AALL announced in an eBriefing last Thursday that the 2021 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference will transition from an in-person meeting to an online virtual experience, which will take place in July 2021.

As we move forward with planning for a virtual conference that best meets your needs, we request that you complete a brief (three-question) survey by Friday, February 5, 2021.

If you have questions or comments, please call AALL Headquarters at 312.939.4764 or email leadership@aall.org. AALL will keep you informed as planning progresses.

The AALL Nominations Committee is seeking candidates for the upcoming Executive Board election. Members of the AALL Executive Board ensure that all decisions made are consistent with AALL’s mission, vision, and strategic plan, and are passionate about continuing to increase the value proposition of the Association.

This spring, the AALL Nominations Committee will present to the membership a slate of candidates for the 2021 election. They will choose two candidates for the position of vice president/president-elect (2022-2023; serving on the Board until 2025), two candidates for the position of Treasurer (2022-2025), and four candidates for two open seats on the Executive Board (2022-2025).

For the 2021 election, ballots will be distributed electronically to all voting members of the Association on October 1, 2021. The ballots will be verified at AALL Headquarters at the beginning of November and election results will be announced once candidates have been notified.

To nominate yourself or an AALL colleague, access the nomination form on AALLNET. Nominations are due Friday, February 12, 2021 by 11:59 p.m. EST.

Managing competing priorities in unprecedented times calls for new skills. The AALL Management Institute will be held virtually this year. The institute will feature experts in mind science research and management including Yolanda P. Harrison and Jessica MacFarlane from the Perception Institute, Jessica Swensen (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Maureen Sullivan (Maureen Sullivan
Associates), and AALL members David Mao (Georgetown University Law Center), Cynthia Brown (Littler Mendelson, P.C.), and Joseph D. Lawson (Harris County Law Library). Learn creative solutions to handle evolving workplace dynamics, exploring topics such as implicit bias, inclusive communication, managing multi-faceted team environments, and more.

- March 23-24, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. CDT
- Members $449 / Nonmembers $675 (Price increases $50 for members & $74 for nonmembers after February 15)

REGISTER NOW

TOPICS

- Management vs. Leadership Responsibilities of Managers
- Managing Remote and Hybrid Workplace Dynamics
- Creating and Maintaining Organizational Culture
- Training on Implicit Bias
- Inclusive Decision-making and Consensus-building
- Strategies for Improving Conflict/Constructive Conversations
- Professional Development Planning

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

EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON BUDGETING / REGISTER FOR AALL'S NEW SELF-PACED COURSE

It's not too late to make (and keep) new year's resolutions--expand your professional development by learning a new skill set. Budgeting and operations are important functions in almost all positions within the legal information profession. AALL's new self-paced course, "Introduction to Law Library Budgets," will give you the skills you need to become more confident when it comes to making and maintaining a budget within your organization.

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

- Members - $99 / Nonmembers - $149

REGISTER NOW

To register for the budgeting course, visit the AALL eLearning platform. If you have any questions, please contact AALL at elearning@aall.org or 312.939.4764.
The mental health vulnerabilities facing law students have been well documented, and law librarians are often uniquely positioned to help. For this informal discussion, moderated by Katie Brown (Charleston School of Law), we welcome back Dr. Laura Sangeeta Biagi, a certified health and life coach, and an educator with extensive experience working with students. This coffee chat is an opportunity to share experiences, pose questions, and hear ideas for supporting students’ wellbeing in the library, the classroom, and beyond.

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

As follow-up to December's webinar, "Interviewing When You Can't Shake Hands," the presenters will discuss the process 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 (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

DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE LEGAL INFORMATION PROJECTS

As law librarians and legal information professionals, you are well positioned in your organizations to create and develop innovative projects that enhance access to legal information. Law libraries can offer new tools and provide access to unique online collections to help users find information in person and remotely. Whether you are thinking of starting a new project or are already in the middle of one, discussing it with colleagues may help generate innovative ideas, elicit different perspectives, and answer questions—including ones you may not have considered. During this informal discussion, share best practices and discuss common challenges in developing and implementing new initiatives, and find some inspiration for your own organization. This chat will
be co-moderated by Tom Gaylord, Northwestern University School of Law and Amy Small, Texas State Law Library.

