



Save 30% on new subscriptions to any
Oxford Law Online products

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

AALL / YOUR LEGAL
KNOWLEDGE NETWORK™

AALL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020

NEW! AALL SURVEY / THE CONTINUED IMPACT OF COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact both our personal and professional lives, AALL is [seeking input](#) on your current situation. **Please complete the survey by December 3, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. CST.** All responses will be kept anonymous.

[VIEW THE SURVEY](#)

We appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey. If you have any questions, please contact [Pam Reisinger](#), director of meetings.

AALL EXECUTIVE BOARD FALL MEETING ACTIONS

The AALL Executive Board met virtually on Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7, 2020. The Executive Board book and related materials are available on [AALLNET](#). The Executive Board had a packed agenda with reports, action items, and more. The Board approved the following:

- Minutes from the July 9-10, 2020 Executive Board Meeting.
- Making the State of the Profession Special Committee a standing committee, the State of the Profession Report Committee, effective July 2021.
- A revision to the charge of the Appointments Committee to increase its size from four to five members.
- The 2020-2021 Committee Action Plans.
- The 2020-2021 AALL Strategic Directions Action Plan.
- Moving to a digital-only format for *Law Library Journal (LLJ)* and *AALL Spectrum*. The pandemic has impacted everyone, including AALL. Just as many of you have had to make changes in your law libraries to adjust to lower budgets, AALL is doing the same while continuing to offer you the professional development resources you need.
 - *LLJ* will switch to a digital-only format at the start of the new volume year (Vol. 113) in winter 2021 (late February). Please note that the decision to stop mailing print copies of *LLJ* to all members was made in April 2016. Members had the option to sign up for a print copy for a fee and at present 32 members are using this option.

QUICK LINKS

[AALL Events Calendar](#)
[AALL Career Center](#)
[AALL News](#)
[Anti-Racism, Diversity,
Equity & Inclusion](#)
[COVID-19 Updates &
Resources](#)

Because AALL is required to order a minimum set of prints no matter the demand, moving to a print-on-demand option will give members the ability to order these on their own and AALL will not have to order a minimum amount of copies.

- *AALL Spectrum* will move to a digital-only format this year beginning with the March/April 2021 issue (Vol. 25). As you know, the pandemic has forced many of us to work in a remote environment. AALL has continued to mail print copies to all AALL members to their offices, but our records show that more and more members are accessing *AALL Spectrum* digitally.
- The creation of the [First-Gen Professionals Caucus](#).

In addition to the above action items, the Executive Board also received additional information regarding AALL's obligations concerning the 2021 Annual Meeting & Conference, as well as additional information on the current situation in Cleveland. As we continue to gather information, we will keep you informed of any changes that are made with respect to the 2021 Annual Meeting & Conference. The recording from Monday's virtual member update--AALL Connection--is [now available on AALLNET](#).

SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE / PROPOSE A PROGRAM FOR THE 2021 AALL ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

TWO WEEKS LEFT / DEADLINE IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

AALL is seeking your expertise--[propose a program or workshop](#) for the [2021 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference](#). There are still many uncertainties for 2021, but rest assured that we are on top of things and in continuous contact with the Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland. AALL 2021 is currently scheduled to take place as an in-person meeting--if anything changes we will let you know. The [call for proposals](#) includes a question about whether presenters will be available to deliver the program in person, virtually, or both.

Please go through the [quick guide for getting started](#), explore additional [resources for program proposers](#) (including the [must-have program topics](#) identified by AALL members), and use the online [Program and Workshop Proposal Collection site](#) to develop your proposal. AALL remains committed to ensuring a dynamic and diverse lineup of programs designed to meet your needs. We look forward to seeing your proposals.

VOLUNTEER FOR AALL 2021-2022 COMMITTEES OR AWARD JURIES TODAY!

