The Continuing Professional Education Committee (CPE) advised, advocated, supported, and encouraged AALL continuing professional education efforts as outlined in our charge.

One of the primary tasks of the committee is to advertise and promote to the membership the availability of the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grant Program, as well as to review the applications for the program and to award the grants. In 2010-2011 the committee received nine applications and approved six of them, awarding a total of $10,736.25. The programs sponsored by the grant program were: “The Strength of Change,” “Competitive Intelligence: What, Where, When and How,” “NOCALL Spring Institute,” “Mary Ellen Bates Speaks: What Will the Information Profession Look Like in 10 Years?,” “Comparing AACR2 and RDA,” and “Legal Project Management.”

The committee continued to reach out to AALL committee chairs, SIS chairs, caucus chairs, and chapter presidents in an effort to increase awareness of and encourage applications to the grant program. However, fewer applications were received in 2010-2011 than in previous years. The committee also worked with AALL Education Director Celeste Smith to promote the educational content available in AALL2go, mainly through writing short articles that appeared monthly in the AALL e-newsletter, profiling a different program each month.

In the early fall of 2010, the committee worked with the education director to develop and offer the first virtual course aimed at managers and aspiring managers from law libraries. The six-week Online Law Library Management Course provided 25 enrolled participants with the opportunity to improve their managerial skills from their own desktops. Maureen Sullivan was the facilitator for the course, which was reportedly very successful and will serve as a blueprint for future online programs.

In the late fall of 2010 a subcommittee was formed, led by Vice Chair Elizabeth Outler, to assist the education director by developing topics and speakers for future AALL webinar programs. The subcommittee delivered 10 proposals in February 2011. Two of those have already been produced, and two more are on the upcoming schedule: “Copyright Issues in Distance Education and Training” was delivered May 5, 2011; “The Five-Minute Strategic Plan: When You Don’t Have the Time or Resources to Do It Perfectly” on June 9, 2011; “Documenting Your Success: Creating Employee Manuals” on August 17, 2011; and “You Are the Profession: Creating a Positive Professional Image” on September 22, 2011. The committee plans to repeat this process in 2011-2012.

The committee contributed to the members briefing that appeared in the December 2010 issue of AALL Spectrum with an article entitled “Continuing Professional Education Committee Offers Career-Boosting Opportunities,” which highlighted how the committee could assist members in obtaining and developing continuing education programs outside of the Annual Meeting.

In January 2011, the committee worked with the education director to promote the AALL Management Institute that took place April 7-9, 2011 in Chicago.
Elizabeth Outler
Chair, 2011-2012