AALL ENEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2020

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM AALL

AALL wishes you and your family a wonderful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year! To cap off a year unlike any other, this holiday season is quite different, too. As we move into a new (and hopefully better) year, we wish you moments of hope amid the difficulties, the warmth of good memories, and wonderful glimpses of the joy that is yet to come.

As a reminder the AALL offices will be closed Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25. The office will resume regular operations on Monday, December 28. The office will also be closed Thursday, December 31 and Friday, January 1 for New Year's.

ACCESS ELEARNING.AALLNET.ORG & REGISTER FOR THE FIRST SELF-PACED COURSE "INTRODUCTION TO LAW LIBRARY BUDGETS"

Have you checked out AALL's new eLearning platform? A first for the Association, this new learning management system (LMS) lets you access past, current, and future education opportunities in one place.

Browse by type of content or by AALL's Body of Knowledge domains or use the keyword search to look for specific content. You may even adjust your interest categories to see recommended content based on your preferences. Your personal dashboard will feature all programs, webinars, and coffee chats that you registered for. AALL Annual Meeting recordings from the 2020 virtual conference are also now available.

Simply use your current AALL credentials for AALLNET to log in. AALL held a quick overview of the new platform this past Tuesday; if you weren't able to attend, you are invited to watch the recording.

When we surveyed you last year about potential courses for AALL to offer, budgeting was among the most requested topics. AALL's first self-paced course "Introduction to Law Library Budgets" is now available—$99 for members and $149 for nonmembers. This course has been developed by subject matter experts who are your colleagues and fellow members.

This course will help you address important issues such as:

- Identifying and managing competing priorities
- Explaining day-to-day operations
- Connecting financial resources to meet goals

To register for the budgeting course or to access additional content, visit the AALL eLearning platform. If you have any questions, please contact AALL at elearning@aall.org or 312.939.4764.
2021 AALL AWARDS/ NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

DEADLINE IS NOW MARCH 1

Achievements in the legal information profession are key in what you do--nominate yourself or someone you know for a 2021 AALL Award. The purpose of the AALL Awards Program is to recognize the achievements of law librarians, institutions, companies, and partners for significant contributions and innovation in the legal information profession. Recipients are selected by the committees/juries and will be recognized during the 2021 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference.

The deadline to nominate a colleague, library, or company (including your own), or to self-nominate has been extended from February 1 to March 1, 2021--a month longer to allow for additional nominations. Nominations/applications/entry forms may be found on the individual award pages.

- Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award
- Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award
- Hall of Fame Award
- AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Award (*Note: Deadline for Student Division applicants is May 14, 2021*)
- Emerging Leader Award
- Excellence in Community Engagement Award
- Innovations in Technology Award
- Minority Leadership Development Award
- New Product Award
- Public Access to Government Information Award
- Robert L. Oakley Advocacy Award
- Volunteer Service Award

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UPCOMING WEBINARS / REGISTER NOW

MAXIMIZING THE INDEX TO FOREIGN LEGAL PERIODICALS (IFLP) IN ALL LAW LIBRARIES

- Wednesday, January 13, 2021 / 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (CST)
As the world becomes even more interconnected, how do librarians keep up with the growing international and comparative legal information needs of today’s increasingly transnational and multilingual legal professionals and law students? The *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals* (IFLP), one of AALL's premier publications, can help meet the never-ending need for accurate and diverse information from around the globe. During this webinar, learn how to search IFLP effectively, how to utilize the Index when teaching and training others, and how to better understand IFLP's potential as a low-cost/high-impact resource for your legal research toolkit.

This webinar will be moderated by Kevin Durkin-Ortiz, IFLP managing editor at UC Berkeley. Speakers include Charles Bjork, international and foreign law reference librarian at Georgetown University Law Library, Marci Hoffman, associate law library director and foreign and international law librarian at Berkeley Law, and Kristen Rowlett, international law librarian at Texas A&M University School of Law.

