



MAALL Markings

Mid-America Association of Law Libraries

Volume 25, Issue 2

March 2016

MAALL.newsletter@gmail.com

LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Susan M. Boland

Associate Director of Public & Research Services, University of Cincinnati Robert S. Marx Law Library

It's snowing in Cincinnati, but I am looking forward to gorgeous fall colors, crisp fall temperatures, and fantastic educational programs! The Annual Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee are hard at work putting together our next MAALL meeting, so save the date for October 13-15, 2016, and join us in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. We've been noticing how our profession and work has been rapidly expanding beyond traditional constituents, roles, tasks, and environments. In other words, we've been expanding our circles and that is this year's annual meeting theme: Expanding Circles. Help us make this another exceptional conference by submitting a program proposal!

If you have never submitted a program before, please consider doing so! If you are an old hand at submitting programs, we also want to hear from you! Topics can be anything of interest to law librarians, and the sessions can take a variety of formats. Consider proposing a panel, an ignite session, a salon, or even something completely different like a fishbowl (conversation)! Inspiration is available on the [topic suggestions page](http://maall.wildapricot.org/MAALL-Annual-Meeting-2016) on the MAALL Annual Meeting website which can be found at <http://maall.wildapricot.org/MAALL-Annual-Meeting-2016>. Feel free to invite your non-MAALL colleagues to submit a program or propose a program with someone from another chapter. We're all about expanding our circles!

The program proposal form is available at <https://goo.gl/cb6D4c>. Please submit proposals by April 4, 2016. If you have questions about the process of submitting a proposal, would like to get additional information, or would like suggestions for potential collaborators, please contact the Annual Meeting Program Committee at maall.education@gmail.com.

Date: October 13 – 15, 2016

Where: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Hotel: Aloft Oklahoma City Downtown – Bricktown, <http://www.aloftoklahomacitybricktown.com/>

Theme: Expanding Circles

Meeting website: <http://maall.wildapricot.org/MAALL-Annual-Meeting-2016>

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the President	2
Greetings From Marbury & Madison	3
Nebraska Court Opinions Move Online Only	4
Member News	6
A Moment with MALLCO.....	7
Letter From the Editor.....	8
Committees.....	9

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jennifer Prilliman

Associate Director and Law Library Professor

Chickasaw Nation Law Library at Oklahoma City University School of Law

As you likely know, the AALL membership voted down the proposed AALL name change. Regardless of your stance on the issue, I think we can all agree that it sparked a lively and important discussion about the direction of our organization and profession. The MAALL Executive Board decided not to make a statement or to take action until after the AALL vote. At this time, there are no plans to alter MAALL's name or mission. However, we will continue to closely follow the ongoing conversation. With so much discussion surrounding the direction of our parent organization and the profession in general, the MAALL Executive Board felt it was important that we be very transparent with our internal conversations and decisions. We recently voted to make our monthly board meeting minutes available to the membership through MAALL's member management system. Beginning with our January 2016 meeting, board minutes will be available for members to read and review. They will be posted on our member management system at <http://maall.wildapricot.org/>. Please read the minutes and feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you have.

This provides me with a great opportunity to encourage you to create an account in our member management system! With an account, you can access the directory, read our policies and committee manuals, read archived MAALL material, read and review our meeting minutes, and use our discussion forums! (This is another great segue!) We want to hear from you about how we are doing and about the direction of our organization and profession. We invite you to participate in this discussion through our MAALL member forums.

Finally, we invite you to engage in these discussions with us in person at AALL during our MAALL Business Meeting and Lunch and at this year's annual meeting on October 13-15 in my hometown, Oklahoma City. More information about these events will be coming in the months ahead.



Eighth Annual Morris L. Cohen Student Essay Competition

The Legal History and Rare Books (LH&RB) Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), in cooperation with Cengage Learning, announces the Eighth Annual Morris L. Cohen Student Essay Competition. The competition is named in honor of Morris L. Cohen, late Professor Emeritus of Law at Yale Law School.