**THE ADMINISTRATIVE STATE: FINDING THE REGULATIONS THAT RUN EVERYTHING**

- Wednesday, February 17, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST)
- Register Now
- Members - Free / Nonmembers - $60

With a new president and executive department taking office, administrative law research will be very important this year. Navigating agencies and regulatory law can be intimidating for students and practitioners alike, and conveying this information can prove challenging for instructors. Do you find administrative law intimidating? Have you ever wondered--is there an agency for that? This session will demystify administrative legal research and reveal effective strategies for teaching and using administrative law materials. This webinar will be moderated by Savanna Nolan (University of Georgia School of Law). Speakers include Jonathan M. Hawkins (University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana), Heather J.E. Simmons (University of Georgia School of Law), and Pia M. Hunter (University of Illinois Chicago).

AALL Body of Knowledge Domains: Professionalism + Leadership at Every Level, Teaching + Training

**THE LAW, LIBRARIANS, AND BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

- Wednesday, February 24, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (CST)
- Register Now
- Members - Free / Nonmembers - $60

The Black Lives Matter movement, the recent mob assault on the U.S. Capitol, and the major ongoing incidents of police brutality illustrate the need to revisit the U.S. Supreme Court's unanimous ruling in the landmark civil rights case, *Brown v. Board of Education*. Researchers, librarians, lawyers, law students, and faculty continue to be at the forefront of the struggle for equality. During the webinar, three civil rights experts will discuss the decision's ongoing impact, civil and human rights issues of today, and how to engage in social justice initiatives. This webinar will be moderated by Marjorie Crawford (Rutgers Law School) and Yolanda Patrice Jones (Florida A&M University College of Law). Speakers include John C. Brittain (University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law), Reginald Mitchell (FAMU College of Law), and Ryan Peter Haygood (New Jersey Institute for Social Justice).

AALL Body of Knowledge Domains: Professionalism + Leadership at Every Level, Teaching + Training

**WASHINGTON UPDATE**

PRESIDENT BIDEN ISSUES FIRST EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND DIRECTIVES
Following his inauguration on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. signed a series of executive orders and other directives on issues including public health and economic recovery, racial equity, climate change, immigration, and improving and modernizing the regulatory review process. President Biden also directed the Department of Education to extend the pause on federal student loan payments and collections through the end of September 2021. At the time of this writing, President Biden is expected to release additional information about a national strategy to respond to the coronavirus pandemic. AALL will provide more information about policies that impact you and your law libraries as additional information becomes available.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR FOCUS GROUP

The U.S. Government Publishing Office’s (GPO) Depository Library Council (DLC) is seeking volunteers for a focus group on the use of Permanent URLs (PURLs) and their alternatives. The DLC’s Exploring the Durability of PURLs and Their Alternatives Working Group invites members of the depository library community, including law librarians and legal information professionals, to participate in this focus group so that it can learn about stakeholders’ needs and which persistent digital identifiers might meet those needs. The focus group is expected to take about an hour and will be held in February 2021. If you would like to participate, GPO requests that you use this form to register by January 29, 2021.

ADVOCACY TRAINING

GOVERNMENT LAW LIBRARY FUNDING: ADVOCACY TRAINING FOR LAW LIBRARIES

- Thursday, February 11, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST)
- Register Now
- Free for members and nonmembers

Government law libraries are funded in a variety of ways: through local, state, or federal budgets, court fees and fines, subscriptions, or a combination of all of those. Many court systems are currently re-evaluating the impacts of court fees and fines on members of the public, and government budgets are facing significant cuts due to the pandemic. Now more than ever, government law librarians and their allies must effectively advocate for full funding of their libraries. This webinar will empower participants with successful advocacy strategies they can implement at their institutions. This training will be moderated by Jean L. Willis, assistant director for support services at the Sacramento County Public Law Library. Speakers include Miriam D. Childs, director at the Law Library of Louisiana and Suzanne B. Corriell, circuit librarian at the U.S. Court of Appeals Library for the Fourth Circuit.

AALL Body of Knowledge Domains: Professionalism + Leadership At Every Level, Marketing + Outreach, and Management + Business Acumen

NOMINATE YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW FOR A 2021 AALL AWARD

DEADLINE IS MARCH 1
Applaud achievements in the legal information profession—nominate yourself or someone you know for a 2021 AALL Award. The purpose of the AALL Awards Program is to recognize law librarians, institutions, companies, and partners for significant contributions to and innovations in the legal information profession. Recipients are selected by the committees/juries and will be honored during the 2021 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference.

