Major Activities for 2015-2016:

Committee chair Joanne Kiley, vice-chair Patrick Butler and committee member Valerie Aggerbeck selected the 45 Fellows for the 2016 AALL Leadership Academy. The Leadership Academy advances the education and authority goals in the AALL Strategic Directions as Fellows will learn about leadership and becoming excellent leaders. Based on the Fellows selected, the LDC hopes these law librarians will demonstrate the essential role all law librarians play in the legal profession.

Joanne Kiley, Patrick Butler, Valerie Aggerbeck, Becka Rich, Merle Slyhoff and Jean Willis identified and recruited mentors for each Fellow of the Leadership Academy. This advances the AALL goals of education and authority. It is our hope that the mentors will also advocate for the association and the benefits of participating in the association.

The LDC submitted two session proposals for conference on mentorship (Merle Slyhoff) and climate surveys for productive workplaces (Patrick Butler, Valerie Aggerbeck and Joanne Kiley). Committee members spent significant time on this in the fall of 2015. Unfortunately neither session was selected.

Jennifer Ash and Becka Rich write a monthly segment, "For the Leader in You," citing articles and books on particular sub-topics within leadership. This is distributed in the monthly e-newsletter and in the education update. We hope this benefits our membership and provides further education and insight into law library leadership.

The LDC is developing a webinar for May 2016 on creating and seeking non-traditional leadership opportunities to enhance the leadership skills of all members regardless of their career stage. Valerie Aggerbeck is managing and moderating this webinar.

Becka Rich and Joanne Kiley are developing assignments for the Academy Fellows and Mentors to discuss and share with the Academy community to further the mentoring relationship and to further the entire Academy’s education on leadership.

The LDC was given the additional duty of overseeing the AALL Mentor Match program in 2015. The committee first studied how the mentor match currently works. We found many areas needing improvement including the form and questions asked, the lack of general information about the mentor program and the difficulty in locating this information on the AALL website. We are currently seeking feedback from current mentors and mentees to improve the program. Due to the extensive amount of work and focus needed on getting ready for the 2016 Leadership Academy, we have not been able to dedicate much time to the mentor match beyond assessment. Merle Slyhoff is taking the lead on this. Beginning in February 2016 she has begun to focus more directly on updating the questions and developing a marketing plan for the mentor match.

The committee has also discussed adding a Leadership Community page open to all members to post all past Leader in You columns, webinar recordings on leadership and to promote discussions on the topic of leadership within law libraries.

Proposed Activities for 2016-2017:

Continue to facilitate communication between Leadership Academy fellows and their mentors.

Develop and market the Mentor Match program.

Select and develop a leadership topic and date for a spring 2017 webinar.

Develop and submit program proposals for the 2017 AALL Annual Meeting.

Continue the “For the Leader in You” monthly column in the AALL E-Newsletter.