The Conell Committee is responsible for the planning and promotion of the Conference of Newer Law Librarians, which is held annually on the Saturday before the Annual Meeting begins.

The 2008/09 year marked the inaugural year of the Conell Committee. In previous years, Conell used to be run by the Mentoring Committee. The members of the Conell Committee during 2008/09 are Beth Adelman, chair; Donna Williams, vice chair; Beth DiFelice; Margaret Hall; Julia Hughes; Jocelyn Kennedy; Pedro Padilla-Rosa; Mary Wells; and Laura Whitbeck.

The committee met at the Annual Meeting in Portland. Committee members signed up for one or more of the following subcommittees: Dutch Treat Dinner, Marketplace, Publicity, Speaker Recruitment, Speed Networking, Tour Planning, and Website. Committee members met via phone conference monthly throughout the year.

During the past year many new initiatives were implemented. The committee created a social networking site through AirSet.com, which allows committee members to share documentation and preserve information. Over the next few years this documentation will naturally blossom into a committee handbook.

Another initiative is the Conell website. It went live on April 1, 2009. It serves as an introduction to Conell including testimonials, photos, and general information about the Conell experience.

The committee also implemented a “green” initiative. Most notably, the committee cut down the number of pages included in the Conell handout. Instead, attendees were directed to the Conell website for information. In addition, the committee decided to forgo purchasing prizes. Instead, unused Conell t-shirts from previous years will be given away as prizes.

The officers for 2009/10 are Donna Williams, chair; and Julia Hughes, vice chair.

Beth Adelman
Chair, 2008/09