

## History of RIPS-SIS

The AALL Reader Services Special Interest Section (RS-SIS) was established in 1979. The focus of the SIS was on services to patrons including circulation issues, legal research and bibliographic instruction.

author from Joan Shear, dated June 21, 2011] Projects worked on by RS-SIS included a bibliography of legal materials for the blind, repositories of teaching materials, a project on research competencies and establishment of topical roundtables at the annual meetings. RS-SIS was also active in proposing and sponsoring programs for the AALL Annual Conferences, often in conjunction with other SIS and committees.

In 1992, the Research Instruction Caucus (RIC) was established by Ellen Callinan with the focus of

One of the concerns expressed by members of RIC at the initial merger discussions during the 1995 annual meeting was the name Reader Services. It was thought to be outdated and would not accurately

members of RIC, but also among existing members of RS-

name for the SIS. Some of the suggestions included User Services and Instruction, Research Services and

chosen because it best reflected the focus of the group. As stated by Duane Strojny in the Message from

of libraries, we gather to discuss and implement programs that deal with legal research instruction and all areas of patron services including, but not limited to reference, circulation, interlibrary loan and document

are based on material gathered through surveys sent out to RIPS members or to AALL listservs, as well as from sample documents solicited from survey respondents. Briefs have been completed in such diverse topics as food and drink policies, electronic reserves, law library restructuring and library liaison programs. [For more information, check out the [Briefs](#) website]

In 2006, RIPS produced its first annotated bibliography of legal research texts. Written by Lynn Murray, Marc Silverman and Christopher Vallandingham, the bibliography reviewed eleven legal research texts for factors such as intended audience, currency and unique features, as well as price and length. The

text for first years or upper-