# The ALL-SIS Newsletter

**Volume 23, Issue 3**         **Summer 2004**

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

By Sally Wise, 2003 - 2004 ALL-SIS Chair

Thoughts of Summer….Boston in July!
It is getting warmer and warmer here in South Florida so my thoughts are turning to summer. And, of course, summer means Boston. Come to Boston! We will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the SIS. Our Anniversary Committee is hard at work to be sure that the event will be memorable.

A few of our Boston activities…..
Our SIS will be very active in Boston. Shaun Esposito, our Newsletter editor, has included in the Newsletter a list of all our activities and we will be updating you on the listserv. I wanted to mention in more detail a couple of these events.
First, our Breakfast and Business meeting will be held on Sunday, July 11th from 7 - 9am. West will be hosting the Breakfast. Please circle the ALL-SIS Business meeting in the Program Selection box of the AALL Registration Form so that we will have an accurate count for the Hotel. The Breakfast and Business Meeting are tentatively scheduled for the Sheraton Hotel.
During the meeting we plan to carve out some time to discuss the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools and Interpretations [http://www.abanet.org/legaled/standards/standards.html].
The ABA Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is systematically reviewing the Standards. The Standards Review Committee is charged with reviewing proposed changes in or additions to Standards, Interpretations, Rules, Policies, Procedures and Criteria. This committee hopes to begin review of the Library Standards next year and they would like recommendations from the ABA Law Libraries Committee by August 2004.
The Law Libraries Committee is chaired by Judith Wright and is composed of librarian members Rita Reusch (Utah), Tim Kearley (Wyoming), Glen-Peter Ahlers (Barry), Charles Ten Brink (Michigan State), Pauline Aransas (UCLA), Steve Hinckley (South Carolina), Carol Nicholson (North Carolina), and Chris Simoni (Northwestern).
Judith and members of her committee will be at the Breakfast and Business Meeting seeking recommendations for either changing or not changing the Library Standards. We will have more information about this issue on our Boston web site.

These issues will also be discussed and all members are welcome at the ALL-SIS Statistics Committee meeting Monday, July 12 from 7:30 am - 8:45 am and at the Program on Monday, July 12 from 4:15 - 5:15 pm titled "ABA Statistics: Tackling Topical Questions - 2004 Update."
We will also be discussing the results of our Membership survey at the Breakfast and Business meeting.
Second, our reception will be at the Harvard Law Library on Tuesday, July 13th from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. We will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary in style at our Reception at the Harvard Law Library. You will be receiving an invitation from BNA who is hosting the event. There will also be information about the reception on our Boston web site.
Third, we will be putting up in May our Boston web site in which you will be able to find more information about the Boston meeting including information about visiting [on your own] the Law Schools in the Boston area.
Thank You, Shaun….
This is Shaun's last Newsletter. I want to thank him on the behalf of the SIS for all of his hard work in publishing our Newsletter for the last number of years. We certainly appreciate his time and effort.
See you all in Boston. Be sure to get and wear your 25th Anniversary Ribbon.

## Newer Law Librarians
## Register for CONELL Now!

**What is CONELL?**

The Conference of Newer Law Librarians (CONELL) is held every year at the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting and Conference. CONELL welcomes newer members of the profession to the organization, introduces them to the Association and its leaders, and provides a setting for newer members to become acquainted with each other. Participants have an opportunity to talk with representatives from AALL's many Committees and Special Interest Sections to find out firsthand how to get involved and enjoy the benefits of Association membership. CONELL offers a chance to learn about the Association while meeting new people and having some fun.

The 2004 CONELL Program:

This year, CONELL will be held on Saturday, July 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

The morning features presentations from experienced AALL members, and open sessions with AALL experts from various areas of law librarianship and with chapter, SIS and committee representatives.

