

*From  
the President...*

*Mary Ann Wacker, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP*

Thanks to all who came to the February HALL meeting with Jean Wenger. Jean was just a delight to talk to, and I appreciated her insight into the goings on at AALL Headquarters.

I am really looking forward to our bus trip to Austin March 26<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to Elise for planning the exciting excursion. We have a great turnout as of this writing, and I can't wait to look behind-the-scenes at the Legislative Reference Library and the LBJ Library. Thanks also to 10K Wizard and Westlaw Business, who are generously providing the meals on our journey!

Also, I want to encourage everyone to make plans to attend the HALL work day at the Houston Food Bank Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00am. Heather Waltman has done a great job organizing this event. Friends, spouses, and children are all welcome. Come spend some time with your HALL friends and help the Houston Food Bank do its good work in our community! A representative from the Food Bank will be our speaker at the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, so please come for a sneak-peek at the work of this amazing organization.

I am very proud of our Nominating Committee who has a fantastic slate of officers ready to serve next year. Their names appear on page 2. HALL will provide lunch for the May 14<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting, so please come and vote on the new officers, see who our Volunteer of the Year and grant winners will be, and win terrific door prizes! We'll wrap up another successful HALL year!!

**Continuing Education**

*Elise McCutchen, Thompson & Knight LLP*

April 2008 is HALL Community Service month! Heather Waltman, Chair of the new Special Committee, has chosen the Houston Food Bank for the Committee's first service event.

At our monthly meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>, Curtis McMinn, Volunteer Services Coordinator at the Houston Food Bank, will be our speaker. He will tell us about the Food Bank and the available volunteer opportunities. The meeting announcement is available on the HALL website at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/Meeting/hal0408.pdf>.

On Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00am until noon, HALL will work at the Food Bank. Friends, spouses, and children are welcome to join in and help! Details about this opportunity appear on [page 4](#) in this issue.

HALL's final meeting for 2007-08 will be the annual Business meeting and election of officers on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the election, the Volunteer of the Year award will be presented, as well as HALL's scholarships and grants for 2007/08.

For those members who are going to the AALL annual meeting in Portland in July, be sure and include the HALL/SWALL/DALL reception in your plans. The reception, sponsored by Jones McClure Publishing, Inc., will be held Sunday, July 13, 6:30-7:30pm. The reception is a great way to network with other HALL members, as well as folks from Dallas and the Southwestern region.

Hope to see you there!

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## Nominations Committee Report

The Nominations Committee is pleased to announce the proposed slate for the 2008-2009 HALL Board.

President	Elise McCutchen Thompson & Knight L.L.P.
Vice President/ President-Elect	Ann Patterson Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.
Treasurer	Mariann Sears Thompson & Knight L.L.P.
Secretary	Gwendolyn Johnson Mayer Brown LLP
Member-at-Large (2007-2009)	Lauren Schroeder University of Houston School of Law Library
Member-at-Large (2008-2010)	Patti Curtis Andrews, Kurth, L.L.P.

Members may make nominations from the floor at the annual business meeting in May. For any contested positions, members will vote by ballot.

Thanks to Nominations Committee members, Caralinn Cole (Chair), Caren Luckie and Susan Yancey for securing an excellent slate of candidates.

## Scholarships/Grants

*Judith Jackson, Harris County Law Library*

There is still time to apply for a HALL grant for the 2008 AALL annual meeting. The postmark deadline for travel grants to the Portland meeting and all scholarships to library school/law school is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Applications are available at the HALL website in the Members Only section <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/members.htm> (please contact Laura Edstrom if you need the login and password) and should be addressed to:

Judith Jackson  
Harris County Law Library  
1019 Congress, 17th Floor  
Houston, TX 77002

Before applying, please review the qualifications at the website <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/grants.htm> and note that applicants must be a member of HALL for at least two years at the time the application is made.

## 2008 HALL Dues...

*Laura Edstrom, South Texas College of Law*

It's time again to renew your membership in HALL. The 2008 membership form has been posted on the HALL website <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/dues.pdf>. Please complete one form per member and send your 2008 dues payment in by June 1, 2008.

