The Developing Law Librarians for the Future (DLLF) Special Committee is charged with developing a coherent long-range plan to recruit new members to the profession of law librarianship and AALL and developing strategies to retain younger members within the profession and AALL.

This two-year special committee has worked for one year to create new ideas designed to achieve these ends. Preliminarily, it has proposed a national Recruitment Ambassadors program, composed of member volunteers. The ambassadors would endeavor to attract potential recruits by establishing active relationships and programs with area library schools, law schools, undergraduate institutions, and other institutions. They would be managed by a recruitment coordinator and would receive coaching and training at the Annual Meeting. In addition, each ambassador would coordinate with local Chapters, many of whom have their own recruitment programs. The DLLF Special Committee’s Recruitment Subcommittee is chaired by Lauren M. Collins.

Another proposal of the committee is to consolidate AALLNET information, in order to recruit new members to the profession and to AALL, by designing an attractive new site to appeal to outside visitors that will “sell” law librarianship as a career; and reinvent career services for existing members, by making them more electronic and user-driven. The committee is actively investigating changes that may be made to AALLNET to achieve these goals. The DLLF Special Committee’s AALLNET Subcommittee is chaired by Gregory L. Ivy.

The committee held numerous conference calls and it met in Chicago in February for a day-long meeting. The Chicago meeting was very productive and allowed the committee to coalesce around the proposals it included in its Preliminary Report to the Executive Board for its spring meeting.

The 2007-08 DLLF Special Committee has been composed of Donna K. Bausch, Kim Clarke, Lauren M. Collins, Amy J. Eaton, Gregory L. Ivy, Terry Long, James G. Milles, and Susan Lewis-Somers, Chair. It has received much assistance and thoughtful advice from its ex officio members, Michael J. Bushbaum, Chair of the Mentoring Committee; Barbara G. Traub, Chair of the Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee; and Roberta (Bobbie) Studwell, Chair of the Membership and Retention Committee.

The committee is also grateful for the helpful counsel and support it has received from its Executive Board Liaison, Cornell H. Winston, and from President Ann Fessenden and Executive Director Kate Hagan.

Susan Lewis-Somers, Chair
2007-08