After lunch in the Sheraton Boston Hotel, the afternoon will be devoted to a guided tour of Boston, including Beacon Hill, Back Bay, and the Waterfront. Participants will be able to walk into the North End, Boston's famous Italian neighborhood, and visit the Old North Church, where the lanterns were hung to signal the beginning of Paul Revere's ride.

For the first time this year, CONELL will sponsor "Dutch Treat Dinners" at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, July 9. These dinners will give CONELL participants a chance to meet each other and members of the Mentoring Committee before the beginning of the official conference.

**How to Register for CONELL:**

Be sure to register for CONELL when you submit your AALL Annual Meeting and Conference registration:  http://www.aallnet.org/events/04_registration.asp.

Preregistration is required by June 4, 2004:  $100.00

**Learn More about CONELL**:

To learn more about CONELL, visit the Mentoring Committee's website: http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/.

The Association gratefully acknowledges West for its support of this program.
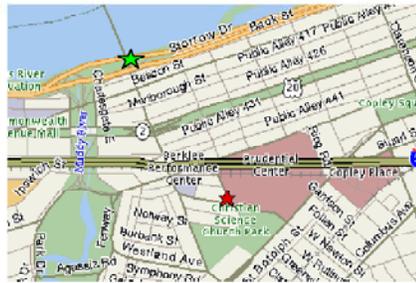
## William S. Hein & Co., Inc.'s 22nd Annual

# FUN WALK & RUN

**WHEN:** Sunday, July 11, 2004 at 7:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Boston, MA—Along the scenic Charles River
The Fun Walk & Run will begin at the foot of the ★ Massachusetts Ave. Bridge and Storrow Dr.

**HOTEL PICK-UP:** Buses will be at ★ The Sheraton Boston Hotel at 39 Dalton St. beginning at 6:15 a.m. to shuttle runners to the race site. Last bus leaves the Sheraton at 6:30 a.m. sharp!!



## REGISTER TODAY!
More information to follow in your Fun Walk & Run registration packet

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ARE YOU A NEW ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIAN OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEBODY NEW?

Are you a new academic law librarian?  If so, this is for you!  Please join us at CONALL - the Conference of Newer Academic Law Librarians - to be held on Tuesday, July 13 from 5:15 to 6:15 pm at the Harvard Law Library.  Transportation to HLS is being provided by the generosity of BNA, Inc., so it will be easy for you to get there.  The program will involve a short skit and lots of time for Q&A, where we will have librarians representing all departments in academic law libraries to respond to your questions.

While there, you will be able to meet with your mentor. Don't know about this?
Well, if you are interested in having a mentor, just go to the website for the AALL Committee on Mentoring and fill out the form at http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentee_form.html - and you will be matched with an academic law librarian who best fits your requests. [If you are not new and are reading this and you want to be a mentor, please fill out the form at http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor_form.html.]

Following our CONALL, the annual ALL-SIS Reception will be held at Harvard, so you will already be there to have fun, good food and meet many more academics! Please join us for this annual event, where we look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the academic sector!

**Trials and Tribulations of a Law Librarian**
**By**
**Jennifer S. Murray, Reference Librarian**
**Arizona State University Law Library**

*Note: This is the seventh in what is hoped will be a series of columns about the experiences of those in the academic law librarianship profession - ed.*

I honestly thought that my career as an academic law librarian wouldn't be stressful. I know. Don't chuckle too much at my naiveté. I can't recall exactly what I thought my chosen profession would be like. Perhaps I envisioned leaving work with a warm glow about me after hours of assisting law students in their academic pursuit of the truth and law. Regardless of what skewed vision I had upon entering the profession, I've since accepted that there will be moments of hair pulling. And I'd be lying if I said that I didn't enjoy those moments a little. There is a sense of pride that comes with encountering an obstacle and overcoming it. We all can use an adrenaline rush now and then. And since you'll never see me jumping out of an airplane, I might as well get my adrenaline rush from overcoming obstacles while I'm at work.