The competition is designed to encourage scholarship, and to acquaint students with the AALL and law librarianship, and is open to students currently enrolled in accredited graduate programs in library science, law, history, and related fields. Essays may be on any topic related to legal history, rare law books, or legal archives. The winner will receive a \$500.00 prize from Cengage Learning and up to \$1,000 for expenses to attend the AALL Annual Meeting.

The entry form and instructions are available at the LH&RB website: <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/lhrb/awards>. Entries must be submitted by 11:59 p.m., April 18, 2016 (EST).

GREETINGS FROM MARBURY AND MADISON!

Brrrrr! Where is this early spring our cousin Phil promised?

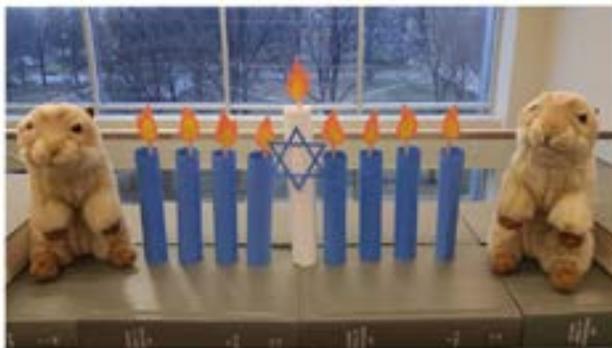
After a hectic traveling schedule this fall, including an amazing time at #MAALL15, we have been relaxing this winter in Missouri.

We enjoyed celebrating the holidays in St. Louis. We lit the menorah for Hanukkah and decorated the tree for Christmas. We partied New Year's Eve away in style, but somebody (ahem... Madison) forgot the camera! We also celebrated Valentine's Day with a lot of love for MAALL!

Now that we've taken a nice, long break, we are itching to get out and visit some of our favorite MAALL libraries, librarians, and staff. Let us know if you want us to visit you. All you need to do to host is take some pictures with us around your library, building, campus, or town, and a few more snaps with MAALL members. Then you book us a first class ticket (Priority Mail) back to St. Louis!

We've been to Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, North Dakota, and Oklahoma. And we loved them all. We are happy to come back or visit some new places. Email Corie (she handles our travel arrangements) at cdugas@slu.edu to schedule your visit!

Peace, Love, and Prairie Dogs,
Marbury & Madison



NEBRASKA COURT OPINIONS MOVE ONLINE ONLY

Marcia L. Dority Baker

Assistant Director – Academic Technologies

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Information Technology Services (ITS)

