

# SNELLA'S *OBITER DICTA*

Official Newsletter of the Southern New England Law Librarians' Association

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SNELLA FALL PROGRAM  
NOVEMBER 18, 2005

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## BEST BETS ON THE INTERNET

Have you been looking for a way to organize those scrapes of papers lying around your office? Do you want to turn chaos into perfect order? Have one place to put all your notes or thoughts including those yellow sticky notes where they will never be lost or found? Would you like to do it for free using an application that has a very short learning curve? Look no further.

EVERNOTE 1.0 is now available and can now be downloaded free from <http://www.evernote.com>.

**What is it ?** Evernote is essentially a note-taking application - that works with desktops, laptops and tablets. The best way to understand Evernote is to think of it as an endless tape. Each entry is date stamped when

it is entered and then can be retrieved by key words or by category.

- Categories can be assigned automatically or manually. Categories can be drag and dropped on a note.
- Notes can be viewed in category order and quickly returned to chronological arrangement.
- Key words searched for appear in yellow.
- Web content imported automatically include their active hyperlinked URL
- Email messages from Outlook can just be dropped into Evernote along with their attachments.
- Notes can include phone messages, to do's, reminders, ideas, step-by-step instructions, ready reference questions and answers, contact information, image clips, etc.
- Notes can also be calendar entries making it perfect for keeping a work diary or log, even expense or mileage reports. It makes it easy to track any changes or developments.
- Notes can be encrypted, making it a good place to store passwords.
- Templates are available for both to do's lists and notes.
- Notes can be emailed or pasted into other applications.
- A short notes view is also available, making it easy to fine long entries
- There is a file import - making it easy to add content and to get started.
- There are also keyboard shortcuts to make data entry easier and faster.
- The entire Evernote file can be backed up to the hard drive or to another backup media.
- Backups can be done manually at any time or automatically on a regular schedule.

Evernote™ Plus 1.0 is the paid version that includes such advanced features as handwriting and shape recognition. A free thirty-day trial of the paid is available.

# SNELLA BOARD

2005-2006

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All material submitted for publication is subject to editorial revision. Electronic submission is encouraged.

SNELLA Fall 2005 Program

**November 18, 2005**

**Quinnipiac University School of Law Library**

**Registration + Coffee 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

**Program 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Insurance Law, Complex Litigation & E-Filing

Join us for an informative program on the topics of Insurance Law, Complex Litigation in Connecticut, and E-Filing in the Connecticut State Courts. Each session features an expert in the area who will provide a presentation on the topic along with answering your specific questions.

***Guest Speakers:***

**A Judge of the Superior Court of Connecticut**

**Yan Hong**

**Insurance Law & Reference Librarian, University of Connecticut  
School of Law Library**

**Alice Mastrony**

**Attorney, Court Operations, Connecticut Judicial Branch**

**\*\* All profits from this program will be donated to the American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina relief effort in recognition of our Gulf Coast colleagues \*\***

Cost \$25.00 – includes program and lunch

Registration Deadline November 11, 2005

Please return the registration form below and payment (made out to SNELLA) to:

Claudia Jalowka, Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries,

90 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline November 11, 2005**

# THE AALL EDUCATION SUMMIT SUMMARY FINAL

By Claudia Jalowka, SNELLA's Education Committee Chair

The AALL Education Summit took place on September 22-23 in Oak Brook, IL. The purpose of the two-day summit was to devise a strategy for the continuing education and development of law librarians outside of the Annual Meeting. The focus was on creating a strategy that would be able to be developed and implemented within a three year window. Attending the summit were representatives of the leadership from AALL, SIS's and chapters, along with several invited guests. The summit was facilitated by Cate Bower of Tecker Consultants.

In preparation for the summit, each attendee reviewed the "Generations in Law Librarianship" survey and other input received from their group's membership (thank you to all who responded to the survey that was sent on the SNELLA list). One of the most striking things about the "Generations" survey was the discontent and disconnect that many members felt about the Annual Meeting. The sense of "there's everything for everyone else but not for me" pervaded the survey results. Both SCCLL and PLL librarians felt that the Annual Meeting did not provide education on topics of interest or relevance to them (PLL was louder in this complaint but this could be due to the fact that they are bigger than SCCLL). Although criticism was abundant within the survey, constructive criticism was not.

The summit consisted of addressing several key questions and determining what could be done immediately and within the three year window. The key questions were:

- What are the role and strengths of AALL in continuing education outside of the Annual Meeting?
- What are the role and strengths of the SIS in continuing education?
- What are the role and strengths of the chapters in continuing education?

The attendees were divided up into ten tables and each group compiled a listing of responses to these questions. Then roles and strengths determined by each group were brought together and the larger group selected the top two or five. These became the cornerstones for the strategy.

The following were the roles/responsibilities that were finally agreed upon:

## AALL

- Repackaging of Annual Meeting materials for distribution to those who could not attend.
- Grants for SIS and chapters for offering educational programs for their members.
- Create a Calendar and Clearinghouse for programs, speakers and administrative/technical advice and assistance for groups creating programs for their local members.

## SIS

- Development of the content for programs for AALL and local programs. Content can be created in anticipation of interest or in response to specific requests.

## Chapter

- Provide content for information that is local and/or timely for members' needs.
- Partner with other local organizations for programming.
- Provide AALL with information regarding members' needs and desires in educational programming.

Many of these roles can already be implemented. For AALL the Calendar and Clearinghouse are projects which they could begin addressing as soon as the summit was over. The grants program would take a bit more time and require some study. Even that was given a strict time restriction in which the work and proposal should be completed.

SNELLA is already providing content of local interest and we have partnered with other local organizations, although we could look into doing more with collaboration. I would suggest a needs assessment of our members. Find out what our members really want in the way of educational content. These desires then need to be conveyed up to AALL for their use in creating programming.