The *HALL Newsletter*, published 6 times a year by the HALL Publications Committee, is the official publication of the Houston Area Law Librarians. The purpose is to communicate information to its members. Send contributions, comments, news items or advertising queries to Barbara Szalkowski, Editor, The Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law, 1303 San Jacinto, Houston, Texas 77002-7000; fax: (713) 659-2217; email: [szalkow@stcl.edu](mailto:szalkow@stcl.edu); or call (713) 646-1724.

All contributions submitted for publication are subject to editorial review. HALL does not assume responsibility for the statements of contributors. Views or opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of Houston Area Law Librarians. The *HALL Newsletter* is not copyrighted, however, permission should be sought from the authors and credit given when quoting or photocopying material from this publication.

Membership dues for HALL are \$25.00 a year. For membership information, contact Laura Edstrom, Accounting Assistant, The Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law, 1303 San Jacinto, Houston, TX 77002-7000.

HALL home page: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall>

**The Executive Librarian**  
(Legal and Tax Library Filing and Maintenance Service)



**Monika Miura**  
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Missouri City, Texas  
77459-4413

Office: 281.437.2135 Cell: 713.859.5100 mmiura1@comcast.net

## HALL Volunteer of the Year

In 2003, the HALL Board established the HALL Volunteer of the Year Award to recognize an individual member's contribution to HALL, including but not limited to HALL committee work; planning and preparations; someone who can be counted on to pitch in with HALL activities of any kind; someone who goes above and beyond in service to the group.

Please submit your nominations to any member of the HALL Board by Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board will select the recipient, and the presentation will be made at the May annual business meeting.



### Member News...

**Cynthia Barrancotto**, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP, has been nominated to the position of Chapter Cabinet Chair-Elect of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Board of Directors. Candidates will speak at this year's SLA meeting in June and elections will be held in September.

**Dina Dreifuerst**, Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP, submitted and had approved programs for both the SLA annual meeting in June and the AALL annual meeting in July. The AALL program, "Tales from the Dark Side, or If I Knew Then What I Know Now," is program J-6 on Tuesday afternoon, July 15, 2:45-3:15pm. Dina is Coordinator, Moderator and Speaker, and **Catherine Whitney**, Thompson & Knight LLP and Susan Skyzinski, Greenberg Traurig Research Center, will also speak. The program will focus on vendor librarian liaisons and strategies that librarians can use to work with information vendors.

**Lauren Schroeder**, the Reference/Research Librarian, O'Quinn Law Library at the University of Houston, has been appointed to fill a vacant At-Large position serving the rest of this year, and next year, 2008/09.



(L-R) Vice President Elise McCutchen and President Mary Ann Wacker welcome AALL Executive Board Member Jean Wenger to HALL in February  
— photo courtesy of Mary Ann Wacker

## Follow-Up to February Meeting

Mary Ann Wacker, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP

[Editor's Note: This column was originally posted on HALL-L and is reproduced here without any deletions or changes.]

Jean Wenger, our AALL Board Visitor at the February meeting, was asked several questions by members during her talk. Some of them she was not sure about, and said she'd get back to us. She did! – here are her answers:

Dear HALL Members:

Thank you for your questions and interest in AALL. Please find below responses to questions posed during my visit. Please contact me if you have additional questions.

### 1) Making Programs available on ALLNET - programs given grants by the Continuing Professional Education Committee (CPE):

Grant recipients are required to devise a method of sharing the program. The committee prefers to fund well-developed programs that make a good faith effort to share in some way. AALL entities can be creative in how they plan to share. Podcasting or taping is one option. Most of our recipients have been able to meet the obligation in some way. The CPE committee can assist in this area.

The committee has found that the way the sharing is marketed to a speaker makes a huge difference. Expressing to a speaker that the audio/video will be limited to 60 minutes maximum, available to AALL membership only and can be posted for a limited time usually is enough to get the commitment.

*continued on next page*

## February Meeting . . .

*continued from previous page*

Every speaker is required to sign a speaking agreement whether or not the program is being taped. The form asserts their commitment to the program and protects AALL. The speaker form can be modified upon speaker request, if there are disagreeable terms. The program coordinator can contact Celeste Smith, AALL Education Manager (csmith@aall.org) with the speaker's request for modification.

### 2) Promotion of Continuing Professional Education Programs:

Julia O'Donnell, Director of Publications (jodonnell@aall.org), and Celeste Smith are looking into ways the programs can be promoted including FTDOs (E-Newsletters: From the Desk of AALL President ). The CPE committee can also provide periodic announcements.

