

Economic Status of Law Librarians Committee

Annual Report 2015-2016

Committee member: Mark Estes, chair; Diana Koppang, vice-chair; Dan Blackaby; Lauren Collins; John Edwards; Miriam Murphy; Stacy Posillico; Holly Riccio, board liaison; and Cara Schillinger, staff liaison

The committee focused first on the 2015 survey: getting it distributed, encouraging participation, analyzing the data, reviewing an online calculator and marketing and distributing the survey results. Second, the committee conducted a survey about the salary survey to glean more information about planning the next version of the salary survey.

The email invitation to participate in the salary survey went out on July 7 asking the “head” librarian (including solo librarians) at each location to complete it by August 3. Reminders were sent on July 16, 23, and 30. To make it possible for the head librarian to save the answers for the next survey, each library type received a slightly different Excel spreadsheet as an option to use in completing the survey. On advice from ARI, the survey company, the instrument did not ask about changing the timing of the survey in the future. In early August the AALL president named a new committee chair to fill an unexpected vacancy.

An email from ARI announced the previously planned deadline extension to August 21. An email to all those invited to complete the survey went out on August 4 extending the deadline to August 21. On August 10 and 17, the chair sent out emails to directors/managers encouraging participation. The research company sent emails on August 11 and 18. On August 25 the chair emailed all Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS (PLLIP) members to either complete the survey or encourage their director/manager to complete the survey by the extended due date of August 31.

In response to a law firm library director’s suggestion, another column for location was added to the law firm spreadsheet to facilitate data entry for multiple office locations.

The true final call to participate was sent on Monday, August 24 with a final extension to August 31.

After ARI compiled the results the committee reviewed and commented on the draft reports text, the press release announcing the survey results. This edition of the survey results included an executive summary to the report designed to help promote the salary survey.

After distribution of the survey results the committee reviewed the combined job titles for the online calculator.

Submitted by

Mark Estes

Committee Chair, 2016-2016