The Chicago Association of Law Libraries held 4 business meetings in 2014-2015, continuing its tradition of providing rich opportunities for networking, engagement and professional development for its members.

In September, Elizabeth Clarke, the President and Founder of the Juvenile Justice Initiative, spoke on “Policy Trends Affecting Juvenile Justice.” 88 CALL members attended and the Community Service Committee collected $186 to benefit Blessings in a Backpack. In-kind donations were collected for Chicago Hopes, an organization that provides housing and assistance to Chicago Public School students in temporary housing situations. In November, Lori Andrews, Professor of Law and Director of the Institute for Science, Law and Technology at ITT Chicago-Kent College of Law, spoke on Privacy’s Dying Gasp and How Librarians Can Resuscitate It. 100 members attended and donated $140 and many books to Open Books. In February, 2015, David Mendelsohn, Managing Partner of DLA Piper in Chicago, spoke to 98 attendees on The Future of Law Firms from a Managing Partner’s Perspective. $180 and in-kind donations were collected for the Chicago Food Depository. Holly Riccio, President of AALL, spoke at the May meeting, on defining your personal leadership brand, to an audience of 109 attendees. $293 and in-kind donations were collected for the Anti-Cruelty Society.

In addition to these programs, the Continuing Education Committee provided CALL members with a range of educational options: “The Frightening Power of Social Media Investigations – a Special Halloween CALL Workshop” held in October, “Raise Your Profile and Communicate Your Value Through LinkedIn – A CALL Personal Enrichment Webinar” held in January, and the CALL Institute Day held in May on “Charting a Path to Management: Skills to Take Your Career to the Next Level.”

It was a very busy and productive year for CALL. The CALL Bulletin Committee completed a long-planned for migration of the CALL Bulletin to an online format, greeted with universal acclaim from the membership. The new Bulletin connects the membership to CALL’s activities in new and exciting ways. The CALL Bulletin Committee’s work was recognized by AALL with a 2015 Excellence in Marketing Award for best newsletter.

CALL’s Public Relations Committee also garnered an AALL Award for Excellence in Marketing for best use of technology for its table in the Exhibit Hall at AALL 2014, its second award in two years. Scott Vanderlin created an iPad game called CALL-er ID.

CALL’s Bylaws were amended in January to bring them into congruence with AALL’s Bylaws on anti-discrimination. Several changes in how CALL does business were authorized by the Executive Board during the year. CALL will change the way it collects dues and business meeting payments, using an online service that permits credit card payments. The same service, Wild Apricot, will automate the process of membership renewal and creation of CALL’s membership directory each year. These changes were championed by the Membership
Committee, which will work towards implementing them over the coming year. The Corporate Memory Committee updated the Policy Log three times during the course of the year, and reviewed the Handbook to ensure that they are consistent.

CALL’s Handbook had not been revised in its entirety in many years. The Board decided there was a need for more than just updating of the Handbook, but that a full review and revision of it was needed to ensure that outdated material was removed and that it was internally consistent. The review was begun in November, 2014 and completed in June, 2015.

CALL’s website is a vital tool for connecting the membership and documenting CALL’s activities. The Vice-President and President-Elect, Julie Pabarja, recommended and established a Task Force to evaluate the website, not only from the point of view of accuracy of the content, but also its structural consistency and good web design. The Task Force submitted its report to the Board in May and work has begun on improvement of the website.

CALL looks forward to the 2015-2016 year. AALL will be in Chicago in July 2016 where CALL will be well represented in its leadership: Keith Ann Stiverson will be AALL President, Maribel Nash and Meg Butman, are chairing the Local Arrangements Committee and June Liebert is chairing the Annual Meeting Program Committee.

CALL Officers and Directors 2014-2105

President: Margaret Schilt
Vice-President and President-Elect: Julie Pabarja
Treasurer: Stephanie Crawford
Secretary: Clare Willis
Past President: Maribel Nash
Director: Jamie Sommer
Director: Robert Martin