

Two Dedicated Members Honored as Recipients of Gallagher Award

Patrick E. Kehoe and Elizabeth Ann Puckett recognized for contributions to AALL and the profession

By Michele Finerty

The AALL Awards Committee is pleased to announce that the recipients of the 2009 Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award are Patrick E. Kehoe and Elizabeth Ann Puckett.

Grace as a Leader and Mentor

Patrick E. Kehoe retired as director of the law library and professor of law from the American University Washington College of Law (WCL) in 2003. He received his JD in 1966 and his Masters in Law Librarianship in 1968, both from the University of Washington, Seattle. Before joining WCL, Kehoe's career took him to the University of Washington, Seattle; the University of Houston School of Law; and Yale University Law School libraries. Throughout his WCL tenure, Kehoe taught courses titled "Admiralty" and "Agency and Employer Employee Relations," and, after serving on several faculty senate committees, he was elected faculty senate chair in 2003.

Often called upon to share his expertise as a consultant, Kehoe worked with other academic institutions on renovation projects, space management, and budgets. As libraries were faced with expanding print collections, he was invited to make presentations on alternate formats to accommodate shrinking shelf space. He was part of numerous ABA inspection teams, as well as a member of the ABA Section on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar Law Libraries Committee. While engaged in this whirlwind of activity, Kehoe still found time to contribute to the body of law library literature through articles and book reviews, as well as two books: *Law Librarianship: A Handbook for the Electronic Age* (1995), co-edited with Lovisa Lyman and Gary McCann, and *Law Librarianship: A Handbook* (1983), edited with Heinz Peter Mueller.



Always an active member of AALL, Kehoe chaired many committees and was the *Law Library Journal* business manager from 1975-1992. He served on the Executive Board from 1985-1988, and in 1995, was elected the Association's president. As president, Kehoe provided wisdom and strong leadership in the face of budgetary concerns, the acquisition of West Publishing by Thomson Legal Publishing, and the restructuring of the former Education Committee and the Association's educational initiatives.

During his presidential term, the first Diversity Symposium was proposed, and Kehoe gave his full support to it.

Former members of the Executive Board who worked with Kehoe speak of his grace and good judgment during a challenging time. He is known for his generosity as a guide, mentor, and role model of effective leadership. Carolyn P.

Ahearn writes in her letter of recommendation that

his is a "dedicated example of what it is to be an outstanding professional law librarian." Even in retirement, Kehoe continues today to serve as a mentor to law librarians new to the Association.

Legacy of Activism

Elizabeth Ann Puckett received both her JD and MS in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1977. Her law library career took her to academic positions in Kansas, Illinois, and Texas. In 1994 she began her tenure as the director of the law library and professor of law at the University of Georgia (UGA) School of Law, where she continues today. For more than 10



years, Puckett has taught "Law and Disability" at the UGA Law School. Since 2003, she has been a faculty fellow on the UGA's university-wide Institute on Human Development and Disability. Presentations that she made for the Institute and other conferences reflect her authority on the topic.

Throughout her career, Puckett has held numerous leadership positions in AALL. She served as a member of the Executive Board from 1993-1996, and she also chaired Association, chapter, and special interest section (SIS) committees. Her list of publications and presentations on disability law, leadership and management, budget, and legal research attest to her ongoing service to the profession. She also co-edited *Uniform Commercial Code: Confidential Drafts* with Elizabeth S. Kelly, which was published in 1995.

In a letter supporting Puckett's nomination, Nancy Johnson writes, "Ann has relentlessly focused her attention on critical social issues that affect the profession and the members of the profession." As first a member and later chair of the Contemporary Social Problems (now Social Responsibilities) SIS, Puckett initiated the establishment of two standing committees for the SIS that continue today: the Service to Institution Residents and the Lesbian and Gay Issues standing committees.

Puckett's inspired follow-through on a conversation she had with Shelly Dowling about their interest in mentoring new law librarians led to the creation of the AALL Mentor Project. True to form, Puckett took action on the idea, creating an initiative that turned into the successful program that continues today under the Membership Development Committee. Law librarians who have acted as mentors or who have been mentored speak glowingly of their experiences.

The Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award is given in recognition of outstanding, extended, and sustained service to law librarianship

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