and Richard Leiter

Director of the Library and Professor of Law

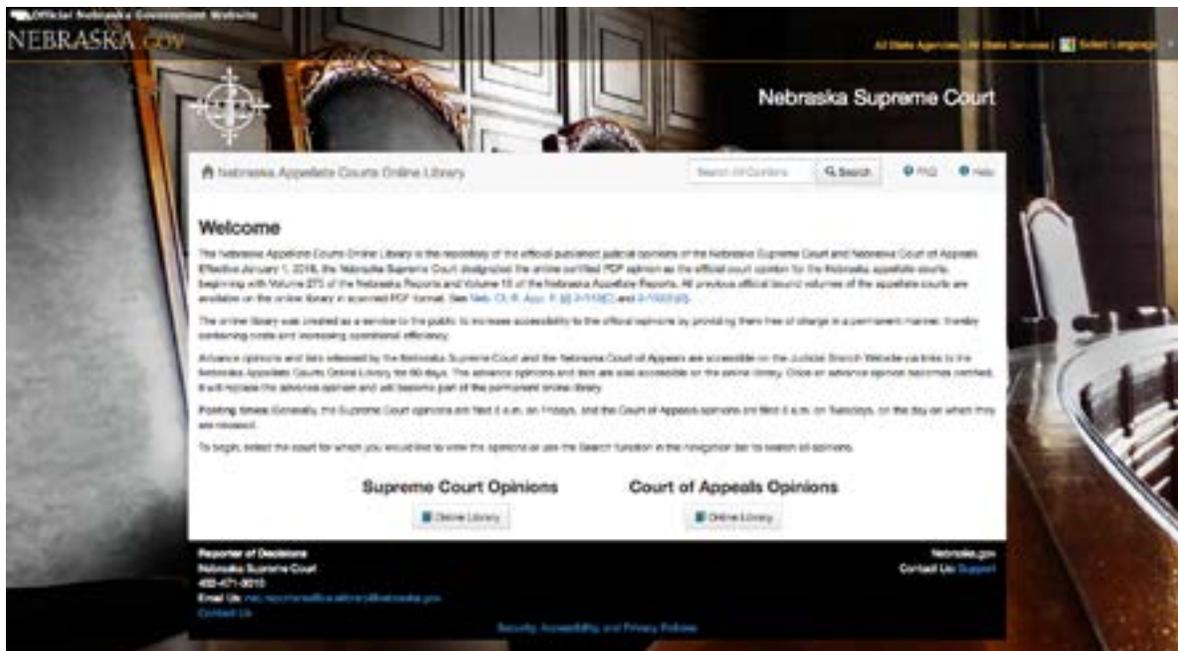
University of Nebraska College of Law, Schmid Law Library

Change has come to the state of Nebraska in a digital way. Beginning January 1, 2016, the official opinions of the Nebraska Supreme Court and the Nebraska Court of Appeals are available online only, a change which improves users' ability to search these opinions. Now users can search all Nebraska Supreme Court opinions from 1871 through the present day and all Nebraska Court of Appeals opinions since its creation in 1992. Prior to this change, opinions were made available in print and the current opinions were available on the Court's website. Both the public and legal community can access court opinions for free from the Nebraska Appellate Courts Online Library, available at <https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-courts-epub/public/>.

Richard Leiter, Schmid Law Library Director and Professor of Law, served as a consultant on the Nebraska Supreme Court's Electronic Publications Committee and assisted the Court's process as it migrated from print to digital. The committee began work on the digital-only court opinions project in August 2012, finishing in late 2015. I spoke with Rich about the process, and here is a synopsis of our conversation:

Q1: Could you provide a brief summary of why the Nebraska Supreme Court decided to move opinions online?

A1: Chief Justice Michael Heavican was not explicit on why he formed the "ePub Committee." In fact, the charge of the committee in my appointment letter states simply that "[t]he purpose of the Committee is to explore the future of Nebraska appellate court opinion publications." The chair of the committee, Justice William B. Cassell, explained at our



first meeting that the Chief didn't tell him how he wanted our deliberations to turn out. Our charge was to explore what would be the best course of action for publishing the state's opinions and examine the matter from all points of view.

Q2: What was your role in this project?

A2: I was appointed as a "guest consultant" to assist the ePub committee. I offered my perspective as a librarian and legal research educator.

Q3: What surprised you the most about the Court's decision to move to online opinions?

A3: In the end, I was surprised at how simple our approach was. I had always been skeptical of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) and AALL's position on why it was/is important. I was as paranoid as the next librarian about how ephemeral and unreliable digital versions of legal materials are, but in the end, and after talking it through with the full committee that included several Supreme Court and Court of Appeals judges and the Reporter of Decisions, it became clear that the opinions are "self-authenticating." The Court itself is the sole source of its opinions for all publishers and distributors; therefore, it would be virtually impossible for any publisher to print a version that was false or incorrect without being called on it. In other words, if an opinion is incorrectly published, there are many ways that the publisher can be corrected. For example, if an attorney were to use an incorrect version of an opinion in a brief or motion, opposing counsel would surely discover the error and point it out. Presumably, too, the judge or his/her clerk would discover the error. If the use of the incorrect version of the case was inadvertent or purely accidental, the attorney would be on the hook for a sound dose of embarrassment and (though unlikely) possibly malpractice. If the case was used with malicious intent, they could suffer more serious legal consequences.

