The NOCALL officers for 2016-17 were Michael Ginsborg, President; Ramona Martinez, Vice President/President-Elect; Ellen Platt, Immediate Past President; Mary Pinard Johnson, Secretary; Coral Henning, Treasurer; and Leslie Hesdorfer and Jessica Brasch, Members-at-Large. Newly elected officers for 2017-18 are Ramona Martinez, President; David Holt, Vice President/President-Elect; Michael Ginsborg, Immediate Past President; Jodi Collova, Secretary; Coral Henning, Treasurer; and Sara Lin and Cindy Beck Weller, Members-at-Large.

Holly Riccio, Past AALL President and our Education Chair, planned our Fall Workshop with Committee member Maureen Moran, our venue liaison, Jessica Brasch, our Technology Committee Chair, David Holt, and our Website Administrator, Julie Horst. The Workshop - “Hot or Not: You Be the Judge” - took place at the California Judicial Conference Center on October 14, 2016. The Workshop featured three panel sessions: Legal Tech’s Next Generation Disruptors: Watson and Beyond; Disruption in the Courts: Legal Tech’s Role in Criminal Justice Reform; and The Current (and Future) State of Cannabis Law. There were 55 attendees, including moderators, panelists and sponsors. For their success, the Workshop’s organizers received the 2017 AALL Chapter Professional Development Award.

We held our annual Spring Institute on April 1, 2017, at the Alumni Center of the University of California, Davis. The theme of the Institute was “California Regulatory Research, No Fool’s Game.” Jodie Berger, a California Administrative Law Judge, provided the keynote speech. The Institute included three sessions: How California Regulations are Promulgated; How to Find Current Regulations Either by Citation or By Topic; and How to Research California Regulatory History. The Institute had had 56 registered attendees and a networking social with a humor consultant, Malcom Kushner. Spring Institute income exceeded costs, due to a low-cost venue and income from registration fees, vendor exhibit tables and sponsorships, and an AALL Bloomberg grant.

In April, David Holt began planning for our 2018 Spring Institute, which will take place in Sacramento. David is exploring different aspects of advocacy as the Institute’s theme.

To honor their exemplary dedication and service, NOCALL gave Judy Janes and

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Coral Henning our Advocacy and Professional Achievement Awards, respectively. (Because Judy could not attend, NOCALL member David McFadden traveled from Los Angeles to accept the award on Judy’s behalf.)

Judy has had a distinguished career of advocacy for increased access to legal information and government documents. In 1996, she supported efforts of the NOCALL/SCALL Government Relations team to pass California S.B. 1507, providing preservation and public availability of legislative records and agency rulemaking files. Both SCALL and NOCALL received an AALL Presidential Certificate of Merit in July 1997 for their efforts. In 2012, Judy was part of a three-Chapter team that, with the California Legislative Counsel, Diane Boyer-Vine, helped enact S.B. 1075, The Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA). Her article “Why States Should Adopt UELMA”, appeared in the AALL SPECTRUM ONLINE, and was widely quoted and noted. The UELMA team members received the AALL Robert L. Oakley Advocacy Award.

Coral has been an active and influential member of NOCALL since the 1990s. She has served as Chair of our Public Access, Public Relations and Nominations Committees, and has supported many of our Spring Institute planning committees. She served as President in 2007-08, and as a Board Member in 2002-03. She continues to serve as our Treasurer, and has implemented more stringent processes for managing NOCALL’s finances. She has been active in the California Council of County Law Libraries, having served on the Board, chaired committees, advocated for access to justice, and mentored other members. She has had an equally impressive career of service in AALL, supporting national committees and assuming leadership positions in the Government Law Libraries SIS. Throughout her career she has been dedicated to planning and presenting information about libraries and legal materials to her colleagues, other librarians, legal professionals and the public. Her activities have included presentations at AALL and California Library meetings, and a sustained initiative to create the Civil Self-Help Center. Under her leadership, the Sacramento County Public Law Library offers a broad range of classes for public patrons, paralegals and law office staff, state and local agency staff and MCLE programs for attorneys.

This year our Committees and a special initiative added to NOCALL’s record of accomplishment. Technology Committee Chair David Holt redesigned our website. David and Website Administrator Julie Horst have also seamlessly migrated our website to a new, less expensive platform, with significant savings and the addition of Google Apps. Our Placement Committee posted 25 positions
on our website and listserv. Our Government Relations Committee wrote a collaborative GRC document with SANDALL and SCALL, and wrote of statement of goals and strategy. Under Jodi Collova’s leadership, our Academic Relations Committee created a NOCALL membership flyer for students and distributed it to MLIS/MLS programs at SJSU, Drexel University, UCLA, USC, UW, and U Illinois Urbana Champaign. The Committee also notified MLIS students at SJSU about NOCALL events. Our Networking Committee, chaired by April Eudy, planned several social events, including our “4 Corners” Holiday parties, held in Sacramento, San Francisco, Fresno, and Menlo Park. Our Grants Committee awarded grants for the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 NOCALL workshops, and for the 2017 AALL Annual Meeting. Finally, Board Member Leslie Hesdorfer enlisted her firm to generously host our “NOCALL Connections” luncheon in February - an initiative to engage newer members and other members looking for ways to connect with NOCALL. Participants launched our campaign to select a Chapter mascot.

At our May Business Meeting, we adopted two proposals to amend the NOCALL Constitution. The amendments added “gender identity” to the antidiscrimination article and modified succession procedures in the event of a vacancy in the office of President. We also adopted a Resolution on Executive Order 13769 and NOCALL’s Core Values.

Jean Willis, Chair of our Audits & Budget Committee, reports that “[d]ue to our fiscal prudence over the past few years, our Treasury is healthy.” We will continue to focus on advocacy and innovative, cost-saving ways to offer our members valuable educational and networking opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Ginsborg
2016-17 President