

## **Research Instruction and Patron Service-SIS 2011-2012 Annual Report**

The 2011-2012 RIPS-SIS executive board member consisted of Kris Helge, chair; Jason Sowards, vice-chair; Karin Johnsrud, secretary/treasurer; Lynn Hartke and Liz Johnson, members at large; and Uwe Beltz and Maribel Nash, web masters.

This fiscal year, the RIPS executive board corresponded regularly via email, conference calls, and in-person. They established a relationship with Hein Online to scan and curate RIPS older newsletters, continued its support of AALL's annual book drive by pledging to donate money to this endeavor, contributed money to the New England zoo to sponsor various penguins' shelter and food, and laid the possible groundwork for a future 5k at AALL.

### **Puron**

Puron, the RIPS mascot, traveled to South Carolina, Florida, Massachusetts, and Hawaii this year. During his travels he recruited new members to RIPS and demanded constant attention and food. Jason Sowards is Puron's new guardian for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

### **Blog**

Jenny Wondracek maintained the RIPS blog as editor this year and added thoughtful and provocative comments for RIPS readers. The blog had three authors this year, and will be taken over by Jennifer Prillman for the 2012-2013 year.

### **Program Committee**

Jason Sowards served as chair of the RIPS programming committee this year. He successfully selected and sponsored six RIPS programs at this conference. This year RIPS received an overwhelming amount of presentation proposals due to RIPS success in marketing its worth and goodwill in program sponsorship.

### **Teach-in Kit**

David Lehmann and Laura Ax-Fultz once again successfully published the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Teach-in Kit. This kit is only possible because of the materials provided by the RIPS membership each year. RIPS is excited to begin work on the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Teach-in Kit in the new year.

### **Public Relations and Recruitment**

Melissa Serfass served as chair of this committee. In her service to RIPS, she successfully obtained and provided RIPS marketing paraphernalia at the annual conference. Such conference schwag consisted of penguin key chains/flashlights, candy, and mint foot lotion. Melissa also reserved tables to the RIPS booth at the annual conference and for the pre-conference CONELL marketplace event in Massachusetts.

## **Nominations**

Beth Given served as chair of the nominations committee. In her service to RIPS, she organized and successfully completed online elections and is currently working on a timeline/handbook for future RIPS nomination procedures.

## **Research Instruction**

Marc Silverman served as chair of this committee. While serving as chair, Marc and his fellow committee members continued to provide top quality reviews of new legal research texts.

## **Web Page**

Uwe Beltz and Maribel Nash served as co-chairs of this committee. As co-chairs, they updated the RIPS website and provided new information regarding RIPS's restructured committees. They also worked in concert with Hein Online to ensure access to any RIPS newsletters was provided for the digital curation Hein project.

## **History Task Force**

Karin Johnsrud located older RIPS newsletters and other materials that will be provided to Hein Online for curation, or that will be used in future RIPS historical curation, and image and data visualization projects.

## **“Giving Back” Task Force**

Via monetary donation, this fiscal year RIPS supported the annual AALL membership book drive and penguins at the New England Zoo.

## **RIPS Online Education Project**

The RIPS executive board investigated the possibility of offering webinars for its members to further reference instruction and patron information via online venues.