The Continuing Professional Education Committee (CPE) followed its charge in order to support the career development and continuing professional education needs of AALL members in accordance with the AALL Professional Education Policy and the Competencies of Law Librarianship.

CPE completed all of its goals that were set back in July 2008. One of CPE’s main goals was to increase awareness on what CPE has to offer including the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program, monthly AALL webinars, Calendar of Events, Speaker Directory, and recorded programs in the Members Only section on AALLNET. The committee reached out to AALL members via e-mail and utilized resources like Law-Lib and AALLNET as a way to promote CPE’s offerings.

CPE continued to oversee the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program. The FAQ document was updated to provide answers about the grant process. CPE also improved the grant application, which now allows applicants to edit and save their application until it is ready for submission. This committee awarded $13,235 in grant money to support continuing education programs. These programs were recorded and will be available on AALL2GO.

CPE created a website where members can access information about the grants program, upcoming webinars, and other CPE news. The committee also developed a Program Development Checklist to assist members putting together a continuing education program. It covers the necessary steps to put on a program, from selecting a topic and venue to collecting feedback from the audience. This checklist can be found on the CPE website.

The committee is evaluating the Competencies of Law Librarianship to determine if they are still relevant today and to make any necessary updates. CPE invited members to a moderated listserv discussion on the Competencies and collected comments from them. An article about the listserv discussion was posted on the Law Librarian Blog on May 27, 2009. CPE is utilizing the Tools for Success in Today’s Economy wiki to collect more feedback. Under April Schwartz’s leadership, the committee will continue and complete this review process.

For the first time, CPE had a program accepted to the 2009 AALL Annual Meeting. The 30-minute program featured a past grant recipient, Cheryl Nyberg, and her program entitled “State by State Compilation of Laws.” The program also highlighted the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program.

CPE also collaborated with Celeste Smith, AALL education director, on identifying topics and speakers for webinars. The recorded webinars on various topics will be available on AALL2GO. CPE also participated in the selection of the 2009 AALL Management Institute attendees.

The 2008-09 committee included Julie Pabarja, chair; April Schwartz, vice chair; Ann Fessenden, Board liaison; Celeste Smith, staff liaison; and members Kevin Butterfield, Scott Childs, Andrew Pulau Evans, Marcus L. Hochstetler, Claudia Jalowka, Kathleen S. Martin, and Anne K. Myers. I would like to thank the Committee members for their dedication and hard
work this year. I would also like to thank Ann Fessenden and Celeste Smith for their guidance and support.

Julie Pabarja, chair 2008-09