



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES 2022/2023 Annual Report

By Jeremy Sullivan, President

OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

The NOCALL officer during 2022/2023 were: Jeremy Sullivan, **President**; Delia L. Montesinos, **Past President**, Tony Pelczynski, **Vice President/President-Elect**; Holly Herndon, **Secretary**; Pete Rooney, **Treasurer**; Luci Barry, **Member-At-Large**; Bianca Randall, **Member-At-Large**.

Committee Chairs were: **AALL Liaison**, Holly Riccio; **Academic Relations**, Kristina Chamorro; **Access to Legal Information**, Taryn Marks; **Audit & Budget**, Tina Dumas; **Awards**, Delia L. Montesinos; **Constitution & Bylaws**, David McFadden; **Education**, Kristin Brandt; **Government Relations**, Diane Rodriguez; **Grants**, Cathy Hardy and Sherry Takacs; **Listserv Admin**, Ramona Collins; **Membership**, Jessica Brasch; **Memorials**, Leslie Hesdorfer and Jane Metz; **Networking**, Julie Horst; **Newsletter**, Mary Pinard Johnson; **Nominations**, April Eudy; **Placement**, Robyn M. Moltzen; **Public Relations**, Courtney Nguyen; **Spring Institute**, Tony Pelczynski; **Technology**, David Holt; **Web Admin**, Tracy Lee; and **Wiki**, Alyssa Thurston.

The **Archives** committee has been operating without a chairperson for some time. During the term, Diane Rodriguez volunteered to fill the vacant **Government Relations** committee chair role. In addition, our student trustee, whose tenure in that role ended with the Board term, has been handling the upkeep of the NOCALL web page and will be continuing in that capacity. Going into the new term, the **Access to Legal Information** and **Public Relations** committees will be in need of new chairs.

EVENTS & ENGAGEMENT

Our chapter has a little over 200 active members, many of whom attended our business meetings, educational presentations and social networking events throughout the term.

In February, the **Education** committee hosted an online session entitled 'Are the Librarians Okay? A Realistic Discussion About Burnout,' a timely and topical presentation which was well-attended by our own members as well as members from Westpac and SCALL. The **Placement** committee alerted membership to some 75 open positions during the term. The **Newsletter** committee produced five issues of [NOCALL News](#),

The **2022 Spring Institute** was delayed until after the 2022/2023 term began. The theme of the daylong virtual presentation was "Expanding Access to Knowledge in Difficult Times" and the keynote, summarizing the rash of book challenges and other threats to open access to



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information, was given by a member of the American Library Association's Office of Intellectual Freedom.

The **2023 Spring Institute** was held in person much to the delight of the assembled attendees. This full day of programming had 'A.I. & Law Librarianship: From Boolean to Bots' as its theme. Among the sessions were a panel presentation given by NOCALL member librarians who explored managing research expectations in an age when end users are fascinated by the promise of AI, and the closing session given by Casetext's Pablo Arredondo, who discussed what that promise actually looks like today, and what it might look like in the future.

AWARDS

At the May Business meeting it was announced that Tina Dumas, a stalwart and tireless member of the NOCALL community, was the recipient of the year's Award for Professional Achievement. NOCALL typically also names a recipient of an Advocacy Award, but there were no nominations for that honor this year.

GRANTS

Our **Grants** committee happily awarded four grants throughout the term including two for attendance at the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference in Boston, one for the Teach the Teachers conference. In addition, one of the chapter's newest members received a grant to attend our 2023 Spring Institute in San Francisco.

MEMORIALS

In February, the **Memorials** committee learned of the passing of Nina Porcella, a law firm librarian with a lengthy history of NOCALL membership. In accordance with Nina's wishes, the chapter made a donation to Saint Jude's Hospital in her honor. The March-April issue of NOCALL News collected reminiscences about Nina from her colleagues and friends.

ONGOING INITIATIVES

A previously announced plan to consolidate the chapter's Bylaws and Constitution into a single document, has yet to be completed, and will remain on the agenda for the incoming Board.