Council of Chapter Presidents 2007-08

The AALL Executive Board’s decision to cover all expenses for Chapter visits became effective on July 1, 2007. One result was an increase in the number of Chapter visits. As of April 2008, 21 of the 31 Chapters had requested a Board visit. Included in this group were Chapters that had not had a visit in a number of years, further signifying the success of the Board’s decision.

In fall 2007, AALL President Ann Fessenden asked Immediate Past President Sally Holterhoff, Vice President/President-Elect James Duggan, and Council Chair Mary Lu Linnane to complete the work of the Executive Board Chapter Visits Task Force. One of the achievements was to modify the Chapter biographical form so that it is interactive and can be filled in electronically. The form is available for completion by each Chapter. The Chapter name, acronym, AALL approved date, and Web site URL is maintained by AALL Headquarters. All other information can be supplied and edited by the Chapters.

The introductory screen for the Chapters was updated in April 2008. The new screen follows the pattern for the SISs and Caucuses, more accurately reflects the description of the Council of Chapter Presidents and provides links to Chapter Web sites and profiles. The document on chapter alliances was revised and links to past Council Chats and the formerly published *Chapter Leadership Newsletter* were added. The Chapter planning deadlines page was updated to reflect changes to the Chapter biographical form, the timing of registration for Chapter VIPs and the move from *Law Library Journal* to AALLNET for submission of Chapter annual reports.

At the AALL Annual Meeting in Portland the morning session of the Chapter leadership program included presentations by Judy Meadows on the AALL Leadership Academy, Christine Graesser on the work of the Committee on Involving All Our Members, Gail Warren on creating a Chapter strategic plan and Pamela Reisinger on program planning for Chapters. The Chapter Professional Development award was presented to the Colorado Association of Law Libraries.

The afternoon session offered presentations by Mary Alice Baish on the work of the Washington Affairs Office, Paula Davidson on relevant financial matters for Chapters, Celeste Smith on continuing education, Mary Kay Jung on the work of the AALL Nominations Committee, Bobbie Studwell on the goals of the AALL Mentoring Committee, and Melissa Serfass on Bylaws issues concerning Chapters.

Jennifer Murray of the Arizona Association of Law Libraries is the incoming chair of the council. One of her initiatives for the coming year will be to gather information on the membership dues amounts for each Chapter and the membership types available through each Chapter.

Mary Lu Linnane, Chair
2007-08