AALL needs your leadership and expertise. Volunteer to serve on an AALL committee or award jury and contribute to the legal information profession as well as to your Association. Please review the [committee and award jury charges](#) before applying. If you currently serve on an AALL Committee or Award Jury, **you are only eligible to apply for a 2021-2022 committee or award jury if your term ends in July 2021. The deadline to apply for a committee or award jury is Wednesday, December 16, 2020.**

The call for [Annual Meeting Program Committee \(AMPC\) volunteers](#) is also included in this [call for volunteers process](#). If you are interested in serving on AMPC, you will be asked to answer additional questions on the form. Please review the [AMPC charge](#) and [content area descriptions](#) before applying for this Committee.

WHY VOLUNTEER?

- Advance the legal information profession
- Enhance the value of AALL within the legal community
- Collaborate and grow with your colleagues

From an expansive library of widely cited treatises to expert commentary on the latest legal developments and trends – **PLI Press** has you covered

Explore the possibilities →

PLI
PRESS



STAY CONNECTED



CONTACT US

We encourage you to [send us](#) your suggestions and comments.

STAY INFORMED

[Join](#) our mailing list.

VOLUNTEER NOW

SELECTION PROCESS

In January, the AALL Vice President and 2021-2022 AMPC Chair will select volunteers to serve on the AMPC. All other volunteers (including those not selected for the AMPC) will be considered by the Appointments Committee to serve on a committee or jury when the Committee meets in February 2021.

UPCOMING COFFEE CHATS & WEBINAR / REGISTER NOW

AALL VIRTUAL COFFEE CHAT: BRINGING SOCIAL JUSTICE INTENTIONS TO LIFE

- Tuesday, December 1, 2020 / 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. (CST)
- [Register](#) by Monday, November 30, 2020
- Members only; space is limited

REGISTER

As issues involving systemic racism and diversity/inclusion have come into sharp focus this year, many AALL members are taking action--and many more have questions about where to start. This informal coffee chat is a chance for members who have recently launched special projects, written scholarship, taught courses, etc. in areas of D&I or racial/social justice to share their experiences, and to connect with those who are looking to do the same. Join us for this conversation, co-moderated by [Taryn Marks](#), Stanford University, and [Malikah Hall](#), Texas A&M University School of Law. Taryn also coordinated the recent joint SIS program, "Active Steps to Increase Diversity & Address Racism: Lightning Talks & Discussion."

AALL VIRTUAL COFFEE CHAT: LEARN MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERING FOR AALL

- Wednesday, December 2, 2020 / 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (CST)
- [Register](#) by Tuesday, December 1, 2020
- Members only; space is limited

REGISTER

Interested in volunteering for an AALL Committee or Award Jury? Join this coffee chat to learn more about how your contribution impacts AALL and the legal information profession, the volunteer process, including dates to watch for. This session will be moderated by AALL President, [Emily R. Florio](#), and AALL President Elect, [Diane Rodriguez](#). Questions may be submitted in advance or during the coffee chat. You may send questions in advance to leadership@aall.org.

AALL WEBINAR: INTERVIEWING WHEN YOU CAN'T SHAKE HANDS

- Thursday, December 10, 2020 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST)
- [Register](#) by Tuesday, December 1, 2020
- Members - Free / Nonmembers - \$60



REGISTER

As organizations hire and re-open many are conducting interviews virtually. How do you prepare when this may be your only chance to shine? Attendees will learn practical tips for preparing to interview virtually. This includes considerations for using technology, interview formats, and questions to ask potential employers considering the new working environment. Attendees will learn how to plan for uncertainties and gain insight into current interview practices. This webinar will be moderated by [Amy Carr](#), vice-chair of AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee. Speakers include [Jessica King](#), research services manager at Perkins Coie LLP and [Carla Wale](#), director of the MLIS Law Librarianship Program and associate teaching professor at the University of Washington.

WASHINGTON UPDATE

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE U.S. ACCEPTS AALL RECOMMENDATION ON PUBLIC ACCESS TO LITIGATION MATERIALS

The Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS) Committee on Judicial Review has accepted a [recommendation from AALL](#) promoting greater public access to federal court filings and court opinions on federal agency websites. AALL recommended that agencies provide information on their litigation webpages to help users determine how current the material is, for example with a "last updated" date.