But, is it just me, or does the obstacle usually involve a faculty member? After having worked at several academic law libraries now, I believe this is the status quo (assuming, of course, that the problem isn't me and I just bring this with me wherever I go). My gut instinct tells me that 90% of stress-related incidents in an academic law library have a direct relationship with law faculty. I figure the remaining 10% is divided among computer malfunctions, interoffice conflict and difficult public patrons.

So here is my theory of why faculty requests tend to generate stress. In general, law faculty do not understand the job of a librarian. Due to the high level of service we provide to the faculty, they never have to think about what it is that we do. The information just magically appears for them soon after they request it. As a result, there is no need for them to understand what we do.

To be sure, there are exceptions to the rule. I currently have the pleasure of working with a faculty member who gets it. When she gives me information, she understands how I am going to use it, and it makes a world of difference in the service I am able to provide her. Because she understands research, she is able to make recommendations for databases or websites to search. In addition, she knows when she is making a request that may not be possible. So she is able to set her own reasonable expectations for my service. But there is another faculty member who also understands what I can do. And, trust me, he uses my abilities to their fullest. Sometimes I wish he didn't really grasp my full potential. As you see, it cuts both ways.

Ultimately, despite the exceptions, a disconnect between librarian and faculty member is the nature of the beast. While I would love to send all faculty to the Jerry McGuire School of Law Libraries where they learn to "help me help you," it's not going to happen. So I've learned that I have to look for teachable moments. I wait for the right time to educate the faculty member on the cost of an interlibrary loan request or the merits of a pdf document. However, I don't tell them everything. After all, there is something to be said for job security. Instead, I use discretion in deciding what information will be useful for them to know. I keep in mind that, more often than not, they really don't want the information about how I found the answer. They just want the answer itself. In all honesty, the disconnect between librarian and faculty works for me. The stress I may encounter as a result of this disconnect is worth the freedom it provides me in doing my job. If someone doesn't know how to do your job, then they can't tell you how to do it. Well, at least in theory, they can't!

**Editorial Changes -** Beginning with the Fall 2004 Newsletter, Leah Sandwell-Weiss will be the Newsletter Editor. She has served as the Web Editor for the past few years and will now take over general editorial duties. Deadline dates for next year's issues of the Newsletter will be announced online. Please consider submitting your articles and information for next year's issues. The Newsletter is only as good as the content contributed by membership. Thanks to all of you who have made the Newsletter a success over these past few years. - Shaun Esposito, outgoing Newsletter Editor.

# Your SIS Needs You Now!!

## Carole L. Hinchcliff
### Vice Chair/Chair Elect ALL-SIS

Working on an ALL-SIS committee is a wonderful way to make your mark on AALL. You get to work with and learn from colleagues who share common interests and help to contribute to the area of academic law librarianship that interests you.

Please let me know how you would like to help the ALL-SIS during the coming 2004 - 2005 academic year by volunteering for committee assignments. [Committee request form follows on next page.]  If you have current committee assignment(s), please let me know if you would like to continue to serve ALL-SIS in your current role, or if you would prefer to have a new committee assignment for the coming year.

Whether you are new to the SIS or the profession, or you just never got around to volunteering before, we want you! I plan to appoint as many of you as I can. Don't be surprised if I hear about your talents and call you even if you don't respond!

For information about the charges of each committee over the last year see:
http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/committeecharges.html.

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**Share Your Advanced Legal Research Materials**

Do you teach an advanced legal research course that focuses on foreign, comparative or international law?  The Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section is re-designing its webpage and updating our course materials currently accessible at: http://brkl.brooklaw.edu/screens/fcilsis.html.  We welcome new submissions of all types of course materials including syllabi, reading lists, PowerPoint slides, handouts, bibliographies, assignments, final exams and final projects.

Materials in HTML and non-HTML formats are welcome - the SIS will facilitate conversion to PDF or HTML formats and will host the materials if necessary.

