

October 1995

Special Committee to Explore the Special Characteristics of Law Librarians in Different Work Environments

Filippa M. Anzalone

Boston College Law School, filippa.anzalone@bc.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://lawdigitalcommons.bc.edu/lfsp>



Part of the [Law Commons](https://lawdigitalcommons.bc.edu)

Recommended Citation

Filippa M. Anzalone. "Special Committee to Explore the Special Characteristics of Law Librarians in Different Work Environments." *Law Library Journal* 87, no.4 (1995): 789-790.

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ Boston College Law School. It has been accepted for inclusion in Boston College Law School Faculty Papers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Boston College Law School. For more information, please contact nick.szydowski@bc.edu.

and another Task Force member met with the SIS Council at the 1995 Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh to obtain their input regarding the issue of their representation on the AALL Board. The Chair of the AALL Nominating Committee was also consulted in Pittsburgh. That committee discussed the matters being considered by the Task Force at its meeting and comments from the discussion will be shared with the Task Force.

Albert Brecht, Chair

Task Force to Explore the Expansion of AALL Membership

The Task Force to Explore the Expansion of AALL Membership was appointed by President Carol Billings during the summer of 1994. Following the mandate of Strategic Direction I, Initiative 3 (“Open Membership to the Wider Legal Information Community”) in the Association’s *Strategic Challenge 1994–1998*, the Task Force was charged with examining AALL’s membership categories. The Task Force members were Nancy P. Johnson (Chair), Christopher Anglim, Barbara Golden, Virginia Kelsh, Kay Schleuter, Marillyn Soulen, and Geoffrey Trigger.

The Task Force reviewed the requirements of the membership categories, along with the rights and privileges of each category. Each Task Force member was assigned a section of Article IV (Membership) of the AALL Bylaws and asked to recommend changes in the language that would expand membership and allow members more opportunity to participate as active members. A Summary Report of the Task Force, including these recommendations, was presented to the Executive Board prior to the Board’s spring 1995 meeting.

The Executive Board voted to forward the Report of the Task Force to the Bylaws Committee for consideration. A copy of the final report with the summaries of the bylaws sections, the suggested changes in the bylaws, the individual reports of the Task Force members, and a comparison of membership categories set forth in the bylaws of other professional library associations is available from AALL Headquarters or the chair of the Task Force.

Nancy P. Johnson, Chair

Special Committee to Explore the Special Characteristics of Law Librarians in Different Work Environments

Carol Billings, then-President-Elect of AALL, appointed the Special Committee in June 1994. She charged the Committee as follows: “Using whatever means you deem appropriate, explore the special characteristics, responsibilities, problems, challenges, needs, and advantages of law librarians in different work environments.” The Committee members are: Filippa Marullo Anzalone, Mark Estes, Barbara Greenspahn, Jim Hambleton, Roger Jacobs, Beth Schneider, Regina Smith, and Tory Trotta.

The Special Committee initially met in July 1994 at the AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle. Subsequent meetings were held at AALS in New Orleans in January 1995, and at the AALL Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh in July 1995. The Committee corresponded by e-mail, fax, phone, and mail throughout the year.

In December 1994, a survey was sent to five hundred randomly selected AALL members to gather data about their jobs and work environments. The committee members have analyzed the responses of the 169 surveys that were completed and returned by the deadline, February 14, 1995. A draft of the Committee's report was discussed at the July 1995 meeting of the Committee. The Final Report will be submitted to the AALL Executive Board in time for its November 1995 meeting.

Filippa Marullo Anzalone, Chair

Special Committee on the History of Law Librarianship

The Special Committee was formed in the Spring of 1994 by President-Elect Carol Billings with a charge to "set the agenda and create a plan for researching, publishing, and otherwise focusing attention upon the history of American law librarianship and of AALL." The Committee consists of Marvin Anderson, Michael Chiorazzi, Morris Cohen, Jack Ellenberger, Laura Gasaway, Lorraine Kulpa, Edwin Schroeder, Anita Shew, Jill Sidford, Susan Tulis, and Frank Houdek, chair.

The Committee met in Seattle during the 1994 AALL Annual Meeting and determined that it should limit its focus during its two-year tenure to three specific tasks: developing recommendations on a "history agenda," including a detailed plan for its implementation, that would be presented to the Executive Board by Spring 1996; preparing a commemorative booklet to be distributed during the National Conference on Legal Information Issues in July 1995; and completing a substantial print publication focused on AALL history by spring 1996.

While some work was done on each of the three tasks in 1994–1995, the greatest progress was made on the third. Under the coeditorship of Committee members Gasaway and Chiorazzi, a book combining original pieces with article reprints, tentatively titled *Law Librarianship: An Historical Profession*, is scheduled for publication in the "AALL Publication Series" in Spring 1996. It was ultimately decided that creation of the commemorative booklet in time for the National Conference was not feasible, so that project was abandoned. Given its demise and the significant progress already made on the history publication, it is likely that the Committee will focus most of its attention in 1995–1996 on the development of the Association's "history agenda." The Committee expects to meet its charge of issuing a final report to the Executive Board in time for its July 1996 meeting in Indianapolis.

Frank G. Houdek, Chair