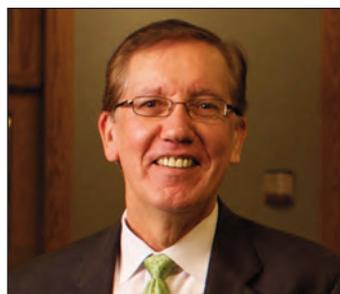


# AALL Honors Four with its Top Award

## Coggins, Hazelton, Holterhoff, and Wiant chosen for the 2015 Gallagher Award

By Frank G. Houdek

In 1984, AALL bestowed its first-ever Distinguished Service Award on Marian Gould Gallagher, law librarian emeritus (and *extraordinaire*) of the University of Washington Law Library. AALL has since recognized 62 members for their “outstanding, extended, and sustained service to law librarianship, to the Association, or [their] contributions to the professional literature.” As chair of the AALL Awards Committee, I am pleased to announce the newest recipients of AALL’s highest and most coveted award, renamed the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award in 1990: Timothy L. Coggins, Penny A. Hazelton, Sarah G. Holterhoff, and Sarah K. Wiant. These brief profiles highlight how the 2015 Gallagher Award recipients have lived up to the high standards of professional achievement and service established by Marian Gould Gallagher.



### Timothy L. Coggins

As old-timers will recall, William D. Murphy, long-time Chicago firm librarian, was known to his peers as “Mr. AALL” because he so often came to the rescue of the Association when there was an important task to perform (e.g., establish a permanent headquarters, serve as interim executive director, etc.). One can’t help but think that the mantle shifted sometime during the lengthy law library career of Timothy (Tim) L. Coggins, retiring associate dean for library and information services and professor of law at the University of Richmond School of Law, Richmond, Virginia.

Based on his record of service for AALL and the number of presidents who have acknowledged it with certificates of merit or appreciation, Coggins has for years been the go-to person when AALL needed something to be done and done well. While his curriculum vitae describes a wide range of interests and endeavors, much of the work for which he is so well known centers on advancing the Association’s efforts in member education, government relations, and information policy. The list is ridiculously long and won’t be duplicated here, but highlights include chairing the Program Committee for the 1999 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., which featured

“strategic initiatives sessions” that had guests from the legal community discussing information policy issues with law librarians; serving a two-year stint as chair of the Professional Development Committee; chairing the Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee (AELIC) and its successor, the Electronic Legal Information Access and Citation Committee; and twice chairing the all-important Government Relations Committee.

In addition to these important but “regular” Association duties, presidents frequently have asked him to undertake unique assignments for which there was no precedent to follow. I know this firsthand, as I asked him to co-chair (with Michele Finerty) the Information Technology and Implementation Working Group, a high-profile initiative of my presidential year in 1996-1997. My successor, Judy Meadows, presented the co-chairs with the first of Coggins’ four (!) presidential certificates for successfully completing that very big job, which ultimately resulted in the formation of AELIC and started AALL on its path to the leadership role it now holds in this area of critical importance to law librarians. Though it is impossible to mention them all, other such contributions include chairing both the Task Force on Government Relations Activities and the Joint Study Institute Planning Committee (for which Coggins received another presidential certificate in 2008), and co-chairing the planning committee for the 2007 Summit on Authentic Legal Information in the Digital Age (yes, another presidential certificate).

Space limitations force me to give short shrift to an outline of Coggins’ law library career and many other activities, but it wouldn’t be right not to note that prior to coming to Richmond in 2004, he was director of the law library at the University of Alabama School of Law in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, from 1993-1997

and that he started his law library career in 1981 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, serving as head of readers’ services and associate. Also, he is a prolific author and speaker (the list takes up five CV pages). Finally, while the Gallagher Award may be seen as a culmination, his peers already have recognized Coggins on several occasions, including with the Distinguished Service to SEAALL Award (1995), the Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship (2004), the Virginia Library Association Intellectual Freedom Award (2005), the AALL Hall of Fame Award (2011), and the Robert L. Oakley Member Advocacy Award (2013). Mr. AALL, indeed!



### Penny A. Hazelton

For those who knew Marian Gallagher or are familiar with her career, it is hard to imagine anyone taking her place, but that is exactly what Penny A. Hazelton has done in her long and distinguished career. This is not because Hazelton has directed the Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library of the University of Washington in Seattle since 1985, including serving as professor of law and associate dean for library and technology services from 2002 until the beginning of her phased retirement this summer. Nor is it because for the past 30 years

she also has been the driving force behind the storied graduate law librarianship program at Washington, which Gallagher herself began in the late 1940s. (One former student of Gallagher calls Hazelton the “ideal successor to Marian.”) Rather, it is the combination of these and so many other achievements that led one nominator to write about Hazelton: “She rivals Marian Gallagher herself in the breadth and lasting nature of her contributions.”

