

Southeastern Law Librarian

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www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall

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Presidential Ponderings

SEAALL President

Carol Watson

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Spring is in the air and I don't know about you, but I'm ready to experience the fresh ocean breeze in Clearwater in a few weeks!

Ed Hart and his hard-working Program Committee have lined up an excellent slate of educational programs for us at the upcoming Annual Meeting. The focus of the Institute will be mobile technology, a timely and relevant topic for all types of law libraries. Chad Mairn, Information Services Librarian and adjunct professor from St. Petersburg College will be the keynote speaker. Chad is a self-described "technofile" who is enthusiastic about "all-things technology." He's been a frequent speaker at many national and regional library professional meetings.

Be sure to note that this year we've made a change in the traditional meeting schedule. Educational programs actually begin on Thursday afternoon. In the past, COSELL sponsored topical roundtables on Thursday, but with the demise of COSELL, Ed's committee decided to try experimenting with offering programming at that time. The topic of the Thursday programs will be leadership. Whether you're an old pro or a novice, there will be programming that should appeal to you.

Rebecca Trammell and the Local Arrangements committee have planned for our Opening Reception to be at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. While enjoying a chance to visit with friends and meet new colleagues, you'll also have a chance to meet Winter, the dolphin with the prosthetic dolphin tail and learn about her incredible survival story. Winter made her big-screen debut in the recent Disney movie, *Dolphin Tale*. *Dolphin Tale* is based upon Winter's true story of how she recovered from being trapped in a crab trap line as a 3 month old baby.

After the opening reception, we'll settle down to a day and a half of programming and networking with colleagues. AALL President Darcy Kirk will be joining us on Friday for lunch and we look forward to hearing the latest AALL news from her. At the Saturday business meeting, we'll ask newly appointed, returning and former members of committees to sit together. We hope this will facilitate a smooth transition between committees for the upcoming year. And last but not least, don't forget to visit with the vendors while you are attending SEAALL. This is an good opportunity to get some one-on-one time with vendors away from the hustle and bustle of the AALL Annual Meeting.

Sadly at the end of the meeting, I must pass the presidential gavel to Ed Hart. Those who know me know it will be difficult to pry the gavel from my hand. I've always aspired to having my own gavel. It's been a terrific year. I have learned some much from my fellow officers and board members. SEAALL is truly the best chapter because of the contributions and dedication of our members. As SEAALL transitions to a new leadership team, I will rest assured that the future of our organization is in good hands. Thank you for the op-

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portunity to serve as President of this outstanding organization.

I look forward to meeting those of you who will be able to attend our Annual Meeting in Clearwater. If I haven't personally met you yet, please stop by and introduce yourself to me. The warmth and friendliness of our organization never ceases to amaze me and I value the opportunity to get to know our members. See you in Clearwater!

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Resource Driven Relationships

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In this time of budget cuts and diminishing resources, it may seem counter-intuitive to cultivate a library/vendor relationship. Regardless of the times, however, libraries and vendors actually share a common goal: Libraries want to keep their resources and vendors want to keep providing libraries with resources. As a new e-resource librarian, I wanted to promote these materials while at the same time get to know our library's e-resource vendors.

One simple way to cultivate a library/vendor relationship is by asking for small amount of "vendor swag" for promotional purposes. Even in today's poor economy, vendors are often generous with providing small amounts of swag for various library events. Not only do students enjoy this free merchandise, but also handing out complimentary items improves the library's good will. More importantly, there may be a positive impact on the future of library resources. Vendor swag helps increase resource name recognition, and as a result these promotional items can help improve user statistics. This has been our experience at North Carolina Central University School of Law library.

Each semester, our library is tasked with the responsibility of resource promotion. One of the ways that we promote our resources is through tabling. In tabling, a reference librarian sets up a promotional table outside of the library for a brief period of time. Vendor swag is useful addition to a table because it creates an eye-catching display, gives librarians a talking point, and students are often enticed by the promise of something free. Having captured our students' attention, the librarian has an opportunity to discuss their information needs and to encourage the use of the resource.

