From the President

Penry A. Bazelon, AALL President
University of Washington Library
Seattle, WA 98105
206/543-4089; Telefax: 206/543-5671

As most of you know, AALL has had a long history of supporting formal and continuing education through grants and scholarships. * The Grant Program began in 1953 and has awarded stipends primarily to AALL members to assist them in attending our Annual Meeting. In 1989/90, 67 people applied for AALL grants and $19,050 was awarded to 62 grant recipients. The grant amount varies, but is usually tied to the cost of transportation to the meeting site. Over the past 38 years, hundreds of law librarians have had grant assistance from this program. (Editor's note: A more detailed description of the grant financial picture appears on p. 289.)

The AALL Scholarship Program has a somewhat different focus. Started in 1966, the program provided scholarships for professional education and today supports five different types of scholarships. In 1989/90, scholarship awards totaled $63,205 and can be broken down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type I: Library degree for JD</td>
<td>$2,000-$3,000 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type II: Law degree for librarian</td>
<td>$5,000 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type III: Library degree for non-JD</td>
<td>$2,000 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type IV: Special course in law librarianship</td>
<td>$325 min. co-yr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George A. Strait Minority Stipend</td>
<td>$3,500 each</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the 49 scholarship applications for 1989/90, 24 scholarships were awarded.

Prior to the large West scholarship donation that began in 1982 and the large Mead Data Central donation that began in 1990, only two to four scholarships were awarded on an annual basis. So even though over 200 scholars have been awarded since 1966, the vast majority have been given out in the last ten years.

AALL makes about $8,500 available from general funds for the scholarship program, but the total amount available for grants and scholarships each year is very dependent upon corporate and individual gifts.

You may remember Past-President Margaret Leary's exhortation in November 1988 asking each of us to give a mere $11.11 to double the scholarship and grant amount for 1988/89. Although total funds expended from 1988/89 to 1989/90 went from $53,420 to $79,825, the increase was primarily due to the addition of MDC's generous gift to West's continuing support. The total funds available for 1990/91 are unknown at this time since gifts are still being received.

Your contribution can make a difference! Please consider a gift today.

You may wish:
- to honor a colleague's retirement, new job, or birthday
- to remember a colleague, a comfort a friend in mourning
- to obtain a tax deduction
- to show your appreciation for grants and scholarships you have received.

Your check, in any amount, should note whether your gift is for grants, scholarships, or the George A. Strait Minority Stipend, and be sent directly to AALL, Dept. 77-6921, Chicago, IL 60678-6921.

We are very grateful for the generosity of those who have donated to the grants and scholarships programs over the years. As you consider your charitable giving plan for 1991, I would ask you to think about your profession and help others entry the substantial rewards of law librarianship.

*My thanks to the research efforts of James Duggan (a winner in the AALL 1990 Call for Papers competition and whose paper on scholarship recipients will be published this summer in Law Library Journal); Bonnie Konicki-White, former Chair of the AALL Grants Committee; and Barbara Baintiff, current Chair of the AALL Scholarships Committee, all of whom supplied helpful historical and statistical information for this column.

The grants and scholarship application forms can be found in the December 1990 issue of the AALL Newsletter. Deadline for all applicants is April 1, 1991.

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