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Marie Whited Honored with Marian Gould Gallagher Award

Distinguished technical services librarian recognized for contributions to the profession

By Camille Broussard

The AALL Awards Committee is pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2010 Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award is Marie E. Whited. The award will be presented during the AALL Annual Meeting Closing Banquet, Tuesday, July 13, in Denver.

In 2010, Whited will retire from her position as cataloging liaison at the Law Library of Congress after a very distinguished career as a technical services librarian—a career during which she never hesitated to share her time and knowledge with her AALL and librarian colleagues, both nationally and internationally. As Mary Jane Kelsey notes in her nomination letter, Whited “is a prodigious teacher and has contributed much to the Association and to countless technical services librarians by her numerous presentations, workshops, formal and informal consultations.” Melody Lembke writes, “Marie has trained a generation of law librarians in the correct way to apply Library of Congress Classification. She has been unfailing in her willingness to answer questions and put those of us working in the trenches on the ‘right’ path to keep our collections in order.” Margaret Leary adds, “I cannot think of a single other person who has educated so many law librarians as Marie in a specialized and essential part of our work.”

Whited began her career as a cataloger at the Cornell Law Library in 1967 after receiving her MLS from Simmons College. By the time she left Cornell to join the cataloging staff at the Library of Congress in 1974, she had risen to the position of head cataloger. During her career, Whited has managed the cataloging services at Cornell and George Washington University Law Schools, served as the law catalog liaison specialist at the Law Library of Congress, and assisted in managing the reclassification of Yale Law School’s collection into LC, as well as supervising Yale’s “JZ/KZ” implementation. She returned to the Law Library of Congress as the cataloging liaison in 2004.

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Whited is the perfect role model for “active participation” in one’s professional association. She has co-directed or taught nearly 20 workshops and institutes on cataloging issues. In addition, she has organized or made presentations at more than 15 AALL programs. She writes a regular column on classification in *Technical Services Law Librarian* to answer questions on all aspects of law cataloging, classification, and subject analysis. To her peers, Whited is the “go-to” person for anyone with a question about LC. Her influence on the law library world, however, is much broader.

Whited has been and continues to be our voice in the development of national policies and procedures defining how law librarians arrange, describe, and give access to legal information. Phyllis Marion praises Whited as the person “in the forefront of bringing vital cataloging concerns to the law library community and making sure that those concerns were made known to the general cataloging community as it developed AACR II and the law classification schedules.” Whited continues this work today.

Blair Kauffman also recognizes that Whited’s service to our profession goes far beyond the technical services realm. In his nomination, Kauffman writes, “Marie’s role within the profession will be long-lasting and provides building blocks others use and will continue to use to improve the

work all of us do.” Whited’s significant and sustained contributions to law librarianship and to AALL exemplify the very essence of the Gallagher Award.

The Distinguished Service Award was established in 1984 to recognize extended and sustained service to law librarianship, for exemplary service to the Association, or for contributions to the professional literature. The award was renamed the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award in 1990 and is the Association’s highest honor. ■

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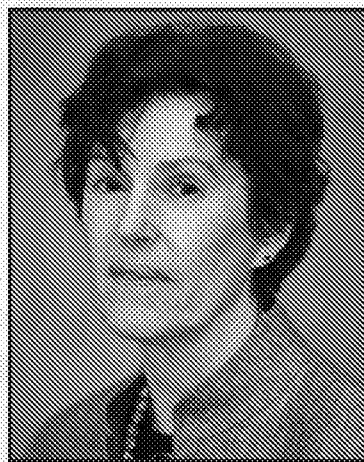


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