Hazelton began her library career as serials librarian at Northwestern School of Law, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon, while simultaneously completing a JD degree at the school (1972-1975). After earning an MLL from Gallagher’s program at Washington, she served as associate law librarian and associate professor of law (1976-1978) and then law librarian (1978-1981) at the University of Maine School of Law in Portland, Maine. In 1981, she became assistant librarian for research services at the U.S. Supreme Court Library in Washington, D.C., where she worked until returning to Washington to take over Gallagher’s programs at Washington in 1985.

For the past three decades, Hazelton has directed a major academic law library, run a premier law library education program, regularly taught both law and library school courses, and established a record of scholarship and public speaking that is second to none. She also directed the educational program for the 1984 AALL Annual Meeting in San Diego, served three years on the AALL Executive Board (1984-1987), participated on countless standing and special AALL committees, and, not surprisingly, was elected by her peers as AALL president (1990-1991). But she was just getting started.

After completing her presidential duties, Hazelton chaired two separate task forces focusing on education for law librarianship and represented AALL as a delegate to the 1992 White House Conference on Library and Information Services. She later served as the chair of both the American Bar Association’s Committee on Libraries and the Association of American Law Schools’ (AALS) Section on Law Libraries. She somehow also found time to produce books, chapters, articles, and other professional publications, including *Washington Legal Researcher’s Deskbook*, for which she shared the Joseph L. Andrews Bibliographical Award with

other contributors. In recognition of her tireless efforts, the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section (SIS) presented Hazelton with the inaugural Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship in 2000.

This list of Hazelton’s tangible achievements, partial though it is, leaves no doubt as to her qualifications for the Gallagher Award. But it may not fully explain why another nominator wrote: “In considering the expanse that will be left empty in our profession when Penny officially retires, I am struck with a non-Penny-like sense of panic.” To understand that concern, consider the intangibles Hazelton has brought not just to the profession but to the countless individuals she has trained and mentored over the years: enthusiasm, ingenuity, energy, generosity, wisdom, devotion, commitment, advocacy, involvement, intelligence. With these in mind, it is easy to see why a third nominator wrote: “Penny’s contributions to the future of our profession are unique. Nobody is more deserving of AALL’s most distinguished award.” We agree.



### Sarah G. Holterhoff

There was little surprise in 2014 when AALL honored Sarah G. (Sally) Holterhoff, government information/reference librarian and associate professor of law librarianship at Valparaiso University Law School Library, Valparaiso, Indiana, with its Robert L. Oakley Member Advocacy Award. Holterhoff has long been synonymous with all issues pertaining to government information, including advocacy for its public accessibility, so it was entirely appropriate that she receive the Oakley Award. Similarly, in 2015, given her many years of extensive and effective service to AALL and the profession, she is an ideal recipient of the Gallagher Award.

After earning an MA in library science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Holterhoff first worked in public and school libraries before beginning her law library career at Valparaiso in 1981 as government documents librarian. She has served in her present position, which includes regularly teaching both legal research and advanced legal research courses, since 1994. She has published extensively and is frequently called on as a speaker, particularly about government information and public policy issues. But this only scratches the surface of a person who one nominator calls “an AALL force of nature.”

No characterization could be more apt for Holterhoff, who, among other things, has served roles as president of the Chicago Association of Law Libraries, Government Documents SIS chair, standing committee chair (Government Relations; Public Relations), special committee chair (Chapter Relations, Washington Affairs Office Review, Government Policy Advisory Group, Federal Depository Library Program), and chair of the Council of Chapter Presidents. A three-time recipient of presidential certificates, she also was the founding chair of the Publishing Initiatives Caucus and AALL’s representative to the International Federation of Library Associations. Strangely, listing this record of sustained service may make Holterhoff’s three-year term on the Executive Board, followed by a second stint when she served as AALL President in 2006-2007, seem almost an afterthought. *Almost.*

Given her advocacy for advancing access to government information, it was only natural that she convened the National Summit on Authentic Legal Information in the Digital Age during her presidential tenure. This ultimately led to one of AALL’s crowning achievements: the development of the *Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act* and its passage in an ever-growing number of states. Working for AALL on government information issues was not enough for Holterhoff, however. She also served two terms on the Federal Depository Library Council and was a member of Indiana’s Pro Bono Commission. It is no wonder that one nominator wrote of Holterhoff: “She has inspired many of us through her commitment to the principles of free, equal access to government information.”