Programs such as Teaching the Teachers Conference, that received grant funds, are a direct outgrowth of the grant program. AALL/CPE in turn was able to make it available to the wider membership.

### 3) AALL Use of RSS feeds:

AALL does not have RSS feeds at this time, but it is being investigated as members have requested this option.

### 4) AALLNET:

It is recognized that AALLNET needs a revamp. Improvements to AALLNET are being planned for the future. However, no specifics are available at the moment.

### 5) Archiving of Job Hotline Postings:

Jobs listings are posted for 180 days. The reason is because when jobs were up indefinitely, "listers" were expressing concern that their "old" jobs were still posted and that the salary ranges for new postings (for the same or similar positions) were different. AALL does maintain a record of all postings, but only that past 180 days are online. Members can contact Hannah Phelps, Membership Services Coordinator (hphelps@aall.org) if they have any questions about earlier postings.

Many thanks to Mary Ann, Elise and HALL members for making my visit so inviting and interesting.

Jean M. Wenger  
 Government Documents/Foreign & International Law Librarian  
 Cook County Law Library  
 50 W. Washington Street, Room 2900  
 Chicago, IL 60602  
 PH. 312-603-5131  
 FX. 312-603-4716  
 jwenger@cookcountygov.com

**HALL/SWALL/DALL Reception at AALL**  
**Sponsored by Jones McClure Pub., Inc.:**  
**Sunday July 13, 2008 6:30-7:30pm**

## Houston Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity

*Heather Waltman, HALL Community Service Committee*

Calling all volunteers! We are scheduled for a group volunteer activity at the Houston Food Bank on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am -12noon. The Food Bank provides food assistance to more than 80,000 people each week and is committed to "leading the fight against hunger!" Learn more at <http://www.houstonfoodbank.org/AboutUs/Default.aspx>

Each volunteer will need to sign a liability waiver (provided on [page 7](#)) and turn it in on or before the day of volunteering. Please print this waiver and bring it with you to the April 9<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting, or have it ready to turn in on the day of the volunteer event. Spouses and children are welcome to participate, but all children under 18 must bring a waiver signed by their parents.

Please carefully review the dress code outlined in the Volunteer Guidelines and Safety Rules provided on [page 9](#). Because parking is limited, carpooling is encouraged, so let's all meet at South Texas College of Law on the day of volunteering and park in the STCL staff parking lot (on Caroline Street between Clay and Polk, one block east of the College). If we all meet there at 7:30am, we can arrange car pools and travel to the Food Bank as a group. See [page 10](#) for driving directions.

A Houston Food Bank representative will speak at our monthly meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>. At that time we will learn more about the Food Bank and the services they provide to the community. This is the first HALL service activity in many years, and I know it will be a big success! Thank you in advance for your generosity and your time. If you have any questions, please contact me at [hwaltman@stcl.edu](mailto:hwaltman@stcl.edu) or (713) 646-1792.

### ***Just a reminder!***

Publication deadlines for the  
**HALL Newsletter** are:

May/June	5/15/2008
July/August	8/1/2008
September/October	9/15/2008
November/December	11/15/2008
January/February	1/15/2009
March/April	3/15/2009

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**HALL Treasurer's Report (unaudited)  
Through February 6, 2008**

<b>Balance forward 12/31/07</b>			<b>\$18,490.61</b>
	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	
Newsletter			
Ads	110.00		
Dues	75.00		
Luncheons/Receptions/Seminars			
November meeting	165.00		
HALL-iday Luncheon	1,720.00		
January Meeting	260.00	298.75	
Administrative			
Stationery		322.59	
<b>Balance 02/06/08</b>			<b>\$20,199.27</b>

Mariann Sears, Treasurer  
February 6, 2008

# ADULT LIABILITY WAIVER

**INDIVIDUAL (age 18 or older):**

I, on behalf of myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Houston Food Bank, its employees, volunteers or agents (the "Released Parties") from any and all claims or causes of action that may arise out of the performance of my assigned duties as a volunteer. I waive any right of action I have against the Released Parties in consideration of my participation as a volunteer for the Houston Food Bank.

