

# Southeastern Law Librarian

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## KEN'S PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Ken Hirsh, President



### Twice is Not Enough

No, I am not penning a sequel to Jacqueline Susanne's novel. Rather, I believe the opportunity to participate in continuing education events only twice a year is not enough. Both the AALL annual meeting and our own SEAALL meeting are worthwhile events. They provide generally high quality sessions on a variety of topics of interest to law librarians. Additionally, these events offer excellent opportunities for professional networking and establishing lifelong friendships. But in today's world, we should view them only as the foundation of the educational opportunities we need to thrive. Technology, and creativity, offer the possibility of year-round and on demand educational programming. For example, we could record the programs at our own annual meeting and make them available on the web by podcasts. This would allow members who cannot attend the meeting, or who did attend but wanted to see competing programs, to benefit from the work of the program organizers and presenters. Expanding educational opportunities for our membership will be one focus of our new strategic planning committee. Keep your email boxes open for news as the committee begins its work.

As I write this the congress is on its summer recess and the president is spending his vacation in Texas. This is quite a contrast to those of us in academic institutions, who have just started our busiest time of year. As always, there are issues pending before congress and state legislatures that are of vital interest to law librarians and other information professionals. Many of these concern access to information produced or controlled by the government, state and federal. Others address provisions of copyright law and software licensing. The SEAALL Government Relations Committee, ably chaired by Christine Sellers, keeps our membership informed of timely issues and asks for member action when needed. If you are aware of upcoming legislative action on an issue of concern, please contact Christine.

SEAALL maintains archives through the work of a volunteer archivist, currently John Barden of the University of Richmond. The archives appear to be of interest not only to ourselves, but to some researchers. We have no stated policies on maintenance of and access to our archives, so I am appointing an ad hoc committee to recommend policies. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on the committee.

Our business meeting and reception at the AALL annual meeting in New Orleans were successful and well attended. I'd like to thank our committee chairs and my fellow officers for their work on making the meeting productive and concise. The joint reception with LLSDC was enjoyable for both the company and the refreshments. Thanks to Billie Joe Kaufman and Abigail Ross for their help.

Finally this issue, note that we've registered the domain "SEAALL.ORG" to make it easier to find our web site. <http://www.seaall.org>.



## **SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN**

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# SEAALL BRIEFS

compiled by **Karin Den Bleyker**

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## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### Georgetown University Law Library

**Thanh Nguyen** has been promoted to fill our new faculty services librarian position, and **Catherine Dunn** starts here on August 20<sup>th</sup> as a reference librarian. **Matt Ciszek**, our Head of Access Services, has left to become the Head Librarian at Lartz Memorial Library on Penn State's Shenango campus. **Doug Lind** has moved on to become the Director of the Southern Illinois School of Law Library.

## FLORIDA

### Barry University

**Ray Lytle** informs us that he is going to be the director of the library American Justice School of Law in Paducah, Kentucky. He will start there August 20, 2007.

### Florida A&M College of Law, Orlando, Florida

**Phyllis Allen** has been promoted from her position as Library Technical Assistant to Library Technical Assistant Supervisor in the Florida A&M Univ. Law Library. **Lorelle R. Anderson** recently joined Florida A&M Univ. College of Law Library as the Assistant Director of Public Services. She comes to the Law Library from her most recent employer, University of Central Florida. She received her MLS degree from University of Maryland and her JD degree from Georgetown University. **Elester Cawthorn** joined the Florida A&M Univ. Law Library in late April, 2007. He has come to Florida from District of Columbia where he was employed in several federal government entities. **Linda Sobey** has been promoted from Acting Head of Technical Services to Assistant Director of Technical Services.

As one of the initial librarians at our Law Library, she started as a Catalog Librarian when she came to us from University of Central Florida.

## GEORGIA

### Georgia State University

**Pam Brannon** has joined the Georgia State University College of Law Library as the Reference/Electronic Services Librarian. In addition to providing services to faculty, students, and the public as a member of the public services department, she is in charge of the Library's electronic resources, website, and ILS. Pam is a graduate of the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science and the University of Georgia School of Law. Prior to coming to Georgia State, she worked in staff and student positions at several libraries, including the University of Georgia's Alexander Campbell King Law Library and the New York Public Library Research Libraries. **Michael Davis** began work at Georgia State University College of Law Library on August 1, 2007. He came from the Arthur Neef Law Library at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. He will be the reference librarian at GSU and will also act as a faculty liaison and teach legal research to first year law students.