ACUS is an independent federal agency charged with studying administrative procedures in federal programs and recommending improvements. During its nearly 40 year history, ACUS has issued hundreds of recommendations, most of which have been implemented by federal agencies in whole or in part.

APPLY FOR AN AALL LEXISNEXIS RESEARCH GRANT BY DECEMBER 1

The [AALL LexisNexis Research Grant Jury](#) is accepting applications through December 1 for grants from the [AALL Research Fund \(An Endowment Established by LexisNexis\)](#). The jury may allocate a maximum of \$5,000 between one or more applicants seeking funding for research that advances [AALL's research agenda](#), which seeks to stimulate "a diverse range of scholarship related to and supportive of the profession of law librarianship."

For inspiration, [review the list of topics awarded grants in past years](#) and explore the 16 broad research topics outlined in [AALL's research agenda](#).

If you have a research project that may benefit from this grant, [review the complete guidelines and apply](#). As the guidelines state, the research should be completed within one year and the final product published. **Grants will be awarded and announced by the end of December.**

RECOGNIZING TOP CONTRIBUTORS ON AALL'S MY COMMUNITIES

Each month, AALL recognizes Top Contributors on [My Communities](#). These active members help keep AALL My Communities vibrant by earning over 500 points through their posts and connections. Points are earned by posting messages, responding to discussions, and by making connections with other members. The contributions these members have made to the community are outstanding. To see how many points you have earned, log in to My Communities, click on the drop down arrow in the upper right-hand corner, go to Profile, and in the middle of the screen click on 'My Contributions' and then 'Summary'. Below are our Top Contributors from October.

- Stacy Fowler
- Caitlin Hunter
- Caroline Nevin
- Wilhelmina Randtke

Thank you for all that you do--we appreciate your contribution.

THE LATEST NEW VOICES / SHARE YOUR INSIGHTS!

Members **Victoria Capatosto** and **Ian Reinl** [discuss](#) the collaborative process behind Howard University School of Law Library's new Social Justice Guide.

Get additional fresh perspectives on law librarianship with recent [New Voices](#) posts from [Sarah Slinger](#), [Autumn Collier](#), [Nicholas Mignanelli](#), and [Ana Ramirez Toft-Nielsen](#).

About AALL New Voices: AALL welcomes all members to share their thoughts on any aspect of the legal information profession. If you would like to participate, please send your submission of about 100-600 words to [Megan Mall](#), AALL's director of content strategy. Please include "AALL New Voices" in the subject line.

LEGAL INFORMATION UPDATES

KNOWITAALL HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBER POSTS

Members wrote about and led a variety of innovative and useful projects, including:

- Jane Sánchez of the Library of Congress [discussed](#) her organization's steward agreement with the GPO.
- Marcelo Rodriguez of the U.S. Courts for the Second Circuit [wrote](#) about researching the use of emojis in the legal profession for *Slaw*.
- Femi Cadmus of Duke University [shared](#) insights on staying connected in a pandemic with Oxford University's *OUPblog*.
- Sherri Thomas of the University of New Mexico [led](#) a series of workshops on treaty law, which were hosted by the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture (MIAC).
- Mari Cheney of Lewis & Clark Law School [spoke](#) about National Disability Employment Awareness Month.
- Jean O'Grady of DLA Piper [explained](#) Casetext's new Compose plug-in.
- Amy Burchfield of Cleveland-Marshall College of Law [recommended](#) books to help manage anxiety.
- Sean Harrington of Arizona State University [illustrated](#) the importance of cite checking.

OTHER LEGAL INFORMATION & LIBRARY UPDATES

The Boston Bar Association [provided tips](#) on Zoom court hearings (via *Sui Generis*). *Cnet* [reported](#) that Google is providing data to police based on search keywords. The National Transportation Safety Board [released](#) a new tool for data search, case analysis, and online reporting.

