

Southeastern Association of Law Libraries 2012-2013 Annual Report

The SEAALL officers for 2012-2013 were Edward Hart, President; Pamela Melton, Vice President/ President-elect; Nick Sexton, Secretary; Billie Blaine, Treasurer; and Jennifer Frazier and Jason Sowards, Members-at-large. Newly elected officers for 2013-2012 are Francis Norton, Vice President/President-elect; Kate Irwin-Smiler, Treasurer; and Christine Sellers, who replaces Jason Sowards as Member-at-large.

SEAALL held its annual meeting April 18-20, 2013, in Decatur, Georgia. The theme of the meeting was "Meeting in the Middle." Gwen Spratt, Assistant General Counsel in the Office of Legal Affairs at Georgia State University, provided a keynote speech to open the program. She spoke about the copyright case against Georgia State University [*Cambridge Univ. Press v. Becker*, 863 F. Supp.2d 1190 (N.D. Ga. 2012)]. A second keynote address was given by the Honorable Courtney L. Johnson of the DeKalb County Superior Court. Judge Johnson spoke about her path from law school to the bench, what she wished she had learned, and what she did learn that was helpful. The Program Committee continued offering programs in a variety of formats. The poster and ignite presentations were once again a hit among attendees. There were programs on a variety of topics such as faculty services, law for the non-JD librarian, screen-casting, and social media.

This year's pre-conference institute, "Firms, Government, and Law Schools: Finding Common Ground to Produce Practice Ready Graduates," was well-attended. An opening panel set the stage for firm and academic law librarians, recent graduates, and law firm IT professionals to discuss the research and technology skills young lawyers need. The panel reconvened at the end of the day to recap.

Planning for the 2014 meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee is well underway. The meeting will be jointly hosted by the University of Tennessee and Lincoln Memorial University. Katherine Marsh Gibson and Reba Best are the co-chairs of the local arrangements committee. The 2015 meeting will be in Lexington, Kentucky.

Our standing committees accomplished quite a bit this year. The Education and Publications Committee noted that 20 programs with connections to SEAALL were accepted for this year's AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle. Work continues on a major revision of the SEAALL Handbook. The Community Service Committee coordinated a campaign for members to support the DeKalb County Public Library that resulted in donations of books and over \$440 to the group. The chapter also supported the library with a \$1,000 grant. The Placement Committee posted 28 jobs on the SEAALL website and maintained placement services both in person and via email at the annual meeting in Decatur. The Newsletter Committee published four newsletters last year. The Scholarship Committee awarded more than \$13,000 in scholarships and grants. The SEAALL bylaws were revised to be more in line with the AALL bylaws. In addition to several minor text revisions, an anti-discrimination clause was added. The newly revised bylaws were voted on and adopted at the July 23, 2012 SEAALL business meeting held at AALL.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Rogers Melton
President 2013-2014