Our user statistics prove that tabling has had a positive impact here at NCCU. For example, during the fall semester the library promoted HeinOnline as a resource for seminar papers and journal articles. At the end of the semester, we collected our annual year-end statistics, and Hein reported over 1800 article visits between the months of August to December. This is in comparison to the 2011 spring semester, when the library did not actively promote Hein. That spring semester, user statistics reported only reported 1100 article visits. As a result of these statistics, the library is now focusing on promoting other resources to see if tabling will have the same statistical impact.

A simple email requesting vendor swag also snowballed into an opportunity for vendor-led training. After contacting our Bloomberg BNA representative for promotional materials, Bloomberg BNA responded by asking if our institution would like to have the opportunity to have a representative present a short workshop to our students. Our library quickly agreed, and late in October, our Bloomberg BNA representative came for a day of presentation and tabling. As a result of her visit, our Bloomberg BNA representative signed up several students for Bloomberg BNA email alerts.

There is, however, a caveat when dealing with vendors and asking for vendor swag. After one of our vendors generously sent a significant amount of promotion material, it was decided that our library could no longer offer that particular resource. Once the vendor learned that the resource was cancelled, he immediately called to express dismay, and to remind of us of the promotional items sent to promote his resource. While the

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library considered returning the swag, it was determined that it could be used to promote other resources provided by the same vendor.

In the end, for those who think that it may be easier to not contact vendors during these difficult economic times, consider the fact that vendors and librarians share similar goals. A short email, a small amount of vendor swag, and a library promotional event can have a positive impact on several facets of librarianship.

The Long Arm of the Law Library: Law Libraries and Community Outreach

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As a SEAALL Scholarship winner for 2011-2012, I have been asked to write an article concerning a topic that we have discussed in library school and how it applies to law librarianship. One of the few topics that has been consistent across all of my classes so far has been the importance of libraries fulfilling their mandate to serve those in need of assistance. In many ways, law librarians are fortunate in having a largely defined group of users, whether members of a particular law firm, the students and faculty of a university or practicing attorneys doing research. There is, however, another group of users, who may not be receiving the attention that they need: pro se researchers.

While many academic and public law libraries are accustomed to assisting pro se researchers in the course of their reference services, there is very little outreach to the greater community to encourage them to engage in pro se research. There are many reasons for this, such as insufficient staff to handle the extra load, librarians are reluctant to encourage people to engage in pro se representation, or a simple lack of contact with community organizations that would help promote the law library. None of these reasons, though, should be expected to nullify the fact that our mandate is to serve all members of the community who need access to the law.

In the absence of research assistance from law librarians, many people will go to their public libraries for legal help. Having worked in both a law library and a public library, I have seen this personally. Public librarians though are not equipped to give the level of guidance that a law librarian can provide. At a public library, even reference librarians may not fully understand the difference between a statute and a regulation nor where to find them. In failing to reach out to the community at large, law librarians have created a situation where we are not fulfilling our mandate, and instead placing that burden on the shoulders of people who are not equipped to bear its weight.

Seeking legal information is difficult enough for English speaking people, but for persons of Limited English proficiency, the problem is greatly exacerbated. Many immigrants to this country come from code based systems. And therefore lack an understanding of the common law. Public librarians are not sufficiently versed in the differences in foreign legal systems to explain how to begin researching a legal problem to someone who does not understand our system. Community groups who assist LEPs do not have the resources for legal research, beyond perhaps a few pamphlets.

Law libraries are the best possible resource for these people to use, but many of us have not adequately

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marketed ourselves as being available to them. Given that many LEPs lack the resources for legal representation, it should be natural for them to begin researching their issues at publicly accessible law libraries. Sadly, it has not been my experience that this is at all common. I have personally seen Spanish speakers go to their local public library branch looking for information on powers of attorney and others who needed information on how to find statutes. I asked these patrons why they did not go the law library at the university and they said that they did not know that the library was open to the public. If the people who most need our assistance are not receiving it, then we have failed at our most basic mandate.

