

Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee 2010-2011 Annual Report

The Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee was busy on several fronts this year, with particular focus on the new Recruitment Ambassador program, which is a new committee initiative that received initial funding in late 2010 to start a pilot recruitment program in 2010-11. Lesliediana Jones graciously agreed to pilot the first Recruitment Ambassador effort. She completed a report about her experience to help subsequent ambassadors, and she also advised committee members about her experience during the committee meeting that took place in Philadelphia. The emphasis was recruitment in urban areas with multiple law schools and library schools to minimize the travel and time commitment required of the ambassador.

In the spring of 2011, Committee Chair Sara Galligan and Vice-Chair Whitney Curtis selected two people as the Recruitment Ambassadors for 2011-12. A \$1,500 budget proposal to support travel expenses was approved by the AALL Board earlier in the year. Committee members Wendy Moore (continuing committee member) and Sarah Montgomery (incoming committee member) agreed to continue the Recruitment Ambassador initiative, and their names were forwarded to AALL incoming President Darcy Kirk for approval. Both Wendy and Sarah attended the Meeting in Philadelphia during which all RLLC members had a chance to strategize about the committee's goals and the ongoing implementation of the Recruitment Ambassador program.

Other Committee Activities

The committee acts as a first contact for individuals interested in information about law librarianship. These individuals create the connection by visiting the committee's website on AALLNET. There were 25 contacts made this way, and the chair replied with information related to the individual inquiry. There were also five follow-up phone calls to the committee chair for further information.

A third of the inquiries about law librarianship came from law school students or persons with a J.D. Several people asked about the legal training needed to become a law librarian and how to transition into the field. The contact provided by the website is ongoing. Each email inquiry also generates an email message to AALL HQ staff (Julia O'Donnell), who sends out information to each individual regarding AALL membership.

Website

AALL transitioned to the new ALLNET in May 2011. Webmaster Lesliediana Jones maintained the website from July 2010 to May 2011 when the transition occurred.

Spectrum

The chair contributed to the "Members' Briefing" that was published in the December 2010 *Spectrum*. The Briefing described AALL committees that offer "Support for Every Stage of Your Career." The chair's article was titled "Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee: Communicating the Value of Law Librarianship," and it described the major objectives and resources of the Recruitment Committee.

AALL Annual Meeting

The committee hosted tables in the Exhibit Hall and during the CONELL Marketplace at the Philadelphia Annual Meeting. The brisk traffic and many questions from new members indicated good interest in the work of the committee and the potential for ongoing interest among new AALL members.

Collaboration

In December, the chair and vice-chair participated in a conference call with chairs of other committees involved in leadership and member development. One area of discussion was promoting law librarianship to library schools near the site of the AALL Annual Meeting, especially in regard to engaging them somehow in the AALL Meeting and program. Unfortunately, subsequent calls failed to occur, and there was no follow-up to the idea.

The chair wishes to thank all members of the committee. They are Whitney Curtis, vice chair, Susan Lewis, Board liaison; Julia O'Donnell, staff liaison; and members Mari Cheney, Robert Guerrero, Lesliediana Jones, Wendy Moore, and Jason Sowards.

Sara Galligan
Chair, 2010-2011