AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee Annual Report 2012-2013

The members of the 2012-2013 AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee were: Mark Podvia, Chair; Benjamin Keele, Vice Chair; Shawn Nevers; I-Wei Wang; Ron Wheeler, Board Liaison; and Hannah Phelps, Staff Liaison.

The AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee promotes the scholarship of AALL members and of students through its annual "Call for Papers" competition. Papers, which may address any subject relevant to law librarianship, may be submitted by active or retired AALL members, or by students in library, information management, or law school. Winners receive cash awards generously provided by LexisNexis. There are four divisions in the Competition: Open Division, New Member Division, Short Form Division and Student Division.

The Open Division is open to active or retired AALL members who have been members for five years or more. This year’s winner of the Open Division was Joe Gerken, Reference Librarian at the Charles B. Sears Law Library, University of Buffalo Law School. His paper was entitled “The Invention of Legal Research.”

The New Member Division is open to active and retired members who have been members of AALL for fewer than five years. The winner of the New Member Division was Catherine A. Lemmer, Head of Information Services at the Ruth Lilly Law Library, Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. Her paper was entitled “A View from the Flip Side: Using the "Inverted Classroom" to Enhance the Legal Research Information Literacy of the International LL.M. Student.”

The Short Form Division promotes articles that are shorter than a traditional scholarly article, and appropriate for publication in AALL Spectrum. This year’s winner of the Short Form Division was Mari Cheney. She is Digital Resources and Reference Librarian at the Paul L. Boley Law Library, Lewis & Clark Law School. Her paper was entitled “Legal Research Boot Camp: Bridging the 1L Knowledge Gap.”

This year’s winner of the Student Division was Kristen M. Hallows. She received her MLIS degree in December, 2012 from the Kent State University School of Library and Information Science, and she is now Research Librarian at Bricker & Eckler LLP. Her paper was entitled “It's All Enumerative: Reconsidering Library of Congress Classification in United States Law Libraries.”

The award winners were given the opportunity to present their papers at the 2013 Annual Meeting in Seattle in a program entitled “The Librarian as Author.” In addition, Dr. Joel Fishman, Assistant Director for Lawyer Services at the Duquesne University Center for Legal Information—a prolific author with more than 250 publications—offered the keynote address at that program.

Mark W. Podvia
Chair, 2012-2013