**AALL Body of Knowledge Domains: Information Management, Research + Analysis, and Teaching + Training**

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**INTERVIEWING WHEN YOU CAN'T SHAKE HANDS (PART II): THE EMPLOYER'S PERSPECTIVE**

- Thursday, January 28, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST)
- [Register Now](#)
- Members - Free / Nonmembers - $60

As follow-up to December's webinar, "Interviewing When You Can't Shake Hands", the presenters will discuss the topic from an employer's perspective. Topics include issues that arise from the format of the interview; scheduling the interview; technology; security; selling the organization; and assessing candidates. The panelists work in a variety of law library types and will provide practical ideas to make your next remote interview more successful. This webinar will be moderated by Sarah Mauldin from the DeKalb County Law Library. Speakers include Michelle Hook Dewey (BakerHostetler), TJ Striepe (Alexander Campbell King Law Library), and Elizabeth Osbourne (Library of Congress).

**AALL Body of Knowledge Domains: Professionalism + Leadership at Every Level, Research + Analysis, and Management + Business Acumen**

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**WASHINGTON UPDATE**

**AALL LEADERSHIP FEATURED IN NEW LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION PODCAST ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

AALL President Emily R. Florio and AALL Vice President Diane M. Rodriguez participated in a new episode of the Legal Services Corporation's (LSC) podcast *Talk Justice* to discuss AALL’s support for access to justice and the role law libraries play in closing the justice gap. The episode is moderated by LSC Vice President for Grants Management Lynn Jennings. Other guests include Brooke Doyle, Project Coordinator at WebJunction, which has partnered with LSC to
deliver a virtual training initiative on access to civil legal justice for public librarians that has featured several AALL members, and Laura Tuggle, executive director of Southeast Louisiana Legal Services. An audio and video recording of the podcast episode are both available on LSC’s website.

AALL MONITORS PACER BILL IN CONGRESS

AALL is closely following recent developments on legislation to provide free access to federal court records through the Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) system. Greater access to court information in PACER is one of AALL’s legislative priorities. We have carefully analyzed the Open Courts Act of 2020 (H.R. 8235) for its impact on our members, law libraries, on the legal information industry, and on access to justice.

The Open Courts Act, passed by the U.S. House of Representatives (House) on December 8, 2020, is the result of negotiations between House leadership and the Judicial Conference of the United States (Judicial Conference). The bill has undergone significant changes since it was first approved by the House Judiciary Committee in September. The current approved bill would create a complex funding scheme to support the development of a new electronic filing and public access system. As an example, the bill establishes new fees and allows for filing fee increases that could impact many users, including law firms, academic law libraries, and self-represented litigants and people with low incomes. Congress is not appropriating any additional funding to cover the development of this new system.

The Judicial Conference continues to express serious concerns with the bill. In a December 7 letter to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Maryland), the Judiciary wrote, "The bill as drafted will have devastating budgetary and operational impact on the Judiciary and our ability to serve the public." With the 116th Congress adjourning on January 3, 2021, there is not much time left for the Senate to approve this bill. The Judicial Conference and House leadership have expressed interest in continuing negotiations in the new Congress.

As discussions about free access to PACER proceed, AALL will continue to monitor legislation and keep you informed on the impact the legislation will have on your law libraries.

MAXIMIZE YOUR REACH / APPLY FOR AN AALL SCHOLARSHIP

AALL is committed to providing opportunities for professional growth. Each year, the Association awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to law school and library school students and AALL members to assist individuals in meeting their educational goals in the field of legal information. The following scholarships are awarded annually:

- Library School Scholarships (for those with or without JDs)
- Law School Scholarships (for those with MLS/MLIS and those seeking dual JD/MLIS)
- Scholarships for Library School Graduates Seeking a Non-Law Degree
- LexisNexis John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship
- George A. Strait Minority Scholarship & Fellowship
- Marcia J. Koslov Scholarship for members to attend continuing education programs for state, court, or county law librarians

The deadline for applications is May 1, 2021. To learn more about the scholarships, instructions, and applications process, contact AALL.

