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Susan Nevelow Mart, Leadership Profile

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EDUCATION UPDATE

DECEMBER 30, 2020

NEW! AALL ELEARNING PLATFORM

As part of AALL's strategic goal to expand your access to professional growth opportunities, **we are excited to share with you the new AALL eLearning platform--a first for the Association.** Register for programs by logging into the eLearning platform using your existing AALL credentials. [Your personal dashboard](#) is the place where you may access all programs/webinars/coffee chats that you registered for. Beginning with the January webinar, "[Maximizing The Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals in All Law Libraries](#)," registrants will join the webinar right from their personal dashboard. AALL Annual Meeting recordings from the [2020 virtual conference](#) are now available on the platform.

REGISTER FOR AALL'S BUDGETING FOR LAW LIBRARIES COURSE



- [Register Now](#)
- Members - \$99 / Nonmembers - \$149

AALL's first self-paced course "[Introduction to Law Library Budgets](#)" is now available on its new [eLearning platform](#). Developed by subject matter experts who are your colleagues and fellow members, this course will help you address important issues such as:

- Identifying and managing competing priorities
- Explaining day-to-day operations
- Connecting financial resources to meet goals

REGISTER NOW

To register for the budgeting course, visit the [AALL eLearning platform](#). If you have any questions, please contact AALL at elearning@aall.org or 312.939.4764.

UPCOMING COFFEE CHATS & WEBINARS / REGISTER NOW



JUST BREATHE

- Tuesday, January 12, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. (CST)
- [Register Now](#)
- Members only; space is limited

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STAY CONNECTED



CONTACT US

We encourage you to [send us](#) your suggestions and comments.

REGISTER

STAY INFORMED

[Join](#) our mailing list.

Deep breathing should come naturally to us all--so why does your watch keep telling you you're not doing it enough? Too often, we get stuck in a cyclical state of stress and shallow breathing that can have a cascading effect on our health and wellness. For the first virtual coffee chat of 2021, we're going back to the basics--way back. [Dr. Laura Sangeeta Biagi](#), an accomplished educator, healer, and storyteller, will lead you through the fundamentals of deep breathing and introduce practices to help you start your new year with more mindfulness and less tension.



MAXIMIZING THE INDEX TO FOREIGN LEGAL PERIODICALS (IFLP) IN ALL LAW LIBRARIES

- Wednesday, January 13, 2021 / 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (CST)
- [Register Now](#)
- Free for members and nonmembers

REGISTER

As the world becomes even more interconnected, how do librarians keep up with the growing international and comparative legal information needs of today's increasingly transnational and multilingual legal professionals and law students? The [Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals \(IFLP\)](#), one of AALL's premier publications, can help meet the never-ending need for accurate and diverse information from around the globe. During this webinar, learn how to search *IFLP* effectively, how to utilize the *Index* when teaching and training others, and how to better understand *IFLP*'s potential as a low-cost/high-impact resource for your legal research toolkit. This webinar will be moderated by Kevin Durkin-Ortiz, *IFLP* managing editor at UC Berkeley. Speakers include [Charles Bjork](#), international and foreign law reference librarian at Georgetown University Law Library, [Marci Hoffman](#), associate law library director and foreign and international law librarian at Berkeley Law, and [Kristen Rowlett](#), international law librarian at Texas A&M University School of Law.

**AALL Body of Knowledge Domains: Information Management,
Research + Analysis, and Teaching + Training**



SUPPORTING STUDENTS' WELLNESS

- Tuesday, January 26, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. (CST)
- [Register Now](#)
- Members only; space is limited

REGISTER

The mental health vulnerabilities facing law students have been well documented, and law librarians are often uniquely positioned to help. For this informal discussion, moderated by [Katie Brown](#), Charleston School of Law, we welcome back [Dr. Laura Sangeeta Biagi](#), a certified health and life coach, and an educator with extensive experience working with students. This coffee chat is an opportunity to share experiences, pose questions, and hear ideas for supporting students' wellbeing in the library, the classroom, and beyond.

