Committee Name: Copyright Committee

Committee Charge: The Committee shall monitor developments and shall inform and advise the Executive Board and the Government Relations Office on copyright and other intellectual property matters. In addition, the Committee shall inform the membership of notable intellectual property policy issues and other relevant matters, and provide educational opportunities and tools for the membership in copyright law.

The Committee shall coordinate with the Government Relations Office to communicate Association views on copyright and other intellectual property issues to all levels of government. The Committee may, in accordance with Committee and Association policy, work with the AALL Government Relations Office to prepare and communicate Association positions to appropriate governmental bodies and to other interested groups, while keeping the President and the Executive Board informed of all such efforts. The manner of communication shall be determined by the Chair, the Government Relations Director and the President on critical issues.

Major Activities for 2010-2011:

Members of the committee wrote new Issue Briefs on Exemptions to DMCA § 1201 [July 2010] and the Google Book Settlement [June 2010]. In addition, committee members provided to the Library of Congress input on selecting a new Register of Copyrights, discussing our ideas with copyright personnel involved in the search. We have planned and will administer a webinar on distance education, focusing on copyright issues. We developed programs on copyright education and awareness for annual meetings in Denver and Philadelphia. In addition, we provided input to advocacy organization Public Knowledge for their Amicus Brief submitted to the Supreme Court in a case implicating copyright's First Sale Doctrine. We also regularly distribute copyright news on our committee Twitter account.

Proposed Activities for 2011-2012:

The committee will continue to advocate and promote copyright education and awareness, through meeting programming and online communications. If the AALLNET redesign takes place, we'll work to update committee content on the site, to include general copyright education resources. Also, the committee will help with Creative Commons education and awareness, and will work with the Government Relations Office to respond to legislative or legal matters in the area of copyright.