**IT IS MY EXPRESS INTENTION AND THE EXPRESS INTENTION OF THE RELEASED PARTIES THAT THE RELEASE PROVIDED FOR IN THIS AGREEMENT RELEASE THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, INCLUDING ACTS OF NEGLIGENCE OR ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE, AND INCLUDING WHERE SAME ARE THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE OF THE CLAIM.**

**IT IS MY EXPRESS INTENTION AND THE EXPRESS INTENTION OF THE RELEASED PARTIES THAT THE INDEMNITY PROVIDED FOR IN THIS AGREEMENT INDEMNIFY THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, INCLUDING ACTS OF NEGLIGENCE OR ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE, AND INCLUDING WHERE SAME ARE A CONTRIBUTING CAUSE OF A CLAIM.**

I acknowledge that this waiver and release is being signed by me voluntarily, without coercion, duress, or undue influence and with full knowledge of its terms and effects. I have read the above waiver and release of liability and fully understand its contents.

_____ Name	_____ Group (if applicable)	
_____ Street		
_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip code
_____ Employer (for internal reference only – this information is used to check for company gift matching programs)		

I do not wish to receive any correspondence from the Houston Food Bank

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# MINOR LIABILITY WAIVER



## MINORS (under the age of 18):

I, on behalf of the minor child, \_\_\_\_\_ (full name of minor), his/her personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin, \_\_\_\_\_ (full name of Parent or Legal Guardian), do hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Houston Food Bank, its employees, volunteers or agents (the "Released Parties") from any and all claims or causes of action that may arise out of the performance of the minor child's assigned duties as a volunteer. I waive any right of action I have against the Released Parties in consideration of my participation as a volunteer for the Houston Food Bank.

IT IS MY EXPRESS INTENTION AND THE EXPRESS INTENTION OF THE RELEASED PARTIES THAT THE RELEASE PROVIDED FOR IN THIS AGREEMENT RELEASE THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, INCLUDING ACTS OF NEGLIGENCE OR ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE, AND INCLUDING WHERE SAME ARE THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE OF THE CLAIM.

IT IS MY EXPRESS INTENTION AND THE EXPRESS INTENTION OF THE RELEASED PARTIES THAT THE INDEMNITY PROVIDED FOR IN THIS AGREEMENT INDEMNIFY THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF RELEASED PARTIES, INCLUDING ACTS OF NEGLIGENCE OR ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE, AND INCLUDING WHERE SAME ARE A CONTRIBUTING CAUSE OF A CLAIM.

The Houston Food Bank also has permission to use the above-reference minor's voice, name, likeness, photograph, or videotaped image in publicity about the Houston Food Bank and its activities.

I acknowledge that this waiver and release is being signed by me voluntarily, without coercion, duress, or undue influence and with full knowledge of its terms and effects. I have read the above waiver and release of liability and fully understand its contents.

_____		_____	
Name		Group (if applicable)	
_____			
Street			
_____		_____	_____
City	State	Zip code	

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# Volunteer Guidelines and Safety Rules

**Cooperation with the rules and guidelines that have been established will make your experience at the Houston Food Bank rewarding and safe. Failure to follow these rules could result in serious injury or termination from the Volunteer Services Program.**

All volunteers must enter and exit through the front door. Volunteers do not have to sign out for the fifteen minute break, but are expected to return to work promptly.

Volunteers are allowed to tour the Houston Food Bank; however, a staff member must be present to facilitate the tour. Volunteers must stay in assigned work areas. Volunteers must be at least eight years old. Volunteers under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Eating, drinking, smoking, radios, headphones, purses, bags, and other personal items are not permitted in the warehouse. Smoking is permitted outside and 25 feet away from the main building. Under no circumstances will any person be allowed to work in the warehouse while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

**Although the Houston Food Bank is a warehouse environment, you must dress appropriately and modestly at all times. Please observe the following guidelines:**

- Wear close-toed shoes at all times.
- No extremely loose clothing or dangling jewelry
- No clothing with obscene or controversial messages
- No overly tight or sexually suggestive clothing
- No sandals or flip-flops are allowed in the warehouse
- Shorts are permitted, but must be mid-length to the knees
- No muscle shirts on men or women.
- Please do not wear fanny packs or camera cases.

All dock and warehouse floors, aisles, and sitting areas on the dock are to be continuously free of debris, clutter and spills. Empty pallets must lay flat on the ground – not on the side or upright.