If you know of others who teach ALR-FCIL please encourage them to submit materials.

Please contact Lee Peoples at lpeoples@okcu.edu if you are willing to share your materials.

**New Faculty Services Roundtable**

The ALL-SIS may have a new Faculty Services Roundtable soon.  We hope to have a meeting, if only informally, in Boston in July.  Further information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks on the ALL-SIS Listserv and LAWLIB.  In the meantime, contact Janet Katz, katz@law.harvard.edu, or Raquel Ortiz, rmortiz@bu.edu, with questions and expressions of interest.

# ALL-SIS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REQUEST FORM

1. Please select 3 choices, ranking your preferences, with 1 being the highest.
2. Return this form to me via email, fax or regular mail by **Friday, June 18th.**

**ALL-SIS COMMITTEE ASSIGMENT REQUEST FORM**

NAME: _____

| | Committees | | Roundtables |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Archives Committee | | Legal Research |
| | Awards Committee | | Relations with Online Vendors |
| | Bylaws Committee | | Statistics |
| | Collection Development Committee | | |
| | CONALL/Mentoring Committee | | **Taskforces** |
| | Continuing Status/Tenure Committee | | Advanced Legal Research Web Sourcebook |
| | Membership & Recruitment Committee | | Education |
| | Newsletter Committee | | Library Support for Law Journals |
| | Nominations Committee | | Toolkit |
| | Program Committee (2005 Annual Meeting) | | |
| | Public Relations Committee | | |
| | Website Committee | | |

If you have questions about the committees and their work, please do not hesitate to contact me:

Carole L. Hinchcliff
Associate Director
The Ohio State University
Moritz Law Library
55 West 12th Avenue
Columbus OH 43210-1391
(614) 292 0903 - phone
(6140 292 3202 - fax
Hinchcliff.1@osu.edu

## THE PECULIAR BURDEN OF THE ACACEMIC LAW LIBRARY
### Submitted by the Stetson University College of Law Librarians

Libraries in law schools find themselves with a unique role. They serve as a teaching laboratory.

In order to fulfill this awesome role, the law school library must strive to contain as many of the existing media formats as is possible. In its capacity as a teaching station, the Library must have examples of existing tools in several formats and the students must attain mastery of each of these formats. It is frequently not enough that the student be familiar with the content of a tool; the student must also be familiar and facile with the *format* of the tool. While a student may be fully aware of how to find the information he needs, he must also be aware of how to get to it and make it work for him. It accomplishes nothing if the student is looking at the information he needs so desperately and cannot get to it for lack of experience and education in using the tool.

We are therefore somewhat taken aback by discussions that pose an either/or choice of formats, for example, giving up key print reference texts for their online equivalents. While it is certainly true that budget parameters severely limit the quantity of resources one can acquire, it is a sad commentary when budget restrictions force us to recede from this primary role of providing information in all formats.

The provision of adequate instructional resources for teachers and students is our chief mission. We cannot be said to be doing an adequate job of preparing students for the practice of law if all we offer is print resources. The same argument holds if all we have is a collection of electronic resources. Nor can we offer only one of a type of resource; the students need to learn to compare and contrast these tools in their various forms. (What doth if profit a student to learn Shepard's on-line when the employer for whom the student clerks does not subscribe?)

The more problematic situation comes when the same resource is available in multiple formats. The condition is exacerbated when budget limitations force us to choose between and among formats. If we could say with even 80% certainty that our graduates would encounter one format to the exclusion of the other, this having to choose between and among formats would not pose such a dilemma. Just as few law firms operate exactly the same, most students will not have the same approach to research, the same sources, or the same libraries to use. Those who find jobs with large firms might have full access to online database for searching and reading texts; those who work in smaller firms might face restrictions in the amount of time they can spend online, and have to do more print research; and those who concentrate in specialized areas, such as immigration and tax, might find that many of the resources they need are on cd-rom. Obviously, there is no way to predict what a student will encounter outside of academia. Additionally, there is no way to predict which resources will still exist in their current format as a student's career progresses. It is our mission to provide the information students need in all available formats so they are able to deal with the changing means of information delivery. We do our student body no service when they are not taught the myriad of ways of accessing legal information.

