

Research Instruction & Patron Services Special Interest Section (RIPS-SIS) 2012 - 2013 Annual Report

The 2012 - 2013 RIPS-SIS Executive Board members were Jason Sowards, Chair; Uwe Beltz, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Karin Johnsrud, Secretary/Treasurer; Lynn Hartke, Member-at-Large, and Julie Graves Krishnaswami, Member-at Large. The Executive Board also has a position for Immediate Past Chair which would have been held by Kris Helge. However, Kris left law librarianship after his tenure as RIPS Chair, leaving this executive board position vacant.

- Strategic Plan
 - The RIPS Executive Board evaluated the SIS's progress in meeting the goals established in its strategic plan for years 2011-2012. There were several items completed (e.g., creating new annual meeting grant categories to capture the diversity of RIPS membership), some left incomplete (e.g., determining collaboration opportunities with other SISs), and some were deemed no longer relevant in light of changes implemented by AALL (such as the use of My Communities and the website migration).
- Programming for Seattle
 - The Programs Committee's role decreased significantly from prior years based on changes in AALL's programming process. One consequence of these changes is that the number of proposals the Programming Committee received was substantially smaller than the previous year.
 - RIPS sponsored one program in Seattle, *H7: iCame, iSaw, iConquered: Our Year with the iPad*.
- Website Migration Complete
 - The RIPS Website committee of Maribel Nash and Liz Johnson took responsibility for migrating the large amount of content that existed on the RIPS website onto the new site within AALLNET's preferred style and organization scheme.
- Committee Formation and Leadership Succession
 - RIPS created a new subcommittee on Distance Education. It was suggested by Jennifer Wondracek at the University of Florida that this was an unmet need and a community needed to be formed to further discussion on these issues. At the annual meeting in Seattle, the Distance Education committee hosted a roundtable that was very well attended.
 - The RIPS Executive Board also implemented leadership succession guidelines. The goal of these guidelines were to create a tenure for all committee chairs and to create a more formalized chain of succession to ensure opportunities for leadership would exist for as many RIPS members as possible. Some committees have had the same chair for several years, some more than five years. Similar succession guidelines were already in place for the *RIPS Law Librarian Blog*, so there was already precedent. It will be the responsibility of the 2013-2014 Executive Board to implement these succession guidelines.
- Future plans for RIPS for 2013-2014
 - A new strategic plan will be developed to align with the strategic directions outlined at the leadership training held at the annual meeting in Seattle. This new strategic plan will also include RIPS initiatives that went unfulfilled from its prior strategic plan.
 - A call for volunteers will be going out at the end of September/first of October for 2013-2014 committee work, and again in June for 2014-2015 committee work. These dates, in conjunction with the succession guidelines, will hopefully provide a better procedure for committee functioning, reporting, and creating volunteer opportunities.