The Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS-SIS) was led by a board consisting of Michael Maben, Chair; Patricia Sayre McCoy, Vice Chair/Chair-elect; Mary Strouse, Secretary/Treasurer; Members-at-Large, Susan Karpuk and Elaine Bradshaw; and Andrea Rabbia, Past Chair. Ellen McGrath and Janet Hedin served as the representatives to the Technical Services Law Librarian Board; George Praeger served as representative to MARBI; and Phyllis Post served as representative to the OCLC Members Council.

The standing committees were chaired by: Michael Maben and Patricia Sayre McCoy, Education (2009 and 2010 Annual Meetings, respectively); Susan Goldner, Nominating; Caitlin Robinson, Local Systems; Keiko Okuhara and Ming Lu, OCLC; Ruth Funabiki, OBS/TS Joint Research Grant; and Kevin Butterfield, Web Advisory. The special committee on record sharing was chaired by Pat Callahan. Kevin Butterfield stepped down as webmaster in June and Tim Knight volunteered for the position.

Phyllis Post represented AALL at the OCLC Members Council meetings in October 2008 and May 2009 in Dublin, Ohio.

The revised OBS-SIS bylaws were approved at the OBS business meeting in Portland.

The Special Committee on Record Sharing developed a set of formal guidelines that were submitted to the OBS board. The board reviewed this and made numerous revision suggestions. The Special Committee revised the document and it will be considered by the OBS board at its meeting in Washington.

In November, OCLC announced a new Policy on Use and Transfer of WorldCat Records. The resulting outcry by member libraries caused OCLC to delay implementation and to convene a special review board to represent the membership and make recommendations to the OCLC Board of Trustees. The OBS board had begun to discuss the issue when AALL President James Duggan requested that we propose a formal resolution to the AALL Executive Board to express AALL’s opinion on the new policy. The OBS board worked with the TS board, the OBS Special Committee on Record Sharing, the OBS OCLC Committee, and the OBS representatives to the OCLC Members Council and MARBI to write this proposed resolution and supporting documentation. The AALL Executive Board approved the resolution at its April meeting. At the May OCLC Members Council meeting, the OCLC Special Review Board announced its recommendation that OCLC withdraw the current proposal and have a new policy drafted, which mirrored AALL’s recommendation. The chair of the review board specifically cited AALL in her presentation to the Members Council, and in June, the OCLC Board of Trustees officially withdrew the proposal.

OBS-SIS sponsored six program proposals for the 2009 Annual Meeting, of which three were accepted. The programs that were accepted by AMPC were: “MarcEdit: a Magic Wand for MARC Records,” “Latest Trends in Library Automation: Building Creative and Inspiring Discovery Platforms,” (co-sponsored by ALL-SIS), and “Taking the Aggravation Out of Aggregators: An Update on Aggregator-Neutral Bibliographic Records.”
The OBS-SIS board agreed to self-sponsor two additional programs at the 2008 Annual Meeting: “The TOC Market Report: Undervalued TOCs Yield Huge Dividends,” and “Classification Web and Cataloger’s Desktop Training at the Library of Congress.” The board also sponsored a roundtable discussion on MarcEdit with speaker and author Terry Reese to follow up on the AMPC program on the topic. Finally, the board co-sponsored a NISO review training session with TS-SIS, CS-SIS, and Mary Alice Baish in the Washington Government Relations Office.

For the 2009 Annual Meeting, Susan Karpuk coordinated the OBS table in the Exhibit Hall and Elaine Bradshaw co-coordinated the Alphabet Soup reception. Michael Maben will attend the CONELL Marketplace to promote OBS.

Mary Strouse ran OBS’s fourth electronic election this year. The newly elected officers for 2009-10 are Kathy Faust, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Karen Selden, Secretary/Treasurer, and Keiko Okuhara, Member-at-Large.

Michael Maben, Chair
2008-09