Committee Name: Scholarship Committee

Committee Charge: The Committee shall review and recommend to the Executive Board the types of scholarships needed for the advancement of the profession and the recruitment of qualified persons into the field of law librarianship; develop, review and set guidelines for awarding scholarships for each category of scholarships. The Committee shall also publicize the availability of scholarships, solicit applications, and award scholarships according to established criteria.

Major Activities for 2010-2011:

The Scholarship Committee selects the recipients of the AALL Educational Scholarships that are available from the American Association of Law Libraries. The scholarships exist to assist individuals studying to become law librarians with their educational expenses. The existing scholarships are: LexisNexis®/John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship (funded through the John R. Johnson Endowment Fund); Marcia J. Koslov/AALL Scholarship (jointly established by AALL and member Marcia J. Koslov, this scholarship is directed at members who serve as librarians in state, court or county libraries); AALL & Thomson West - George A. Strait Minority Scholarship is awarded to college graduates with law library experience who are members of a minority group as defined by current U.S. government guidelines and are degree candidates in accredited library or law schools and who intend to have a career in law librarianship.

The bulk of the Committee works takes place in the Spring. The applications are received at AALL Headquarters and prepared for review. The Committee reviews them individually and then, as a committee. Awards are announced by Headquarters prior to the Annual Meeting.

The Committee annually reviews the application forms for any changes at the joint committee meeting held during the AALL Annual Meeting in July.

The Committee has seen a rise in applications and would like to see a similar increase in donations to the AALL Scholarship fund.

Proposed Activities for 2011-2012:

Continue to work on ways to increase both member and vendor donations to the AALL Scholarship Fund.

Use AALL website and other media outlets to announce scholarship opportunities to AALL members, library school & law school students.

Review and update the scholarship application forms and guidelines.