Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee 2012-13 Annual Report

The Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee 2012-13 met at the 2012 AALL Conference in Boston on July 21, 2012 with 7 members present, in a conference call on January 24, 2013 with 7 members present, and at the 2013 AALL Conference in Seattle with 4 members present.

AALLNET
The committee continued to review the links and information on AALLNET under “About Law Librarianship” for accuracy. More fact checking and updating of these webpages should be undertaken in the next year in order to keep the information from getting further out of date. Also need to consider adding quotes and short video clips from law librarians about law librarianship to create added value and personalize these pages on AALLNET.

Inquiries to the Committee
The Committee Chair is the first contact for individuals interested in information about law librarianship via the “Questions? Contact Us” form. This year there were 21 submissions made, however one was incomplete, so the actual number was 20 inquiries. These 20 people broke down into the following categories: Has MLS and interested in Law Librarianship = 8, Has J.D. considering MLS = 5, Has neither J.D. nor MLS = 5, Has both J.D. and MLS = 1, and Current Law Librarian = 1. Almost all requests were concerning advice about degree seeking, degree requirements for employment, and employment prospects. The Chair responded with information related to each individual inquiry. Additional emails and phone calls were sometimes needed. Several inquiries specifically wanted to talk to a law librarian directly to have their questions answered. The Chair recommends that in the future the requests be sent to all the members of the Committee, not just the Chair. Having all committee members receive the emails will better utilize their expertise, experience, and networking connections.

AALL Annual Meeting
The Committee hosted a table in the Exhibit Hall and during the CONELL Marketplace at the Annual Meeting in Boston, using the informational poster board created by Wendy Moore last year. The CONELL Marketplace table was staffed by Outgoing Chair Wendy Moore and received a lot of interest from these new to law librarianship attendees. The Exhibit Hall table was only staffed once during the Opening Reception, none-the-less, many brochures were taken over the course of the conference. A total of 136 of the “Careers in Law Librarianship” brochures and 13 of the brochure request forms were distributed at the two tables.

Future Direction
The Committee needs to refocus its outreach activities by serving as a resource and providing tools to assist Chapters, Caucuses, SISs, and individual members with their recruitment to law librarianship efforts and needs. The Committee should create a “Tips for Law Librarianship Recruitment” document with information and links that can be shared with AALL members and made free-available on AALLNET. To facilitate the Committee charge to be a clearinghouse of law librarianship recruitment information, the Committee annually needs to contact board members of all Chapters, Caucuses, and SISs to make them aware of tools available and to hear what initiatives those groups may be undertaking.

Acknowledgments
The chair wishes to thank all members of the committee. They are Sarah J. Montgomery, Vice Chair; Susan J. Lewis, Board Liaison; Stacy Schuble, Staff Liaison; and Members Kirstin Nelson, Wanita Scroggs, Thomas Sneed, and Patricia Wellinger.

Wendy E. Moore
Chair, 2012-13