CRIV has been busy this past year working with information vendors on behalf of AALL members. As libraries have been busy adapting to changes brought on by the continued pandemic, many issues with vendors have been arising and CRIV has received an increased number of Requests for Assistance. Interestingly this year, we have had an increase in requests for assistance with vendors with which we do not have a liaison relationship. Through contacts from the AALL headquarters and other resources, we have been able to at least make contact with the vendors and in some cases resolve matters for the libraries seeking assistance. We have also received requests for assistance with the vendors we do have a liaison relationship with, and have used our usual channels for attempting to address the issues being raised.

The Committee has continued its practice of holding bi-annual calls with Thomson Reuters, LexisNexis, Wolters Kluwer, and Bloomberg. Notes of these meetings get posted on the CRIV Blog and are published within The CRIV Sheet once approved by the parties to the call. As this is being written in June, the spring meetings are taking place and should be added to Volume 44, No. 1 of The CRIV Sheet. This first issue will also include the usual summaries of vendor-related presentations at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

The CRIV Blog has continued to be a source for both the bi-annual phone call minutes, and for short articles related to new or interesting vendor-related information. All three scheduled issues of The CRIV Sheet were ably edited by Ashley Ahlbrand and Matt Timko and distributed to members.

The CRIV Vendor Roundtable, which is traditionally held at the Annual Meeting, has been scheduled this year on July 14, 2021 at 3:00 PM EDT. The topic this year is accommodations that vendors make available or have in development to permit users with disabilities to make use of the different resources and platforms that vendors sell. The session is before the virtual conference commences. Once again, it will be held as an online webinar through WebEx in order to allow vendor representatives to provide presentations and members to ask questions through the chat function. CRIV will monitor the chat and pose questions to the vendors. After great attendance last year, we are hopeful that this will once again be a widely attended event full of useful information.

The Committee has begun to look forward to what it might accomplish in 2021 – 2022, and looks forward to another successful year.

Submitted By,

Deborah L. Heller (Chair)          Ashley Ames Ahlbrand (Vice Chair)