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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES RELEASES ECONOMIC VALUE OF LAW LIBRARIES STUDY

Findings Stress Regularly Conveying Law Libraries’ Value in Relation to an Organization’s Strategic Goals

CHICAGO, January 23, 2015—The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) released a new research-based study today to help legal information professionals effectively communicate the return on investment they provide to the organizations they serve.

Research for The Economic Value of Law Libraries report was conducted in five phases from February to October 2014. Data was gathered from both focus groups and individual discussions with library directors and organizational stakeholders from three law library types (law school, law firm, and court/government).

The report details 20 best practices including five actions librarians can take to enhance their visibility among decision makers, four strategies for communicating qualitative measures, and five methods of communicating quantitative measures.

The report’s suggestions include building strong, interpersonal relationships with stakeholders to facilitate communication.

Librarians are also encouraged to frequently share news about their services’ impact through stakeholder-preferred channels. Adjusting the way information is delivered can also help law librarians meet varied demands and expectations.

Research goals were initially identified by AALL’s Economic Value of Law Libraries Special Committee, which worked with a study team from legal research and information solutions provider HBR Consulting throughout the project.

“In today’s legal market, it has become increasingly important for law librarians to show results,” says AALL President Holly M. Riccio. “Librarians can demonstrate they are aligned with their organization’s priorities by highlighting the benefits they provide through regular communications with stakeholders.”

To view the entire The Economic Value of Law Libraries report, visit www.aallnet.org/mm/Publications/products/economicvaluelawlibraries.pdf.
About AALL
The American Association of Law Libraries was founded in 1906 to promote law libraries' value to the legal and public communities, foster the law librarianship profession, and provide leadership in the legal information field. With nearly 5,000 members, AALL represents law librarians and related professionals who are affiliated with law firms; law schools; corporate legal departments; courts; and local, state, and federal government agencies. For more information, visit www.aallnet.org.

About HBR Consulting
HBR Consulting (www.hbrconsulting.com) is internationally recognized as the leading business and technology operations consultancy in the legal industry. Formerly Hildebrandt Baker Robbins, HBR Consulting continues to expand on its foundation as a leading provider of consulting services to the legal industry. With more than three decades of experience, HBR Consulting supports law firms and law departments plan, implement and measure business, information and technology initiatives with a specific focus on increasing operational efficiency and effectiveness.

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