REGISTER FOR AALL 2024 / JULY 20-23

We look forward to seeing you in Chicago for #AALL24. Featuring 65+ educational programs presented by 200+ industry experts, including four preconference workshops, two deep dives, and three hot topics programs. This is the one conference all year you do not want to miss. Plus, explore a myriad of innovative products and legal research solutions from 60+ exhibitors and network with like-minded peers and industry professionals.

Before making your travel arrangements, be sure to check out the transportation page in the conference scheduler to take advantage of airline discount codes and save on your flights. Ensure you receive the discounted rate—book your accommodations at the Hyatt Regency Chicago (AALL's Headquarters Hotel) early.

LAST CHANCE! APPLY FOR AN ANNUAL MEETING GRANT BY APRIL 1

To assist you with getting to the Conference, AALL provides resources such as the Annual Meeting Grant, which funds your registration for the Annual Meeting. Additionally, special interest sections and some chapters provide grant opportunities for their members. Hurry, applications are due next Monday, April 1!

REGISTER FOR AALL’S VIRTUAL MEMBERS OPEN FORUM

As part of AALL’s ongoing commitment to fostering open communication and engagement, the Executive Board invites you to join them for a Virtual Members Open Forum on Tuesday, April 30 from 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. (CDT). This forum will provide you with the opportunity to connect directly with the Executive Board to learn more about AALL’s activities and ask questions related to the Association. In addition to the live chat during the Zoom meeting, you may submit questions in advance.

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

EXPLORE NEW MICROLEARNING VIDEOS ON eLEARNING

Free to AALL members, AALL’s Microlearning Videos are short, focused videos designed to cover an individual skill pertinent in the law librarian's world. Recent topics include generative AI and an introduction to OpenRefine. Videos are available on AALL eLearning; simply search "microlearning."

UPCOMING COFFEE CHATS & WEBINARS

AALL webinars cover a broad range of topics across the profession. Learn the skills, best practices, and trends you need to be successful and maintain a competitive edge within your career. AALL Coffee Chats, an exclusive AALL members-only benefit, focus on timely issues in the legal information community.
PROPOSE A WEBINAR OR COFFEE CHAT

Is there a topic you want covered in an AALL webinar? Please submit the webinar proposal form or email elearning@aall.org. If you have ideas or topics for future coffee chats, please share your ideas with Ashley Laverty at alaverty@aall.org by Friday, April 12, 2024.

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

AALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE NEXT MONDAY, APRIL 1!

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:

- AALL Scholarships
- LexisNexis John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship
- George A. Strait Minority Scholarship & Fellowship
- Marcia J. Koslov Scholarship

The deadline for applications is next Monday, April 1, 2024. For additional questions, please contact AALL at membership@aall.org.

LEXISNEXIS RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 1

The AALL LexisNexis Research Grant Jury is now accepting applications through Monday, May 1. If you have a research project that may benefit from this grant, please review the complete guidelines and apply. Grants will be awarded and announced by the end of May.

LEADER IN YOU

Each month the Leadership Development Committee highlights a librarian leader and asks them a few questions about their leadership journey.

Sarah C. Slinger
Head of Instructional Services and Adjunct Professor of Law
Florida International University
Miami, FL

What does leadership mean to you?
Leadership means more to me than being able to give direction to others. It means not asking others to do something that you, yourself would not do. It means being able to assess your team’s skills and ensure you are helping them to develop and enjoy the work they do. It means making sure you are communicating the big picture reasons behind your decisions, so that everyone working under or alongside you understands the ultimate goal and is more invested in the end result. It also means giving praise or credit to your team where warranted. When you work with so many competent people it can be easy to forget to give this credit, as good work becomes the norm. But to keep motivation high and ensure your team feels appreciated, this is so important for a leader to remember to do.

Is there a particular AALL product/program/article that was especially helpful for you as you developed as a leader?
I attended AALL’s Leadership Academy in 2021 and found this to be a helpful experience to build the foundational leadership skills you need to succeed. More than the programming itself, I found networking with fellow new or aspiring leaders to be invaluable for bouncing ideas and garnering support from colleagues facing similar situations as yourself.

