

Computing Services Special Interest Section Annual Report 2014-2015

Annual Meeting

The Computing Services SIS had a productive year. The CS sponsored a Roundtable, an Educational Program and a Workshop at the 2015 Annual Meeting. Other CS activities at the Annual Meeting included the Cool Tools Café, Karaoke with Ken, the Joint Reception (CS/OBS/RIPS/TS), and the CS-SIS Breakfast and Business Meeting.

The CS-SIS Roundtable: Hot Topics in Law Library Technology was a big success. The following topics were discussed: Social Media in Libraries, Mobile Apps for Law Librarians and Lawyers, Practice Readiness Technology, and Cloud Based Computing in Law Libraries. The following CS members and leaders agreed to lead a session: KC Brown, Patrick Butler, Susanna Leers, Jackie McCloud, Charlotte Schneider, Kara Young and Jean Willis.

CS also sponsored the AALL program Uncovering Discovery Systems: Digging Beyond the Hype and Gripe. This was extremely well received and was named a “must-see.” Special thanks to Nancy Babb and Iain Barksdale for coordinating and speaking, as well D. Prano Amjadi, Matthew L. Zimmerman and Kristina Anderson for speaking.

Additionally, CS co-sponsored the preconference workshop: AALL Hackathon: Connecting Legal Information and many members participated.

The Cool Tools Café was also very well attended and there were many positive comments about the new format this year. A much larger space was provided this year which helped with noise control. Each station has a large monitor and there was also a large presentation screen for the whole room. There were almost twice as many presenters this year. The changes were praised by both the attendees and presenters. Special thanks to Kara Young for coordinating and to Jackie McCloud who assisted.

The Annual Breakfast and Business Meeting was well attended. Our own CS member Kenneth J. Hirsh, Director, Law Library and Information Technology and Professor of Practice at the University of Cincinnati College of Law spoke about the Evolving Roles for Law Librarians and Legal Technologists. Committee Reports and the Treasurer’s Report were also heard before the official Board Transition.

Website Migration

Tom Boone, our webmaster reported that the migration is nearly complete. The content has been migrated and now he is in the process of cleaning up. The CS blog will continue to function on a separate platform. Special thanks to Tom Boone for his exceptional assistance in getting the website migrated.

Awards and Grants Committee

Meg Kribble was awarded the Kenneth J. Hirsh Distinguished Service Award for 2015. Meg's service contributions are too numerous to list here but suffice it to say that Meg has served on the CS-SIS Board in nearly every capacity, including Member at Large and Chair. Meg has also contributed a great deal of volunteer service to AALL serving in such capacities as: Member of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2012 conference in Boston, serving as Vice Chair and Chair of the Copyright Committee, and member of the Appointments Committee. She is a true asset to the profession!

We continued our practice of providing grants to worthy AALL members to attend the Annual Meeting. The Grants Committee, chaired by Kristina L. Niedringhaus, who was assisted by Vice-Chair Jean Willis awarded grants to the following members:

- AALL CS-SIS Annual Meeting Grant for Students and New Librarians – Jessica Burkhardt, Fox Rothschild LLP
- AALL CS-SIS Annual Meeting Grant for Experienced Librarians – Barbara Ginzburg, Washburn University School of Law Library

Education

The Education Committee chaired by Alex Berrio Matamoros and Lucy Fazzino served as Vice-Chair. The committee initiated discussions of offering webinar programming around computing services related topics, submitted a proposal to the CS-SIS board request approval for such programming began discussions with Celeste Smith, Director of Education for AALL, regarding webinar programming; and intends to offer the first webinar in Fall 2015.

Communications

The Communications Committee chaired by Patrick Butler has been contributing to the CS-SIS blog and continuing to submit communications through social media platforms. The major initiative of the year was the design and distribution of the Communications Survey to the CS membership and the resulting proposal to the Board. A survey was designed to identify how the membership would most like to receive information and identify what information is most important. The survey went out to the membership in March. The Communications Committee then submitted a proposal to the Board to make changes to the communication methods, remove unused methods of communication, and bolster membership participation based on the results of the survey. The proposal was approved and will be carried out in the next year.

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee was chaired by Debbie Ginsburg. The Committee finalized the Strategic Plan and Implementation Document and submitted it to the Board and it was approved. It is now in place for 2015-17. The Plan builds on the work done the previous year which included four strategic goals: Education, Communication, Administration, and Year-Long Programs. A fifth goal of Succession Planning was added with a new charge to the Chair, Vice-Chair and Immediate-Past-Chair in particular which includes mandatory Board meetings, designated liaisons to committees, a 2-year project for the Vice-Chair and for the Past-Chair to contribute documentation.

Officers

The following served as officers for the year: Chair: Caroline Young, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Kincaid Brown, Secretary/Treasurer: Ellen Qualey Jacquette, Members-At-Large Elizabeth Farrell and Patrick Butler, and Immediate Past-Chair: Susanna Leers. Incoming officers for the next year will include Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Cynthia Bassett, Secretary/Treasurer: Kara Young; and Member-At-Large: Vicki Steiner. Thank you Susanna Leers for chairing the Nominations Committee and providing an excellent slate of candidates.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caroline Young, CS-SIS Chair, 2014-15