The Nebraska Supreme Court's ultimate solution to the problem of "authentication" was very simple. Each case will now be published officially online at the Court's website. Official versions of the case will go through the same vetting and editing process to which they are now subject for publication in the Nebraska Reports or the Nebraska Appellate Reports. Once an opinion has been fully certified as final and official, it will have the seal of the Reporter of Decisions on the front page and will be released on the Court's website. The seal is dynamically applied to the opinion, so if it is obtained from the Court's website, the user is assured that it is a final, official version.

This method of authentication also avoids the clumsy citation by using paragraph numbers employed by some digital open source publishers. Because all Nebraska digital opinions will be formatted as though they are intended to be published as they always have been in advance sheets and then in bound volumes, the method of citing to Nebraska opinions will not change. The Court has determined that each volume will be comprised of approximately 1000 pages, so each volume will close when that number of pages is reached.

Q4: Is the state of Nebraska a forerunner in online opinions, or was this an "it's about time" decision?

A4: To date, only a few states have gone as far as Nebraska. Arkansas and New Mexico are two other states that come to mind.

Q5: What other Nebraska specific legal/law material do you see moving online this year or next?

A5: UELMA was pitched to the Nebraska Secretary of State, but that individual had no interest in pursuing the digital publication of Nebraska state documents. It's unlikely that it will happen soon to any other legal materials. The Supreme Court has led the way in Nebraska!

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the newest members of MAALL:

- Crystal Bauer, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Samantha DuPree, Law Library Assistant, University of Missouri
- Katherine Hanley, Scholarly Communications Assistant, UC Davis School of Law, Mabie Law Library
- Faye Jones, Director and Clinical Professor of Law, University of Illinois College of Law Library
- Jill Kilgore, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Allison Murphy, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Jordan Piel, Access Services Librarian, Oklahoma City University School of Law, Chickasaw Nation Law Library
- Talisa Thompson, Business & Human Resources Coordinator, University of Illinois College of Law Library

MEMBER NEWS



Young Law Library, University of Arkansas Fayetteville - Chad Pollock has left the law library for a position with Springdale Public Library. Emmy Bullock retired and is living the good life in Texas.

Bowen School of Law Library, University of Arkansas Little Rock - Jessie Burchfield was elected to the Society of Academic Law Library Directors Executive Board as a member-at-large. Her term runs through 2018.

Kansas Supreme Court Law Library - Jan Cook, a 44-year State of Kansas employee, 38 of those years with the Kansas Supreme Court Law Library, will retire effective April 1, 2016. She will be greatly missed.



Wheat Law Library, University of Kansas

Reorganization is the name of the game here in the last couple months!

- Reorganization of space: A major overhaul/replacement of the library elevator has begun, slated to be a 7 to 8 week project, so we're either hiking upstairs or using the elevator in the hall near the library. The former Technical Services (TS) workspace and library break room has been cleared of all things "library" and is under renovation for use by KU's Legal Services for Students for approximately the next two years, while the building they're in now is torn down and rebuilt. Library offices were shuffled in preparation for the remodel so the two people formerly housed in the TS space (TS Manager Bruce and Library Assistant Melissa) now have offices where Nick (Faculty Researcher) and Pam (Head of Public Services) once worked. Nick has moved to an office closer to the faculty on the fifth floor, Pam has moved into Chris' former office, and Chris has moved into the Director's office.
- Reorganization of librarians: Chris Steadham is now Director, Blake Wilson is now Assistant Director for Instructional & Faculty Services, and Pam Crawford is now Assistant Director for Public & Technical Services.

Quite an exciting beginning to the Spring semester!



Schmid Law Library, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Marcia L. Dority Baker, Schmid Law Library, accepted a new position at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). On February 8, 2016, Ms. Baker started as the Assistant Director - Academic Technologies in the ITS (Information Technology Services) department on the UNL City campus.

