The 2014-2015 committee members were Michele Finerty, Chair; Joanne Kiley, Vice Chair; Gail Warren; Board Liaison; Celeste Smith, AALL Staff Liaison; Jennifer Joan Ash; Patrick Butler; Julie Lim; and Dana Rubin. The committee planned its initiatives through its monthly conference calls and carried out the following:

The 2014 Leadership Academy Fellows were matched with mentors in order to facilitate networking and monthly mentor/mentee discussions on leadership topics through September 2014. Beginning in April 2014, continuing committee member Dana Rubin posted assignments each month to the mentors/mentees for their consideration, and they were asked to share their thoughts on the AALL Leadership Mentoring Program discussion list. The next Leadership Academy is scheduled for the spring of 2016.

From September of 2014 – January of 2015 the committee heavily promoted the Emerging Leader Award through postings to the AALL Communities, chapter and sis discussion lists, the AALL Blog, and on Law-Lib, resulting in five nominees. The committee was surprised at how few nominations were received in light of the amount of publicity that we generated. In March the subcommittee reviewed the nominations of the five candidates and presented the 2015 Emerging Leader Award to three individuals: Nicole Dyszlewski; Emily Florio; and Jane Larrington.

Each month, several articles on a specific leadership topic are linked to from the “AALL E-Newsletter” through the committee’s “For the Leader in You” column. The articles are selected from prominent leadership and research publications. Julie Lim and Dana Rubin took turns compiling the columns throughout 2014-2015, with Jennifer Joan Ash creating the one for April 2015.

On May 28, 2015, the committee presented its yearly webinar entitled “Anticipate as a Strategic Leader.” Franklin Shen, consultant with Decision Strategies, discussed one of the six steps to successful strategic thinking, that of the need for leaders to anticipate, be prepared for, and lead through change. Patrick Butler moderated the webinar, which had over 270 registrants. The webinar was featured as the precursor to the program successfully proposed by Dana Rubin for the AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in Philadelphia. Entitled “Thinking Ahead: Encouraging Strategic Thinking in the Library,” Mr. Shen will present a program on each of the six steps of strategic thinking, with Dana serving as moderator.

The committee will participate for the first time in the informal AALL Coffee Talk sessions at the Annual Meeting. Patrick Butler will facilitate a discussion on “Leadership Development and
Professional Growth: Tips to Get Ahead.” Joining Patrick will be Paul George and Beau Steenken to add their thoughts on leadership development and to answer questions.

Michele Finerty presented an overview of the committee’s activities to the 2015 CONELL participants. Jennifer Joan Ash, Celeste Smith, and Michele each designed handouts to be distributed in the CONELL Marketplace and the Activities Area. The handouts highlight what the committee offers the AALL membership, comments from recent Academy Fellows (in order to encourage applications for the 2016 Academy) and pictures of recent Academy Fellows. Photographs of the three Emerging Leader Award recipients will be part of the table displays as well.

The Final Report of the AALL Committee Review Task Force recommended that the Emerging Leader Award be selected by a jury of AALL members in the future and that mentoring functions facilitated by the Mentoring Module be reassigned from the Membership Development Committee to Leadership Development Committee, beginning in 2015/2016. To set the groundwork for this transition, Michele had initial discussions with the chair of the Membership Development Committee, invited her to participate in one of our conference calls, and obtained the current Mentoring Module procedural documents for the Leadership Development Committee’s review.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Finerty, 2014/2015 Chair