INTERVIEWING WHEN YOU CAN'T SHAKE HANDS (PART II): THE EMPLOYER'S PERSPECTIVE

- Thursday, January 28, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (CST)



- [Register Now](#)
- Members - Free / Nonmembers - \$60

REGISTER

As follow-up to December's webinar, "[Interviewing When You Can't Shake Hands](#)", the presenters will discuss the topic from an employer's perspective. ([Listen to Part 1](#) on AALL's eLearning Platform.) Topics include issues that arise from the format of the interview; scheduling the interview; technology; security; selling the organization; and assessing candidates. The panelists work in a variety of law library types and will provide practical ideas to make your next remote interview more successful. This webinar will be moderated by [Sarah Mauldin](#) from the DeKalb County Law Library. Speakers include [Michelle Hook Dewey](#) (BakerHostetler), [TJ Striepe](#) (Alexander Campbell King Law Library), and Elizabeth Osbourne (Library of Congress).

AALL Body of Knowledge Domains: Professionalism + Leadership at Every Level, Research + Analysis, and Management + Business Acumen



CALL FOR WEBINAR PROPOSALS

SHARE YOUR IDEAS

Do you have an idea for a webinar? Are you, or is someone you know, an expert on a subject important to legal information professionals? We want to hear from you! We are looking for programs on relevant and emerging topics, as well as current or cutting-edge best practices in legal information and library services. Webinar proposals should fall into one of the six [AALL Body of Knowledge \(BoK\) domains](#). [Submit a proposal today](#).

AALL/BLOOMBERG LAW CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANT

Does your chapter, special interest section, committee, or caucus have an educational event that needs funding? If so, consider applying for an [AALL/Bloomberg Law Continuing Education Grant](#). Grant requests are accepted at various times throughout the year. **The next deadline for grant applications is May 13, 2021.**

AALL is excited to announce the most recent grant award winners. Congratulations to the following AALL chapters that have been awarded grants.

- Greater Philadelphia Law Library Association (GPLLA) Institute 2020: Work and Life during the Pandemic: Leadership Skills for Challenging Times
- Northern California Association of Law Libraries (NOCALL) 2021 Spring Institute: Beyond the "L" Word REDUX: Expanding (& Challenging) the Boundaries of Legal Librarianship
- Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries (ORALL) County Law Library SIG Spring Conference

APPLY FOR AN AALL SCHOLARSHIP OR SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE

AALL is committed to providing opportunities for your professional growth. Each year, the Association awards thousands of dollars in [scholarships](#) to law school and library school students as well as to AALL members. The following scholarships are now open for applications:

- [Library School Scholarships](#) (for those with or without JDs)
- [Law School Scholarships](#) (for those with MLS/MLIS and those seeking dual JD/MLIS)
- [Scholarships for Library School Graduates Seeking a Non-Law Degree](#)
- [LexisNexis John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship](#)
- [George A. Strait Minority Scholarship & Fellowship](#)
- [Marcia J. Koslov Scholarship](#) for members to attend continuing education programs for state, court, or county law librarians

The deadline for applications is May 1, 2021. For additional questions, please contact AALL at scholarships@aall.org.

COMMUNITY WEBINARS

BLL-SIS & FCIL-SIS WEBINAR: THE ORIGINS AND PROGRESSION OF THE #ENDSARS2020 MOVEMENT IN NIGERIA

- Thursday, January 21, 2021 / 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (CST)
- [Register Now](#)
- Open to all AALL Members

REGISTER

Please join the [Black Law Librarians Special Interest Section \(BLL-SIS\)](#) and the [Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section \(FCIL-SIS\)](#) for a webinar on the origins and development of Nigeria's #ENDSARS2020 movement, including information on government responses to the movement and background on police brutality in Nigeria. The webinar will feature panelists Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa (Chair, Nigerians in Diaspora Commission; Former member of the Nigerian House of Representatives) and [Femi Cadmus](#) (Associate Dean and Director of the J. Michael Goodson Law Library, Duke Law; Past President of AALL).

