



by Tracy L. Thompson

CRIV Programs in Portland

The snow falling outside my window doesn't fool me. I know that the AALL Annual Meeting will be upon us before we know it. The Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV) is sponsoring the following three programs.

CRIV Tools: Useful Resources for Working with Information Vendors

Level: Introductory

For many years, the CRIV has provided a Web-based set of tools and resources to assist librarians in working with legal publishers and their various departments. This program will showcase the numerous tools the CRIV provides, demonstrate how to access them, and explain the benefits of using them. Specific CRIV tools that will be featured include vendor contact information grids, corporate affiliations of legal publishers, the divested titles list, sample letters for unsolicited material, sample claim letters, sample budget

spreadsheets, and vendor issue resolution logs. Many beginning law librarians spend years discovering the need for—and then developing and designing—these tools. Why recreate the wheel when the CRIV has already done the work? This program will enable librarians to become more effective and efficient in their dealings with information vendors.

Acquiring Content in a Global Marketplace: Exploring Vendor Relations Across Borders

Level: Intermediate

With the expansion of globalization in the law and the increasing availability of foreign e-content, more librarians are dealing with non-U.S.-based vendors. This program will highlight the areas of concern for libraries when acquiring content from foreign vendors. Attendees will hear from three vendors (one based in the United States and two based in other countries) and an acquisitions librarian with experience in foreign acquisitions.

Tales from the Dark Side, or If I Knew Then What I Know Now!

Level: Intermediate

Have you ever wondered what librarian liaisons do and what exactly they can do for you? Here is your opportunity to learn from law librarians with experience working on both sides of “The Great Divide.” All of the speakers are librarians who left the profession to work for information vendors and then returned to library positions in law firms and law schools. Speakers will share insights gained during their work as vendor representatives and discuss the librarian-vendor relationship from their unique perspectives. Specific topics will include understanding the essential role of the gatekeeper, recognizing the librarian's power in negotiations, and learning how vendors can help librarians.

In addition to these programs, please plan to attend the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section Vendor Roundtable. See you in Portland! ■

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