The 2007-08 Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section (ALL-SIS) board consists of Michelle Wu, Chair; Filippa Marullo Anzalone, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Linda Ryan, Secretary/Treasurer; Marianne Sidorski Alcorn, Member at Large; and Suzanne Thorpe, Immediate Past Chair.

Important initiatives for the year included creation of the Student Services Committee, expanding the charge of the Status Committee to include economic as well as appointment status, and reducing vendor sponsorship of ALL-SIS programs in response to member concerns about potential conflicts of interest.

The Student Services Committee is chaired by James Durham. The major undertaking of the committee was creation and dissemination of a Student Services in Academic Law Libraries Survey. The survey received 289 visits, ending in 178 completed responses. The detailed results of this survey are available on the committee Web site and in the ALL-SIS Newsletter. In conjunction with the tallying of survey results, the committee collected sample student services documents and publicity materials for an online resource bank which will be housed on the committee’s Web site and which will be updated annually. The survey will serve as a reference point as the committee undertakes the following projects in the coming year: drafting sample policies for librarian collaboration with law journals and creating a survey of law student research habits and needs.

Jonathan Franklin and Kory Staheli, continuing co-chairs of the Statistics Committee, tested at their home institutions the output measures survey instrument that their committee developed last year with member input. In the spring of 2008, after testing and refining the survey further, they distributed the updated survey to ALL-SIS members. They also surveyed academic law library directors on the anticipated effectiveness of the survey and are currently reviewing comments to determine appropriate next steps.

Chaired by Kathleen Carrick, the Tenure and Economic Status Committee discussed various ways to survey the membership on their concerns about and interests in various status issues, ranging from librarian tenure to compensation to benefits. The committee will be distributing a survey in the coming months which will collect relevant data from the membership, the first step in a significant data collection undertaking intended to result in a white paper on status as it relates to academic law librarians.

ALL-SIS will offer many educational programs during the 2008 Annual Meeting. Nine programs and one workshop were chosen for the official program by the AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee. ALL-SIS also independently funded three other programs, “Supporting New Faculty—Help Them to Energize, Evolve and Explore their Teaching and Scholarship Responsibilities,” “Evolving Research Instruction: Exploring Law Student Information Literacy to Energize Instructional Programming,” and “Evolving from Snoozing to Using: Increasing Student-Centered Learning Using Educational Technology.” In addition, Elizabeth Edinger and Trina Robinson will coordinate a forum
for Middle Managers on the subject of reorganizations and the growth of teamwork approaches and flat management styles that lead to less traditional hierarchies. At the Academic Law Library Directors’ Breakfast, Peter Nycum has arranged a program featuring both LexisNexis and Westlaw representatives to discuss the increasing costs to libraries and rapidly changing policies within each organization causing difficulties for academic law libraries.

ALL-SIS is hosting one Valuable Invited Participant (VIP) at the 2008 Annual Meeting: Steve Johansen, past president of the Legal Writing Institute, who will address the membership during our business meeting. He will discuss opportunities for our groups to collaborate in the coming years. At the Awards Ceremony on the same evening, we will recognize all of the award winners for the year:

- Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship: Roy M. Mersky and Robert L. Oakley.


- ALL-SIS Outstanding Service Award: Diane Murley (Web Administrator) and Leah Sandwell-Weiss (ALL-SIS Newsletter Editor)

In April, ALL-SIS held its election of new officers. This was the fourth year that the election was held electronically. The newly elected officers are: Beth Adelman, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect and Sara Sampson, Secretary/Treasurer. They join continuing board members Filippa Anzalone, Chair, Marianne Alcorn, Member At Large, and Michelle M. Wu, Immediate Past Chair.

Michelle M. Wu, Chair
2007-08