

## Virginia Association of Law Libraries Annual Report 2018-2019

**Executive Board:** The Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL) 2018-2019 executive board consisted of Andrew Winston, President; Chris Vassey, Vice President/President-Elect; Lara Dresser, Immediate Past President; Megan Scanlon, Secretary; David Knight, Treasurer; and Alexis Sharp, Liz Schiller, and Evelyn Campbell (ex officio), Directors.

**Meetings/Programs:** VALL again hosted educational meetings in the fall and spring, with programs aimed at providing useful information on topics of interest to its members. The 2018 fall meeting was held at the Libbie Mill Library in Richmond, Virginia. Programs included a session on innovation in the legal industry, a panel on innovative approaches in law library and law firm settings, and a workshop on personal branding. Attendees also received a tour of the library, a state-of-the-art new facility with features like a digital media lab, 3-D printer, and drive-up service window.

The 2019 spring meeting was held at the Richmond office of Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP. Sessions included a group discussion on how we can help experienced library users embrace new resources, a briefing from a Hunton partner on how blockchain works and recommended resources for staying current with blockchain-related legal developments, and a session on how to use social media to build your personal brand. Attendees received a tour of Hunton's refurbished Library space.

VALL members in the Richmond area also continued to hold informal monthly dining events in conjunction with the Virginia Special Libraries Association. The invitations were extended to all area library professionals.

**Publications:** VALL members contributed articles to the *Virginia Lawyer*, the magazine of the Virginia State Bar, for its "Law Libraries" column. These articles covered topics such as how next-generation artificial intelligence is driving mainstream legal research, researching the Virginia Rules of Professional Conduct and the State Bar's legal ethical opinions, and Virginia health and medical law resources.

**Website:** VALL's website committee evaluated options for creating a new website for VALL and recommended hiring a local web designer with experience creating websites for nonprofits. The executive board approved this approach, and the website committee is working with the designer on the site. The new VALL website is expected to be launched before VALL's 2019 fall meeting.

**Chapter Handbook:** Two members volunteered to update VALL's chapter handbook and submitted a draft to the President and Vice President for review and input.

**Grants:** VALL awarded a grant to attend the 2019 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference of Newer Law Librarians, and a separate grant to another recipient to attend the Annual Meeting. VALL also received a Chapter Registration Grant from AALL, and the grant was awarded to one of our newer law librarians.

Best wishes go out to VALL's 2019-2020 executive board: Chris Vassey, President; Jane Harrison, Vice President/President-Elect; Andrew Winston, Immediate Past President; Megan Scanlon, Secretary; Alexis Sharp, Treasurer; and Liz Schiller, Anna Price, and Evelyn Campbell (ex officio), Directors.

Respectfully submitted, Andrew Winston, President 2018-2019.