Grant is designed to support a wide variety of projects that relate to SR-SIS priorities. The subject matter supported by this Grant rotates each year to ensure that projects related to the work of each of the SR-SIS' standing committees will receive support.

This year, the grant supported a project related to environmental sustainability. The award recipient was Mari Cheney in support of her work making the documents of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) available to all online. The project ties the past work of the IWC with current scholarship and advocacy efforts of Lewis and Clark Law School faculty, particularly to the International Environmental Law Project. Mari presented a poster session on the project at the annual meeting.

Newsletter. We're so grateful to Meg Butler for her continued service as the SR-SIS [newsletter](#) editor.

Election. The SR-SIS ran a successful election in the spring for two 2019-2020 board positions. Marty Witt was elected as incoming Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, and Marcelo Rodriguez was elected Member-at-Large.

Annual Meeting related projects

Book Drive. This year's Annual Children's Book Drive was co-coordinated by Kellee Bonnell and the recipient was the [2000 Libros](#) project, supported by DC Books to Prisons. The 2000 Libros project works with detention centers to get books to immigrant children in detention centers throughout the country. Unfortunately, Amazon's infrastructure supporting book drives changed this year and we weren't able to get a report of the total books donated through the Amazon wishlist as we have in years past. However, based on what we heard from members, the number of physical books collected, and the cash/check donations received, this year's book drive was another success!

Toiletries Drive. We also collected toiletries at the annual meeting again this year. The recipient was N Street Village, which provides services, housing and advocacy to homeless and low-income women in the D.C. area.

Awareness Ribbons & Fundraising. We continued to raise awareness with name badge ribbons this year. We gave out pronoun ribbons and ribbons that highlight invisible disabilities and accessibility for all. We were a proud partner with several other AALL entities in raising awareness and funds for RAICES with #ClosetheCamps ribbons.

Tip Housekeeping Staff. We started a new advocacy initiative this year to encourage annual meeting attendees to tip their hotel housekeeping staff.

CONNELL Marketplace. The SR-SIS promoted its work and recruited new members at the CONELL marketplace.

Exhibit Hall Poster. Once again, SR-SIS had a poster in the activities area of the exhibit hall that highlighted our many projects and standing committees. This year we invested in a fabric poster that can be reused every year.

Annual Meeting Programs. The SR-SIS once again joined GLL & LISP in co-hosting a Joint Roundtable on Law Library Services to Prisoners and Public Patrons. We also co-sponsored a program with the Black Caucus this year, Storytelling for Empowerment and Change. Filmmaker Lacey Schwarz (*Little White Lie, The Loving Generation*) led this exploration of storytelling as a tool for positive social change.

Standing Committee projects

Much of the SR-SIS's work is accomplished through its active standing committees:

Standing Committee on Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity. SCSOGI was led by Chair Joshua LaPorte and Vice Chair Meg Butler. This year's Holoch grant recipient was David Holt. SCSOGI hosted another successful Alan Holoch Memorial Grant Reception at Busboys & Poets 450K. Attendees again took advantage of pre-registering for the event with their annual meeting registration. The reception was once again generously sponsored by Bloomberg Law, and the event raised over \$1,000 for the Alan Holoch Memorial Grant. SCSOGI continued its successful pronoun ribbon campaign.

Standing Committee on Law Library Services to Prisoners. Under Chair Kimberli Kelmor's leadership, SCLLSP continues to update its State by State Recommended collections for prison law libraries. SCLLSP also co-sponsored annual meeting program Joint Roundtable on Law Library Services to Prisoners and Public Patrons with GLL & LISP.

Standing Committee on Disability Issues. This year SCDI was led by Chair AJ Blechner and Vice Chair Sarah Lewis. At the annual meeting, SCDI offered badge ribbons with the messages "#thefutureisaccessible" and "Not all disabilities are visible."

Standing Committee on Environmental Sustainability. SCES Chair Lewis Zimmerman coordinated the popular annual meeting travel offset project through Cool Effect again this year. As in recent years, AALL headquarters helped publicize the project by highlighting it on the AALL

website and in annual meeting promotions. This year we supported [a project by the Southern Ute Tribe in Colorado to capture methane released by shifting mountains](#). It captures methane that naturally escapes from exposed coal deposits and makes it available as a clean energy source for the tribe. This verified project helps [Ute tribes protect the earth](#) and fights climate change. At last count, there were 29 contributors, and \$736.72 donated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Larrington

SR-SIS Chair, 2018-2019