Syracuse University's iSchool [launched](#) its Center for Career Services and Experiential Learning. The *Duke Chronicle* [covered](#) the story behind "Library Takeout," a Duke librarian's international hit song and video.

ABOUT KNOWITALL

[KnowItAALL](#) is a member benefit sent Monday through Friday. [Subscriptions are available](#) for

nonmember individuals and institutions. Please email [Megan Mall](#), director of content strategy, with recommendations (including your own work).

AALLNET MONTHLY MEMBER PROFILE



In this month's member profile, [Katherine Taggart](#), Senior Research Services Librarian, Lowenstein Sandler LLP in Roseland, New Jersey, discusses becoming more involved with AALL after 25 years of membership.

See more AALLNET [Monthly Member Profiles](#) and view [AALL Spectrum Member](#) and [Leader Profiles](#) on AALLNET.

MEMBER NEWS

- [Rhea Ballard-Thrower](#) will become the new university librarian and dean of libraries at the University of Illinois Chicago, effective February 1, 2021, pending approval by the University of Illinois Board of Trustees. Ballard-Thrower currently serves as executive director of the Howard University Library System and is a tenured professor at the Law School at Howard University where she teaches Advanced Legal Research and instructs incarcerated college students as part of the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Institute.

AALL seeks more news about members' achievements, job changes, and connections with the legal information community. Please send your news to [Heather Haemker](#), AALL director of marketing & communications.

COMMUNITY NEWS

- AALL has a new caucus: The [First-Gen Professionals Caucus](#) whose purpose is to connect AALL members who are the first in their families to cross a threshold into a professional career, including, but not limited to:
 - the first in their families to attend or complete an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree program;
 - come from a low-income or working-class background; or
 - are the first in their families to become a U.S. citizen or immigrate to the United States.

AALL seeks more news and announcements from chapters, caucuses, and special interests sections that may be of interest to all members. Please send your news to [Heather Haemker](#), AALL director of marketing & communications.

MEMORIALS

[Gayle McCormick O'Connor](#), served as a marketing strategist for legal technology companies for much of her career. O'Connor began her career as a law librarian at several firms, including Brobeck Phleger & Harrison, before getting into legal marketing. Over the years, she worked for a number of major legal technology companies, including CourtLink, Ixio Corp., CaseLogistix, and EDT Software, in addition to having her own consulting firm. Her husband Tom, also a member of the legal tech industry who serves as director of the Gulf Coast Legal Technology Center, have been staples at major legal technology conferences and



events throughout the years. Both have contributed more than their fair share of education and mentorship over the years. She was a member of AALL from 1988 to 2001, and was a member of both the Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals Special Interest Section and the Government Law Libraries Special Interest Section. She passed away on Sunday, October 18, 2020.



Leslie W. Sheridan was appointed the University of Toledo's director of libraries in 1975 and served in that position until 2000. He also led the university's libraries, including William S. Carlson Library, and supervised staff. Sheridan was part of the development of the Ohio Library and Information Network, a consortium of college, university, and state libraries. He served on the first board of trustees of OhioNET, a network of libraries that is linked to other groups, such as OhioLINK. In addition, he chaired the Inter-University Library Council at UT, as well as the Northwest Ohio Committee on Library Cooperation.

Sheridan earned a master's in library science from St. John's University in New York City, and a master's of sacred theology from Catholic University in Washington. He worked at Mary Immaculate, including as assistant to the director of libraries. He then became director of libraries and professor of research at the College of St. Vincent and Graduate School of Theology in Boyton Beach, Florida. He spent four years as the associate law librarian at the University of Texas School of Law Library in Austin. It was there that he met his wife, whom he married in 1973. A past member of AALL, he edited the newsletter for its Committee on Automation and Scientific Development. He was also a book review editor for the *Texas Bar Journal*, and taught library science courses in three states. He passed away on Tuesday, October 27, 2020.

The AALL eNewsletter lists brief announcements of members' deaths. Traditional memorials should be submitted to [Tom Gaylord](#), *Law Library Journal* editor.