## VIRGINIA

### University of Richmond School of Law Library

**Suzanne B. Corriell** will join the University of Richmond School of Law Library as Reference and Research Services Librarian, effective August 1, 2007. Suzanne is a 2007 graduate of the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science and a 2006 graduate of the University of Iowa College of Law. During her last year of law school, Suzanne served as the Senior Managing Editor of the Iowa Law Review. Suzanne has a B.A. in English from Mount Holyoke College. Since August 2006, she has served as the Circulation/Reference Librarian at the University of Iowa College of Law Library.



**Silliness Enjoyed, a review of *The Big Over Easy: a Nursery Crime* by Jasper Fforde**

**By Sally Wambold, Technical Services Librarian,  
University of Richmond**

Replete with Rapunzel and her 28-foot-long auburn hair and her husband Solomon Grundy (born on Monday), *The Big Over Easy* blends nursery characters and ordinary people into a complex, rich, and humorous mystery by Jasper Fforde. Detective Inspector (DI) Jack Spratt and his assistant Detective Sargeant (DS) Mary Mary investigate the murder of Humperdinck (Humpty) Jehoshaphat Aloysius Stuyvesant van Dumpty, businessman, philanthropist, large egg, with an entry in *Who's What*. Also working in the Nursery Crime Division (NCD) under DI Spratt's leadership are Ashley the Rambosian (an alien) whose real name is 1001111001000100111011100100; Otto Tibbit (whose father loved word games and palindromes of course); Charles Baker the hypochondriac; and Constable the Baroness Gretel Leibnitz von Kandlestyk-Maecker. This first title in the Nursery Crime series also has a delightful subplot about the Titan Prometheus and Jack's daughter Pandora (and much, much more). This may be the perfect summer novel, light but not overly predictable. The plot is worthy of John le Carré with its countless twists and turns. The epigraphs are extremely clever and put nursery characters in a different, more real-life perspective. This book is not for no-nonsense people, but for those who enjoy, even love, word play, I say "Read on!" Or, if intrigued, consider listening to the unabridged audio version read most expertly and beautifully by Simon Prebble. Both are available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble and are published by Penguin Books (among others). Happy, hilarious reading!

**Suggested Professional Reads ....**

Humbach, John, *Whose Monet? An Introduction to the American Legal System* (New York: Aspen 2007.)

Stucky, Roy & Others, *Best Practices for Legal Education: A Vision and a Road Map* (Clinical Legal Education Association 2007) available at <http://cleaweb.org/bestpractices/>

Sullivan, William M., Colby, Anne, Wegner, Judith Welch, Bond, Lloyd, and Shulman, Lee S., *Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession of Law* (San Francisco: CA, Jossey-Bass 2007.) You may also hear this title referred to as the **Carnegie Report**.

Weinberger, David, *Everything is Miscellaneous: The Power of the New Digital Disorder* (New York: Times Books 2007.)

**FROM THE EDITOR**

As always, I'm looking for articles, photos, suggestions, and feedback. Many thanks to all of you who have contributed. Let us know what you'd like for the upcoming year. Join! Submit articles and photos. Share interesting projects and ideas from your library and your librarians. This is our newsletter so help make it count.

Send your submission or comments to [smith-butlerl@nsu.law.nova.edu](mailto:smith-butlerl@nsu.law.nova.edu)



## **Working Outside the Box of Your Job can Sometimes Resolve Issues Inside the Box**

**Kathleen Brown, Faculty & Student Services Librarian, St. Thomas University Law Library**

My mother always told my sister and I that we did not have to color in between the lines if we didn't want to and that people and things in the coloring book could be any hue we could imagine. I think her philosophy has always stayed with me and that is why I have been described on more than one occasion as a person who thinks outside the box. My creative approach keeps me upbeat and willing to take on new challenges. Even though I am an outside the box thinker, I have only recently become an outside the box worker. I would define an outside the box worker in the role of an instructor as an individual who takes their current instruction, modifies it and then effectively communicates the new instruction to an audience they did not anticipate working with. I recently experienced working as an instructor outside my box and it broadened my thinking about issues in the law library with current law students and how to address these issues.

