The SIS Council consists of the Association’s thirteen Special Interest Sections. Its purpose is to improve communication among the sections and provide a conduit for bringing the needs of the sections to the AALL Executive Board.

The council’s major activities are to coordinate the scheduling of the sections’ events at the Annual Meeting and to provide training to SIS leadership. During the late summer and fall, the SIS Chairs worked with the Council Chair and the AALL Director of Meetings to develop a schedule that coordinated the sections’ many meetings, events and educational programs with the myriad association events that take place at the Annual Meeting. AALL headquarters helped to streamline this relatively new process this year by editing the planning matrix and posting it on AALLNET after each days’ changes were received. This centralized yet flexible system allowed the SIS Chairs to develop a meeting schedule that minimized conflicts for the members, despite the debut of a shorter Annual Meeting.

The SIS Leadership Training, held the Saturday prior to the 2007 Annual Meeting, prepared the new section chairs to handle their duties and better understand the inner workings of the Association. New chairs and some newly elected vice chairs, heard presentations on Annual Meeting programs and planning from AMPC Chair Diana Jaque and AALL Director of Meetings Pam Reisinger. AALL Education Manager Celeste Smith explained the new Continuing Professional Education program to encourage SISs to develop programs outside of the Annual Meeting. AALL’s new Director of Finance, Paula Davidson explained how SIS finances work. Section leaders also learned about member communication strategies, from Web sites and brochures to archives.

The council’s business meeting covered several issues, including the possibility of assisting AALL Caucuses that may be considering becoming new SISs. The chairs also received reports on the Community Service Day, sponsored in part by the council.

Cathy Lemann, 2006-07 Chair of the State, Court & County SIS, was elected Chair of the SIS Council for 2007-08.

Scott Matheson, Chair
2006-07