



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TAKING ON TECH

DISCOVER WHAT WORKS BEST FOR YOU

Welcome to the May/June issue of *AALL Spectrum*. This issue places an emphasis on technology, a topic that is constantly evolving. Earlier this year, I told a colleague that I felt overwhelmed by the amount of information available concerning new technology, and that I didn't feel confident choosing which technologies to learn more about.

More recently, the societal changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic have led to many of us working from home, managing the collision of our work lives with our home lives. This radical change in circumstances has made technology—and keeping up with technology—even more important to all of us.

In February, I attended the Professional Engagement, Growth & Advancement Special Interest Section (PEGA-SIS) webinar from their “So You Wanna ...” series on being a law techie. This webinar was brief, but it let me know that there is a lot of noise out there in the legal technology field, and you have to find what is right for you and what meets the needs of your workplace. So, this issue will help you navigate through the noise as well as keep you updated on emerging trends.

Featured in this issue is an article on artificial intelligence (AI) and implicit bias. Human biases creep into technology, so how can we as a profession combat that? To learn even more about this issue, listen to the program that inspired the article, from our 2019 AALL Annual Meeting at bit.ly/AM19AIbias. In addition, the Caselaw Access Project is also featured within the pages of this issue. I was amazed to learn more about this project, which was developed by the Library Innovation Lab at Harvard Law School. It excites me that an academic institution is taking the lead in expanding access to U.S. law.

I also want to mention that we are just a few months away from our 113th AALL Annual Meeting, which will be held this year in New Orleans, Louisiana. Our March/April issue highlighted some of the exciting educational programs taking place and gave you a taste of the rich multicultural heritage and Old World charm of New Orleans. This issue delivers a fantastic interview with our keynote speaker, Jim Kwik. Jim embodies the theme for this year's meeting, “Unmasking our Potential,” as he overcame a traumatic brain injury that he received as a young child and is now one of the world's leading experts on both how to improve your memory and your speed-reading skills. Learn more about Jim and his history on AALL's Annual Meeting site at bit.ly/AALL20keynote and come hear his talk “Master Your Mind: Learn Anything and Become Limitless,” on Sunday, July 12, at the AALL Annual Meeting. I have no doubt his keynote will be very special and that it will inspire us all to train our brains and, hopefully, become limitless. As Jim says, “our brains are our superpowers.”

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