AALL Committee Activities and Action Plan

Name: Erik Beck  
Title: Chair  
Email: erik.beck@colorado.edu

Committee Name: Digital Access to Legal Information Committee

Major Activities for 2016-2017:
The Digital Access to Legal Information Committee (DALIC) continued its work supporting advocacy efforts for no-fee, permanent public access to official and authentic online legal information in the public domain. Members monitored developments pertaining to the adoption and implementation of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act, access to case law on PACER, the closing of Sunlight Labs and the future of open government non-profit organizations, and the growth of federal legal material sources like congress.gov and govinfo.gov. Members also began to make preparations for the sunsetting of DALIC at the end of the coming term.

General Activities
The committee adopted recommendations for the withdrawal of National Inventory of Legal Information data from publication and for a preservation method for these data.

The Chair and Vice Chair coordinated with Board and Staff Liaisons to develop a plan for an orderly and responsible sunsetting of the DALIC. Members provided feedback regarding the committee’s disbandment.

The Chair and Vice Chair composed and submitted a program proposal for the 2017 AALL Annual Meeting.

The Chair and Vice Chair are scheduled to participate in the Public Policy Program at the upcoming 2017 AALL Annual Meeting.

State Online Legal Information Website (SOLI)

The SOLI subcommittee continued the process of updating the summary of key findings for each state in the State Online Legal Information website (http://community.aallnet.org/DigitalAccessToLegalInformationCommittee/StateOnlineLegalInformation). Members of the SOLI subcommittee updated entries for 27 states by verifying publication status for 6 different online legal publications in each state.

The Chair created a structured data table to contain website information and make data machine-readable. Subcommittee member Michael McArthur was tasked with implementing the data table with each new page update.

Promotion and Publications
The Promotion and Publications Subcommittee planned a narrative-based advocacy web page that could be used to support AALL’s UELMA advocacy effort. The subcommittee collected content for this web page

Proposed Activities for 2017-2018:

Fully update all state entries on the State Online Legal Information Website.

Implement computer-readable data table on all entries for the State Online Legal Information Website.

Fully document process for updating the State Online Legal Information Website so that the work of keeping the website current can be passed on seamlessly to the next responsible party.

Complete narrative-based UELMA advocacy web page.

Prepare for disbandment of DALIC.