One of my duties as the Faculty and Student Services Librarian is to provide research instruction to law classes when requested. Surprisingly, it was a request for me to teach in a class that resulted in me working outside of my law library box. One late afternoon, an adjunct faculty member stopped by my office with only a few minutes to talk before his class. He mentioned that he would need me to teach if I was available. I checked my calendar to ensure that I was free. I then took down the data about the legal subject matter he wanted me to go over, how many students were in the class, and the time. On his way out the door he said, *"It is over in the O'Mailia building, classroom # \_\_\_\_, it is my undergraduate \_\_\_\_\_ class."*

I sat in my chair feeling a bit perplexed by the situation one thought quickly popped into my head...

*"Am I even allowed to do that?"* I am currently working my first law librarianship job and am aware of most of the responsibilities that fall within the "box" of my job. I have never been a person to shirk away from a challenge so I spoke with the Director of the law library to make him aware of my guest lecturing in an undergraduate class and began preparing for the lecture. I quickly realized that the preparation for this class needed to be different from my norm. Traditionally, I instruct from the point of view that the law students know and understand the fundamentals of the legal system. Now I was stepping out of the law school arena to teach and I quickly realized that a class of students at the undergraduate level would need instruction on all the basic elements of the law to understand the more specialized legal research instruction the professor had requested for the class.

The day arrived to teach the undergraduate class. I provided them with a tour of the law library and then walked away from the law school and onto the undergraduate part of campus armed with handouts, books and electronic databases. Throughout the two hour lecture, I fielded questions from the students and allowed them to work with the resources I had removed from the library. After my instruction was complete, I received positive feedback from the students. A number of them mentioned they especially liked learning how to read a citation by breaking it down into its parts and then using those parts to locate the law in books. I then returned to the law library, put the resources away, and intended to be done with the undergraduate instruction experience. However, that evening and for several days after the experience, I kept thinking about the undergraduate students questions during the instruction and how similar their questions were to the ones I receive at the reference desk from new law students. I quickly ruled out the idea that the undergraduates were actually legal gurus for the more sound theory that law students are



coming into law school with a knowledge level of the law that is the same as the undergraduate class I had just taught. I informally spoke with several law librarians about the questions I had received at the reference desk. When I asked what they thought the cause of the law student's lack of knowledge could be, the conversations quickly turned to law students not being like those in the past, problems with the "millennium generation", and whether or not libraries should have a reference desk. I do agree with my colleagues, that the "millennium generation" raises issues for a law library today. Yet, students not learning the legal basics may go beyond a generational generalization. Instead, the issue may stem from the fact that the educational process before law school has changed and this has altered how prepared the law students are when they begin taking classes.

While investigating this idea, I came across the article, *The Over-Education of American Lawyers: an economic and ethical analysis of the requirements for practicing law in the United States* by Vijay Sekhon. Much of the article was not applicable to my question but it does present the theories behind the merits of a prerequisite undergraduate degree to get into law school. In the past, many individuals entering law school brought with them some legal background because they had a political science major or course study focus. Today, this course of study is not the norm for students who want to get into law school. The ABA, in their *Official Guide to Preparing for Law School* suggests to students wanting to go to law school that there is no recommended academic course of study for undergraduates and that students are admitted to school from all courses of study. I then looked at the admissions portion of several law school websites and discovered that almost all contained similar statements to the one in the ABA guide. The University of Michigan website even mentions that the incoming class will have 65 to 70 different majors. Some students today are entering law school with undergraduate majors that never exposed them to the law.

In the last year or so, I have heard individuals at conferences and events discussing the fact that many current law students do not possess the basic knowledge of the law that in the past we learned in a civics or government class in middle or high school. I then began to wonder what exposure the law students had to the law prior to college. In the article, *Content Knowledge-The Real Reading Crisis* that appeared in the summer 2007 edition of Childhood Education the authors, Tsuguhiko Kato and Maryann Manning, discuss the educational problems that are a direct result of the emphasis on test scores and No Child Left Behind. The article presents the idea that due to the way students are being taught, it is changing not only the way children are learning but also the material that the students are even being taught. The authors also mention that teachers are receiving requests from administrators to stop teaching social studies and to instead focus their efforts on the math and reading memorization and speed skills. The refocusing of what is being taught in classrooms today is eliminating the student's opportunity to be exposed to certain subjects and to learn important comprehension techniques.

Current law students are not being directly affected by No Child Left Behind. However, the push for improved test scores and factual memorization have been an issue for the American public school system for at least the last 10 years and would have impacted some of our current law students. I recently had a conversation with the Director of our law library about a law student who was unaware of the Federalists or the Federalist Papers. During the conversation we both mentioned being exposed to the Federalists in high school additionally we questioned whether this topic taught to students in high school.

