

Black Caucus of AALL Annual Report 2015-2016

Caucus Officers for 2015-2016

The 2015-2016 Black Caucus of the American Association of Law Libraries (BCAALL) executive board members were: Richelle Reid, Chair; Lisa Goodman, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Janeen Williams, Secretary; Janice Henderson, Member-at Large; Betty Wright, Member-at-Large; and Michelle Cosby, Immediate Past Chair.

2016 AALL Meeting Program Proposals

The Caucus submitted one program proposal for the 2016 AALL Annual Meeting. The proposal, "Moving Beyond the Basics: Designing and Teaching an Innovative Advanced or Subject-Specific Legal Research Course," was not accepted.

Community Service Project

The Caucus sponsored a community service project in Chicago this year. The Community Service Committee selected Literacy Chicago, <http://literacychicago.org/>, a "nonprofit organization that empowers individuals to achieve greater self-sufficiency through language and literacy instruction." They created a custom link for BCAALL to make monetary donations and included a wish list for in-kind donations. Caucus members donated supplies and monetary donations.

Strait Scholarship Dinner

The Strait Scholarship Dinner Committee surveyed BCAALL members to gain insight on their preferences for the annual scholarship dinner. The committee selected Chicago Dine-Around's progressive dining package which included transportation, dinner and dessert at two restaurants, and other fun experiences. Members also contributed to the George A. Strait Scholarship Dinner. Representatives from Thomson Reuters, Literacy Chicago, and the other minority caucuses were invited and also attended.

Bylaws

No changes were made to the bylaws this year.

Marketing

The Marketing Committee contacted ALA-accredited LIS schools offering a dual JD/MLIS degree or at least one legal research course. The Caucus' promotional brochure, "Exploring Law Librarianship," as well as information regarding the George A. Strait Minority Scholarship, was sent to over 30 library schools.

Website

The Caucus' website continues to feature Caucus members and information on committees and officers. The BCAALL web address was also shortened for easier reference (<http://community.aallnet.org/bcaall/home>).

Caucus Handbook

The Caucus developed a Handbook of Standard Operations and Procedures. The purpose was to create a detailed handbook outlining the duties, important dates, and typical procedures of the Caucus to supplement its bylaws. In addition, the Handbook streamlines the process of on-boarding new officers and committee chairs by compiling pertinent information in a single source. The Handbook is available on our website under the “About” tab (<http://community.aallnet.org/bcaall/about/new-item373>).

Other

The job-search liaison continues to post position announcements to the Caucus’ My Communities group. The Caucus participated in tabling at the CONELL Marketplace and created a Caucus display in the Activities Area in the Exhibit Hall at the 2016 Annual Meeting. BCAALL badge ribbons were also distributed this year. Awards were presented to officers and committee members at the Caucus’ Annual Business Meeting.

Newly Elected Officers for 2016-2017

The newly elected chapter officers for 2016-2017 are Lisa Goodman, Chair; Janice Henderson, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Dawn Smith, Secretary; Betty Wright and Errol Adams, Members-at-Large; and Richelle Reid, Immediate Past Chair.

The Chair wishes to thank the outgoing officers and the committee members for their hard work and support. Everyone's contribution is greatly appreciated.

Richelle Reid, Chair, 2015-2016