2022 AALL ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

ONLY 17 DAYS UNTIL AALL 2022!

There’s still time to make plans to join us for AALL 2022, especially if you are within driving distance of Denver. Join over 880 of your colleagues for essential educational programs, to learn about the latest technology from over 60 exhibitors, and to experience all your Conference favorites including poster sessions, the Opening Reception, and the Association Luncheon. Journalist Bob Ambrogi calls AALL’s conference “one of the top conferences for anyone interested in legal tech” making this the conference you don’t want to miss!

Let your employer know why you need to be at AALL 2022. Download the Justification Toolkit to make your case for attending the conference.

Informal “Discussion Den” chats will be held throughout the conference, and we are looking for discussion topics. Designed to be conversational rather than presentational, these dialogues are a great way to meet and connect with peers who share similar interests. If you’d like to host a discussion, today is your last chance to sign up!

Join the conversation! Let your Twitter network know that you are attending, presenting, or exhibiting at the AALL Annual Meeting using #AALL22!

STAFF NEWS

Heidi Letzmann, AALL’s education & programs manager, will be leaving AALL after 21 years of service tomorrow, July 1. Many of you have worked with Heidi in some way over the years, and she would like to share these parting words: "My journey with AALL has connected me with some truly wonderful people. I am proud to have been a small part of this this dedicated, curious, and vibrant community, and I am immensely grateful for all that I’ve learned from these collaborations."

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

AALL’S MENTOR PROGRAM

AALL’s Mentor Program provides newer members with advice on charting their career path, provides experienced members with an avenue to lend their knowledge and experience to promising new members, and provides mid-career members with a network when contemplating a move to another library type.

WHY MENTOR?

- Encourage individual growth and development
- Provide leadership and share your wisdom
- Offer guidance to a new generation of working professionals

WHY BE A MENTEE?

- Get advice based on real-world experiences
- Gain career assistance and professional recommendations
LEADER IN YOU

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

Scott Vanderlin
Student Services Librarian
University of Chicago D'Angelo Law Library
Chicago, Illinois

What does leadership mean to you?
Leadership means a lot of things (which is why you can get away with asking the same question every month to a different person), but for me it boils down to trust, communication, and honesty. Trusting those around you to complete their work without micromanaging, which also cultivates trust in you as a leader. Communicating with those around you to make sure that everyone feels that their voices are heard, but also that information is shared with all interested and/or invested parties. And finally, honesty about challenges, shortcomings, successes, and the personal human factors that unavoidably overlap with our daily work lives.

Is there a particular AALL product/program/article that was especially helpful for you as you developed as a leader?
The easy, but also objectively correct answer for me is the AALL Leadership Academy, which I attended in 2018. The Leadership Academy gave me the opportunity to think about and attach concrete examples and actionable suggestions to a topic that often feels nebulous and intangible (at least to me). Beyond that, and probably more importantly, it gave me the opportunity to surround myself with some of the most talented librarians in our field—many of whom I still keep in touch with and bounce ideas off of to this day. For me, the most important aspect to my development has just been surrounding myself with other leaders.

How has your leadership style developed or evolved during this time of constant change?
I think that rigidity in any aspect of our daily lives has become even more of a liability than it already was in the last few years. A huge factor in good leadership (or success in any venue) is dependent on the ability to be flexible and open to change at a moment’s notice. Some of that boils down to active contingency planning, but more of it comes from cultivating a personality and an environment that is open and inviting of change.

What are the most important attributes of successful leaders today?
Idealistically: empathetic; human, trustworthy, and honest.

What is something you wish someone had told you about leadership early on in your career?
It has way less to do with jawlines and Sorkin speeches than just being open and honest with people. Leadership looks different on different people, but I think that just being honest with those around you goes a long way.

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 Holly M. Ricco, Chair, Leadership Development Committee.

ON-DEMAND LEARNING

INCREASE YOUR STRATEGIC THINKING SKILLS

Over 60 of your colleagues have registered for AALL’s self-paced course, *Strategic Thinking for Law Librarians.* This course teaches law library professionals—at any level—how to employ strategic thinking for impactful decision-making. Whether you are interested in preparing for a management role or are already in a leadership position, you will come away better equipped to confidently tackle any decision (large or small), make a compelling argument, and apply influence in your organization in a way that creates optimal conditions for success.

Cost: Members $99 / Nonmembers $149
EXPAND YOUR BUDGETING SKILLS

Over 118 of your colleagues have registered for and completed AALL's self-paced course, *Introduction to Law Library Budgets.* If you need a refresher in managing a budget as well as day-to-day operations, this course will provide you with the resources and confidence needed for making and maintaining a budget within your organization.

Cost: Members $99 / Nonmembers $149

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

LEARN A NEW SKILL BY WATCHING AALL'S MICROLEARNING VIDEOS

AALL’s Microlearning Videos Series takes a holistic approach to skill-based education that is delivered in bite-size pieces. These short-form-focused videos are designed to cover an individual skill pertinent in the law librarian’s world. Current videos discuss fair use, wine law, comparing red-lined versions in Microsoft Word, and our "day in the life" video series. Our most recent video "A Day in the Life of a Knowledge Research & Resources Professional," is now available on AALL eLearning; simply search "microlearning." Additional videos are planned to drop throughout the year.

Cost: Free for AALL Members

UPCOMING WEBINARS

AALL has several exciting webinars lined up next month, including the July 11 virtual program "AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers: The Librarian as Author" Be sure to visit the AALL Calendar of Events page to stay up to date on future topics and to register.

Is there a topic you want covered in an AALL webinar? Please submit the webinar proposal form or email Fiore Barbini, AALL director of education and learning at fbarbini@aall.org. If you have any ideas or topics for a future coffee chat, please email elearning@aall.org.

WEBINARS NOW AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND

- Check Out Consortium Membership to Enhance Collection Development
- Thomson Reuters Partner Webinar: Advancing Justice for All Through Legal Pro Bono
- Pacer Pro Partner Webinar: Demystifying the Pacer Services Marketplace, From Docketing to Analytics

PICK OF THE MONTH

Selected by AALL’s Continuing Professional Education Committee

DEVELOPING AND ACHIEVING YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL

This panel from the 2019 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, featured an interesting discussion on how law librarians can begin to develop their leadership skills, and how they can cultivate and expand these skills through professional organizations. The panel included firm and academic law librarians who have held leadership roles outside their workplaces. They discussed their learning experiences, what they did and didn’t do, and offered tips for moving into leadership roles in all levels of professional associations, from AALL special interest sections, to local law library chapters, and to non-library-related activities. Finally, the panel touched on how their learned leadership skills from within these organizations translated back to their workplace.

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

Several of AALL's special interest sections (SISs) feature webinars every month that are open to all AALL members. Be sure to visit the AALL Calendar of Events page to stay up to date on future topics and to register. Upcoming events include the "ALL-SIS Business Meeting" on July 7.

Stay Informed: Join our mailing list.