Government Documents SIS

Annual Report for 2013-2014

The Government Documents Special Interest Section (GD-SIS) continued to have an active and productive year. The officers of the GD-SIS during 2013-14 were Camilla Tubbs, Chair; Ed Hart, Vice Chair; Amy Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer; and Kate Irwin-Smiler, JURISDOCS Co-Editor.

GD-SIS members continue to write and update the AALL State Documents Bibliography series. We had two updated bibliographies, Georgia and Rhode Island. Volunteers are working on eleven bibliographies for future release. Our arrangement with William S. Hein & Company for the distribution of the bibliographies continues. Electronic versions of the new and historical bibliographies are included in the Spinelli’s Law Library Reference Shelf library on Hein, for which we received a royalty this year of $3,700. Hein also sells print copies of both new and historical bibliographies. This past year we sold 88 copies of print titles, for another $584 in royalties. In total, we received royalties from Hein in the amount of $8,926.00, a total that includes the delayed 2012-13 royalty check from Hein in the amount of $4642.00. In addition to the contributing content to the AALL State Documents Bibliographies, three issues for Volume 35 of JURISDOCS, the GD-SIS newsletter, were released.

The GD-SIS was pleased to sponsor two programs and one workshop at the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio: (1) “Workshop W1: Hackathon: Building the Information Future,” organized by Jennifer Wondracek, gave AALL members a full day to transform government datasets into new resources that will increase the data's accessibility and discoverability; (2) “Program C1: The Once and Future Depository Library Program,” where Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish focused on changes to the Depository Library Program based on feedback from law librarians and other interested parties; (3) “Program H4: Gov. Docs: Where There is No Such Thing as a Stupid Question,” which featured a panel of government documents experts answering questions that were received throughout the year and building up to that program.

At our annual business meeting on July 16, 2013, the membership voted to create a new committee to continue the work of the FDLP Taskforce. The biggest accomplishment by that committee in 2013-2014 was a new Law Library Depository Community within AALLNET’s MyCommunities. Unlike other MyCommunities, which are automatically synced with rosters in the AALL membership database, this forum was specially created through individual invitations to bring together depository coordinators in law libraries that participate in the Federal Depository Library Program. The purpose of the group is for community members to share concerns, innovations, and ideas and to keep librarians connected with the GD-SIS and the Government Relations Office.
The Grants Committee awarded two $750.00 grants to attend the 2013-14 Federal Depository Library Conference. The recipients were: Erik R. Beck and Larry Meyer. For the first time, the Grants Committee awarded a grant for GD-SIS members to attend the AALL Leadership Academy. The recipients of the $400.00 grant were: Julie Graves Krishnaswami and Kate Irwin-Smiler. It awarded the Veronica Maclay Grant of $1,250.00 to attend the AALL Annual Meeting to Corrine Vogel.

Our election was held in May of 2014. The membership elected Kate Irwin-Smiler as Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Cate Kellett as Member-at-Large (a 2-year appointment), and Amy Taylor as Secretary/Treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Camilla Tubbs
GD-SIS Chair, 2013-14
July 31, 2014