Southeastern Association of Law Libraries 2010-2011 Annual Report

The SEAALL officers for 2011-2012 were Carol Watson, president; Edward Hart, vice president/president-elect; Sally Irvin, secretary; Billie Blaine, treasurer; and Francis Norton and Jason Sowards, members-at-large. Newly elected officers for 2012-2013 are Pamela Melton, vice president/president-elect; Nick Sexton, secretary; and Jennifer Frazier, who will replace Fran Norton as member-at-large.

SEAALL held its annual meeting March 22-24, 2012, in Clearwater Beach, Florida. The theme of the meeting was “In Step with the Future.” Dr. Susie Pontiff-Stringer, the Director of Academic Technology, Florida Coastal School of Law, provided a keynote speech ‘The Future is Now: Prepare for Takeoff’ in which she explores current technology available to students who have known no different and that we need to be adept ourselves to keep pace. A second keynote address was given by Professor Ellen Podgor, Associate Dean of Faculty Development at the Stetson University College of Law, titled ‘Get Social: Thinking Outside the Box.’ The Program Committee continued the prior year’s experiment of offering programs in a variety of formats. The ignite presentations were once again a hit among attendees. There were programs on a variety of topics such as library leadership, patron-driven acquisitions, reference interview, and tax collection development.

This year’s pre-conference institute, “Going Mobile in a Mobile World” was well-attended. After a Skyped keynote address “Transforming Our Vision to Enhance Library Services” by Chad Marin, librarians presented their efforts to use mobile devices in their provision of services to faculty and students.

Planning for the 2013 meeting in Decatur, Georgia is underway and will be hosted by collaboration of law firm and academic librarians from the Atlanta. Sarah Mauldin is the chair of the local arrangements committee. The theme of the meeting will be “Meeting in the Middle.” The 2014 meeting will be held in Knoxville, TN.

Our standing committees accomplished quite a bit this year. The Education and Publications Committee had one SEAALL-sponsored program accepted for this year’s AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia and has also been working on a major revision of the SEAALL Handbook. The Community Service Committee coordinated a campaign for members to support the Tampa Bay charity Community Action Stops Abuse (CASA) that donated $440 to the group. The chapter also supported the charity with a $1,000 grant. The Placement Committee posted 44 jobs on the SEAALL website. The Newsletter Committee began featuring law library profiles of member libraries in each newsletter issue. The Scholarship Committee awarded more than $14,400 for scholarships and grants.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edward T. Hart
President 2012-2013