NOVEMBER 24, 2021

ANNUAL MEETING

TIME’S RUNNING OUT TO SUBMIT PROGRAM PROPOSALS FOR THE 2022 AALL ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE / DUE NEXT TUESDAY

Contribute to and help advance the legal information profession while positioning yourself as a thought leader by submitting a program or workshop proposal for the 2022 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference—Advancing Justice for All—to be held July 16-19, 2022, in Denver, Colorado.

We are currently planning an engaging, in-person Conference in Denver. 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. Proposals will be accepted through 11:59 p.m. (EST) next Tuesday, November 30.

SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

27 ATTENDED AALL’S VIRTUAL COMPETITIVE INTELLIGENCE FOUNDATIONS

The 2021 Virtual AALL Competitive Intelligence (CI) Foundations took place November 9-10. Attendees took a deep dive into what CI is all about, learning how to establish a CI function within their organizations, and how to create processes and effective analysis frameworks to maintain it. Thank you to facilitator Patricia Ellard (Troutman Pepper); and member coordinators from AALL’s Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals Special Interest Section’s Competitive Intelligence Group: Mark A. Gediman (Alston & Bird LLP); Caren Z. Luckie (Jackson Walker LLP); Kevin Miles (Norton Rose Fulbright); Julia E. Stahl (Akerman LLP); and Liz Whittington (K&L Gates).

AALL MEMBER BENEFIT / VIRTUAL COFFEE CHATS

As an exclusive members-only benefit to keep members connected and engaged, AALL launched Virtual Coffee Chats in 2020. Each chat focuses on a timely issue in the legal information community. Recent topics have included virtual interviewing and onboarding, bridging the gap between information science, law school, and practice, proposing a program for the AALL Annual Meeting, and universal design principles in your workplace.

UPCOMING TOPICS

- Unpacking the U.S. News & World Report Survey Questions for Law Libraries / November 30
- Learn More About Volunteering for AALL / December 7
Winning the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers / December 14

AALL encourages all members to take advantage of this valuable resource offered to you as a member benefit.

VIEW UPCOMING CHATS

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

APPLY FOR AN AALLLEXISNEXIS RESEARCH GRANT BY NEXT WEDNESDAY

The AALL LexisNexis Research Grant Jury is accepting applications through next Wednesday, December 1 for grants from the AALL Research Fund (An Endowment Established by LexisNexis). The jury may allocate $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."

Established in July 2000, the grant funds research projects that create, disseminate, or use legal and library-related information. 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.

LEARN MORE & APPLY

LEADER IN YOU

Each month the Leadership Development Committee will highlight a librarian leader and ask them a few questions about their leadership journey.

Christine Sullivan
Research Attorney
Littler Mendelson, P.C.

What does leadership mean to you?
I’m going to sound like a Girl Scout when I say this, but leadership to me means leaving something better than how you found it. And that is not criticizing or denigrating any position or committee before I became a leader! But my goal in a leadership position is to try to make whatever I’m leading a better version of itself when I’m done.

What has been one of your biggest challenges as a leader?
When I became chair of the PLLIP Summit Committee in 2019, my main goal was to make sure I put on a Summit that lived up to all the previous Summits. Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit. As a committee, we immediately started making contingency plans simply because we didn’t know what would happen, but it felt better to have them just in case. As the situation developed, it become more and more obvious an in-person Summit wouldn’t happen. I knew, as chair, I did not want to be responsible for anyone contracting COVID-19 because of our program. So, we had to develop a new way of presenting the Summit. The situation was challenging but everyone remained flexible and committed. In some ways, I ended up doing a lot of different work than the Summit chair usually does, but it was an excellent learning experience. In the end, I think all of our hard work paid off and we pulled off a successful PLLIP Summit.

What resources do you recommend for those looking to build or improve their leadership skills?
I would recommend just jumping in and getting involved! Leadership doesn’t have to be chair of a committee. It can be volunteering for a committee and then taking on a task. Or it could even be outside of your profession. I gained a ton of leadership experience on the young professional's board of the Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, South Carolina, including learning how to complete a strategic plan and navigating how to work with my peers. I then applied what I had learned from that board to positions within AALL.
Is there a particular AALL product/program/article that was especially helpful for you as you developed as a leader?

I attended the inaugural AALL Leadership Academy in 2008. I still remember so much of the reading and so many of the discussions about leadership from it. More importantly, I have watched the people I met there grow in various leadership roles and I have tried to learn from them.

How has your leadership style developed or evolved during this time of constant change?

At first, I was going to say it hasn’t changed at all, but I do think I have become more decisive. Having to make so many rapid decisions to take the PLLIP Summit virtual meant that I couldn’t deliberate for long. However, I also learned to be flexible. Constant change to me means responding quickly, but with enough flexibility to pivot if needed.

Do you know a great leader? Recommend a leader for us to spotlight in the Leader in You column. Send your recommendation with a brief description of why you think they are a great leader to Julie Pabarja, Chair, Leadership Development Committee.

COFFEE CHATS & WEBINARS

AALL VIRTUAL COFFEE CHAT: UNPACKING THE U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT SURVEY QUESTIONS FOR LAW LIBRARIES / NOVEMBER 30

In November, U.S. News & World Report will roll out the survey questions for its 2023 Best Law School rankings. A task force (including liaisons from SALLD, NELLCO, AALS, and AALL) worked with U.S. News & World Report representatives to provide guidance and recommendations for the questions relating to law school libraries. How will the 2023 questions impact your library? Join Catherine Dunn, AALL’s liaison to the U.S. News Joint Task Force, and Todd Venie, who co-led the Data Testing & Education Working Group, on Tuesday, November 30 from 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. (CST), to learn more about this year’s questions, the methodology of the rankings, and the recommendations of the Joint Task Force.