Only trained Houston Food Bank staff will be allowed to operate forklifts or other power equipment. All warehouse traffic signs, safety signs, and signals must be followed. All traffic lanes for pedestrians and forklifts must be observed. Be aware of forklift traffic and heed all horns.

Do not block emergency exits, fire extinguishers, or any equipment requiring immediate access. In case of a fire in the warehouse or fire drill, immediately stop what you are doing and proceed to the nearest fire exit.

No horseplay is permitted in the warehouse. Riding on pallet jacks and climbing on equipment, machinery, racks, pallet stacks is prohibited. Volunteers must report all accidents and injuries or unsafe conditions or practices to your supervisor.

Any pre-existing medical conditions that would restrict a person from performing any physical activities must be reported and on file before working in the warehouse. Use correct lifting techniques at all times. Do not attempt to lift over 50 pounds without assistance. Use proper protective gear provided for various jobs, such as goggles and gloves.

**Volunteers may use cell phones only in the front lobby. Due to safety and security, this is strictly enforced at all times.**

# Directions to the Houston Food Bank

3811 Eastex Freeway  
Houston, Texas 77026

## From US 59 Northbound from Downtown

- Take the second exit after you cross over I-10 north of downtown. This exit is Collingsworth/Cavalcade.
- Stay on the feeder road to the second light, which is Cavalcade. Turn left on Cavalcade under US 59.
- The next signal light is Jensen. Turn right on Jensen.
- The first street on your right will be Vintage. Turn right on Vintage.
- The Houston Food Bank will be on your right. Travel to the end of the street and turn right on US 59 southbound feeder. Enter the gate to the Houston Food Bank parking lot. There is only one entrance to our front lobby.

## From US 59 Southbound from Intercontinental Airport, Humble and Kingwood

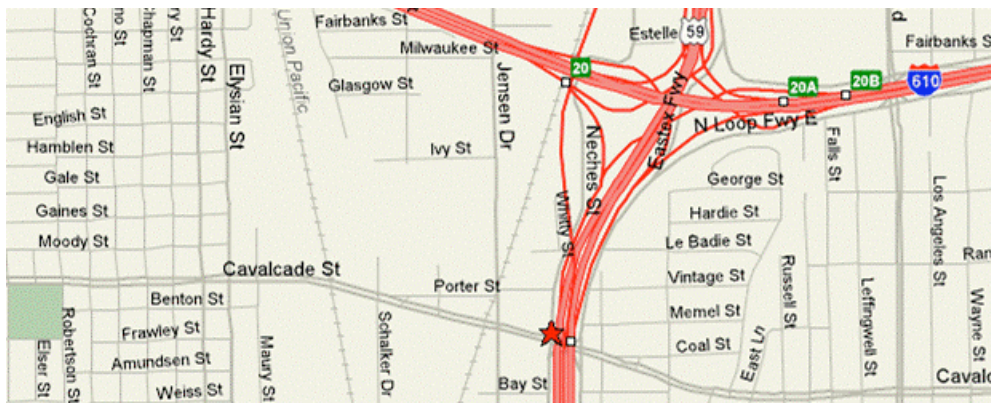
- Exit Cavalcade, which is the first exit after 610
- Cavalcade exit will place you on the southbound feeder road in front of the Houston Food Bank. Move to the far right lane and enter the Houston Food Bank main entrance.

## From I-45 Northbound from Downtown

- Exit Cavalcade and turn right
- Continue down Cavalcade for roughly 2 miles, until you get to Jensen. Turn left on Jensen
- The first street on your right will be Vintage. Turn right on Vintage.
- The Houston Food Bank will be on your right. Travel to the end of the street and turn right on US 59 southbound feeder. Enter the gate to the Houston Food Bank parking lot. There is only one entrance to our front lobby.

## From I-45 Southbound from Intercontinental Airport and The Woodlands

- Take the 610 East exit
- Traveling east towards US 59, take the "59 South - Downtown" exit
- You will see the Houston Food Bank building on your right from the overhead ramp as you enter US 59 South
- Take the Collingsworth exit
- Make a U-turn under US 59 at Collingsworth to the northbound feeder
- At the next light, turn left on Cavalcade under US 59. Turn left on Cavalcade under US 59
- The next signal light is Jensen. Turn right on Jensen.
- The first street on your right will be Vintage. Turn right on Vintage.
- The Houston Food Bank will be on your right. Travel to the end of the street and turn right on US 59 southbound feeder. Enter the gate to the Houston Food Bank parking lot. There is only one entrance to our front lobby.



