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Email to John Doyle regarding the AALL Task Force on the Internet, August 13, 1993

Pam Williams

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The AALL Task Force on the Internet has contacted me as SEALL President and they want to establish a local "internet buddy" system. They want Chapters to appoint a coordinator who would then develop a list of internet literate people in the Chapter who would serve as buddies to new internet users - show them the ropes, so to speak.

They would like to have the list of Chapter Coordinators compiled by September 7.

Would you be able to serve as the Coordinator? - or can you recommend someone else if you will not be able to do this?

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Pam Williams

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I've thought about it a bit, and it goes against the grain for me to say 'no' but really don't think I would like to commit myself to co-ordinating a buddy system. I've already got more projects than I can satisfactorily handle.

You might try:

Joe Wynne at UVA
Ken Hirsh at Duke
Mary Grace Hune at W&M

Regards
John Doyle. Washington & Lee University. doylej@liberty.uc.wlu.edu

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Anne Washburn
July 30, 1992

Dear Chapter President;

The AALL Task Force on the Internet was formed to investigate and recommend ways that more AALL members could gain access to the Internet. The Task Force has identified several strategies that might assist our members in gaining access, and these will be publicized in upcoming AALL Newsletters.

We believe that local involvement will be critical in the success of broadening access, particularly to members who do not have access through an academic setting. We are writing to you with three requests and suggestions:

1) We want to establish a local "internet buddy" system, and we believe this would best be accomplished at the local level. We are asking that you appoint a Chapter Internet Coordinator, and report that Coordinator to us. The Chapter Coordinator would then develop a list of Internet literate people in your Chapter who would serve as buddies to new Internet users, again, in your Chapter; to show them the ropes, so to speak.

2) The Task Force would also like to hear from the Chapters about any Internet projects that are already in place on the local level. These can be strategies that have proven useful in either getting people up on the Internet, or training them once access has been achieved. Other tips, ideas (half-baked or otherwise) would be welcome. The Task Force will be able to disseminate those ideas in the AALL Newsletter, so that everyone can learn from those who have experience. Credit will be given, of course.

3) There are some segments of our association that will find it financially difficult to join the Internet, but might be able to join if some subsidization were available. The Task Force will be recommending some form of subsidization to the AALL Executive Board in its fall report, but we would ask that you consider implementing some limited funding mechanism that would partially support member access on the local level.

We also include a draft article to be included in one of your upcoming Chapter Newsletters that announces the AALL Task Force, and solicits suggestions and support for the project. Feel free to edit it (perhaps use it as a vehicle to announce your Chapter Internet Coordinator) to suit your needs. I have sent a copy of the draft article to your Newsletter Editor.
We would like to have developed the list of Chapter Internet Buddy Coordinators by September 7, 1993. Please send the name/address/internet address of your Coordinator, as well as any other information about your local strategies and plans to one of the three Task Force Members, listed below. Please feel free to contact any of us with your questions and concerns. We greatly appreciate your efforts in bringing Internet access to a larger number of our members.

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602-262-5303
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WANTED: INTERNET ACCESS!

The AALL Executive Board recently created the AALL Task Force on Internet. The charges of this Task Force are to 1) Identify the various options available to libraries and to individuals to access the Internet; 2) Publicize through the AALL Newsletter and other appropriate methods, those options for access; 3) Explore the financial impediments to access by all AALL members and identify and describe solutions.

The Task Force believes that the key to widespread, successful use of the Internet by the Association members will depend upon active participation at the local level and sharing of information about the Internet.

The Task Force has asked each AALL Chapter President to appoint a Chapter Internet Coordinator. This Chapter Coordinator would then solicit and coordinate chapter members who are experienced on the Internet to serve as mentors for newcomers to the system.

The Task Force would also like to hear "war stories" from those who have already taken the leap into the Internet: how did you get started? what arguments worked to get funding? what training approaches were successful? The Task Force will gather these together and disseminate them through the AALL Newsletter throughout the winter months.

We welcome your comments and your concerns. Our goal is to provide enough information and inspiration to our membership that access to Internet will be greatly increased. Please feel free to contact any of the Task Force members with your ideas, successes and concerns.

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NOTES

The ALL TF on the Internet wanted to establish a local "IB" system and have asked me to appoint a chapter board which would then develop a list of Internet literate people in our Chap who will serve as "buddies" to new Internet users, to show them the ropes, so to speak.

They would like to have the list of chapter board compiled by 9/7.

would you be able to serve as the board? or can you recommend someone else if you will not be able to do this.

Doyle J @ Liberty . UC . WLU . EdW