Committee Name: Grants Committee

Committee Charge: The Committee shall review and recommend to the Executive Board criteria for grant awards according to contemporary funding circumstances; coordinate the procurement, receipt and acknowledgement of grant funds; publicize the availability of grants, solicit applications, and award grants according to established criteria.

Major Activities for 2012-2013:

The major task of the Grants Committee begins officially after April 1, 2013, which is the deadline for grant applications. It is then that all application documents are distributed, examined and rated according to established criteria for receiving a grant. The committee's deadline for reviewing and scoring all applications is April 24, 2013.

In the fall of 2011, the committee devoted time and effort to enhance the grant application process by updating and revising the committee scoring sheet and the application form in order to eliminate any confusion for applicants and for committee members when scoring applications. Changes in the scoring sheet do not require the approval of the Executive Board, so they were added to AALLNET in early 2012. At the time, it was believed that application form changes required Executive Board approval, and it was believed that such approval could not happen in time to be implemented for the 2012 grants cycle. The issue was to be revisited in August, 2012. After some discussion in September, 2012 between the Chair and Paula Davidson, AALL liaison to the committee, it was decided that our proposed application changes were minor enough that they could be added to AALLNET without Executive Board approval. That has been done, and the changes were added to the site in time for the 2013 cycle.

In March 2013, notices were sent to LawLib, as well as the chapter and SIS listservs, encouraging AALL or AALL chapter members to apply for a grant if they require financial assistance to attend the Annual Meeting in Seattle. In each posting, the members were encouraged to contact the committee chair with questions about the application process, and several potential applicants took the opportunity to do so. An announcement encouraging members to apply for a grant was published in the vol. 17, No. 4, February 2013, issue of the AALL Spectrum.

The committee chair had an email exchange with Paula Davidson, our committee staff liaison, between February 5-25, 2013, to discuss the status of funds available for the 2013 grants. This year, the committee may distribute up to $6,000.00 worth of grants.

The 2012/2013 Grants Committee will conclude its activities at the meeting in Seattle on Saturday, July 13, 2013, at 3:00 pm, when the responsibilities will be transferred to the 2013/2014 chair and committee. The Grants Committee will have a table placed in the CONELL Marketplace, and the AALL

Proposed Activities for 2013-2014:

The 2013/2014 Grants Committee may wish to consider other formats for advertising grants, such as the use of xNormal video. During 2013/2014, changes made to the scoring sheet and application form that were implemented in 2012/2013 should be reviewed in light of the applications received and the committee members' grading experiences to determine whether the new versions help to minimize confusion.