Agreeing to teach an undergraduate class forced me to address and make changes to the way I



was currently providing legal research instruction. This outside the box undergraduate teaching experience led me on a journey that allowed me to conclude that students today, unlike the law students of the past, are entering law school with limited prior exposure to the law. This lack of familiarity with the law creates issues because often their instructors have higher expectations of the student's grasp of the law than they actually possess. In the end, I resolved that the best way to alleviate the issues that arise from a lack of legal understanding was to somehow provide the law students with said knowledge.

At the law library, I am hoping to successfully accomplish this task by creating a display that focuses on legal resources that every first year law student should know. Next to the display, I will provide handouts I originally created for the undergraduate class about the legal basics and helpful legal research tips and techniques. Hopefully, this will alleviate some of the first year law student issues while simultaneously empowering them with legal wisdom.



## **Orientation Wins Excellence in Marketing Award**

**Anne Burnett, Foreign & International Law Librarian,  
University of Georgia, Alexander Campbell King Law Library**

The Alexander Campbell King Law Library at the University of Georgia received the AALL/West Excellence in Marketing Award at the 2007 AALL Annual Meeting in New Orleans for best PR Tool Kit for our "1L Orientation Break with Library Goodie Bag" promotion. We thought our fellow SEALL members might find the details of this promotion to be of interest.

For this event we take advantage of a totally captive audience: 1L students during their very first break on their very first day of Law School Orientation. Our goal is to provide a fun and informative introduction to the Law Library's staff and services, thereby setting the tone for a positive relationship between the students and the Law Library throughout their three years here.

The students leave their early orientation sessions and head over to a courtyard filled with friendly library staff, a welcoming banner, fruit, beverages and boxes filled with Krispy Kreme donuts. Wearing our library name tags, the entire library staff helps greet the new law students, direct them to the refreshments, and provide them with our library goodie bags. The goodie bags contain the following items:



# SEAALL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SEAALL Financial Statement  
April 2007 to July 2007  
Submitted by Paula Tejada

<b>Opening Balance</b>			\$84,870.53
	<b>Income</b>		
2007 SEAALL Registration		\$4,454.00	
Reimbursement Hotel Coaches		\$85.00	
2007/08 Membership Dues		\$190.00	
Hurricane Fund		\$250.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		\$4,979.00	
	<b>Expenses</b>		
	SEAALL 2007 Annual Meeting		
Reimbursements		\$1,400.67	
LSU Rural Museum		\$882.00	
Reception		\$4,845.00	
Sheraton Baton Rouge		\$16,198.54	
SEAALL/AALL Grant		\$495.00	
Hilton New Orleans 2007 Reception		\$5,664.38	
SEAALL 2010 Hotel Deposit		\$500.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		\$29,985.59	
<b>Closing Balance</b>			\$59,863.94
	<b>Investments</b>		
Bank of America CD		\$3,468.80	
Fidelity		\$5,995.48	
<b>Total Assets</b>			\$69,328.35

(UGA Con't)

- The bags themselves
- Law Library mugs
- Law Library bookmarks
- A Guide for First-Year Law Students
- Handouts on how to access electronic course reserves, how to access the library's databases, how to read legal citations, and common

legal abbreviations

- Maps of the library
- Quick guides to call numbers
- Smarties candies (because we know our students are brainy) and Laffy Taffy candies (so they remember to have fun)



We follow up with a more structured information session during the formal orientation sessions later in the day.

This early introduction to the Law Library, in a relaxed and fun atmosphere, results in a class of 1L students who know that they are welcome in the library. They might not remember our names but many remember meeting friendly librarians and staff during the orientation and that makes the students more comfortable asking for help later. They get a real kick out of the candy, not because it is very good but because it is fun. During the first week of classes, many of them come to the Law Library with their handouts in hand, or they ask us where they can get another copy, which serves our goal of wanting them know that we have helpful handouts available.





## **Rising to the Challenge of Service:**

### **Law Librarians at Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans**

**Meg Kribble, Reference Librarian**

**Nova Southeastern University**

Hammers. Saws. Tape measures. Paint rollers. These aren't the usual tools of law librarians, but those of us participating in AALL's Habitat for Humanity workday in New Orleans on Friday July 13 put them to good use.