The deadline to nominate yourself, a colleague, library, or company (including your own) is March 1, 2021. Nominations/applications/entry forms may be found on the individual award webpages.

- 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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**AALL STATE OF THE PROFESSION SURVEY / GIFT CARD RAFFLE & DISCOUNT**

The AALL State of the Profession Special Committee is pleased to share the second edition of the AALL State of the Profession Survey. *Invitations were sent to all members working in U.S. law libraries and legal information groups.* The purpose of the survey is to capture the current legal information landscape concerning COVID-19, technology, demographics, budgets, user services, operations, and more. Additional information is available on AALLNET. *Respondents can opt in to win a $50 gift card as well as a discount on the final report.*

If you did not receive your invitation (sent from survey@aall.org), please check your spam folder. AALL would also like to receive input from nonmembers who work in legal information settings. Members and nonmembers should contact Association Research, Inc., (ARI is AALL’s consultant for this survey) at ari@associationresearch.com for an invitation.

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**AALL/BLOOMBERG LAW CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANT**

Does your chapter, special interest section, committee, or caucus have an educational event that needs funding? If so, consider applying for an AALL/Bloomberg Law Continuing Education Grant. Grant requests are accepted at various times throughout the year. **The next deadline for grant applications is May 13, 2021.**

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**APPLY FOR AN AALL LEXISNEXIS RESEARCH GRANT**

The AALL LexisNexis Research Grant Jury is accepting applications through May 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.

**APPLY FOR AN AALL SCHOLARSHIP OR SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE**

AALL is committed to providing opportunities for your professional growth. Each year, the Association awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to law school and library school students as well as to AALL members. The following scholarships are now open for applications:

- 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. For additional questions, please contact AALL at scholarships@aall.org.

**COMMUNITY WEBINARS & EVENTS**

**LIVE INTERVIEW SERIES: SO, YOU WANNA PRACTICE CULTURAL COMPETENCE?**

- Wednesday, February 10, 2021 / 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. (CST)
- [Register Now](#)
- Open to all AALL Members

This "So You Wanna...?" interview will follow up on our popular interview from last May, where we began to discuss cultural competence. In light of events such as the Black Lives Matter protests and the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, cultural competence is now more important than ever. Now that we're aware of the concepts, what should we actively be doing to manage communication in our classrooms and workspaces about such an emotional topic?

PEGA-SIS's Savanna Nolan will sit down with Clanitra Stewart Nejdl and Dr. Michele Villagran to discuss the steps we can take to practice cultural competence. Nejdl is the head of professional development and the research services librarian at Vanderbilt's law library. She has been part of many diversity panels, including presenting at the 2020 Teaching the Teachers conference on "Integrating Diversity into Legal Research Instruction in the COVID Era: Tips and Techniques for Classroom Management." Dr. Michele Villagran is an assistant professor at San Jose State University's School of Information and CEO of CulturalCo, LLC. As a lead expert and advanced
certified facilitator in cultural competence and unconscious bias, her research and consulting focuses on cultural competence, unconscious bias, social justice, and emotional intelligence issues within LIS.

*This series is brought to you by the Professional Engagement, Growth & Advancement SIS and the AALL Continuing Professional Education Committee.*

PLLIP DIVERSITY SUMMIT

- Friday, February 26, 2021 / 10:30 a.m. (CST)
- **Register Now**
  - Cost is $10.00 for AALL Members and Nonmembers *

The Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS (PLLIP-SIS) and the Black Law Librarians SIS (BLL-SIS) are excited to announce the inaugural "Diversity Summit: From Difficult Conversations to Collaborative Action." Attendees will have the opportunity to learn how each of us can contribute to increasing diversity and inclusion within our profession. Following a special keynote presentation by Michelle Silverthorne will be a panel discussion to share personal experiences in the workplace. Silverthorne will wrap the day up with an interactive session allowing for in-depth discussions on these critical topics.

**Complimentary registration for members of the Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS (PLLIP-SIS), the Black Law Librarians SIS (BLL-SIS), or any diversity caucus is available. You must enter the promo code offered at checkout to receive the discount.**

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