Perhaps the most telling evidence that Holterhoff is a worthy Gallagher Award recipient comes from the fact that long after completing the heavy responsibilities of AALL president, she continues to work tirelessly on behalf of AALL, law librarians, and her passion, access to government information. In 2011, she co-wrote a chapter on authenticating digital government information for a book on government information management, and in 2012 she wrote a four-page *Members Briefing* on “The AALL Representatives Program,” which was published in *AALL Spectrum*. In 2014-2015, as she nears retirement, she serves as a member of AALL’s Government Policy Advisory Group and is an ex-officio member of three important policy committees—Copyright, Government Relations, and Digital Access to Legal Information. It is this kind of commitment that inspired one of her nominators to write: “Sally stands as an ideal role model in our profession, showing that even after one attains leadership, she can continue to serve generously by sharing her expertise as an advisor and mentor.” An AALL force of nature, to be sure.



### Sarah K. Wiant

Sarah K. Wiant completed her MLS at the University of North Texas in Dallas in 1970 and then embarked on a professional career as assistant law librarian at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. In 1972, she began what became a remarkable career at Washington & Lee University School of Law in Lexington, Virginia, starting as assistant law librarian. In 1978, she

earned her JD at Washington & Lee as a member of its first class of women and became director of the law library. She served in that role for more than 30 years, moving through the ranks as assistant, associate, and full professor of law until stepping down in 2010. But today, four decades after arriving at Washington & Lee, Wiant still teaches a full course load. Truthfully, the record of excellence she established as a library administrator, teacher, scholar, speaker, and information policy expert (particularly in copyright and intellectual property law) are sufficient to qualify her for the Association’s highest honor. But there is more.

Wiant’s leadership role in AALL stretches back almost to the beginning of her professional career. In 1973-1974, barely started herself, she served as vice chair of the Conference of Newer Law Librarians, the beginning of her long history as a mentor and role model to so many colleagues. She later chaired the Education Committee (1977-1980), immediately followed by three years on the AALL Executive Board (1981-1984) and her first turn as chair of the Copyright Committee (1984-1985). Simultaneously, Wiant also took on the role of chairing a critically important special committee on the future of AALL and overseeing the educational program for the 1987 Annual Meeting in Chicago. In the years that followed, she continued to provide extraordinary service to AALL, chairing the Copyright (again), Bylaws, Economic Status of Law Librarians, and Scholarships committees and serving as the Association’s representative to the U.S. Copyright Office and to the Special Libraries Association (SLA).

Wiant’s service has not been limited to AALL. She was SLA’s representative to the USPTO Conference on Fair Use and served on several SLA committees and as president of the Virginia SLA. In recognition, SLA honored Wiant with its prestigious John Cotton Dana Award for Excellence in Librarianship. For AALL, Wiant served on its Accreditation Committee and chaired the Section on Law Libraries. Her work for the Southeastern Association of Law

Libraries was so significant that the organization presented Wiant with its Distinguished Service Award.

Despite its importance, this record of service may pale in comparison with her contributions as a public policy advocate, particularly her influence as a nationally known expert on copyright. The U.S. Copyright Office, the U.S. House of Representatives, and federal courts have relied on her for testimony and legal briefs. AALL, SLA, the Association of Research Libraries, and the American Council of Learned Societies all asked her to represent them on intellectual property issues. She has written two books in the field, *Libraries and Copyright* and *Copyright Handbook* (with Heller), along with numerous chapters, articles, and columns, and she frequently speaks on the subject. Finally, in 2001, AALL recognized Wiant with a presidential certificate of appreciation for her leadership in opposing the enactment of the *Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act* in Virginia.

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of this distinguished record is that Wiant’s service has never waned in a career that now spans 45 years. She completed her last term on the Copyright Committee in 2009 and then chaired the Scholarships Committee in 2011-2012, two years after exiting the library at Washington & Lee. For such exemplary and sustained service on behalf of AALL and the profession, Wiant is a more than worthy recipient of the Gallagher Award.

### Congratulations to the Winners

Please join the Awards Committee in recognizing the four recipients of the 2015 Gallagher Award at this year’s AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in Philadelphia on Tuesday, July 21, at the Association Luncheon. ■



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