

## A Productive Business Meeting in Washington, D.C.

The nation's capital provided a majestic backdrop for AALL's 102nd Annual Meeting and Conference, July 25-28. Association members attended great educational programs inspired by this year's "Innovate" theme, had numerous opportunities for professional networking, and enjoyed wonderful social events. The Executive Board participated in a full schedule of Annual Meeting activities including the Conference of Newer Law Librarians (CONELL), leadership training for committee chairs, staffing the AALL Member Services booth, greeting first-time vendors in the exhibit hall, attending receptions to thank international attendees, and presiding over the Annual Business Meeting.

### July Board Meeting

Prior to the start of the Annual Meeting, the July Executive Board Meeting was held Thursday and Friday, July 23 and 24.

The meeting was busy as usual, with a large group in attendance. Outgoing board members Janice Henderson and Cornell Winston, and Past President Ann T. Fessenden completed their three-year terms on the Executive Board. Continuing for the 2009-2010 year are President Catherine Lemann, Past President James E. Duggan, Secretary Ruth J. Hill, Treasurer David Mao, and board members Carol Bredemeyer, Christine L. Graesser, Jean M. Wenger, and Sally H. Wise. Incoming Vice President/President-Elect Joyce Manna Janto and board members Marcus Hochstetler and Janet McKinney participated in an orientation session. Vice President Catherine Lemann conducted this session to bring new board members up to speed with information on Executive Board governance, roles and responsibilities of board members, Association finances, and the current Strategic Plan.

Also in attendance were: Council of Chapter Presidents Chair Sarah Mauldin (2009-2010); Special Interest Section Council Chairs Ron Wheeler (2008-2009) and Dennis Sears (2009-2010); and AALL staff members Kate Hagan, executive director; Mary Alice Baish, director, Government Relations Office; Paula Davidson, director of finance and administration; and Kim Rundle, executive assistant to the executive director.

### Action Items

The board had a full list of action items on the agenda. Action items are agenda items for which a vote of the board is required. Items approved and adopted by the board included the following: the minutes of the April 17-18, 2009, Executive Board Meeting; the operating budget for FY 2009-2010; the revised AALL Statement of Portfolio Investment Policy and AALL Financial Policies; the revised Speaking for AALL Policy; revisions of the eligibility requirements for the Robert L. Oakley Advocacy Award; the posting of candidate biographies on AALLNET instead of in *Law Library Journal*; new charges for the Copyright Committee and the Government Relations Committee; and the report from the Executive Board Strategic Directions Committee. Also, the board charged the executive director with researching ways to assist new members and low-salary members with reduced membership dues and Annual Meeting fees. Finally, the board approved recognition awards for several member contributions to the Association, which include the AALL Hall of Fame, Emerging Leader Award, AALL Volunteer Service Award, an annual Lectureship Award, and the AALL Innovation in Technology Award.



By Ruth J. Hill

### Reports

The board agenda also included reports by the president, vice president, treasurer, executive director, director of AALL Government Relations Office, Special Interest Section Council chair, and Council of Chapter Presidents chair. Marian Parker, the Association's new vendor liaison, also reported to the board.

### Business Meeting

Presiding at the Annual AALL Business Meeting was President Duggan, who announced a conference attendance of nearly 1,700.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of deceased members and friends of the Association. These included: Eileen Denner, Sarah Frins, Francis Gates, Adele Hallam, Anna Marie Johnson, Debra A. Jones, Ruth Kessler, Harriet Richman, Victoria Santana, and Margaret Setliff.

Special guests from international library associations recognized at the Business Meeting were: John Botherway, national president of the Australian Law

Librarians' Association; Rosalie Fox, president of the Canadian Association of Law Libraries; Daniella King, president of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians; and Jules Winterton, president of the International Association of Law Librarians.

As is tradition, President Duggan gave Presidential Certificates of Appreciation to the following members and Headquarters staff who have contributed to the Association or the profession in exceptional ways:

- **Timothy L. Coggins and Darcy Kirk** for their leadership of the 2008 Joint Study Institute Planning Committee and their many contributions to the profession
- **Susan Lewis-Sommers** for her leadership of the Developing Law Librarians for the Future Special Committee
- **Frank Y. Liu and Janis L. Johnston** for their leadership of the China-United States Conference on Legal Information and Law Libraries Steering Committee
- **Ann T. Fessenden** for her leadership and dedicated service to AALL and her advocacy on behalf of AALL and vendor relations
- **Frank G. Houdek** for his exemplary leadership, service, and dedication to AALL, and for his tireless efforts to document AALL history through his many scholarly contributions
- **Christopher Siwa**, web administrator, for his five years of dedicated service to AALL and its members
- **Julia O'Donnell**, director of membership marketing and communications, for her five years of dedicated service to AALL and its members
- **Kimberly Rundle**, executive assistant to the executive director, for her 10 years of dedicated service to AALL and its members
- **Ivonne Torres**, accounting assistant, for 10 years of dedicated service to AALL and its members

Duggan delivered the President's Report describing his many activities during his presidential year, including representation of AALL at the China-United States Conference on Legal Information and Law Libraries. Catherine Lemann presented plans for her presidential year in the Vice President's Report, including the theme for AALL's 103rd Annual Meeting to (continued on page 9)

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be held in Denver, July 10-13—“Summit 2010: Mapping Our Future”—and a special committee to review the organization of educational and social events offered at the Annual Meeting.

Treasurer David Mao reported that the Association had a strong fiscal year with an increase in net assets. Jean Wenger, chair of the Executive Board Strategic Planning Committee, spoke to the members on the process of creating the next Strategic Plan for the Association. Highlights of reports from

Executive Director Kate Hagan and Director of the Government Relations Office Mary Alice Baish included the successful relocation of AALL Headquarters in Chicago and the Government Relations Office in Washington, D.C.

Two resolutions of appreciation were submitted and approved. The Members’ Open Forum, with Cornell Winston serving as moderator, immediately followed the adjournment of the Business Meeting. A transcript of the

proceedings of the meeting and forum will be printed in the fall issue of *Law Library Journal*. If you have questions about the July 2009 Executive Board Meeting or Annual Business Meeting, please contact me or any Executive Board member. ■

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