

BLL-SIS ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

BOARD MEMBERS

Andre Davison, Chair
Yolanda Jones, Vice Chair, Chair-Elect
Le'Shawn Turner, Secretary
John Campbell, Treasurer
Angela Mason, Member-at-Large
Miriam Childs, Member-at-Large
Errol Adams, Immediate Past Chair

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bylaws: Janice Henderson & Allen Moye
Community Service: Nichelle Perry
Education & Annual Programs: Marjorie Crawford & Zanada Joyner
Grants & Awards: Jane Larrington
Marketing & Public Relations: Khelani Clay
Membership: Gail Mathapo
Nominations: Shamika Dalton

STRATEGIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Black Law Librarian Special Interest Section had an amazing year. Our accomplishments this year supported our mission to provide a conducive environment for Black Law Librarians and other affiliate law librarian members to connect with one another, to encourage and support each other while developing lifetime learners and innovators in the profession. Membership increased by 9.4%. The BLL-SIS Education fund was established with a generous donation from NOCALL. The Education & Annual programs committee coordinated a wonderful schedule of educational programs throughout the year. The Grants & Awards committee awarded the first grant for a BLL-SIS member to attend the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference in Denver and established awards for the 2022-2023 calendar year. The Membership Committee held a coffee chat to help BLL-SIS members prepare for the AALL Conference. The Bylaws committee finalized the BLL-SIS Handbook of Standard Operating Procedures. The Marketing & Public Relations Committee used our social media platforms to highlight the successes of BLL-SIS and its members. The Community Service committee chose a wonderful partner for our Community Service Project for the annual meeting in Denver. Finally, the nomination committee presented a wonderful slate of candidates and the BLL-SIS members to vote for our new leadership for the 2022 – 2023 calendar year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

The Annual Programs Committee continued to build on the success of the dynamic, year-round slate of programs given during our inaugural year in 2021. The Committee planned the Annual Conference programs; convened the remaining three programs in the Data Skills Workshop Series; planned and participated in the 2nd PLLIP Diversity Summit: The Power of Intersectionality; wrote a proposal for a Bloomberg Continuing Education Grant Program: Pay Equity for Law Librarians: “In their own words”; facilitated a webinar on Critical Race Theory; and co-sponsored with The Asian American Law Librarians Caucus, together with co-sponsors, Government Law Libraries SIS, Social Responsibilities SIS, Federal Law Librarians Caucus, and Jewish Law Librarians Caucus the virtual viewing of _____ a documentary feature film.

BLL-SIS Education and Annual Programs Committee Program List 2021-2022

Webinar on Critical Race Theory

On Monday, February 14, Brittany Persson was the moderator for the BLL-SIS webinar for a discussion on critical race theory—what is it, why are so many people talking about it, and why the answers to both are so important. Professor Mark C. Niles of Hofstra University was the speaker. This CRT program proposal was curated by Errol Adams.

Program Collaboration with the Other Caucuses and SISs

The Asian American Law Librarians Caucus, together with co-sponsors Black Law Librarians SIS, Government Law Libraries SIS, Social Responsibilities SIS, Federal Law Librarians Caucus, and Jewish Law Librarians Caucus, invited BLL-SS members to a **virtual viewing** of [_____](#) a documentary feature film that tells the story of how racial bias, intentional falsehoods, and the suppression of evidence and secret alteration of military reports resulted in the Supreme Court approval of the mass internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Bloomberg Continuing Education Grant

The Committee crafted a grant proposal from the pay equity proposal that was declined by AMPC for the Denver Conference. The program “Show me the money: How to close the gender and racial pay gap for good” was repurposed into a program “Pay Equity for Law Librarians: In their own words” and submitted for the AALL/Bloomberg Continuing Education Grant. In early June 2022, the committee was notified that the Bloomberg Continuing Education committee accepted our proposal, and we received a grant in the amount of \$3000.

GRANTS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Jane Larrington

Members: Brittany Persson, Tiffani Willis

Board Liaison: Andre Davison

The Grants & Awards Committee drafted eligibility requirements and guidelines for the inaugural BLL-SIS Education Fund grant: the 2022 BLL-SIS Grant for Early-Career Professionals & Students to Attend the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference. The Committee prepared a grant application form, solicited, and reviewed applications, and selected this year’s recipient: Le’Shawn Turner.

The Committee sent the following list of recommended Awards to the BLL-SIS Executive Board and the board unanimously approved:

BLL-SIS Service Award

scholarly legal journal published in 10 volumes from 1941 – 1952 by the National Bar Association, the national organization of African American lawyers formed in 1925.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Shamika Dalton

Members: Gail Mathapo and Lisa Goodman

Board Liaison: Le'Shawn Turner

The Nominations Committee sent out a 'Call for Nominations' to the BLL-SIS listserv on November 29, 2021, requesting nominations by December 17, 2021. In addition to the 'Call for Nominations,' the Committee reached out to numerous BLL-SIS members individually to encourage them to run for office. The following slate was submitted to and approved by the Board:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Mary Godfrey-Rickards
Member-at-Large: Malikah Hall
Secretary: Latia Ward, Aaron Retteen
Treasurer: Andrew Christensen, Brittany Persson

The Committee coordinated with Le'Shawn Turner, BLL-SIS Secretary, and Chris Siwa, Director of Information Technology at AALL, to create the ballot using AALL's online election platform. The election was held from April 25, 2022- May 9, 2022. 44 BLL-SIS members voted in the election. The election results were:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Mary Godfrey-Rickards
Member-at-Large: Malikah Hall
Secretary: Latia Ward
Treasurer: Brittany Persson

INCOMING BOARD 2022-2023

Yolanda Jones, Chair-Elect
Mary Godfrey-Rickards, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
Latia Ward, Secretary
Brittany Persson, Treasurer
Malika Hall, Member-at-Large
Miriam Childs, Member-at-Large
Andre Davison, Immediate Past Chair

Submitted by

Andre Davison
BLL-SIS Chair [2021-2022]