PARTICIPATE IN AALL’S MENTOR PROGRAM

Whether you are a mentor or a mentee, good mentoring plays an important role in your career
development. The mentoring partnership is meant to offer valuable support and guidance. AALL's Mentor Program provides:

- **Newer members**: an informal, personal source of valuable insight and advice on charting your career path as a law librarian
- **Experienced members**: an avenue to share your knowledge and experience to promising new members of the legal information profession and to strengthen the future of law librarianship
- **Mid-career members**: a network of law librarians who are contemplating a move to another type of library or taking on new job responsibilities

Learn more and get connected today!

**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 November.

- Andrew Christensen
- Diane Rodriguez

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

**AALL NEW VOICES / SHARE YOUR INSIGHTS**

AALL's New Voices is seeking your expertise! Whether you recently joined AALL or are a longtime member aiming to become more involved in the Association, AALL is looking for your thoughts on any aspect of law librarianship. This is a one-time commitment.

Possible subjects include: diversity, inclusion and equity, a legal topic of your choice, favorite resource(s), go-to stressbusters, leadership/culture tips, legal information competencies, and starting a new role. Submissions should be about 100-600 words. Accepted posts will appear on the Members Open Forum, in the monthly eNewsletter, and on AALL's social media feeds (Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn).

If you're interested in being involved in the next round, please share your post with Megan Mall, director of content strategy, with the subject line "New Voices Project" by 5:00 p.m. CST on January 11, 2021.

**LEGAL INFORMATION UPDATES**

**KNOWITAALL HIGHLIGHTS**

**MEMBER POSTS**

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

- Karen Breda of Boston College wrote about the FLARE Index to Treaties.
- Louis Myers introduced the Law Library of Congress's new guide to case law.
- Amy Wright of the University of San Francisco explained how to use analytics tools for interviews.
- David Whelan shared tips on virtual instruction.
UniCourt interviewed Jean O'Grady about her career trajectory.

OTHER LEGAL INFORMATION & LIBRARY-RELATED UPDATES
Jackson Lewis launched Employment LitWatch to track complaints filed in federal and state courts. Robert Ambrogi provided a tour of recently launched legal marketplaces on LawSites. SCOTUSblog explored Casetext's Parallel Search tool. Cornell University researchers developed a data-based approach to draw fair representative districts. Axios reported that ViacomCBS planned to sell Simon & Schuster to Penguin Random House.

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 your article and resource recommendations.

COMMUNITY NEWS
The Latino Caucus is continuing to publish weekly reports about the various government responses to COVID-19 in Central, South, and Latin America. Read the latest report, find out more about its projects members, and subscribe. The project is also being featured in Hein Online's COVID-19: Pandemics Past and Present database under the librarian-curated section.

The Legal Innovation & Technology Special Interest Section (LIT-SIS) Executive Committee held a meeting December 1 to discuss a possible merger with the Digitization & Educational Technology SIS (DET-SIS). The merger came about due to the significant overlap in both SISs missions and membership. The next step will be to submit a proposal for merging the SISs at the next AALL Executive Board meeting.

The Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS (PLLIP-SIS) and the Black Law Librarians SIS (BLL-SIS) have joined together for an inaugural "Diversity Summit: From Difficult Conversations to Collaborative Action." 2020 has been a year of upheaval and change, making obvious that serious and important conversations need to take place regarding race, both in the world and within our profession. PLLIP Summits have historically been a place to explore ways to embrace change and we are excited to partner with the BLL-SIS to launch the first ever "Diversity Summit," which was created to facilitate these discussions in order to find a call to action in which we can all take part. The Diversity Summit will be held as a virtual event on Friday, February 26, 2021. We will be extending free registration to members of BLL, PLLIP, and any of the diversity caucuses. All other registrations will be $10. Additional details about the day's programming and information on registration is forthcoming.

The Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS is looking to collect LibGuides and other resources librarians and their libraries have created in support of diversity, equity, inclusion, social justice, anti-racism, etc. RIPS-SIS would like to collect these resources to showcase our awesome librarians and to create a repository where everything is saved in one place. If you or your library put together a resource, please fill out this form. RIPS will collect and organize the information, and then post everything to the RIPS-SIS website on a rolling basis starting in early 2021. This form will be open indefinitely, so please also send any new materials as you develop them.

The Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL) will be holding the 49th Annual SCALL Institute on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Save the date--this year's topic is "Data Privacy in the Age of the Cloud." As the event will be held virtually, all AALL members who are interested are welcome to attend.
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.

COMMUNITY WEBINARS

BLL-SIS & FCIL-SIS WEBINAR: THE ORIGINS AND PROGRESSION OF THE #ENDSARS2020 MOVEMENT IN NIGERIA

- Thursday, January 21, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (CST)
- Register Now
- Open to all AALL Members

Please join the Black Law Librarians Special Interest Section (BLL-SIS) and the Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section (FCIL-SIS) for a webinar on the origins and development of Nigeria’s #ENDSARS2020 movement, including information on government responses to the movement and background on police brutality in Nigeria. The webinar will feature panelists Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa (Chair, Nigerians in Diaspora Commission; Former member of the Nigerian House of Representatives) and Femi Cadmus (Associate Dean and Director of the J. Michael Goodson Law Library, Duke Law; Former AALL President).

PEGA-SIS WEBINAR: LIVE INTERVIEW SERIES: SO YOU WANNA WRITE AN EFFECTIVE RECOMMENDATION

- Thursday, January 21, 2021 / 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. (CST)
- Register Now
- Open to all AALL Members

Whether you're looking for a new job, applying for leadership positions, scholarships, awards, or grants, or supporting others in those efforts, writing persuasive letters is unavoidable for law librarians. How can you make your writing stand out and make the best case? In this month’s “So You Wanna…?” series, Savanna Nolan will sit down to discuss recommendation letters and personal statements with recent AALL Awards Committee Chair, Cathy Lemann. What makes a winning letter? What are some common pitfalls? Is there a way we can make the process as pain-free as possible?

AALL Body of Knowledge Domain: Professionalism + Leadership At Every Level

AALLNET MONTHLY MEMBER PROFILE

In this month's member profile, Sarah (Sherman) Walangitan, librarian at the Supreme Court of Illinois - Chicago Branch, shares the benefits of belonging to AALL as a solo librarian and discusses attending her first AALL Annual Meeting in 2019 in Washington, DC and participating in Lobby Day.

See more AALLNET Monthly Member Profiles and view AALL Spectrum Member and Leader
MEMORIAL

Jack S. Ellenberger is thought of as one of the leading law librarians of his generation. He spent more than forty years in law librarianship, where he led, taught, and mentored a generation of law librarians. A graduate of Columbia University School of Library Science, Ellenberger started his career as law librarian at the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1957 before making the move to firm librarianship. He served as librarian at Carter Ledyard & Milburn from 1957-1960; as librarian at Jones, Day, Cockley & Reavis from 1960-1961; as librarian at the Bar Association of the District of Columbia from 1961-1963; and as librarian at Covington & Burling in Washington, DC from 1963-1978. He was the director of libraries at Shearman & Sterling in New York from 1978-1994.

At Shearman & Sterling, he assembled and nurtured a global library team, provided excellent client service, and left a legacy with many of the original team members continuing in residence there today.

Ellenberger loved law librarianship and his other love was AALL--where he served in numerous leadership role, attended countless AALL Annual Meetings, wrote extensively, counseled AALL leadership on all aspects of governance, and provided valuable advice on professional growth and service to the global community.


Ellenberger was a member of the AALL Executive Board from 1972-1975 and served as AALL President from 1976-1977. He was the second private law firm librarian elected as AALL President, following his mentor, Elizabeth Finley. Both were affiliated with Covington & Burling at the time of their distinguished services. He served as Local Arrangements Chair for the 1985 AALL Annual Meeting in New York and was the recipient of the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award in 1994. In 2010, he was inducted into the AALL Hall of Fame. He passed away November 21, 2020, at the age of 90.

The AALL eNewsletter lists brief announcements of members’ deaths. Traditional memorials should be submitted to Tom Gaylord, Law Library Journal editor.