We feel it is incumbent upon law school administrators to recognize the Library in the law school as the laboratory that it is and to see to it that sufficient funds are available so that there is no need to choose between or among formats. Research is much too important a skill to have its mastery of available tools left to chance. We cannot afford to have our graduates leave our institutions and face formats for which they are not familiar and on which they have not received instruction. The academic law library must contain the gamut of available legal resources in all existing formats.

## ALL-SIS Events in Boston

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|---|---|
| Saturday, July 10 (2:00 - 3:00 pm) | ALL-SIS Education Task Force |
| Saturday, July 10 (3:00 - 4:30 pm) | ALL-SIS Collection Development Committee |
| Saturday, July 10 (3:00 - 4:00 pm) | ALL-SIS CONALL/Mentoring Committee |
| Saturday, July 10 (3:00 - 4:00 pm) | ALL-SIS Membership Committee |
| Saturday, July 10 (4:00 - 5:15 pm) | ALL-SIS Board Meeting 2003-2004 |
| Sunday, July 11 (7:00 - 9:00 am) | ALL-SIS Breakfast and Business Meeting (sponsored by West) |
| Sunday, July 11 (10:15 - 11:15 am) | Program - Law Library Research Assistant Program: Institutional Jewel in the Crown |
| Sunday, July 11 (5:30 - 6:30 pm) | ALL-SIS Collection Development Roundtable |
| Monday, July 12 (7:00 - 8:45 am) | ALL-SIS Advanced Legal Research Instruction Workshop |
| Monday, July 12 (7:30 - 8:45 am) | ALL-SIS Statistics Committee |
| Monday, July 12 (10:15 - 11:30 am) | ALL-SIS Academic Tools Committee |
| Monday, July 12 (10:15 - 11:30 am) | ALL-SIS Legal Research Committee |
| Monday, July 12 (10:15 - 11:30 am) | ALL-SIS Newsletter Committee |
| Monday, July 12 (4:15 - 5:15 pm) | Program - ABA Statistics: Tackling Topical Questions - 2004 Update |
| Monday, July 12 (5:15 - 6:15 pm) | ALL-SIS Incoming Board Meeting |
| Monday, July 12 (5:20 - 6:15 pm) | ALL-SIS Relations with Online Vendors Roundtable |
| Tuesday, July 13 (7:00 - 8:45 am) | ALL-SIS Directors Breakfast & Meeting |
| Tuesday, July 13 (7:00 - 8:45 am) | ALL-SIS Managers Breakfast & Program (sponsored by LexisNexis) |
| Tuesday, July 13 (9:00 - 10 am) | Program - Create Powerful Web Presentations without an Internet Connection |
| Tuesday, July 13 (5:15 - 6:15 pm) | ALL-SIS CONALL/Mentoring Program (sponsored by BNA) - Harvard Law Library |
| Tuesday, July 13 (5:15 - 6:15 pm) | ALL-SIS Support for Law Journals Roundtable |
| Tuesday, July 13 (6:30 - 9:00 pm) | ALL-SIS Reception and Awards (sponsored by BNA) - Harvard Law Library |

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### ALL-SIS Directors' Breakfast

The ALL-SIS Directors' Breakfast is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13, 2004 at 7:00 - 8:45 a.m.  At the breakfast, we will be having a forum about director status.  In fact, the question of director status seems to have become more complicated and more faceted.  For example, there is the tenure issue, the title issue (dean, whether assistant or associate, professor, both, director), and the chain of command or reporting issue (does the director report to the law school dean, a CIO, or the dean of university libraries).  Other questions, such as whether the library director is part of the law school's senior management team and what impact the proposed revisions of the ABA Standards for Law Libraries will have on us, are also relevant.  At the breakfast we will be having a panel and a moderated discussion on these issues.  Here is the line-up:

- Dick Danner--panel moderator and commentator.
- Lolly Gasaway--the Law Library director's status--view of an experienced Professor and Director.
- Judith Wright--explanation of ABA proposed revisions for Law Libraries.
- Linda Ryan--report on the results of her director survey (http://vista-survey.com/s/3614871535.htm).
- Barbara Bintliff--ensuing discussion moderator.