The day began with a bus trip from the convention center to a neighborhood in the Upper Ninth Ward. After we passed through the French Quarter, we drove by block after block of decaying homes marked with Xs and ominous numbers that had been spray painted by search and rescue teams after Hurricane Katrina. As we arrived at our destination, workday coordinator Ron Wheeler of the Georgia State University Law Library informed us that we would be working at Musicians' Village, a Habitat project sponsored by Harry Connick, Jr. and Branford and Ellis Marsalis. Many of the houses built here will provide homes for local musicians. When complete, the neighborhood will include a recording studio and educational facility.

Law librarians joined the ranks of Habitat volunteers to listen to the morning instructions, then broke up to work on different tasks. Twenty librarians went to paint inside a nearly finished house. Another group helped unload pre-built walls and other materials from a large shipping container. Others helped saw flooring joists to the correct measurements.

The majority of the group spent the day putting up the flooring system for a house that had just been started. The morning task went slowly. We nailed the framing floor joists into place, guided by Anne, a school teacher turned Habitat coordinator. Nails bent,

jutted out at wrong angles, and were just plain uncooperative for us information professionals. We improved as the day went on. Our final task, installing dozens of floor support joists, flew by as many small teams of librarians took turns hammering the boards securely in place.

Frequent water breaks and reminders to reapply sunscreen kept us hydrated and safe from the heat of the sun, though there was no escaping the humidity. For lunch, we filled up with po'boys, New Orleans' take on sub sandwiches made with excellent French bread.

At the end of the day, we walked back to the bus past a row of brightly colored, completed homes, many already occupied. A boy walking his golden retriever puppy was an especially cheerful sight!

On our return trip, our bus driver gave us a quick tour of the devastated Lower Ninth Ward, including a two-mile long grassy field that used to be a neighborhood where he drove a city bus. He spoke movingly of the roadblocks to recovery—even survival—but also of the profound energy and emotion at the first New Orleans Saints home football game after Katrina, which he attended. "Tell everyone we're coming back," he told us.

New Orleans is coming back, and I'm proud to be part of a professional community that organized some wonderful opportunities to contribute to its recovery. In addition to the Habitat project, other groups of law librarians involved in AALL's community service day worked at the Louisiana State Museum and the local Second Harvest Food Bank.





## **Everything I Need to Know, I Learned at SEAALL 2007...**

**Jennifer W. Greig, Reference Librarian**

**Barry University, Dwayne O. Andreas  
School of Law**

Ok, so maybe I did not learn everything at the SEAALL annual meeting, but I did receive many lessons on the important things in life. Here are my top five lessons:

### 1. Generosity (Grant)

My first life lesson with regards to SEAALL's annual meeting came well before I ever stepped onto Louisiana soil. At the beginning of the year, I started hearing about the various 2007 conferences. It was not long before I was brimming with excitement over the opportunities to meet new librarians (I had not had the opportunity to meet many beyond my own library) and learn about topics that I had not yet begun to consider. This enthusiasm was curbed by reality when I was reminded that our library did not have unlimited funds, so I was probably not going to be able to attend every conference. My library director, Glen-Peter Ahlers, did take pity on me, however, and remind me that there were grants and scholarships for the various conferences that I could apply for. I took Dean Ahlers seriously and began sending out applications.

On March 9, 2007, Ms. Joyce Janto notified me that I had been selected to receive a Lucile Elliott Scholarship to help me pay for the SEAALL conference. My colleagues must still be laughing over the way I bounced around the office after reading Ms. Janto's email. After I had calmed down and shared the news far and wide, I realized that not only those individuals on the SEAALL Scholarship Committee, but the entire profession must be very generous to help so many members further their professional

development. My actual experiences at the SEAALL conference reinforced this belief many times, and it makes me proud to be a member of this profession.

### 2. Friendliness

It did not take long after arriving in Baton Rouge for my second life lesson to sneak up on me. As I approached the registration booth, one of the volunteers, who I was soon to learn was Rebekah Maxwell, looked up and said "Have we met before? You look really familiar to me." I assured her that we had not, since I had not been outside of Florida for a professional event, but I was happy to chat with her for a few minutes as I registered. From that moment on, not only did Rebekah remember my name, she went out of her way to make me feel at home. Every morning she said hello to me and pointed out local information that she thought might interest me.

What really amazed me was that this type of friendliness extended to a large majority of the attendees, especially those in the registration booth. It was not long before I knew by sight, if not by name, law librarians from all over the Southeast. Rebekah and the rest of the attendees taught me to leave my hesitations behind and walk right up to someone and say "Hi" or "Have we met before?" You never know who you will meet (who knows, it might be your future boss!) or what friendships may develop. I never realized before SEAALL 2007 that networking could be so much fun and feel so natural.

