Mid-America Association of Law Libraries (MAALL)
Annual Report 2014-2015

The MAALL officers for 2014-2015 officers are: Cynthia Bassett, President; Jennifer Prilliman, Vice President/President-Elect; Jeri Kay Hopkins, Past President; Jenny Watson, Treasurer; Erika Cohn, Secretary; Lynn Hartke and Therese Clark Arado, Members-at-Large.

MAALL held our 2014 Annual Meeting in Chicago. Our keynote speaker was Steve Bogira, senior writer at the Chicago Reader and author of bestseller, *Courtroom 302*. When asked what librarians can do to help those in the criminal justice system, he suggested we donate reading material to prisons. In response, MAALL is implementing our first service project, called Books-to-Action. We are reading a single title as a chapter (*Just Mercy* by attorney Bryan Stevenson) and collecting books to be donated to the Missouri Department of Corrections prison libraries. This program will take place at the MAALL Annual Meeting 2015 in Kansas City, MO, on October 22-24, 2015. Work has begun to create a joint meeting of several AALL chapters in 2017 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, hosted by Marquette Law Library. MAALL also provided a speaker for our Business Luncheon at the AALL Annual Meeting. We invited Jean O’Grady, immediate past-Chair of the AALL SIS on Private Law Libraries to talk about the state-of-the-state of private law libraries.

At the leadership training for chapter leaders at AALL Annual Meeting 2014, we learned of the need to create service opportunities for members that give them different options for how they wish to serve. To address this need, we created several task forces this year with time limited projects to work on. One task force addressed the question of how to recognize the number of long-term members who had served MAALL and were now retiring from the profession. Another tackled the question of how to serve our members continuing education needs. A third task force surveyed our new members to discern how we can better engage our new members and connect them within the chapter. A fourth task force is currently at work on a three year strategic plan for our chapter.

Other chapter accomplishments included passing a chapter resolution in support of UELMA. Our Government Relations committee is currently discussing with AALL’s GRO how to go about getting UELMA on Missouri’s legislative calendar. The Public Relations committee is very active. In the past year, the chapter added 2 mascots – prairie dogs Marbury and Madison – and throughout the year they have traveled to MAALL member libraries enjoying the hospitality and taking photos. The committee also started a Facebook page, instituted a photo policy, and began gathering MAALL photos.

In less exciting, but still important news, the Executive Board passed two new policies designed to protect the chapter and our members. We will no longer provide unsupervised alcohol as part of a hospitality room at chapter events. And we’ve created a Code of Conduct for our Annual Meeting outlining specific expectations for safe and respectful conduct at our Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,