What can we do to remedy this? Well, several options present themselves. The first is marketing. We can ally ourselves with community groups to make sure that people know what resources we have available. This solution will work not only with LEPs, but with native speakers as well. It may take some time to establish connections with these community groups and to learn how to market ourselves outside the legal and academic communities, but it is necessary to reach the people who in many ways most need our assistance.

In order to reach out better to LEPs, law libraries should also focus on language skills and cultural competency whenever possible. This may be accomplished by focusing on relevant skills when hiring, or by encouraging current law librarians to gain additional language skills and providing them with the necessary resources. This ensures that when LEPs do come for reference services, the reference staff will be able to help them. Even for non-native speakers who are proficient in English, it can be helpful to explain complicated concepts in their primary language. With many universities also employing large numbers of foreign born professors, this could be a real boon for the university.

These suggestions should help address the issue for individual libraries. But there are steps that can be taken by the profession as a whole to solve this problem as well. The first step is a change in mindset. We must remember that we are members of not only the legal community but also the community at large, and then adjust our focus accordingly. The second step is to add greater diversity, especially linguistic diversity, to the profession. This is a perennial issue, but one that will become more and more important as the demographics of the United States change.

This will not be an easy process. Issues like funding, time and inertia will always inhibit major changes like the ones I have suggested. My classes have driven home to me, though, that libraries must provide equal access to all members of the community, not just those who present themselves to us. By making these changes, both at the individual librarian or library level, and in the profession as a whole, we can begin to meet our mandate of serving all members of our community.

This Newsletter is provided in a paperless format.

Going to school? Need money? Apply here...

Did you know the American Association of Law Libraries has several important scholarships to assist present and future members of our profession to achieve their goals? These scholarships provide valuable assistance to present and future law librarians across all types of member libraries.

Educational scholarships to help those working towards various types of degrees and for continuing education courses

The **George A. Strait Minority Scholarship** provides valuable assistance to members of recognized minority groups intending to pursue a career in law librarianship.

The **LexisNexis John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship** is open to any candidate who applies for any of the AALL Educational Scholarships.

The **Marcia J. Koslov Scholarship**, jointly established by AALL and member Marcia J. Koslov, assists librarians in state, court or county libraries who wish to pursue a continuing education course or a professional development opportunity.

For more information about our scholarships and to see a list of past recipients please visit <http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Resources/scholarships>

For applications visit

<http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Resources/scholarships/Scholarship-Applications>

The **SEAALL 2012 Community Service Project** for the [2012 Clearwater/Tampa, FL meeting](#) will benefit [CASA](#), Community Action Stops Abuse. CASA's "vision is a community without violence so that home is a safe place... while its... mission is to raise our voices against violence through advocacy, empowerment, and social change."

CASA has a [wish list](#) of items that can be found [here](#).

How can you donate? You can:

- make an [online donation](#) directly to CASA. The link to the online donation URL is embedded here ;
- send a check or an item from the wish list directly to CASA
@CASA
P.O. Box 414
St. Petersburg, FL 33731
- bring an item to the SEAALL meeting and a drop off box will be available at the meeting.

SEAALL Library Profile

Hugh F. MacMillan Law Library at Emory University School of Law

Information by Richelle L. Reid, Layout by Brian Barnes



Built in 1995, the Hugh F. MacMillan Law Library is a 70,000 sq. ft. contemporary facility located on the campus of Emory University. The modern architectural design of this facility is anchored by Emory's School of Law and situated near the Emory University Hospital complex.

To accommodate the research needs of our faculty, students, and public patrons, the library holds a collection of more than 400,000 volumes, subscribes to more than 60 databases, and houses a feature film DVD collection and other law-specific special collections. The library is also a depository for both United States and European Union government docu-

ments, and has an extensive collection of international and UN materials. The law library has a rare book collection and a new Archives Room which maintains the records of Emory University School of Law, the Feminism and Legal Theory Project, the Center for the Study of Law and Religion, the Emory Law WWII Oral History Project and other distinguished collections.