The breakfast will be at the Sheraton Hotel, probably in the Commonwealth Room (although the room is subject to change up until the last minute; so please check your programs at registration in July).  The cost of the full buffet breakfast is $32.00.

**Join Us As We Celebrate 25 Years!**

*Star Trek: The Motion Picture*, *Apocalypse Now*, Donna Summers' *Hot Stuff*, Rod Stewart's *Da Ya Think I'm Sexy*, the Sony Walkman is introduced, Margaret Thatcher becomes Prime Minister, the Shah flees Iran, Three-Mile Island has a partial meltdown, Skylab falls into the Indian Ocean… what do these all have in common?  1979.  (If you were born after 1979, ask your parents or grandparents to explain the significance of these events.)  But the highlight of 1979 was the creation of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section.

Join us in Boston on Tuesday, July 13, at the Academic SIS reception at Harvard Law Library as we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of ALL-SIS!  In addition to the traditional awards ceremony, the Anniversary Task Force has planned an evening of festivities.  Check out the collection of academic law librarian photos and see how your colleagues have changed over the years.  Help honor the past chairs of the section.  Have a piece of anniversary cake.

Stop by the ALL-SIS table in the exhibit hall activities area and pick up your ALL-SIS 25th Anniversary ribbon to wear proudly during the annual meeting.  Bone up on the history of the SIS and try your luck at the ALL-SIS trivia contest.

If you have photos of academic law librarians, or information on the history of the SIS, please let us know.  Contact one of the Task Force members - Dan Freehling, Ted Potter, Ann Puckett, Ellen Platt or Merle Slyhoff - and help us celebrate 25 years of ALL-SIS.

Ellen Platt
Merle Slyhoff
Co-Chairs, ALL-SIS Anniversary Task Force

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**Academic Law Librarians SIS Reception to be Held at Harvard Law School Library**

The Academic Law Librarians SIS Reception and Awards Ceremony at the 2004 AALL Conference in Boston will take place Tuesday, July 13, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Harvard Law School Library in Cambridge.   This year's reception is being sponsored by BNA, Inc.

The reception will be held in Harvard's spectacular Langdell Reading Room.  The library's Langdell Hall underwent a $35 million renovation in 1996 - 1997.  The spacious Reading Room, longer than a football field, is now open and beautifully lit.  Notable details of the room include twenty twelve-foot chandeliers and a frieze with Latin inscriptions and bas relief symbols on law and learning surrounding the center of the room.  Adjacent to the Reading Room are the Casperson Room, housing the most valuable pieces from the library's art collection and the Root Room, the reading room for Special Collections.

The Awards Ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m.  The SIS celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary this year and founding members in attendance will be introduced at the ceremony.

BNA will provide bus transportation to and from the reception beginning at 6:00 p.m.  Instructions about bus departure sites will be provided at a later date.

Members of the Harvard Law School Library staff will offer short-guided tours of the library on Tuesday afternoon, beginning at 2:00 p.m. and continuing on the half hour until 4:30 p.m. for those who would like to have a closer look at the facility than they might get by simply attending the reception.  No formal tours will be offered during the reception although Harvard librarians will be on hand to answer attendees' questions about the library.  No specially provided transportation from the Convention Center Hotels to the Library will be offered for these short tours, however, the Harvard Law Library is only a short walk from subway and bus stops at Harvard Square.

