The Private Law Libraries (PLL) Special Interest Section had a successful year in spite of the economic downturn.

The PLL Education Committee submitted 19 proposals for the 2009 AALL conference, nine of which were accepted by AMPC, with others being supported by PLL. One program was cancelled because the speakers are unable to attend the conference.

The PLL Grants Committee awarded a travel grant, sponsored by Research Solutions, Inc., to Sarah Mauldin to attend the AALL Leadership Institute in October 2008. Travel grants for the 2009 Annual Meeting were awarded to: Ruth Balkin, Janice Collins, Kimberly Martin, Christine Sellers, and Lisa Williams. The Annual Meeting Grants were underwritten in part by an anonymous donation and subsidized by PLL.

In May 2009, the AALL Biennial Salary Survey Committee sought PLL's input regarding job descriptions. Private law administrators and HR professionals have historically viewed the AALL Salary Survey as irrelevant to private law firms and corporate legal departments. An ad-hoc committee made up of Lucy Curci-Gonzalez, Kate Martin, and Monice Kaczorowski helped to update the job descriptions and survey questions, and laid the groundwork for future revisions that will help private law librarians to measure compensation more accurately.

PLL continues to work with Lexis to use moneys that were originally earmarked for the PLL Toolkit. PLL and Lexis are creating a newer project to market librarians’ worth to the C-level people in private legal organizations. The project continues to change shape, but will hopefully come to fruition in the next year. PLL also continues to work with the AALL treasurer to move these funds out of the PLL General Fund into a restricted fund.

The PLL Web Committee has halted progress on redesigning the PLL website while it awaits AALL's decision on what platform it will be using for the Association's new site. The PLL Web Committee feels that it would be imprudent to design pages that may not be supported. The PLL Web Committee participated in the first phase of the AALL website conversion project by supplying AALL with an inventory of PLL files.

The PLL Nominations Committee collected a slate of candidates for the 2009 election, including two nominees each for vice chair/chair-elect, treasurer, and board member. When the sitting vice chair/chair-elect had to resign for personal reasons, one of the candidates for the vice chair/chair-elect position was asked to run unopposed to fill the immediate open position, and the other candidate was asked to run unopposed for vice-chair/chair-elect. The final slate was: chair, 2009-2010 - Kathleen Martin; vice-chair/chair-elect, 2009-2011 - Jane Baugh; treasurer, 2009-2011 - Margarita Bull, Blythe McCoy, at large board member, 2009-2011 – Joan Jarosek, Ralph Monaco. The election was held Monday, April 20th – Friday, May 1. The winners, Kathleen Martin, Jane Baugh, Margarita Bull, and Joan Jarosek, were announced on May 5, 2009.

The PLL Intellectual Property (IP) Interest Group was active with local networking meetings, published articles, and speaker panels. The PLL IP Group is also sponsoring a number of sessions at the 2009 AALL Annual Meeting, including an IP vendor panel. In September 2008,
the PLL IP Group coordinated a Webex program with Dialog to provide information about the strategy and direction of Dialog as a result of its new ownership by Proquest.

The PLL Competitive Intelligence (CI) Interest Group also continued to be active this year, with members speaking on various panels and writing articles both inside and outside the auspices of AALL. On July 15, 2009, the CI group sponsored a webinar, "Competitive Intelligence: Working Side by Side with Marketing," that was very well received.

Tina Dumas, M.L.S.
Chair 2008-2009