Report of the Chapter Council President

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I've been so heartened the last few days because quite a few people who were skeptics about this thing have really had an opportunity to hear a lot about it in forums like the SIS Council. There has been a great deal of talk about this, and people who were skeptics before have started coming to me and other members of the task force and have said things like, "We are really, really excited about this. This is something we had to do so that we would not become dinosaurs." And then they say, "How can we help?"

And I want to give you an example of the kind of things that some groups are doing that, to me, just exemplifies what we are all about. The Private Law Libraries SIS has come forward and said, "We are going to take some money out of our treasury to support the attendance of several delegates at this conference because we think it really, really matters to us. It's worth making some sacrifices; it's worth taking some risks." I think this is something very exciting that we can do together that will rock the boat that needs rocking, and I really appreciate all that you have done in the past and I think all that you're capable of doing in the future. And I think we can make this year a big success together. Thank you.

President Todd: Thank you, Carol. We have two other people reporting at today's meeting. I ask that the Chapter Council Chair and the SIS Chair make a brief report. First, the Chapter Council Chair this year, Filippa Anzalone, will report on the activities of the chapters.

Report of the Chapter Council President

Ms. Filippa Anzalone (Northeastern University Law Library, Boston, Massachusetts): Thank you, Kay. Good morning, and I'd first like to thank Kay Todd for initiating this report to give the chapters a little visibility at the annual business meeting.

The Council of Chapter Presidents has had a really eventful and productive year. The Council received four issues of the Council Communique and responded to a number of issues raised by Council members in their newsletter.

The Council elected Kathy Sullivan as their chair for 1994-95, and I'd like to ask Kathy to stand at this point. On the morning of July 9, the incoming chapter presidents participated in leadership training for the first time with the SIS chairs, and in the afternoon the chapter chairs had our annual business meeting.

Just a couple of the projects that the chapters were involved in this year involved getting the word out about the Internet. At the initiation of the Internet Task Force, the Internet Buddy Coordinator System was enthusiastically embraced by a number of the chapters. Some of the issues of concern over the past year have been chapter constitution and bylaws compliance with AALL model documents and having membership categories that matched AALL's. Another issue of concern was chapter souvenir sales at the annual meeting.

One issue that we're really going to deal with, that Kathy wanted to deal with in the next year, is the financial management of the chapters. Judy Meadows, AALL Treasurer, and Kathy Sullivan, incoming Chair, are putting together a task force to assemble a manual for chapter treasurers, with sample balance sheets, spread sheets, and suggested financial management procedures and policies.
The chapters continue to grapple with internal management and governmental concerns, whether to incorporate or not incorporate, whether to file for tax exempt status or not, and if so, under what kind of organizational type. To this end, Kathy is instituting another task force, and she expects to have another task force work on a clearinghouse of standard operating procedures manuals and model policy and procedures documents for chapter use.

And then the chapters are very enthusiastic about the issues outlined for them in the Association's Strategic Plan, and they really look forward to exploring, among other things, an alternative model to their relationship with AALL. And again, Kathy expects to appoint a task force to look at the chapters' relationships with AALL. I think it's going to be the year of task forces.

I'd like to thank both the Chapter Council and AALL's Executive Board for the opportunity to serve as Council Chair during such an exciting year for both the chapters and the Association in general. Thank you.

President Todd: Thank you. Next reporting for the SIS Council, Nancy Johnson, Chair.

Report of the SIS Council Chair

Ms. Nancy Johnson (Georgia State University Law Library, Atlanta, Georgia): Thank you, Kay. As Chair of the SIS Council, I am also pleased to announce that the SISs have had a very busy year. The SIS education committees are responsible for planning many of the fine programs that you have attended at this annual meeting. In fact, they planned approximately thirty-five programs. The SISs are now busy planning for the Pittsburgh meeting. The amount of effort that goes into planning and developing these programs is substantial. And this was the first year that several of the SISs communicated on the Internet in planning the programs, and I think this will continue.

In addition to program planning, several SISs had success stories and they were able to discuss these stories at the SIS Council meeting last Saturday. For example, the brochure “How to Research a Legal Problem” has now either been sold or distributed to 20,000 people. The “Government Documents State Bibliography” continued to be in high demand, and there are plans to publish some new ones.

The State, Court, and County Law Library SIS is happy to report the completion of a source book for law library governing bodies and committees, and the Tech Services SIS has had several representatives working with the ALA and other organizations. The Private Law Libraries SIS coordinated efforts during the year with the Association of Legal Administrators, and the Contemporary Social Problems SIS changed its name to Social Responsibilities SIS in order to more accurately reflect its role in AALL.

All SISs want to attract new members. Please join and help in their efforts to continue to produce informative newsletters, and they're always busy planning great receptions, which we've also attended at this meeting. As Chair of the SIS Council, I planned the leadership training for the SISs this year, and I hopefully communicated with the Board about the concerns of the SISs.