

Research Instruction and Patron Service-SIS 2010-2011 Annual Report

The 2010-2011 RIPS-SIS executive board members were: Kathleen Brown, chair; Kris Helge, vice chair; E.H. Uwe Beltz and Liz McCurry Johnson, members at large; Maribel Nash, secretary/treasurer; and Robb Farmer, past chair.

This year the RIPS executive board corresponded regularly through email and conference call. They wrote and approved a new strategic plan, polled the membership for volunteer information and which sponsor-a-penguin program to support, created new task forces to explore and begin the work of “history project” and “give back initiative,” and donated funds to the SR-SIS fundraising efforts.

Puron

The RIPS mascot made some new friends when the RIPS chair created a Facebook page for him and shared his adventures over the course of the year. This year, Puron traveled from Southern Florida to Oklahoma and attended the MAALL annual meeting in Iowa, The Future of Law Libraries at Harvard, and the AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Kris Helge will continue to populate Puron’s Facebook page.

Blog

The RIPS blog migrated to Wordpress from Blogger in the fall of 2010 and has received 9,906 hits. New blogger succession guidelines were drafted this year and were approved by the board. The editor for the 2010-2011 year was Jason Sowards, and Jenny Wondracek will serve as the editor for 2011-2012. The blog has three regular bloggers set for the 2011-2012 year, but we allow and encourage contributions to the blog by members and officers.

Awards/Scholarships

Lynn Murray served as chair of this committee. This year, RIPS expanded its awards to six Annual Meeting and one CONELL grants in an effort to encourage and assist members in their ability to attend the Meeting in Philadelphia. With the expansion of the number of grants issued, the executive board was also hoping to recognize the diversity of library environments that make up the RIPS membership. Recipients of grants were: Carolyn Dean, Caroline Young, Margaret McDermott, Jennifer Frazier, Jacquelyn McCloud, Grace Rosales, and Elliott Hibbler.

Program Committee

Kris Helge served as chair of this committee. At the 2011 Annual Meeting, RIPS successfully sponsored four educational programs, one town hall discussion, and the breakfast meeting.

Teach-in Kit

David Lehmann and Laura Ax-Fultz once again successfully published the 19th annual Teach-in Kit. This kit is only possible because of the materials provided by the RIPS membership each year.

Public Relations and Recruitment

Melissa Serfass was acting chair. Much of Melissa's work was done just prior to or at the AALL Annual Meeting. RIPS gave away "green" notepad and clips to the membership in the Exhibit Hall and at the CONELL Marketplace.

Nominations

Beth Givens served as chair of this committee. The committee members successfully conducted online elections and are currently working on a timeline/handbook for the future.

Research Instruction

Marc Silverman served as chair. This year, the Research Instruction Committee worked to produce book reviews of 10 new legal research texts.

Web Page

Sarah Glassmeyer resigned as RIPS webmaster at the end of her term, and Uwe and Maribel Nash took over as co-webmasters.

History Task Force

Karin Johnsrud spearheaded this project first by polling longtime members of RIPS about the history of SIS and how it came to be. She then wrote draft articles and solicited feedback from those polled. A short article about the history made it to the Annual Meeting Paper and a long form of The RIPS history will be posted on the website. An initiative for this group in the 2011-2012 year may be a digitization project of old newsletters.

"Giving Back" Task Force

In an effort to give back to the profession we love and the members of our SIS, RIPS will begin highlighting members who volunteer, not only with RIPS, but with the community at large on the RIPS blog.

Treasurer's Report

The current balance, as of May 31, 2011, was \$23,309.88. RIPS distributed \$2,180 in seven grants to AALL Annual Meeting attendees. RIPS also donated \$100 to the Social Responsibilities SIS Book Drive and \$35 to adopt-a-penguin from the Defenders of Wildlife, a charity chosen by the membership. RIPS membership increased this year, giving us an increase in revenue from dues.