MacMillan Law Library is one of Emory's nine university libraries; accordingly, patrons have access to the university's trove of over 3.4 million print and electronic volumes, nearly 700 separate databases and the university's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL).



MacMillan Law Library's patrons and visitors are sure to observe its unique art collection, which features art exhibits changed three times a year, showcasing the talents of local artists. While MacMillan is not an art gallery in the traditional sense, the unique installments add variety and interest to the library space and are popular with library patrons and visitors. The exhibits include photographs, paintings, and other artistic media, which enhance or complement the library's contemporary design and décor. Information about our current exhibit is available at <http://library.law.emory.edu/index.php?id=6441>.

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Apart from MacMillan's beautiful aesthetics, we are most proud of the creative energy of our staff of librarians and paraprofessionals. Our staff offers superior reference and access services to faculty, students, the local bench and bar, and to the general public. Our librarians have developed subject guides on many legal topics – from bankruptcy to election law.

The law library also offers specialized classes on legal research and courses tailored for newly matriculated international students. This school term, our staff created two survival guides for new students and distributed them during orientation week. Now popular with students and visiting patrons, these guides serve as a quick reference to the organization of the library's collection, resources and policies as well as recommendations on campus and local hotspots for university resources, dining, and entertainment.

MacMillan Law Library is designed to accommodate up to 516 patrons. It combines carrels, tables, and comfortable chairs in seating areas bathed in natural light. The library also offers seven study rooms, most of which are equipped with smart boards or audio/visual equipment. MacMillan Law Library features free top-of-the-line scanners, a computer lab, and wireless connectivity throughout the library.

To learn more about MacMillan Law Library, visit our website at <http://library.law.emory.edu/> .

The Membership Development Committee is now accepting applications for mentors and mentees!

Whether you're a newer member looking for advice, an experienced member hoping to give back to your profession, or a mid-career member contemplating a job change, [AALL's Mentor Program](#) is a valuable resource.

AALL's Mentor Program provides:

Newer members: an informal, personal source of valuable insight and advice on charting your career path as a law librarian

Experienced members: an avenue to lend your knowledge and experience to promising new members of the profession and strengthen the future of the law librarianship

Mid-career members: a network to consult if you're contemplating a move to another type of library or taking on a new job responsibility

Whether or not you've participated as a mentor or mentee in the past, the AALL Membership Development Committee welcomes all applications.

To ensure a mentor/mentee match prior to the July 2012 Annual Meeting, please submit your form by Friday, April 13:

[Register for a mentor ----- Be a mentor](#)

This year's applications allow for more specificity that will help the Membership Development Committee create pairings more tailored toward the preferences of both mentors and mentees. Plus, mentors can register to become [Spot Mentors](#). If you don't have time for an ongoing mentor relationship, considering being a short-term resource for periodic questions on topics of your choice.

Applications Sought for \$1100 in Research Grants to be Awarded This Spring from the AALL Research Fund: An Endowment Established by LexisNexis

The AALL Research and Publications Committee is accepting applications through Friday, March 30, 2012 for research grants from the AALL Research Fund, totaling up to \$1100.

The committee will award one grant to library professionals who wish to conduct research that supports the research/scholarly agenda of the profession of librarianship. Established with a generous endowment from LexisNexis in July 2000, the annual grants fund large or small research projects that create, disseminate, or use legal and law-related information. Projects may range from the historical (indexes, legislative histories, bibliographies, biographies, or directories) to the theoretical (trends in cataloging, publishing, or new service models in libraries) to the practical (implementation models for collection, personnel, or infrastructure management).

The [AALL Research Agenda](#) offers suggestions for possible research projects that cover a wide segment of professional interest, including the profession of law librarianship, law library patrons, law library services, legal research and bibliography, legal information resources, and law library facilities. However, projects are not limited to those described in the agenda, and the committee will consider all applications and research projects.