## 2008 Joint Study Institute Isn't it time you attended?

*Darcy Kirk, Co-Chair, 2008 Joint Study Institute Planning Committee*

The Joint Study Institute series was originally created by AALL, CALL and BIALL to provide an opportunity for members of the organizations to gather with colleagues from other countries and discuss common, current and relevant issues, to explore the laws of the respective legal systems and legal research techniques and tools. ALLA and NZLLA joined the JSI series later and now participate actively in the rotation.

JSI attendees universally highlight the JSI as an exciting and enriching experience. A few comments from JSI attendees follow:

[The speakers] were articulate, knowledgeable and experienced. It was exciting to spend time learning from them.”

– *Karen Spencer on the 2004 JSI in Sydney*

“... the best things about the JSIs are that not only do you get to visit another country to learn more about its jurisdiction and to listen to some excellent speakers, but as they are so much smaller than an average conference, you get the change to network with all the delegates and to make friends who remain, ...”

– *Catherine Bowl & Loyita Worley on the JSI experience generally (1998, 2000, 2004, 2006)*

“As always with the JSI, it was an experience of contrasts, practical and academic, but foremost an opportunity to discover how similar issues are handled in other common law jurisdictions.”

– *Barbara Tearle on the 2006 JSI in Oxford*

“--- discussions allow the delegates from around the world to explore the differences between the represented legal systems and, just as important, for everyone to point out the similarities of the common law tradition shared by many of the attendees that cross national borders”

– *Edward Hart on the 2002 JSI in Victoria*

Isn't it time for you to experience the JSI for yourself?

“Harmonization and Confrontation: Integrating Foreign and International Law into the American Legal System” is the theme for the 2008 JSI, scheduled for June 25-28 in Washington, DC. It will offer similar opportunities for education and networking.

Further details and registration information can be found on the JSI website: <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/jsi>.

## AALL Continuing Professional Education Grants Program

The purpose of the AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program (CEGP) is to encourage program development and promote sharing among AALL entities. This mode of continuing education allows AALL entities to participate in providing quality continuing education opportunities. Learn more about the program and how to submit a proposal at [http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/grant\\_program.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/grant_program.asp). CEGP funding is available! Please check the CPE grant information page for upcoming deadlines. Find out what types of programs have been funded through the CEGP since September 2006.

### The Calendar of Events

The Calendar of Events allows members to share program and event information (inside and outside of AALL). This calendar is always current. Visit often to view current programs and events including CEGP Programs!

### Continuing Professional Education Media

The Continuing Education Grants Program funded many programs whose speakers have agreed to share a portion of their live programs to a wider AALL audience through audio/video format. In addition, the AALL-SIS Continuing Education Task Force graciously made contributions to this list of programs. These program snippets will be available for a limited time. This section will be updated with new CEGP programs periodically. <http://www.aallnet.org/members/media.asp> (Member login required).

### CPE Moderated Discussions

Continuing Professional Education will host a series of moderated discussions periodically. Topics will be listed on the Calendar of Events page and announced via the AALL member forums.

## Teach-In Kit Now Available

*Shawn Nevers, Research Instruction and Patron Services SIS*

The Research Instruction and Patron Services SIS is proud to announce the release of the 2008 National Legal Research Teach-In Kit. Each year in conjunction with National Library Week, RIPS creates a Teach-In Kit which contains fresh materials for use in your institution's promotional and instructional activities. This year's release will again be online and no longer be password protected, making it available to all.

The 2008 Teach-In Kit is available at:

<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/TeachIn/2008/index.html>

An overview of the kit as well as kits from previous years are available at:

[http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/TeachIn/Teach\\_In.html](http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/TeachIn/Teach_In.html)

## AALL Annual Advocacy Training

*Emily Feldman, Washington Affairs Office*

Before you make your travel plans for the Annual Meeting in Portland, please consider coming a day early to join the Washington Affairs Office and the Government Relations Committee at our annual Advocacy Training workshop! Learn how to support AALL's policy agency and practice skills to become a more effective communicator with policy-makers! Our training will be a great time to meet other members of AALL and to interact with other people from all over the country who are interested in advocacy!

