

## **Mid-America Association of Law Libraries (MAALL) Annual Report 2015-2016**

The 2015-2016 MAALL officers are: Jennifer Prilliman, President; Susan Boland Vice President/President-Elect; Cynthia Bassett, Past President; Troy Johnson, Treasurer; Erika Cohn, Secretary; Jenny Sutherland and Therese Clark Arado, Members-at-Large.

### **Educational Opportunities**

MAALL held its 2015 Annual Meeting in Kansas City, KS. Aaron Deacon, managing director for KC Digital Drive, was the keynote speaker. Ken Hirsch was the AALL visiting executive board member. A wide variety of programs were offered during the 2 ½ day conference. The Education committee worked very hard to find programs that would be valuable to law librarians across the field. MAALL hosted a business meeting luncheon at the 2016 AALL Annual Meeting in Chicago. Michelle Falkoff, Director and Associate Professor of Law in Northwestern's Communication and Legal Reasoning Faculty, was the guest speaker. She discussed the writing process and methods for teaching legal writing. Jennifer Prilliman and Susan Boland attended the Chapter Summit during the 2016 AALL Annual Meeting. Based on the discussion at the chapter summit, incoming President, Susan Boland intends to complete a membership analysis for MAALL.

A continuing education committee was created and charged, “to promote and publicize professional development opportunities outside of the MAALL meeting to MAALL members, and to use available technologies to bring programming to members.” The committee is still in the beginning stages of organization and planning. The Education committee was renamed, and it is now named the MAALL Annual Meeting Program planning committee.

A number of travel grants were awarded to our members this year to help them pursue professional education. Five grants were awarded to MAALL members to attend the 2015 MAALL meeting. Those grants were the

- 1) The Liz Glankler Travel Grant, awarded to Matthew Braun, Head of Electronic Resources and Computer Services, University of Iowa Law Library;
- 2) The Jo Ann Humphreys Travel Grant – Susan Boland, Associate Director of Public & Research Services, University of Cincinnati;
- 3) MAALL Travel Grant awarded to Annie Mentkowski, Head of Reference & Research Services, Northern Illinois University College of Law;
- 4) MAALL Travel Grant awarded to Mandy Lee, Graduate Assistant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and
- (5) MAALL Travel Grant awarded to Lynn Hartke, Reference/Educational Services Librarian, Saint Louis University.

Therese Clark Arado received a travel grant to attend the AALL Business Skills Clinic. A grant was awarded to LeighAnne Thompson to attend CONELL at AALL. A grant to attend the Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS Summit was offered, but no one applied for the grant. Travel grants for 2016 annual meeting are available.

### **Continuing Projects**

MAALL continued the “Books- to-Action” service project. For the 2015 Annual Meeting, MAALL members read *Just Mercy* by attorney Bryan Stevenson and collected book donations for the Missouri Department of Corrections prison libraries. For the 2016 Annual Meeting, MAALL members will read, *This Book is Overdue: How Librarians and Cybrarians can Save us All*, by Marilyn Johnson. Members will also participate in a book drive.

The vision planning process continued. The proposed plan will be communicated to MAALL members during the 2016 Annual Meeting as a program session. MAALL members will have an opportunity to comment and contribute ideas to the plan before the plan is adopted by the Executive Board.

### **New Initiatives**

MAALL committees were tasked with reviewing and updating their charges. The Government Relations Committee was retired and a task force specifically addressing UELMA was created. Oklahoma and Missouri were identified as states where UELMA passage may be likely during the 2016-2017 term. MAALL members in those states have begun coordinating with Uniform Law Commissioners and legislators to enact UELMA in those states. MAALL is considering appointing a government relations liaison to communicate government relations information to MAALL members.

Overall, MAALL has had a busy but productive year. MAALL continues to strive to be a valuable professional resource for our members.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Prilliman, MAALL President 2015-16.