To apply for the grants, all applicants must provide resumes and statements of their qualifications for carrying out their projects. The applications should demonstrate experience with research projects and an understanding of the dissemination and use of legal and law-related information. Priority will be given to individual AALL members or AALL members working in partnership with other information professionals. The grant application and complete guidelines are available at: <http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Resources/grants/research-grants/AALL-Research-Fund.html>.

The submission deadline for applications is Friday, March 30, 2010. Grants will be awarded and announced in May, 2012. Allocation of the research grants will be at the sole discretion of the AALL Research and Publications Committee. For more information, consult the AALL Research and Publications Committee [website](#) or contact a [member](#) of the committee.

The Southeastern Law Librarian (ISSN 0272-7560) is the official publication of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. It is published quarterly and is distributed free to all SEAALL members. Editorial comments or submissions should be sent to:

Brian C. Barnes -- Deputy Law Library Director -- Loyola New Orleans -- bcbarnes@loyno.edu

Submissions are preferred to be sent electronically in MS Word format.

Newsletter Deadlines are:

Spring -- May 31, 2012

Summer -- August 31, 2012

Fall -- November 30, 2012

Winter -- February 28, 2013

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2012 SEAALL in Clearwater*

Rebecca Trammell

Dolly & Homer Hand Law Library Director, Director of Electronic Education, and Professor of Law
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All of us at **Stetson College of Law** can't wait to welcome you to the upcoming 2012 SEAALL Conference!

Our host hotel, the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort, is directly on the beach, so you can unwind by strolling along the shore or swimming in the picturesque Gulf of Mexico. The Hilton offers two pools, along with a tiki bar and a playground for the kids. Still, Clearwater Beach is more than just pristine beaches.

The Tampa/St. Petersburg/ Clearwater metropolitan area offers a variety of entertainment options, from cultural and sporting events to fine dining. Many great shops and restaurants are within walking distance of the hotel. Just a short drive from the hotel you will find:

- Salvador Dali Museum <http://thedali.org/>
- Busch Gardens, <http://buschgardens.com/bgt/>
- Historic Tampa Theatre <http://www.tampatheatre.org/>

If you're a theme park fan:

- Legoland Florida has just opened and is a short 70 miles away <http://www.legoland.com/>
- If you're considering taking the kids (or yourself) to Disney World, the Mouse is only eighty miles away <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com/>

If you are a sports enthusiast, we have it:

- The Tampa Bay Lightning <http://lightning.nhl.com/> will be playing home games against the Oilers on 3/22 and the Islanders on 3/24.

Interested in baseball spring training? Check it out!

- Pirates in Bradenton http://pittsburgh.pirates.mlb.com/spring_training/tickets.jsp?c_id=pit
- Yankees in Tampa <http://www.steinbrennerfield.com/>
- Phillies in Clearwater http://philadelphia.phillies.mlb.com/spring_training/tours.jsp?c_id=phi
- Blue Jays in Dunedin schedule out soon http://mlb.mlb.com/spring_training/tickets.jsp?c_id=tor
- Braves in Orlando schedule out soon http://atlanta.braves.mlb.com/spring_training/home.jsp?c_id=atl

We are sure our location offers something for everyone, and we encourage you to bring the whole family. We have anticipated that some attendees will want to extend their stay beyond the conference dates, and we have worked with the hotel to offer our special conference rate for Sunday March 18, 2012 through Wednesday, March 28, 2012.

What are you waiting for? Get "In Step with the Future," and head to the SEAALL 2012 website to reserve your hotel room: www.law.stetson.edu/library/seaall.php

If we can do anything to help you plan your visit or make it more enjoyable, please email us lawrefgp@law.stetson.edu

* Reprinted in light of the impending SEAALL conference

The Perfect Time for a Beach Trip

Brian Barnes

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As the dreary fog (and even snow for some of you) melts off this spring many librarians will face a bit of a challenge, one of burnout. Now I will freely admit I don't have great answers for "fixing" burnout and I believe that even if we love our jobs they can wear on us over time. However, I do have one thing that helps me personally, what we all get to do in a few weeks if we are lucky enough to go to the SEAALL Conference in Florida, and that is to get away. What better place to get away to than a wonderful place with some sun and sand?

