

**AUGUST 28, 2025**

## ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

### AALL 2025 PROGRAM RECORDINGS AVAILABLE ON AALL eLEARNING

[2025 Annual Meeting & Conference recordings](#) are live! Explore them anytime on [AALL eLearning](#). (Please note, a few programs were not recorded at the speakers' request.)

To [access the recordings](#):

- Log in to eLearning with your AALLNET credentials
- Click on "Search" at the top
- Under "Catalog," scroll down to "Search by Type"
- Select Annual Meeting & Conference Recordings

You may also [access past conference recordings from 2019-2024](#). If you need assistance accessing the recordings, please contact [elarning@aall.org](mailto:elarning@aall.org).

## PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

### EVOLVE YOUR COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

AALL's self-paced course, [Evolving Collection Development in Law Libraries](#), offers practical strategies and tools to help you build collections that reflect today's priorities. Learn how to adapt to changing demands, refine your selection process, and create a collection development policy that supports your library's future. [Register today](#) and start shaping what's next.

LEARN MORE &  
REGISTER

### GROW, LEARN & CONNECT: JOIN THE AALL MENTOR PROGRAM

Looking to gain fresh perspectives or give back to the profession? The [AALL Mentor Program](#) is a meaningful way to build lasting professional connections. With **196 successful matches and counting**, the program fosters growth, collaboration, and knowledge-sharing at every career stage. [Sign up today](#) and be part of this rewarding experience!

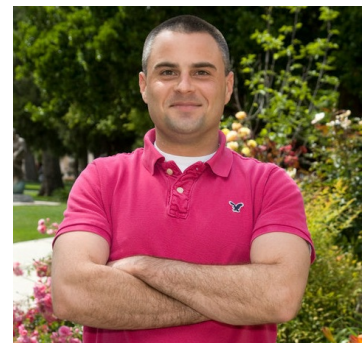
## LEADER IN YOU

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

**David Holt**  
Reference Librarian  
University of California at Davis Law Library

#### What does leadership mean to you?

A good leader not only makes tough decisions but also nurtures their staff's professional and personal growth. I have had the good fortune of having great leaders in my life who nurtured me as a nascent librarian and gave me both room and space to develop. This allowed me to pursue my interests and create a specialization for myself. As academic law librarians, we are often tasked to be generalists in the field and expected to have a cursory understanding of a wide variety of topics in legal practice. Despite this, many of us have also found a niche in our working lives where we can become more conversant in a unique area of the law. For myself, that has been intellectual property research. While in my first



professional job at Santa Clara University, I was allowed to create curricula for an intellectual property research course. This experience, early on in my career, helped shape my interests later in life. I think that's a hallmark of good leadership—allowing your staff to develop their own skill set and build on their strengths. Great leaders recognize individual talents and help turn them into valuable skills.

### **Is there a particular AALL product/program/article that was especially helpful for you as you developed as a leader?**

I have continually found value in the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference. I remember my first conference back in 2007 and have continued to attend. These meetings give us the opportunity to educate ourselves on topics related to leadership, but perhaps more importantly, they allow us to build the mentoring networks that encourage professional growth. I was lucky to be assigned a great mentor back in 2007 at the [Conference of Newer Law Librarians \(CONELL\)](#). That mentoring relationship gave me the foundation I needed to pursue professional development goals and build my leadership skills. I highly encourage colleagues to attend the Annual Meeting and take advantage of the mentoring opportunities they provide. Additionally, I have found the “deep dives” at the conference to be of value. I have attended a number of these sessions over the course of my career and have found them to be uniquely applicable to my professional development.

### **How do you help others develop their leadership skills?**

Mentoring is essential throughout a career, from starting out to taking on leadership roles. Early in my career, I was fortunate to work under Prano Amjadi at Santa Clara Law, whose supportive leadership helped me grow professionally and guided my transition from MLIS graduate to JD holder. Her mentorship—and Santa Clara Law's openness to nontraditional paths—shaped my career and left a lasting impact.

### **Describe a failure you experienced and how it changed you as a leader.**

My biggest career misstep was moving from legal education to the federal judiciary, where I found the work environment far more isolated than I expected. I realized I need daily face-to-face interaction, so after a year with the Ninth Circuit, I returned to academia at UC Davis. Eight years later, I am thriving as an academic law librarian—teaching legal research and IP research, working with students from around the world, and enjoying the dynamic energy of a university campus.

### **Which leadership skills were the most difficult to develop?**

I have been able to serve as a leader in a variety of ways over the course of my career. I served as president of our local AALL chapter ([Northern California Association of Law Libraries](#)) and in various capacities in caucuses and special interest sections. I think the most difficult skill to develop as a leader is the ability to have difficult conversations. I think this is probably a common viewpoint. Many people struggle to have difficult conversations with others. I am particularly averse to confrontation and conflict, so this has been personally challenging.

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 [Pauline S. Afuso](#), chair of the [Leadership Development Committee](#).

## **ON-DEMAND LEARNING**

### **WEBINARS NOW AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND**

- [LexisNexis Partner Webinar: The Perplexing Mystery of the Lawyer Who Embraced Change](#)
- [CRIV Vendor Roundtable: Shared Responsibility—Navigating Security and Privacy in Library Technology](#)
- [AALL Webinar Law Archive - Free Legal Scholarship Repository](#)

Find many more continuing education programs and webinars on [AALL eLearning](#).

### **SUBMIT A WEBINAR TOPIC**

Do you have an idea for a webinar? The [Continuing Professional Education Committee](#) is looking for fresh ideas to create engaging and relevant webinars—and we need your input! [Submit a webinar proposal](#) and share the topics that will support your professional growth. Your ideas will help shape upcoming programs tailored to your interests. Have questions? Please email [elearning@aall.org](mailto:elearning@aall.org).

### **UPCOMING COFFEE CHAT**

Be part of the conversation! Register for the [AALL Virtual Coffee Chat: Introducing the Solo & Small Team Librarian Caucus](#), taking place **on Tuesday, September 9 from 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. (CDT)**. Visit [AALL eLearning](#) to stay up to date on future topics and to register.

### **SHARE YOUR COFFEE CHAT IDEAS**

Contribute to the growth of AALL's community of experts by sharing cutting-edge trends, best practices, and innovations spanning a diverse range of topics, igniting inspiration among your fellow professionals. Do you have ideas or topics for future coffee chats? **Please share your ideas with [elearning@aall.org](mailto:elearning@aall.org).**

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## QUICK LINKS

[AALL Events Calendar](#) | [AALL eLearning](#) | [AALL Education on AALLNET](#) | [AALL Body of Knowledge](#) | [AALL DEI Resources](#)

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