

**Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section (SR-SIS)**  
**Annual Report for 2014-2015**

Thanks to the efforts of our members, the Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section had another productive year.

Early in 2015 the SR-SIS Standing Committee on Disability Issues was asked to co-sponsor a web-discussion with the Government Law Libraries SIS and RIPS-SIS entitled *Five Topics in Five Days: Mental Health Issues in Law Libraries*. Members helped moderate a lively discussion on mental health issues that affect law libraries. The discussion covered topics such as library rules and policies, maintaining mental health at work, security issues, and further resources that discuss mental health topics. The standing committee hopes to build upon the resources collected in that joint discussion and maintain a bibliography of useful disability issues related materials for librarians (e.g., accessibility issues, mental health issues).

The AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia was an especially busy and productive time for the SR-SIS. As in years past, we sponsored a book drive during the AALL Annual Meeting held this year in Philadelphia. Working with the Philadelphia Children's Foundation, a non-profit educational-support organization connecting students and their families to resources and opportunities in the Philadelphia area, the SR-SIS was able to successfully raise approximately \$1200 and 475 donated books.

Another project that we sponsored again is the Solar Heating Project with Tree, Water & People. This project helps Native American families heat their homes in South Dakota where heating costs often comprise more than 50% of their income. Each \$10 contribution towards this campaign offsets 1 ton of climate-changing CO<sub>2</sub> or the equivalent of the average trip for one person to travel to and from the annual meeting. The final deadline to donate for this project has not yet passed, so the SR-SIS is still waiting on the final donation numbers from Trees, Water & People. However, as of July 15, 2015 we had \$1300 for around 130 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> offset.

Also, at the AALL annual business meeting on July 20, the SR-SIS co-sponsored a [Resolution on Sustainability in Law Libraries](#) with the Environmental Libraries and Animal Law caucuses. The resolution has been forwarded to the AALL membership for discussion and a vote to take place in September 2015.

The SR-SIS sponsored a great program at the AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia called "The Jail Mail Blues." All went smoothly and Stacy Etheredge, the 2015/2016 SR-SIS Chair, deserves a big "thank you" for tirelessly coordinating and organizing this session!

The Standing Committee on Library Services to Prisoners is continuing to update a database of law libraries that offer services to prisoners as well as work on a current database of legal clinics that offer legal services to prisoners.

The reception for the Standing Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues was once again a resounding success this year. Thanks go to the standing committee's chair, the fabulous Jane Larrington, for executing such a great reception. This event serves both as a fun networking event for our members, as well as an important fundraiser for the Alan Holoch Memorial Grant. This grant, started in 1991, is designed to assist individuals with travel or registration expenses for the annual meeting. This year the grant recipient was Scott Burgh, Chief Law Librarian at the City of Chicago Department of Law Library. The reception this year raised around \$795 for this fund.

Submitted by:

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SR-SIS Chair 2014-15