### 3. Enjoyment of the Local Atmosphere

Whatever you do, do not forget to enjoy the local atmosphere. In most of the non-library conferences that I have attended in the past, the whole focus of the conference has been education with networking on the side. SEAALL seemed to have thrown "Traditional Conferences 101" out the



window. Everyday there was something new with which to celebrate the Louisiana culture.

The first official day of the conference found attendees strolling over to the LSU Museum of Art for the opening ceremony where we not only were presented with an amazing buffet of appetizers and dessert, but also able to wander through the art galleries and admire the collection of paintings, china, and sculpture. Friday evening, we were bussed out to the Museum of Rural Life, where we dined on local food, explored the cultural of past centuries, and danced and laughed with our fellows. It was a perfect evening. By Saturday, I was convinced that the planning committee could not have any further local surprises up their sleeves, but after breakfast they proved me wrong: we were plied with the amazing tunes of Blues musician Larry Garner.

I came away from the SEAALL conference with a great appreciation for Baton Rouge, its inhabitants, its music, and of course, its wonderful food.

#### 4. Remembering Your Manners

When I was growing up, my mother drilled “please” and “thank you” into my head and constantly told me that you catch more flies with honey than with vinegar. Throughout my life, I have been reminded of this lesson and have seen the truthfulness in it. The SEAALL meeting reinforced this lesson once more.

I found that being polite to, not only your fellow librarians, but also to the hotel staff helps smooth out your conference experience. For instance, when I was unable to print my flight’s boarding pass in the business center, a staff member that I had always been polite to helped me by printing the pass on the Registration Center’s computers.

Finally, remember that your behavior towards everyone will create and alter people’s perceptions of you. I will always remember those colleagues who

were polite to their fellow librarians while being utterly rude to the hotel staff and airport shuttle drivers.

#### 5. Education

In the end, one of the primary focuses of any conference is education. At times, I think we forget this, especially when we see the delights of a new city calling to us. I attended seminars during all of the session periods, not sure what to expect from some. I was pleasantly surprised at how interesting I found them all to be. One in particular stood out: Market Your Library Services: Brand Them Like Coca Cola™, presented by Margaret Hall and Megan Garton. I was really expecting a recap of the marketing class that I had taken in library school, but Hall and Garton gave us an overview of what they did and learned in their attempts to market the UNC Law Library’s services, such as their reference services via chat and a research class. This presentation still has me thinking about what we can do at my library, and fueled my enthusiasm to the point where I am in the process of experimenting with some new marketing ideas, which I hope to present to my administrators soon.

Thus, SEAALL taught me that while networking is fantastic, do not forget to pay attention to some of the things which the lecturers are trying to teach and share with you.

While I know for a fact that there were other lessons to be learned in Baton Rouge, these five lessons were the ones that have remained with me the longest and which I believe will help shape my career.

## Next Generation Librarians Meet

Meg Kribble, Reference Librarian

Nova Southeastern University

In addition to marking the 100<sup>th</sup> meeting of AALL, the New Orleans annual meeting marked the second gathering of the association's Gen X / Gen Y Caucus.

Established in December 2005 by Jennifer Marshall Pesetsky and inspired by the association's 2004 Task Force on Generation X and Generation Y, the caucus seeks to connect members of these generations with one another. It also provides us another way of speaking up about issues that are important to us as we become leaders and innovators in the profession. The first caucus meeting took place in Saint Louis, and was attended by over 100 next generation librarians with career experience ranging from those just starting in the profession to an executive board member. Several working groups were formed to explore issues, and to plan programming and research.

Due to conflicts in the compressed conference schedule, the New Orleans X/Y meeting had smaller attendance, but many librarians showed their commitment and interest by stopping by the caucus before or after other engagements.

Each of the working groups updated the caucus on their progress during the previous year. Though not able to attend the meeting, Jennifer Murray continues her research on alternative work schedules. The web group launched the caucus's web presence on AALLnet. The image work group continues to study and track the public image of librarians.

The programming group had three programs accepted for the conference, but unfortunately two of them were canceled before the meeting due to extenuating circumstances of the presenters. The remaining program—"Multitasking Millennials: Blessing or Curse?"—was a source of lively caucus discussion as some members took issue with the use of generational stereotyping and other elements of the presentation.