Thormodsgard Law Library, University of North Dakota - The University of North Dakota Law Library search committee will be posting a job advertisement shortly for the position of Director of the Thormodsgard Law Library! The person hired will replace the former director who retired May 15, 2015. Watch for the advertisement on the AALL jobs website. All qualified applicants interested in the position are encouraged to apply. *Please share this information with your colleagues.*



The law school faculty, staff, and students, as well as the library staff and print collections, moved back into the expanded and newly-remodeled building last fall.

The University of North Dakota School of Law recently received notice that the law school will remain on the American Bar Association list of accredited law schools.



Chickasaw Nation Law Library, Oklahoma City University School of Law

- Jordan Piel has joined the Chickasaw Nation Law Library as the new Access Services Librarian. Jordan obtained a B.A. in Classics from Oklahoma State University and afterward attended Texas Tech University, where he taught Latin and earned an M.A. in Classics in 2014. He will earn his M.L.I.S. from the University of Oklahoma in May 2016. He started out in libraries as a clerk in the Ponca City Public Library and spent time working with the Metropolitan Library System in Oklahoma City and the Fine Arts and Architecture Libraries at the University of Oklahoma.

A MOMENT WITH MALLCO

Corie Dugas, Mid-America Law Library Consortium Executive Director

This winter has been a time for me to find my footing in MALLCO. We have been working on some ideas for future professional development opportunities and investigating opportunities to further collaborate with member libraries. I want to highlight the final sessions of our webinar series and tell you about an exciting addition to our MAALL 2016 lineup.

Nerd Know-How Technology Webinar Series

MALLCO and NELLCO are offering a series of co-hosted webinars from December 2015 through April 2016. Nerd Know-How's Beth Ziesenis, author of *The 27+ Best Apps for Work & How to Use Them*, is presenting eight webinars that will

introduce attendees to free and low-cost technology solutions. MALLCO members can sign up for any of the webinars at no cost. MAALL members not at a MALLCO library can sign up for \$25 per webinar. You can still register [online for the last session on Tuesday, April 5 that focuses on Design.](#)

Paper Presentations Coming to MAALL Annual Meeting 2016

At the January board meeting, MALLCO approved adding an additional element to our half-day pre-conference at the MAALL Annual Meeting 2016. We will be hosting paper presentations along with the traditional interest group roundtable discussions. Anyone who works at a MALLCO library will be eligible to propose a paper. The details of these paper presentations are being worked out as I type. Look for more information via email in the upcoming months.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Sabrina Davis

The reference librarians at Oklahoma City University School of Law are implementing truly roving reference by providing assistance to students, faculty, and staff as we walk laps on the fourth floor of our law school. Keeping in line with the MAALL Annual Meeting 2016 theme of “Emerging Circles,” we are attempting to increase our visibility and utility while literally walking in circles!

The idea emerged as we were discussing the lack of interaction with faculty during scheduled faculty reference hours since our move to our new downtown building in December 2014. While we love our new building, the layout is not conducive for a central faculty reference location. We have experimented with different times and locations outside faculty offices and in break rooms, with little success. However, we noticed that we had multiple interactions with faculty, staff, and students as we walked laps during our lunch time. To capitalize on this, we decided to formally adopt our walking time into roving reference hours.

This effort only started a few weeks ago, so stay tuned for an update in the June issue of *MAALL Markings*!

MAALL MARKINGS INFORMATION

MAALL Markings is published four times a year by the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, and is a benefit of membership. The purpose of *MAALL Markings* is to publish news of the Chapter, selected news of AALL and other professional associations, MAALL members, as well as to solicit and publish articles to add to the body of literature in the profession of law librarianship. All articles are copyrighted and any republication or use of any portion of the content for any purpose must have written permission from the author/s.