PEGA-SIS WEBINAR: LIVE INTERVIEW SERIES: SO YOU WANNA WRITE AN EFFECTIVE RECOMMENDATION

- Thursday, January 21, 2021 / 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. (CST)
- [Register Now](#)
- Open to all AALL Members

REGISTER

Whether you're looking for a new job, applying for leadership positions, scholarships, awards, or grants, or supporting others in those efforts, writing persuasive letters is unavoidable for law librarians. How can you make your writing stand out and make the best case? In this month's "So You Wanna...?" series, [Savanna Nolan](#) will sit down to discuss recommendation letters and personal statements with recent AALL Awards Committee Chair, [Cathy Lemann](#). What makes a winning letter? What are some common pitfalls? Is there a way we can make the process as pain-free as possible? This series is brought to you by the [Professional Engagement, Growth & Advancement SIS](#) and the AALL [Continuing Professional Education Committee](#).



AALL PROGRAMS ON DEMAND

WEBINARS NOW AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND

- [Interviewing When You Can't Shake Hands](#)
- [Access and Preservation Of Legal Information In US Territories](#)
- [Thinking Strategically About Demonstrating Your Organizational Value Amidst Covid \(Thomson Reuters Partner Webinar\)](#)
- [Live Interview Series: So You Wanna Put On A Virtual Conference?](#)

PICK OF THE MONTH

Selected by AALL's [Continuing Professional Education Committee](#)

GRIT AND GROWTH MINDSET: TOOLS FOR SUCCESS IN YOUR CAREER

Does the prospect of a long winter indoors have you questioning your resolve to keep working toward your goals? Learn about developing a growth mindset so that you can continue to focus on the objectives that are important to you. [David Zopfi-Jordan](#) and Sarah Rohne teach us that grit and mindset are traits we can learn and leverage in pursuing our career goals. They delve into the science behind these traits, give us assessment tools, and teach us how to use these methods, both for our individual career goals and our wider work environments.

Find this and many more continuing education programs and webinars on [AALL eLearning](#).

FOR THE LEADER IN YOU

Each month the Leadership Development Committee will highlight a librarian leader and ask them a few questions about their leadership journey.

LEADER PROFILE



Susan Nevelow Mart
Professor and Director of the Law Library
University of Colorado Law School
William A. Wise Law Library

What does leadership mean to you?

It means having a vision for the law library. There is internal and external leadership. The external vision for me is being part of the scholarly discussion about issues important to our profession.

Internally, it means enabling others to succeed in their areas of expertise. I think everyone who is a professional librarian has things that they are passionate about. We're not a profession without scholarship, but not everyone wants or needs to contribute as a scholar. But everyone can contribute in some way by being on committees, by being on task forces, by getting involved in AALL, and by presenting on topics. All of these things are elements of outreach for our profession that are important.

As an example of leadership, I started the "Boulder Conference on Legal Information: Scholarship and Teaching," because there was no place for librarians to meet with people who had the scholarly background to help them. Librarians are generally very curious and broadly-educated people. Encouraging that curiosity is really a wonderful thing.

How do you help others develop their leadership skills?

I try to be a mentor in my own library. That can be hard to implement in the flat hierarchical structure that exists in so many libraries. So to me, being involved in professional development

opportunities is really important to develop leadership--that means working on committees. There are law school committees and university-level committees. There is AALL. If you are curious and involved, you will become a chair of a committee, and you will get training in leadership skills. I have also mentored through AALL, offering encouragement in the same way.

What is one thing you've read about leadership that stuck with you? Why? Is there a particular AALL product/program/article that was especially helpful for you as you developed as a leader?

There was not one thing. What I did when I became a librarian was to delve into library literature. I started reading about teaching and about working in libraries. I read everything that I could get my hands on. For me, reading the existing literature was about getting up to speed on where my profession was when I entered it. Also critical for me was attending AALL and going to lots of programs about how libraries work. It was about learning about management and leadership, including the political aspects of being the librarian. It's kind of like being a lawyer--you enter the profession at a certain point in history, and you need to figure out what that history is so you can figure out how to shape it and move forward.

What is the best advice regarding leadership or being successful in your work that you've ever received?

Be kind! I don't think I started by being very kind. I had been a trial lawyer. There was a transition for me, which many people helped me with--from being adversarial to being thoughtful in my scholarship and kinder in my interactions with people.

Do you know a great leader? Recommend a leader for us to spotlight in the Leader In You column. Send your recommendation with a brief description of why you think they are a great leader to [Kris Niedringhaus](#), Chair, Leadership Development Committee.