Another subject of general discussion was the possibility of transitioning from caucus to formal special interest section as we plan for the future.

After the caucus meeting, a small group of X / Y librarians met at Lucy's Retired Surfers Bar and Restaurant for a bite to eat before heading to other events. The social planning group, of which I am a member, is going to experiment with holding the caucus social at a later hour next year.

To learn more about the caucus and our working groups, hear audio of our meetings, find resources about generational issues, and join our listserv, check out the caucus's website: <http://www.aallnet.org/caucus/genxy>





## SEAALL 2008

LLSDC and SEAALL committees have begun their work to host the joint conference next spring (March 27- March 29) in Alexandria, VA. The program committee has begun its work and the suggestions are amazing and cover topics of interest to firm, academic, and court librarians. We've already scheduled a "named national" keynote speaker. The Westin Hotel is nearing completion. Its proximity to the Metro Station and Reagan National Airport will make your trip effortless. It's also just a short walk to Old Town Alexandria's many shops, restaurants, and historic area. Mark the dates, coordinate your family vacations and plan a great educational and fun Cherry Blossom conference. More details to come. See you real soon.



### Note from the Treasurer

Membership renewal forms for individuals and institutions were mailed out during the week of July 10. Unfortunately, the institutional membership renewal form was missing the attachment, or membership roll. In an effort to expedite the process, membership rolls were sent via e-mail to the Library Directors or the official contact person for each institution during the last week of July and the first week of August.

We offer our apologies for the delay in sending the renewal forms this year. It all was due to the need, as announced by our President Ken Hirsh in his June 13, 2007 message to all members sent via the SEAALL listserv, to create a new file that will eventually allow us to have a clean membership database. If have not received your renewal form or if your library is missing the membership roll, please let me know by sending an e-mail to [ptejeda@charlestonlaw.org](mailto:ptejeda@charlestonlaw.org).

The Treasurer's report presented during the SEAALL Business Meeting held in New Orleans is submitted for your information.



Spotlight on Alexandria





## Minutes for the SEAALL General Business Meeting

### AALL Annual Meeting New Orleans LA

Sunday, July 15, 2007

#### Hilton Riverside Grand Salon 13

- I. President Ken Hirsh called the meeting to order.
- II. a. Ken introduced Nancy Adams, Board Member at Large.  
b. Nancy introduced the Chapter VIP, José-Marie Griffiths, Dean, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.  
c. Ken announced that the SEAALL website has a domain, [www.seaall.org](http://www.seaall.org) and can be reached without having to go through AALLnet.org
- III. Secretary Sally Wambold announced that, in addition to the electronic copy of the minutes in the newsletter, 12 paper copies of the updated minutes from the Annual Meeting in Baton Rouge, April 13, 2007, had been distributed throughout the room. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- IV. Article and Bylaws Chair/Immediate Past President Anne Klinefelter reported that there possibly would be bylaws amendments and that the Handbook would be updated. [Anne's report **and the introduction of Dean Griffiths were** moved up in the agenda as a courtesy, because of **their involvement in** a concurrent **University of North Carolina** reception to honor Professor **Lolly** Gasaway at Wyndham Place.]
- V. Treasurer Paula Tejeda reported that SEAALL institutions would probably receive an invoice for membership dues when the members returned from New Orleans. The Baton Rouge meeting netted about \$8,500.00. *Paula* distributed the financial statement

which the members present voted to accept unanimously. Jim Heller advised the Chapter to "spend some money."

#### VI. Committee Reports

- a. Community Service – Ken spoke for Chair Donna Nixon who could not be present. The Committee will work very hard, but there is no report at this time.
- b. Education and Publications – Chair Adeen Postar reported that there were two SEAALL programs being presented at the AALL Annual Meeting. The Education and Publications Committee would meet Monday afternoon. Adeen requested that SEAALL members email program ideas to her. She envisioned listserv discussions for SEAALL members and more research guides. Focusing on 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology is a priority of the committee.
- c. Government Relations – Chair Christine Sellers reported that SEAALL had worked for adequate GPO funding and that the committee had worked hard in general. Ken Hirsh had signed letters to Congressmen on behalf of SEAALL.
- d. Membership – Chair Ed Hart reported that nine welcome letters had been sent and one life membership was in process. He announced the accreditation of a new ALA program at Valdosta GA. His committee will encourage people to become law librarians.
- e. Newsletter and Public Relations – Lisa Smith-Butler announced the deadline for the summer newsletter to be the end of July. In addition to the regular columns, she encouraged members to submit reports of what they are reading.
- f. Nominations – Pedro Padilla-Rosa was absent, but Ken Hirsh reminded the members to think





about candidates for Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary, and Member at Large.

