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Letter to Carol Billings regarding Lucile Elliott Scholarship process, October 20, 1986

Hazel Johnson

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October 20, 1986

Carol D. Billings
Law Library of Louisiana
100 Supreme Court Bldg.
301 Loyola Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70112

Dear Carol:

Enclosed are my thoughts on the scholarship process.

Sincerely,

Hazel L. Johnson
Director of Information Services

HLJ/mm
ELLIOTT SCHOLARSHIP POLICY QUESTIONS

1. Do we wish to eliminate anyone from consideration who has received an AALL or SEAALL scholarship within the last five years, or shall we ask applicants about this but leave the door open for deserving applicants who may have won an AALL scholarship several years before and whose institution cannot afford to pay his expenses to a meeting this year?

Previous receipt should be taken into consideration but probably should not automatically eliminate someone. I would like to see us spread the money around. Should we ask for the year they received? Getting one two years in a row would be poor form, I think.

2. Shall we include a question about participation in and service to AALL and SEAALL? Should a member who has worked willingly and faithfully for the chapter and/or AALL and whose institution cannot afford to send him to a meeting, etc. be assisted in order to continue attending and participating?

Yes, service should be an important factor. Anyone willing to work hard without attending meetings should be rewarded. AALL work should count for members who may be new to region but not to AALL.

3. Or, should the scholarship be aimed at newer members?

I would like to say that I thought Scholarships would encourage individuals to attend & participate in SEALL, but I'm afraid those people who can attend only one meeting and who receive money will very often choose to attend National meetings which defeats our purpose.

4. Should we consider giving a percentage of the scholarships to new members, and a percentage to people who have been around and worked for the chapter? (Note: The chapter's treasury seems healthy enough at the moment that it is very likely that we may be able to increase the number of scholarships this year, probably to 5 or 6.)

I would agree to giving a small percentage to newer members, (2 of 6) but we shouldn't be inflexible on this. Obviously, if we don't have newer applicants, all the awards should go to older members.

5. Instead of announcing that all scholarships will be the same amount (e.g., $300), should the award vary with the need? (AALL customarily awards airfare, etc.)

This would be okay with me but I think there should be a maximum amount as established by Executive Board, but not necessarily publicized to avoid controversy.

Any other comments on the scholarship award process:

I think we need to publicize more. Is a calling campaign in order to encourage applicants? Should Public Relations Committee be involved? Continue—on—another—sheet—if—necessary.—Thanks!

Do we have any policy on a person receiving multiple awards in one year? With limited money at AALL & SEALL, I think individuals should be encouraged to return one of the awards. If the scholarship form is
to be modified, a statement to that effect might be added to item 11 where applicants are asked to sign.