Cost: Free and open to AALL members only; space is limited.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

AALL VIRTUAL COFFEE CHAT: LEARN MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERING FOR AALL / DECEMBER 7

Interested in volunteering for an AALL committee or award jury? This informal conversation on Tuesday, December 7 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. (CST), moderated by President Diane Rodriguez and AALL President-Elect Elizabeth Adelman, is an opportunity for you to learn more about the volunteer process and how your contribution impacts AALL and the legal information profession. You are invited to submit questions in advance to leadership@aall.org.

Cost: Free and open to AALL members only; space is limited.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

AALL VIRTUAL COFFEE CHAT: WINNING THE AALL/LEXISNEXIS CALL FOR PAPERS / DECEMBER 14

The AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers is an annual scholarship competition that requests AALL members and students in related degree programs submit their recent scholarship on any subject relevant to law librarianship. Join the 2021 winners and Nicole Downing, vice chair of the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee, on Tuesday, December 14 from 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. (CST), for a discussion about award-winning scholarship and how you can prepare to enter the competition for yourself.

Cost: Free and open to AALL members only; space is limited.
THE MOTH, AALL LEADERSHIP EDITION: UNLEASH THE POWER OF STORYTELLING / DECEMBER 15

This program will give a brief introduction to storytelling technique basics, and then have panelists share true stories as they remember them. Similar to The Moth podcast, anyone wishing to tell their story will need to pitch their idea, and the pitched stories need to relate to the theme of Leadership. Join us on **Wednesday, December 15 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST)** to watch masterful storytelling in action, share in the collective wisdom around leadership, and hone the essential leadership skill of telling compelling, meaningful stories.

Cost: Members - Free / Nonmembers - $60

THE WAYFINDERS AMONG US: FIRST-GEN PROFESSIONALS IN AALL / JANUARY 19

First-generation professionals are the first in their families to cross a threshold into a professional career. Many face socioeconomic issues not experienced by their colleagues and can face a sense of isolation and a steep learning curve with regard to professional norms. Join us on **Wednesday, January 19 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST)** to hear from panelists who are first-gen professionals from academic, government, and law firm settings, who will discuss their triumphs and challenges, and provide insights into navigating their unique career paths. They will also discuss establishment of the *First-Gen Professionals Caucus*, which serves as a vehicle for professional development, mentorship, and coordination of recruitment efforts for first-gen law and library students.

Cost: Members - Free / Nonmembers - $60

QUICK LINKS

AALL Events Calendar | AALL eLearning | AALL Education on AALLNET | AALL Body of Knowledge | AALL COVID-19 Resources | AALL DEI Resources

ON-DEMAND LEARNING

EXPAND YOUR BUDGETING SKILLS / REGISTER FOR AALL'S SELF-PACED COURSE

Many of your colleagues have already registered for and completed AALL's self-paced course, "Introduction to Law Library Budgets." Don't miss out—learn the fundamental skills that will help you address important issues such as identifying and managing competing priorities, explaining day-to-day operations, and connecting financial resources to meet goals.

Developed by subject matter experts who are your colleagues and fellow members, this course will provide you with the skills you need to become more confident when it comes to making and maintaining a budget within your organization.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS ARE SAYING
“I am new to the legal information field and this course was an excellent introduction on how to evaluate yearly costs and what questions to ask of management for future budgeting.” – Candy Good-Graupera; Librarian; Barley Snyder, LLC

Cost: Members $99 / Nonmembers $149

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

WEBINARS NOW AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND

- PEGA-SIS Webinar: So, You Wanna Apply for a Promotion?
- Law Librarians Are Tech Experts—Whether We Know it or Not
- Thomson Reuters Partner Webinar: A Better Legal News Experience: Reuters Legal News

PICK OF THE MONTH

Selected by AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee

YOUR CRISIS IS NOT MY EMERGENCY: MINDFULNESS TECHNIQUES TO MANAGE STRESS

The pandemic has complicated our already hectic work lives and made stress an even greater threat to our physical and emotional well-being. Kizmet Adams and Heather Simmons, both from the University of Georgia, provide an overview of the concept of mindfulness, with an emphasis on the health benefits that it provides. They also introduce concrete techniques to develop mindfulness. Participants will learn simple yoga exercises that can be done anywhere, as well as breathing strategies like the S.T.O.P. practice, which can be used to lower your stress levels in difficult situations.

Find many more continuing education programs and webinars on AALL eLearning.

COMMUNITY CORNER

PEGA-SIS WEBINAR: LIVE INTERVIEW SERIES: SO, YOU WANNA PRACTICE MINDFULNESS? / DECEMBER 8

With so much going on in the world, many of us are feeling burned out and exhausted. Can mindfulness be a tool to help us re-center? How is mindfulness different from meditation? Join Savanna Nolan on Wednesday, December 8 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST) as she discusses these questions with Mindfulness Caucus member and certified Koru Mindfulness teacher Heather Simmons. What is a mindfulness practice and how is it different from meditation? What steps can we take today to live more mindfully?

Open to all AALL members.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

Stay Informed: Join our mailing list.