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Michelle Cosby Assumes Role of President of the American Association of Law Libraries

CHICAGO—July, 16 2019—The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) announced today that Michelle Cosby has become the organization’s new president. Cosby, whose term as president officially began at the conclusion of the organization’s July 13-16 Annual Meeting, is currently the director of the law library at Temple University. She has been a member of AALL for 16 years.

As AALL’s new president, Cosby said she will work to empower all members of the association to act as advocates for both their own libraries as well as the profession of law librarianship. In addition, Cosby plans to lead an expansion of AALL’s microlearning opportunities, making education more convenient and accessible for AALL members.

“Over the years, I’ve seen the field of legal information grow increasingly reliant on technology as an essential part of the profession,” said Cosby. “Law librarians are central in determining whether technology offers lasting value and is worthy of investment. As president, I look forward to making sure our members have access to a wealth of educational resources and tools that aid in maximizing their use of technology.”

Cosby was elected vice president of the association for the 2018-2019 term, establishing her as president-elect of AALL as well. She previously served as the chair of the Council of Chapter Presidents, the Awards Committee and the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors. In addition, Cosby is also a former president of the Southeastern Association of Law Libraries (SEAALL), former chair of the Black Caucus of the American Association of Law Libraries (BCAALL) and a member of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section (ALL-SIS).

During her term as president, Cosby along with the Executive Board will begin to implement the 2019-2022 AALL strategic plan focused on talent, engagement and alliances. Goals for the strategic plan include growing a diverse membership, positioning AALL members as thought leaders and influencers of the legal information industry and encouraging members to engage within the organization.

Prior to becoming Temple University’s director of the law library in June 2019, Cosby was associate director and an associate professor at the University of Tennessee. She received her B.A. in Sociology from Butler University. At Indiana University
Bloomington, Cosby earned a dual master of library science (MLS) degree and juris doctorate degree. She is an admitted member of the Indiana Bar.

For more information on the AALL Executive Board, please visit bit.ly/AALLEB.

About AALL
The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) is the only national association dedicated to the legal information profession and its professionals. Founded in 1906 on the belief that people—lawyers, judges, students, and the public—need timely access to relevant legal information to make sound legal arguments and wise legal decisions, its more than 4,100 members are problem solvers of the highest order. AALL fosters the profession by offering its members knowledge, leadership, and community that make the whole legal system stronger. For more information, visit www.aallnet.org.