Publication Dates & Deadlines for submission:

Vol 25, Issue 3: Submission deadline is May 15, 2016; Publication Date is June 5, 2016

Editor-in-Chief, Sabrina Davis
Associate Editor: Heather Buckwalter
Copy Editor: Neil Pereira
Layout Editor: Jenny Watson
Photography Editor: Matthew Braun
Member News Editor: Lorraine Lorne
State Member News Liaisons:
Melissa Serfass (AR), Julie Thomas (IA), Neil Pereira (IL),
Pam Crawford (KS), Lacy Rakestraw (MO), Kaaren Pupino

(ND), Mary Stultz (NE), Susan Urban (OK), & Sarah Kammer (SD)

The Mid-America Association of Law Libraries assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors of its publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries, or AALL.

2015/2016 MAALL Executive Board

President: Jennifer Prilliman
Vice President & President-Elect: Susan Boland
Past President: Cynthia Bassett
Treasurer: Troy Johnson
Secretary: Erika Cohn
Member-at-Large: Therese Clark Arado
Member-at-Large: Jenny Sutherland

Bylaws Committee
Chair: Randy Thompson
Members:

Timothy Gatton, Christopher Steadham, & Lynn Hartke

Annual Meeting Program Committee
Chair: Susan Boland

Members: Shannon Kemen, Therese Clarke Arado, Matt Novak, George Butterfield, Emily Dust, & Lacy Rakestraw

Grants Committee
Chair: Brenda Foote

Members: Cathy Chick, Annie Mentkowskie, Matt Braun, & Frances Schach

Library School Liaison
Chair: Heather Simmons

Members: Erika Cohn, Michelle Hook Dewey, Allison C. Reeve, Marie Robb, & Susan Urban

Local Arrangements Committee

Co-Chairs: Jennifer Prilliman and Lee Peoples
Members: Lauren Bardgett, Lisa Bowles, Kenton Brice, Kathy Broad, Nancy Cowden, Sabrina Davis, Darin Fox, Timothy Gatton, Marilyn Nicely, Susan Urban, Jenny Watson, & Lorraine Wright

Continuing Education Committee

Chair : Darla Jackson
Members: TBD

Public Relations Committee

Chair: Corie Dugas
Members: Michelle Hook Dewey, Sharon Nelson, & Deanne Fix

Membership Committee

Chair: Philip Johnson
Members: Sarah Kammer, Cindy Shearrer, & Colleen Williams

Newsletter Committee

Chair & Editor: Sabrina Davis
Associate Editor: Heather Buckwalter
Copy Editor: Neil Pereira
Layout Editor: Jenny Watson
Photography Editor: Matt Braun
Member News Editor: Lorraine Lorne
State Member News Liaisons:
Melissa Serfass (AR), Julie Thomas (IA), Neil Pereira (IL), Pam Crawford (KS), Lacy Rakestraw (MO), Kaaren Pupino (ND), Mary Stultz (NE), Susan Urban (OK), & Sarah Kammer (SD)

Nominations Committee

Chair: Cindy Bassett
Members: Stefanie Pearlman, Jeri Kay Hopkins, Anna Blaine, Katie Hahn, & Ted Potter

Service to the Public Committee

Chair: Nolan Wright
Members: Pam Crawford, Karl Pettitt, Melissa Serfass, & Lynn Hartke

Website Committee

Chair: Ted Potter
Webmaster: Resa Kerns
Members: Troy Johnson, Resa Kerns, Rebecca Lutkenhaus, & Ayyoub Ajmi

Task Force: Vision Planning

Chair: Cindy Bassett
Members: Jessie Burchfield, Jeri Kay Hopkins, Sandy Placzek, Jennifer Prilliman, & Jenny Sutherland

Task Force: MAALL Technology

Chairs: Ayyoub Ajmi
Members: Kenton Brice & Sharon Nelson

Task Force: UELMA Passage in MAALL States

Chair: TBD
Members: TBD

There are still a number of opportunities available to serve MAALL. Please contact Jennifer Prilliman at jsprilliman@okcu.edu if you would like to serve on a task force or committee.