g. Placement - Karen Nuckolls read the report of Chair Masako Patrum. Since Masako came on board as the chair of the Placement Committee in June, each member of the committee selected the states s/he is interested in monitoring for job openings. Each member is supposed to report the information to Masako; then she will send it to Steve Melamut for posting on the SEAALL web site. So far we have 2 position openings reported.

h. Program – Vice-President/President-Elect and Chair Amy Osborne told the members that the Program Committee would be meeting Monday, July 16. The Joint LLSDC/SEAALL Annual Meeting in Alexandria in 2008 will have an Intellectual Property theme, but not all programs will feature IP topics. Amy requested that the members seek to develop good programs for firm librarians because of the venue.

i. Scholarship – Chair Jennifer Sekula informed the members that the Scholarship Committee anticipates disbursing its funds to recipients in 4 categories: the SEAALL Student Scholarship for library school students, the AALL Annual Meeting Grant, the CONELL Grant, and the Lucile Elliott Scholarship. Her committee asked for and received a considerable increase in funds: \$10,000.00 per year will be available for the next two years, at which time the amount will be reevaluated. The committee urges all members to consider applying for these grants and scholarships. A description of each type, as well as the application forms, may be found on the SEAALL website. Watch the SEAALL listserv and the quarterly newsletter for announcements, application information, and deadlines.

j. Service to SEAALL – Chair Carol Nicholson told the members that there was no report at this time.

## VII. Future Meetings

a. Billie Jo Kaufman reported on the joint LLSDC/SEAALL Annual Meeting in Alexandria, March 27-29, 2008. The theme will be Information Professionals for Intellectual Property. Billie Jo informed the members that there were IP Librarians at some institutions. She mentioned George Washington in particular.

b. Ann Puckett updated the members on the Athens GA Annual Meeting, April 16-18, 2009. The hotel will be the Hilton Garden Inn and meetings will be in the Classic Center.

c. Jim Heller informed everyone about the Annual Meeting in Williamsburg VA, April 15-17, 2010. He reminded them that there would be a Saturday night event, because SEAALL had committed to a certain number of rooms.

## VIII. Administrative Positions

a. Archivist – John Barden was not present, but Ken Hirsh reported that a student was seeking access to the SEAALL Archives. A grant request for archives organization is in process.

b. Database – Ken Hirsh had no report.

c. Handbook – Editor Laurel Brown asked the members to look at the Handbook for changes that need to be made. The Handbook is now in WORD, but there are forms that are missing.

d. Postmaster – Paul Birch was not present, but his good work was noted.

e. Webmaster – Steve Melamut was not present but Ken mentioned there were statistics about the website usage. He did not list them due to time constraints.

IX. Old Business – Sally Wambold and Ken Hirsh requested approval to destroy paper and electronic records of the last election. Approval was granted unanimously.

X. New Business – Ken Hirsh announced the formation of a Special Archives and Records Retention Committee and a Strategic Planning Initiative. He asked members interested in serving on either committee to contact him.

He reminded the members of the Joint LLSDC/ SEAALL Reception in Belle Chase.

XI. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Wambold





## **Government Relations Report**

**Christine Sellers**

The SEAALL Government Relations committee monitors legislative, regulatory and judicial developments that affect SEAALL, the practice of law librarianship or the creation and dissemination of information for that states in the southeastern region of the United States.

Recent federal governmental alerts on behalf of SEAALL and AALL included information and suggested actions concerning the Government Printing Office's FY 2008 Appropriations (the goal is to make sure the numbers included in the Senate bill – S. 1686 – remain as stated) and new FOIA Amendments for 2007 (H.R. 1309 passed, S. 849 is on the Senate floor).

The government relations committee also monitors state and local legislative, regulatory and judicial developments. If you have anything to report, please contact your state committee member listed at the end of the article. Recent state actions include:

- Kentucky Representative Ben Chandler has co-sponsored H. 1877: "To authorize the cancellation of Perkins loans for student who perform public service as librarians in low-income schools and public libraries."
- North Carolina increased aid for public libraries by \$1 million.
- South Carolina increased state aid for public libraries, in addition to the \$1 million approved from lottery funding.

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