The committee has continued the concerted effort to publicize the AALL/Bloomberg BNA Continuing Education Grant Program. Based on our experience with solicitation of applications over the last few years, we elected to change our grant review cycle from 4 rounds (granting approximately $2,500 each round) to 2 rounds (granting $5,000 each round). We have completed 1 of the 2 grant review cycles to date. The second application deadline will be March 15th. In total, the committee has evaluated 3 grant applications requesting $8,300.00 in funding. We awarded $5,000.00 to 2 of the 3 applicants.

The committee actively contributed to selecting topics and speakers for monthly webinars this past year. The committee curated and developed, the Ask the Experts webinar on personnel management, an institutional repositories webinar and members contributed new ideas for new programs and formats that CPE could bring to the membership. The committee enthusiastically supported webinar proposals on the topics of altmetrics, teaching technology in legal practice, professional productivity strategies, and cataloging including members serving as moderators for many of these programs. The committee offered one of its webinars in a slightly different structure by having 3 speakers in a panel discussion format and soliciting questions for the panelists both before and during the webinar. Feedback was very good for this webinar and I recommend that we continue to explore formats other than the “single speaker with PowerPoint” variety. The committee will continue to advise the Director of Education, vet and support this year’s webinar offerings which include leadership development, personal and professional mission statement development, and digital privacy and security issues. We developed a list of potential topics, formats, and speakers for future CPE committees, which will be provided to the incoming committee chair.

In addition to supporting live webinar development, the committee continued with the promotion of previously recorded webinars via the AALL2Go Pick of the Month feature in the monthly AALL e-newsletter and the AALL Education Update.

We have also worked on some new initiatives this year and began exploration the education needs of members. The committee continued discussion that began during the 15-16 year on the development of a CPE survey to assist in learning more about the education needs of members. A sub-committee of members began to develop questions and the current committee continued the work. We also reviewed the previous 2012 AALL education survey and recommended revisions and additions to that survey. The committee decided that updating the 2012 survey was the best route to take. The survey was finalized and disseminated to the AALL membership in November. The survey yielded some robust and useful responses, which we hope will guide future offerings from the committee and AALL as a whole.

Committee members have also worked with the Director of Education to explore a virtual book/article/film club program. This program will ask interested members to read or watch a specific book, article, blog post, or film on their own, then log in for a synchronous discussion. (add another sentence here after our first event)

The committee will review applications for two rounds of the AALL/Bloomberg BNA Continuing Education Grant Program. The committee will actively coordinate at least two webinars, with an eye toward using distance learning principles and new technologies to increase engagement and interactivity in our offerings. The committee will continue to advise the AALL Director of Education regarding event formats, speakers, and topics, and will strive to do so in the context of the strategic objectives of AALL. The committee will ensure all aspects of its charge are addressed through the committee’s activities.