The Committee held its first monthly phone meeting of the year on January 20th after transitioning to new leadership in 2014. During the first meeting we assigned responsibilities for researching Dutch treat dining option in Philadelphia, coordinating Marketplace, and investigating other networking activities that will take place during CONELL. We are in the process of securing speakers for the program portion and advertising the event to newer members. The budget is in process and we are moving forward with planning, particularly as it concerns the tour at the end of CONELL. We are exploring options for incorporating a more educational city tour, such as a special tour of Constitution Hall. The Committee would also like to ensure that succession planning is a major focus of the Committee’s work and endeavor to reestablish transparency while continuing to foster communication throughout the planning stages. The CONELL program meets AALL’s Core Organizational Value of community and collaboration by fostering a cohort of newer members in the Association. Further CONELL assists with AALL’s Core Purpose of advancing the profession of law librarianship and supporting the professional growth of its members by providing a day long mentoring and networking session and by promoting opportunities for members to actively participate in the Association via our Marketplace showcase, our breakout sessions with the Executive Board, and through our selection of speakers.

The next committee should continue efforts to foster a social media network that connects CONELL participants and alumni so that they have an avenue to identify and remain in contact with each other throughout their careers. This includes helping attendees connect with Executive Board members that they met with during the small breakout sessions during CONELL.