AALL Committee Activities and Action Plan

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Committee Name: Nominations Committee

Committee Charge: The Committee shall present a slate of candidates to the membership in accordance with the procedures specified in the Bylaws. The Committee shall present a slate that, if elected, would maintain a balance on the Executive Board of members by library type, geography, sex, and minority representation to the extent possible. The Committee shall solicit names of possible nominees from the membership and propose possible nominees itself. The Committee shall select from those names viable candidates to provide leadership to the Association. Prior to the presentation of the slate, the Committee shall determine if the nominees are willing and able to stand for election.

Major Activities for 2010-2011:

The Nominations Committee furthers the strategic goal of Leadership.

In response to a recommendation made in the October 2009 Report of the Board Administration Committee regarding AALL Nominations Committee Procedures, the Nominations Committee held an orientation meeting Monday, July 12, 2010 at the Annual Meeting in Denver. At the orientation meeting the Committee reviewed its charge; the importance and confidentiality of the Committee's work; the work expected and the time-frame involved; and the process and criteria the Committee will use to put together a balanced slate; including type of library, diversity, and geography.

The Committee also reviewed the other recommendations made in the October 2009 Report, and either implemented or made plans to implement those recommendations. Among those recommendations were: 1) that the Committee hold a "virtual" orientation meeting via conference call for the members who could not attend the Annual Meeting orientation in the Fall (held Nov. 17, 2010); 2) that the Committee work with Headquarters to develop a template for reports to be created from the AALL Membership database including the nominees' names, library types, leadership positions (including Committee, Chapter, SIS, and Board Leadership), geographic location, and number of times nominated/refusal to run/willingness to run in the future, etc. notations (template developed Jan. 2011); and 3) that the AALL Immediate Past President serve as Vice-Chair of the Nominations Committee and serve as Chair of the Committee the following year (James Duggan, AALL Immediate Past President, is currently serving as Vice-Chair of the Committee and will serve as Chair beginning in July 2011).

In January 2011 the Committee began soliciting nominations for candidates in the 2011 election. An email was sent to all SIS, Committee, Caucus, and Chapter leaders asking for recommendations. Requests were also made to the general membership by e-mail and by an article in the Spectrum. The Committee plans to meet in-person in Chicago April 8-9, 2011 to analyze the list of submitted names and to determine and rank the leading candidates, rather than doing this work via conference call as has been done in recent years.

Proposed Activities for 2011-2012:

Some of the tasks on which some or all committee members will be working this year are: 1) updating the Nominations Committee webpage, including the "FAQs for Nominees" section; 2) drafting a document clearly defining what candidates may and may not do as far as "campaigning;" 3) reviewing potential nominees, including doing informal "reference checks" in some cases; and 4) arranging for a poster with the names and a photo of each of the candidates to be displayed in the AALL Membership Services area during the Annual Meeting; 5) preparing for/hosting the "Meet the Candidates" event at the Annual Meeting.