Now, I'm not one to back down from a challenge typically but getting away by going to the SEAALL Conference has so many benefits that anyone who considers it a negative is just foolish. To begin with we get to recharge our batteries with a great locale. We add on to that the fact that many of us will get to catch up with old friends and cohorts. The law librarian community isn't huge and the friends you made over cocktails in Williamsburg or Columbia or Athens can be just what you need to bounce back from a touch of the burnout. Both of these factors are social but perhaps the greatest benefit of the conference is the educational opportunities. If you have been spinning your wheels on a project at work perhaps you will see a different angle. If you have felt directionless with where to go next SEAALL is a place of cool ideas that are being implemented elsewhere.

To close this short editorial I admit the beach setting cannot but help me think of the song "Fun, Fun, Fun" by the Beach Boys. Quite appropriately the lyrics provide: "Seems she forgot all about the library, Like she told her old man about, And with the radio blasting, Goes cruising just as fast as she can now". Now I'm not saying our "old man" is going to take our T-bird away for having fun but that is what the SEAALL Annual Conference is for us, it's fun, it's an enriching experience, and maybe we should listen to Brian Wilson and perhaps not completely forget about the library like our girl in the song.



Service to SEAALL Award

The Service to SEAALL Award Committee seeks nominations for the award for 2012 given at the Annual Meeting in Clearwater, Florida. The deadline for submitting nominations is Thursday, March 1, 2012.

The criteria for the award are:

1. The candidate must have given special service to the chapter.
2. The candidate must have a sustained record of service to the chapter.
3. The candidate must have been a chapter member for at least five years.
4. Current and immediate past officers are not eligible.

We look forward to reading your nominations. Please send them to swambold@richmond.edu

Past recipients include:

1989 – Ed Edmonds
1990 – Larry Wenger
1991 – Carol Billings
1992 – Hazel Johnson
1993 – Mary Smith Forman
1994 – Betty Kern
1995 – Timothy Coggins
1996 – Pam Williams
1997 – Sally Wiant
1998 – Ed Schroeder
1999 – Kay Todd
2000 – Connie Matzen
2001 – William Beintema
2002 – Sue Burch
2003 – Donna Bausch
2004 – Jim Heller
2005 – Joyce Manna Janto
2006 – Carol Avery Nicholson
2007 – Nancy Johnson
2008 – Terry Long
2009 – Anne Klinefelter
2010 – Sally Wambold
2011—Georgia Chadwick

The Committee
Karen Douglas
Georgia Chadwick
Sally Wambold

SEAALL Financial Report

Period of August 5, 2011 - November 30, 2011

OPENING WORKING BALANCE \$60,122.24

INCOME

MEMBERSHIP DUES 640.00

 Student 20.00

 Individual 100.00

 Institutional 520.00

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP REFUND 500.00

TOTAL INCOME 1140.00

TOTAL WORKING BALANCE \$61,262.24

EXPENSES

FREE MEMBERSHIPS 30.00

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS 3,100.00

 Lucile Elliott Scholarship 1,600.00

 Mattox Scholarship 1,500.00

SEAALL 2012 ANNUAL MEETING 719.26

 Transportation Expenses 719.26

SEAALL ELECTIONS 250.00

 Online Election Fee 250.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$4,099.26

CLOSING WORKING BALANCE \$57,162.98

INVESTMENTS

Fidelity 6,391.32

TOTAL INVESTMENTS AS OF Feb. 29, 2012 \$6,391.32

TOTAL ASSETS \$63,554.71

Submitted by Billie Blaine, SEAALL Treasurer

SEAALL Officers 2011 - 2012

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