### Navigating the Advocacy Wilderness: Tools and Tips to Become an Effective Advocate

Legislative Advocacy Training for AALL Members  
AALL Annual Meeting  
Portland, OR  
Saturday, July 12, 8:30am-12:00noon

No specific background knowledge or experience is required. In addition to learning about the Washington Affairs Office (WAO) and how you can become an influential advocate, you will be able to select a breakout session on an exciting issue of your choice, such as the authentication of digital legal information, funding for county law libraries or access to government information.

Join us in Portland to learn how to advocate for law libraries and yourselves! Attendance is available on a first-come, first-served basis and there is no cost for AALL members. Please register by June 1 by contacting Emily Feldman, [ejf33@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:ejf33@law.georgetown.edu).

## AALL Diversity Symposium

*Ron Wheeler, Chair, AALL Diversity Committee*

The 2008 AALL Diversity Symposium will be held on Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup> from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. A fabulous reception will follow the symposium. Don't miss it!

The title of the symposium is "Developing Diversity: Exploring Innovative Approaches to Recruitment into the Profession of Law Librarianship."

Diversity has been on the minds of AALL leadership at least since the creation of the Diversity Committee. Yet, the Association, as well as many of its member libraries, still struggles with how best to achieve true diversity. Join us for a provocative discussion of diversity, how it is defined, and how it can be achieved. Engage in a dialogue with our panel of experts, where we will assess our progress thus far, hear about innovative

programs that aim to recruit members of diverse groups into law librarianship, and plot our course for the future. Attendees will walk away from this exciting symposium with concrete examples of diversity initiatives to implement in their own libraries.

Our panelists will include:

#### **Dr. Maurice Wheeler, Associate Professor, University of North Texas School of Library and Information Sciences**

Diversity is one of Dr. Wheeler's primary research areas, and he has written and presented extensively on this topic. Dr. Wheeler will help us to define diversity, identify useful indicators of achieving increased diversity, and help us to assess our own efforts with regard to diversity within AALL.

#### **Dr. Patricia Montiel Overall, Assistant Professor, University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science**

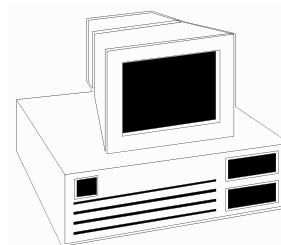
Dr. Overall will discuss the Knowledge River program at the University of Arizona which focuses on the needs and perspectives of the Hispanic and Native American communities.

#### **Jerome Offord, Director of Diversity Initiatives at the Association of Research Libraries (ARL)**

Mr. Offord will talk about ARL's Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce, ARL's other initiatives involving the recruitment and retention of librarians from underrepresented groups, and what AALL can do to achieve greater diversity.

#### **Dwight King, Research Librarian and Head of Research Services at the Kresge Law Library at the University of Notre Dame**

Mr. King will discuss his law library's participation in a project to recruit the next generation of librarians.



### *Editor's Comments...*

Thanks to the HALL Officers and Committee Chairs who contributed to this issue: Mary Ann Wacker, Elise McCutchen, Judith Jackson, Laura Edstrom, Heather Waltman, and Mariann Sears – the issue would have been very thin without them! Additional thanks to Mary Ann Wacker for the photo from the February meeting with our AALL Executive Board member Jean Wenger.

I look forward to seeing you at all our upcoming events!

—*Barbara Szalkowski*

*Send us your news, please!*

This is a reminder to all members, the HALL Newsletter needs your news. When you or your staff members have attended a seminar, published an article, received an award, been elected to an office, or done anything interesting, personally or professionally, please let us know! We also need to know any innovative programs you may have developed, special events you are working on or achievements you are proud of. Give Barbara a call at (713) 646-1724, fax her at (713) 659-2217, or email her at bszalkowski@stcl.edu , or just take a minute to complete this fact sheet.

**Who?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**What?**

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**Submitted by:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Library: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to:**

**Barbara Szalkowski, Editor  
The Fred Parks Law Library  
South Texas College of Law  
1303 San Jacinto  
Houston, Texas 77002-7000**

## Houston Area Law Librarians

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