What is the best advice regarding leadership or being successful in your work that you have ever received?
You do not know everything and that is OK. I think there is a common notion that a new leader needs to go into their position/project/what have you, with a clear vision of what to do, all the decisions that need to be made, and the steps that need to be taken. But there is no training manual you can memorize to become a good leader. It is perfectly fine
to learn as you go along. It’s also a wonderful opportunity to harness the skills and knowledge of your colleagues. You may be leading the team, but you are not going it alone. Your colleagues can (and in most cases really want to) help by offering their own advice, ideas, or other input. Do not ignore that!

**What advice would you give someone going into a leadership position for the first time?**

Think about the managers, mentors, or other leadership figures you have worked with in your career or in your own life and model that behavior. You are truly always learning how to be a better future leader by taking note NOW of the leadership styles that you are seeing in these figures. The best leadership training I have had is modeling the behavior and the styles of these people in my life and in my work.

**What resources do you recommend for those looking to build or improve their leadership skills?**

Not to repeat myself, but I truly feel that the best resource for leadership is not something that you can read or study but is observing the leaders in your own career. I look at my own law librarianship mentors, who are my past directors—leaders like Michael Slinger (Delaware Law), Mike Chiorazzi (University of Arizona), and my current director, Lisa Davis (FIU), and I have learned so much through them. I think these figures are the best resources for an aspiring leader. Observe how they operate, how they balance factors before they make decisions, how they treat their team and colleagues, and how their leadership makes you feel and perform. From these observations, you can figure out what style and methods work best for you as a leader.

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 [Jenny Silbiger](mailto:jenny.silbiger@aall.org), chair of the Leadership Development Committee.

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**ON-DEMAND LEARNING**

**ADVANCE YOUR SKILLS / REGISTER FOR AALL'S SELF-PACED COURSES**

Enhance your skills, broaden your knowledge base, and elevate your career. Mastering the basics of legal research, strategic thinking, and budgeting are critical skills to possess, especially as you advance into leadership roles. AALL’s self-paced courses will help you master these fundamental competencies to help you take your career to the next level. For the more experienced professional, each course provides a fantastic refresher on these important topics.

- **Introduction to Law Library Budgets** covers the concepts of managing a law library budget.
- **Strategic Thinking for Law Librarians** discusses the essentials of strategic thinking and project implementation success.
- **Foundations of Legal Research** arms you with the right tools to successfully approach legal research.

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](#)

**WEBINARS NOW AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND**

- **AALL Webinar: The Life & Library of Robert Morris, America's Second Black Lawyer**
- **Trellis Partner Webinar: Trellis Product Updates: Winning More State Trial Court Cases with Legal Data & Analytics**
- **Bloomberg Law Partner Webinar: How Do You Spend Your Time? Attorney Workload & Hours Trends**

**PICK OF THE MONTH**

*Selected by AALL’s Continuing Professional Education Committee*

**AGGRAVATION OR AGGREGATION: MANAGING NEWS INFORMATION OVERLOAD**

Keeping up with changes in legal practice and the business of law is a critical and aggravating part of practicing law. Managing information overload is critical for today’s practitioners, and news can be an integral part of meeting that need. In this 2022 Annual Meeting recording, speakers provide a checklist for evaluating news aggregators, show the criteria in action, demonstrate curating news for a more targeted product, and identify effective uses for disseminating curated news.

Find many more continuing education programs and webinars on [AALL eLearning](https://aall.org/education).

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**COMMUNITY**

**UPCOMING SIS WEBINAR**

Several of AALL's special interest sections (SISs) feature webinars each month that are open to all AALL members. Be sure to visit the [AALL Calendar of Events](https://aall.org/calendar) page to stay up to date on future topics and to register. Upcoming
webinars include the **BLL-SIS Webinar: The Black Tax: 50 Years of Theft, Exploitation, and Dispossession in America** on **Thursday, April 25, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. (CDT)**.

AALL wants to know what's happening within your specialized groups. If your caucus, chapter, or SIS has any news items, upcoming events, or would like to highlight members' accomplishments, please contact [Heather Haemker](mailto:heather@aalldc.org), AALL director of marketing & communications.

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**QUICK LINKS**

- [AALL Events Calendar](https://www.aallnet.org/events)
- [AALL eLearning](https://www.aallnet.org/education)
- [AALL Education on AALLNET](https://www.aallnet.org/education)
- [AALL Body of Knowledge](https://www.aallnet.org/education)
- [AALL DEI Resources](https://www.aallnet.org/dei)

Stay Informed: [Join our mailing list](https://www.aallnet.org/subscribe).

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