The theme of the 2012 Annual Meeting was “Learn, Connect, Grow”. The theme reflected attendees’ activities at a conference – learning and connecting and then growing from those experiences. In keeping with this theme there was an effort to hold more interactive programs this year. As in the previous year, there were six programming tracks focusing on the core competencies: 1) library management and administration, 2) research, reference and client services, 3) information technology, 4) collection development, 5) teaching, and 6) general or core.

Again this year there was a later deadline for submission of proposals, giving members more time to craft proposals. Prior to the proposal submission date there was an AALL member community – “Annual Meeting Program Ideas”. This community allowed members to share ideas and suggestions for programming. There was also an open forum at the 2011 Annual Meeting for members to learn about submitting program proposals. Additionally, AMPC members acted as liaisons to various SISs to assist with the proposal process. The committee Co-Chairs acted as liaisons to any other AALL entities and to individual AALL members.

AMPC members kept in touch with program coordinators during year. Most of the logistics such as reminders, speaker and coordinator communications, and facilitation of on-line handouts were managed by AALL Headquarters staff. The committee is particularly grateful to Heidi Letzman, Pam Reisinger, and Celeste Smith for their hard work in keeping things on track.

There were approximately 200 proposals for workshops and programs from members, chapters, SISs, committees, caucuses and individuals. These proposals were all reviewed and rated by AMPC members. The committee met in October 2011 in Chicago to select and schedule these programs and workshops. Program slots were reserved for the Legislative Update, the LexisNexis Call for Papers and Hot Topic programs. Each of the SISs was also guaranteed one program slot. The committee selected 4 workshops and these were all presented at the meeting: RDA for Law Cataloguers, Workshop for Newer Academic Law Library Directors, Legal Research Teaching Academy, and Going Mobile: Building Mobile Applications. The proposers of one workshop proposal, Piercing the Veil of Sovereignty: The Sources of Human Rights Law agreed to present the topic as a two-part program. The Hot Topic was What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You: An Overview of Social Media Legal Issues and a Deep Dive Into Social Media in the Workplace.

There were a number of programming firsts this year. Firstly, AALL worked with the International Legal Technology Association to present the Information Technology track on Monday, July 23rd. There were four programs offered through this collaboration: Partnering with IT, Empowering Librarians with iPads and Other Mobile Devices, Current Awareness – Delivering the Right News at the Right Time, and Sharepoint as a Showcase for Library Resources and Knowledge Repositories. Secondly, the AMPC curated a program which pulled ideas from a number of different proposals: Embedding Librarians to Add Value to Your Institution. Curators of the program were AMPC members Molly McCluer and Galeen Roe. Thirdly, the Copyright Program slot was held as a Hot Topic allowing that committee to choose the subject of the session closer to the conference time. Finally, a Distinguished Lectureship was given by Anne Klinefelter. The topic of the lectureship was: Should Librarians Retire the Privacy Ethic?

Poster Sessions and Coffee Talks were held again this year. The committee approved all of the submission for poster sessions. The posters were displayed in the Exhibit Hall and the presenters were onsite to discuss the posters at the Sunday afternoon Exhibit Hall break. Three programs were made available to all members via live streaming: Opening General Session/Keynote Speaker - Sunday, July 22, F2: Law Firm Libraries: Your E-book Future Has Arrived - Monday, July 23, and J4: What Makes a Librarian Worth a Million Bucks? Valuing Staff, Resources, and Services When Dollars Are Scarce - Tuesday, July 24.

Richard Susskind, a professor, author and speaker well-known in the area of the future of the legal profession, was the Keynote Speaker. His provocative presentation challenged the training of new lawyers, the current delivery of legal services, and role of information technology. He concluded with suggesting new roles for law librarians. The speaker at the Association Luncheon was Karen McCullough who carried on the theme of change and suggested that adaptability is the key to thriving with change.

2012 Annual Meeting Program Committee were Jonathan Franklin and Anne Matthewman (Co-Chairs), Jessie Wallace Burchfield, Molly McCluer, Karen Nuckolls, Galeen Roe, Jason Sowards, and Gail Zwirner. Julie Pabarja, Chair of the incoming 2013 AMPC was an ex-officio member of the committee.

Jonathan Franklin and Anne Matthewman
Co-Chairs