AALL Diversity Committee

Annual Report 2014-2015


The committee continued its efforts to collaborate with other committees and caucuses and invited them to participate in putting together a session immediately preceding the 2015 Annual Diversity Symposium titled “A Celebration of Diversity.” The impetus was to showcase the many options for support and mentoring of minority members of AALL that are currently available.

Some of the committees who agreed to join forces were “sun-setted” or disbanded by AALL and thus were unable to participate. However, the scholarship and recruitment committee members continued to support the joint-program concept in conjunction with some of the caucuses. A submission of a program proposal was finalized and submitted by the Asian American Caucus to the programming committee and later disapproved.

The committee presented the 2015 MLDA award to Daniella Mia Lee-Garcia, Librarian Ninth Circuit Library, United States Court of Appeals, Fresno, CA. The committee created a social utilities page and continued to promote the use of the commons in the “my communities” website platform. Ulysses Jaen created and sponsored ads on Linkedin and Facebook several weeks prior to the Annual meeting in Philadelphia to create awareness. The committee participated in the CONELL event with the help of Meldon Jenkins-Jones. It also contributed with a table and promotional materials in the exhibitor’s hall activities area during the annual meeting.

The “Celebration of Diversity” symposium hosted over one hundred guests and a prestigious panel of Academic Law Library Directors including Ronald Wheeler - Suffolk University Law, Pauline Aranas - USC Law, Yolanda Jones - FAMU, Femi Cadmus - Cornell Law, Wanita Scroggs - Stetson Law and Ulysses Jaen - Ave Maria School of Law. The discussion focused on diversity and the law librarian profession. The reception was held immediately following the symposium providing a well-attended networking opportunity for attendees all sponsored by LexisNexis. The committee wishes to thank the AALL staff including Ms. Vanessa Castillo for her support with signage for the events.

Submitted by,

Ulysses N. Jaen, Chair, 2014-2015