

AALL Committee Activities and Action Plan

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Committee Name: Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee

Committee Charge: Committee Charge: TYPE: Process Committee

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee is to encourage qualified candidates to enter the profession of law librarianship.

CHARGE: The Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee shall achieve its purpose by:

Acting as a clearinghouse of law librarianship education and career information for prospective law librarians; and developing and updating such materials for the clearinghouse;

Acting as a clearinghouse of law librarianship recruitment resources for members and chapters to use for local recruitment and outreach initiatives, such as career day materials; and developing and updating such materials for the clearinghouse;

Maintaining the Committee web site as the Association's primary clearinghouse site for law librarianship graduate education, career and recruitment information and resources including specific maintenance of the List of ALA-Accredited Graduate Programs in Library Science with Law Library Classes or Joint MLS/JD Classes web site;

Answering questions from individuals who contact Headquarters or the Committee, and questions referred to the Committee, inquiring about the profession;

Encouraging and supporting individual and chapter law librarianship recruitment and outreach efforts;

Coordinating with the Diversity Committee to provide particular support for law librarianship recruitment efforts directed toward diverse populations;

Coordinating with Headquarters to distribute information on law librarianship annually to library schools, law schools, paralegal programs, bar associations and other target groups;

Educating the membership on the importance of law librarianship recruitment in their daily lives;

Developing other methods to promote law librarianship as a career.

TENURE: Membership on the Committee shall normally be for two (2) years, except that the Vice Chair and Chair will each serve three (3) years. The returning member selected as Vice Chair at the end of the first year shall serve in that capacity in the second year, and become the Chair of the committee for an additional third year.

SIZE: The committee shall normally consist of a Chair, Vice Chair, five (5) members, and a non-voting Executive Board liaison.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS COMPLIANCE:

Goal I: Leadership

Goal II: Education

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER COMMITTEES/STRUCTURES: The Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee coordinates with the Diversity Committee and Membership Development Committee, CONELL, and Leadership Development Committee to ensure collaborative efforts.

Major Activities for 2010-2011 :

--Responding to inquiries regarding law librarianship as a career and educational requirements for positions in law librarianship. The inquiries came mostly from the website email link. The responses include email and (often) telephone follow-up for each inquiry.

-- Reviewing materials on the RLLC webpages in relation to the lawlibrarycareers.org website to minimize duplication and provide the most accurate and up-to-date information possible. This may include responding to changes of structure or design on AALLNET.

-- Secured end of year budget funds to initiate a scaled back Recruitment Ambassador program to start in January 2011. During the committee meeting in Philadelphia, this small pilot will be assessed to determine how the program should be supported going forward. A budget request was submitted to the AALL executive board to continue the program with two Recruitment Ambassadors for the 2011-12 program year.

--Collaborated with other committee chairs to write an article that was published in the September Spectrum. The committee article described what the RLLC does for AALL membership development. Participated in a conference call with these related committees to explore ways to promote AALL and law librarianship in the annual meeting host city, especially among local library schools.

--Communicated with Chapter listserv asking Chapters to send their members information about AALL recruitment efforts and to recommend that local law library websites include a link to information about law librarianship as a profession.

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Proposed Activities for 2011-2012:

- Continue to respond to inquiries regarding law librarianship.
- Continue to review materials on both the RLLC webpages and the lalibrarycareers.org website to minimize duplication and to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information possible. This may require responding to changes in structure or design on the AALLNET website.
- Continue to work on making progress with the Recruitment Ambassadors program. Partner with AALL Headquarters and local chapters. Continue the program by supporting the efforts of two Recruitment Ambassadors in 2011-12, assuming the 2010/11 budget request is approved.

- Identify exceptional recruitment strategies among chapters; showcase and spotlight these as models
- Charge ambassadors with piloting strategies for making an impact on library school students
- Consider "reverse" training from library school students; invite students to law library meetings to discuss an aspect of information science that they really like, especially in the area of new web technologies that could provide some updated information to seasoned law librarians
- Encourage chapters to add a link to AALL's "Careers in Law Librarianship" brochure and the lawlibrarycareers.org website on their own chapter websites, especially if they have Placement/Recruitment committees.
- Review the DLLF special committee final report for any additional ways the Recruitment Committee can implement new ideas and/or recommendations of the special committee.
- Attend recruitment events, if possible, as they occur.
- Continue to review materials on both the RLLC webpages and the lalibrarycareers.org website to minimize duplication and to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information possible.
- Assign certain portions of the committee website to committee members to review and recommend changes. Create an approval process for recommended changes and forward final revisions to the RLLC webmaster for uploading.
- Involve local library schools, or schools with dual degree (MLS/JD) programs, in AALL annual meeting activities. Collaborate with Diversity, Membership Development, and CONELL to explore how library school students and faculty might participate in annual meeting activities.