Those wishing to have a more comprehensive tour of the Harvard Law School Library should sign up for the official AALL-sponsored bus tour, which will take place from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon.  Space for this tour is limited and interested persons need to sign up on the AALL registration form.  AALL will provide transportation for this tour.

Preceding the Reception, CONALL (the Conference of Newer Academic Law Librarians) will host a short program for new academic law librarians in Harvard's Pound Hall, Room 101.  BNA will provide bus transportation from the Convention Center for those who register for the CONALL program.

Please note that members of the FCIL-SIS and IALL will hold a joint reception at the Harvard Law School Library beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evening.  This reception will be held in the Library's Casperson Room, adjacent to the Langdell Reading Room.

*Note: It would be impossible to recount all of the activities and programs of the past 25 years in this brief profile, nor note by name the many outstanding librarians who made them possible. However, I would be interested in hearing from anyone who has comments or additional information.*

The Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section (ALL-SIS) celebrates its 25th anniversary this summer at the annual meeting in Boston. The ALL-SIS was created at the 1979 AALL annual meeting in San Francisco. From its beginning the section has fostered cooperation and collaboration in academic law librarianship. Many outstanding educational programs and projects have resulted. Surprisingly, some of the first issues librarians tackled are still of critical concern today: work status and tenure, teaching, and legal education. Long time members have observed a number of changes over the years. They have many memories, some poignant, and some even hilarious. For example, who could forget the zany introduction to law librarianship in the "Alice in LawLibraryLand" skit at the 2000 annual meeting? This article attempts to illustrate the section's history by a brief review of the section's early days, its membership, organization and planning documents, programs and memorable projects.

### *Early Days*

The ALL-SIS began in 1979 at the AALL annual meeting in San Francisco. Fannie Fishlyn, Librarian Emerita of the University of Southern California, was among those who spearheaded a petition drive to establish academic librarians as an SIS. Interested librarians presented their petition, and it was approved by the AALL Executive Board.

At that time SISs were a relatively new group in AALL. They were established as organizational entities of AALL by the Executive Board at the 1976 annual meeting. State Court and County Law Librarians had already organized as a group in 1973, but when the Executive Board created special interest sections, they were officially recognized as an SIS and became the State Court and County Libraries Special Interest Section (SCCLL-SIS). That same year law firm librarians organized the Private Law Librarians Special Interest Section (PLL-SIS) to represent their interests. Academic law librarians were thus the last "type" SIS to organize. When asked why academic librarians followed rather than lead the path to organization, early leaders suggested that academic librarians felt well represented in the association without any special entity devoted to their interests. Nevertheless, the academics followed the other type SISs and petitioned to establish the ALL-SIS in the summer of 1979.

The section began with 47 members. The first year was quite busy with basic organizational tasks, writing bylaws and setting up communications. The bylaws were approved by the ALL-SIS membership in 1980. During the first year members started a newsletter, originally called the *ALL Newsletter*. The first issue reported the creation of the ALL-SIS. That issue was sent to every law school library director in the country to be sure that all academic law librarians knew about the new organization and had the opportunity to become members. According to the bylaws, the ALL-SIS sought "to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on academic law libraries" and to represent academic interests in the AALL. During that first year the section also organized a program for the 1980 annual meeting on the status of academic librarians.

### *Membership*

ALL-SIS grew slowly over the years from 47 members in 1979 to 1024 members today. While the ALL-SIS represents the interests of its members within the AALL, it is not an umbrella organization of all academic members of the AALL. To be a member of ALL-SIS librarians must apply for membership and pay dues. There are many academic law librarians who are active in AALL but who are *not* members of the ALL-SIS. Some academics join other SISs which relate closely to their positions, such as the Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS). Other academics belong to both the ALL-SIS and other SISs at the same time. At this time (spring 2004) there are 1024 members of the ALL-SIS. There are 5219 members of AALL, and 1841 are academic law librarians, so *only 55% of the academic law librarians who are members of AALL are also members of the ALL-SIS.*

