

# *2024 Award Recipients*



**July 20-23  
Chicago, IL**

**117th Annual Meeting & Conference**

# MARIAN GOULD GALLAGHER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

## Gallagher Award Celebrates Outstanding Achievement in Law Librarianship

Billie Jo Kaufman and Fred R. Shapiro  
Recognized for Service to the Profession

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Awards Committee is pleased to announce this year's recipients of the 2024 Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award: Billie Jo Kaufman and Fred R. Shapiro. Established to recognize extended and sustained service to the Association, or for contributions to professional literature; this award this is the Association's highest honor.

Members of the Awards Committee are Richard A. Leiter (chair); Jennifer A. Berman (vice chair); Shari Berkowitz Duff; Annalee Hickman Pierson; Holly M. Riccio; Karen Selden; and Mitchell Witkov.

BY RICHARD A. LEITER



### BILLIE JO KAUFMAN

In many ways, Billie Jo Kauffman represents both the ideals that the Distinguished Service Award was designed to recognize, as well as the ideals of our profession.

Billie Jo's service record is impressive. As a librarian, she has developed a reputation for outstanding service

in every library she has worked. Starting her career in public libraries, she has risen from an entry-level position in technical services at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center to becoming its director while earning her law degree. After Nova Southeastern, where she earned a reputation as an innovative director, leader, and innovator in the field of academic law libraries, she moved to American University where she continued to lead the way for many by advocating for the integration of technology into legal education and the practice of law. Presently, she is continuing her career as library director and professor of law at Mercer University School of Law.

Throughout her career, Kaufman has tirelessly worked to serve as an administrator, teacher, and scholar. She has taught a broad range of classes, including basic legal research skills, advanced legal research, and courses on technology. At the same time, she has worked on planning law school retreats, serving on committees, and representing her law school in the university's shared governance. She has written numerous articles, contributed to books, and given presentations to a wide variety of groups and organizations. In addition, she has served on the editorial board of CALI for over 25 years.

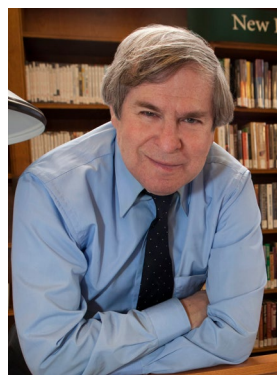
As a director, she has worked with many librarians and has mentored them as they have grown their careers. Many librarians can attest to her wisdom and guidance, and have developed their own successful careers.

In short, Billie Jo Kaufman is a hardworking and knowledgeable leader in our profession. In addition to her professional career, Kaufman has served on a number of AALL committees,

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including the Annual Meeting Program Committee, Local Arrangements Committee, and Consulting Services Group, and participated in the Newer Librarians Workshop. She has also been a member and volunteered with the Association of American Law Schools, the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, SEALS, and Friends of the Law Library of Congress. She also served on numerous American Bar Association (ABA) Site Evaluation teams and on the ABA's Committee on Libraries. As a result of her vast experience, she has also served as a consultant at many law schools.

Billie Jo Kaufmann's tireless pursuit of excellence in service to the profession of law librarianship and the law make her a worthy recipient of the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award.



## FRED R. SHAPIRO

Fred R. Shapiro is not just one of the smartest legal bibliographers practicing today, he is the quintessential image of the humble, prolific, brilliant, and literate scholar.

A literature major at MIT in the early 1970s, he went on to earn a law degree from Harvard Law School in 1980, after which he served as an associate at a Washington, DC law firm

for one year before turning his intellect to law libraries. He enrolled at Catholic University of America's School of Library Science and earned his MS in Library Science while working at the university library at the same institution. After working for several years at New York Law School (NYLS), where he taught legal research and became head of reference, he moved to Yale Law School Library as associate librarian for public services and, eventually, associate librarian for collections and special projects, all of which tells the successful story of a dedicated academic law librarian.

While Shapiro's success as a law librarian demonstrates his commitment to excellence to the practice of law librarianship, this only tells a small portion about why he is being recognized with the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award.

Those who knew Shapiro in the 1990s will undoubtedly remember him always in possession of a stack of index cards in his breast pocket and a small notebook. It was

uncanny at the time how he was able to work into any conversation the question of whether anyone knew of an interesting quotation about the law, or by a lawyer, judge, or scholar. He did this again in a nonlegal realm as he was compiling his most famous works, the *Yale Book of Quotations* and the *New Yale Book of Quotations*. These books are now regarded by many as the standard quotation dictionaries. The *Wall Street Journal* even named the *Yale Book of Quotations* as the second most essential of all reference works.

But Shapiro's scholarship is not limited to quotations, his academic interests are broad, but dive deeply into etymology and the origins of expressions and various rules and systems that we all take for granted. He has been described in the *Wall Street Journal* as the founder of legal citation analysis, and played a major part in developing the Making of Modern Law legal history databases. He has been acknowledged as the leading contributor to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, he is a contributing editor of *Black's Law Dictionary*, and he is currently a major contributor to the forthcoming *Oxford Dictionary of African American English*.

Shapiro's reputation is rare among law librarians. He is well-known outside law librarianship, perhaps, more than among his own profession. His books, articles, and historical discoveries have brought him to the attention of libraries and scholars from all disciplines and have earned him coverage in numerous national and international publications. He has been cited over 100 times in the *New York Times* and reviewed in the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *Times* (London), and the *New Yorker*, to name a few. He has also been a guest on *NPR's Morning Edition* and *Weekend Edition*. He was also the first person to employ large searchable full-text historical online databases for linguistic research. Astonishing achievements for a humble law librarian.

His service to the profession extends far beyond the walls of any library or library organization of which he is a member, he is an ambassador to many far outside of a law library. This award is a fitting tribute to his distinguished service. ■

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 Professionalism + Leadership at Every Level

**RICHARD A. LEITER**; Director of the Schmid Law Library & Professor of Law; University of Nebraska College of Law; Lincoln, NE (AALL Awards Committee Chair)

# SAVE THE DATE

**AALL 2025 / JULY 19-22**  
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