Committee Name: Continuing Professional Education Committee

Committee Charge:

CHARGE: To achieve this purpose, the Continuing Professional Education Committee will:

- continuously advise, advocate, support and encourage AALL continuing professional education efforts outside of the Annual Meeting
- work in collaboration with the AALL Education Manager to further develop and maintain the Continuing Professional Education policy and the Competencies of Law Librarianship
- promote and support development of continuing professional education programming by members and association entities
- further develop and administer the AALL/BNA Continuing Professional Education Grants Program
- educate and inform members about the AALL Continuing Professional Education Program and publicize opportunities
- oversee the AALLNET Calendar of Events and Speakers Directory; develop appropriate policies and procedures
- use available technologies to bring programming to members
- monitor and evaluate continuing professional education trends, education efforts and developments, and new technologies of the library and larger community
- study costs and pursue ways to provide quality, affordable programming for members

Major Activities for 2010-2011:

Our activities during this past year supported the education goal of the Strategic Directions. We have accomplished many of the goals set for us in the 2010-2011 Action Plan.

The Committee began the year with a break from tradition as the Chair was unable to attend the Annual Meeting in Denver. Instead the Committee scheduled a conference call to be held on June 19, prior to the meeting. A Committee meeting was held in Denver and some members did attend for the opportunity to meet face to face and to meet with the out-going Chair. Due to unforeseen circumstances the Committee conference call did not take place until July 11. Although unusual, the lack of physically meeting at the Annual Meeting did not appear to hamper the Committee's work throughout the year.

This year the Committee promoted the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program, AALL webinars and other continuing education programs. Programs that received grants funds included "SANDALL Brownbag: Competitive Intelligence," "The 2011 NOCALL Spring Institute," and "Mary Ellen Bates Speaks on the Following: What Will the Information Profession Look Like in 10 Years." The Committee received fewer grant requests than in the 2009-2010 year.

The Committee also reached out to each incoming AALL committee chairs, SIS chairs, caucus chairs, and chapter presidents in August with a personalized greeting to promote the resources and services available to them through the CPE Committee and the Education Director.

The Committee worked with the AALL Education Director, Celeste Smith, on the content of AALL2Go. Through short articles that appeared in the AALL E-Newsletter we promoted several of the programs available on the site.

August through October we worked with the Education Director to develop and offer the first virtual course aimed at managers and aspiring managers from law libraries. This six week Online Law Library Management Course provided 25 attendees the opportunity to improve their managerial skills from their own desktops. Maureen Sullivan served as the facilitator for this course which was highly successful and provides a blue print for future online programs.

Vice-Chair Elizabeth Outler led a sub-committee that sought to identify topics and speakers for future webinar programs. In February 2011, the sub-committee submitted to the Education Director a viable listing of proposed topic with speakers for webinar programs. Topics include; "Developing an Employee Manual," "Distance Education Copyright," "Environmental Scanning as a Change Management Tool" and "Developing Writing and Publishing Opportunities." The Education Director will pursue developing some of these programs.

In the December AALL Spectrum the Committee contributed to a coordinated effort by the Membership
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Development Committee to publish, in the Members’ Briefing section, articles from six AALL committees that focused on developing the profession and skills. Our Committee contributed the article “Continuing Professional Education Committee Offers Career-Boosting Opportunities.” The article highlighted how the CPE Committee could assist members in obtaining and developing continuing education programs outside of the AALL Annual Meeting.

In the January we worked with the Education Director to promote the in-person spring AALL Management Institute 2011. The Institute will run April 7 – 9, 2011 in Chicago. The facilitator of the program will be Maureen Sullivan.

Proposed Activities for 2011-2012:

The Committee will continue working with the Education Director to develop and present webinars and programs based on the suggestions of the 2010-2011 sub-committees recommendations of topics and programs. The formation of a permanent sub-committee, with members assigned yearly, to work on the development of topics should be considered.

The Committee will work with the Education Director to provide opportunities for online learning to AALL members through the continued development of virtual courses such as the Online Law Library Management Course.

The Committee will propose a continuing education program for the Annual Meeting in Boston.

The Committee will continue to explore news venues for education opportunities outreach. It will continue to explore ways to develop outreach to advertise the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program to members utilizing social media channels.

The Committee will continue to write monthly Pick of the Month articles to advertise the AALL2Go resources.

The Committee will publish an article in the Spectrum regarding the work of the Committee and how continuing professional education helps members professionally.

The Committee will look for new and innovative ways to meet its charge.