The Committee was extremely busy this year as a result of changes approved to the Association bylaws following the 2012 annual meeting in Boston and as a result of a push by the Association to encourage chapters and special interest sections to bring their bylaws in line with the model bylaws. As a result, the majority of the Committee’s work involved the review of sets of bylaws submitted by the various AALL SISs, caucuses, and chapters. The Committee reviewed bylaws for eight regional chapters; four special interest sections; and, one caucus.

While some of these reviews were rather straight-forward, some generated considerable discussion and brought to light a number of areas in both the Model SIS bylaws and the Model Chapter bylaws that need further review. Some of these areas include: Language surrounding establishment of a quorum for meetings—Do the laws of the various states impact the bylaws of the various regional chapters? Amendments to bylaws—standardized language needs to be added to the model bylaws that states that drafts of bylaws should be submitted to the AALL Bylaws & Resolutions Committee for review before a vote is taken.

The Dallas Area Law Librarians chapter also requested advice on how they should proceed in the following situation—The Chapter has bylaws and a constitution; the bylaws contain all of the same information as the bylaws. The Chapter is asking what is the proper way to “decommission” their constitution?

Committee members in 2012-2013 were: Alan Keely (chair), Margaret McDermott (vice chair), Carol Bredemeyer, John Edwards, Janice Henderson, Bret Christensen, and Anna Blaine. Executive Board Liaison was Deborah Rusin.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Keely, Chair 2012-2013