All types of positions in academic law libraries are represented in today's membership. There were several attempts to analyze membership data in the past. That data analysis indicates that directors and administrators have been heavily represented in the SIS. The *Report of the Task Force on Long Range Planning* by Nancy Carol Carter in January 1986 indicated that (45%) of the 305 members of ALL-SIS at that time were library directors, associate directors or administrators. Other positions represented were catalogers or acquisitions librarians (10%), reference librarians (7%), interlibrary loan librarians (4%), and foreign and international librarians (less than 1%). Unfortunately 19% of the members did not report job responsibilities.

The proportion of librarian administrators did not change significantly over the next decade. In the Membership Analysis Project of 1999 Ellen Platt, chair of the Membership Committee, reported that over 50% of the 800 section members were directors, associate directors or department heads. Other positions represented in the 1999 survey were reference librarians (17.32%), electronic services librarians (5.12%), catalogers, (3.66%), circulation librarians, (1.83%), government documents librarians (1.1%), special collections librarians, (.85%), and interlibrary loan librarians, (.37%). 13.9% of the librarians did not list position responsibilities or were not working as academic librarians.

In spite of the heavy representation of administrators in the membership, there was some concern in the late 1980s that library directors needed a vehicle for their particular issues. In spring 1988 Frank Houdek and Lynn Foster, the chair and chair-elect of the section, proposed that the section take on an additional role as a forum for library directors. They maintained that other topical SISs served the needs of those in other positions in academic law libraries, such as technical services, but that no component of AALL specifically addressed law library administration issues at that time. A year later at the 1989 annual meeting in Reno the section sponsored the first annual director's breakfast. Programs on various administrative issues such as funding and staff training highlight the annual director's meetings. The first annual middle managers breakfast followed at the 1990 annual meeting in Minneapolis.

### Organizational Structure and Planning Documents

### Organizational structure: officers, committees, roundtables, task forces
The original bylaws provided the framework for organizational structure, specifying officers, an Executive Committee of officers, and a Nominations Committee. This structure gave the new SIS maximum flexibility for organizational development and permitted adding additional committees as needed. During the past 25 years several organizational devices have been used to further the section's goals: task forces, roundtables, and committees. **Task forces** were usually appointed to examine and recommend actions on a particular issue. For example, in 1985 ALL-SIS chair Sandra S. Coleman created the Task Force on Long Range Planning chaired by Nancy Carol Carter to examine programming and organization. **Roundtables** began as discussion groups focused on a topic. The roundtables were proposed by the Task Force on Long Range Planning in 1986. At first roundtables met once a year at the annual meeting and did not have continuing responsibilities. **Standing committees** developed to deal with issues of continuing interest to librarians which required activity throughout the year, rather than only at the annual meeting. Over time, some of the roundtables evolved into standing committees. This year as the 25th anniversary occurs, ALL-SIS has five Task Forces and 22 committees working on subjects ranging from authoring CALI lessons to developing a toolkit for law librarians.

### Planning Documents of 1986 and 2002
During its history work produced by several planning groups have had major impact on the Section's activities, particularly the *Report of the Task Force on Long Range Planning, ALL-SIS*, submitted by Nancy Carol Carter, chair, 1986 and the *Strategic Plan 2002 - 2005*. The *Strategic Plan* was the culmination of work of various Strategic Planning Committees from 1999 - 2002. The final draft plan was submitted by Mark Bernstein, chair, in 2002.

### Report of the Task Force on Long Range Planning (1986)
The long range planning report had an immediate effect on the operations of the SIS. The Task Force was appointed in an effort to revitalize the section, find some direction and respond to member needs. The report recommended changes in both communication and organization. Section leaders were urged to distribute news about the section's activities and to take a leading role in speaking for academic law librarians, as well as to establish links with other organizations working in related areas. This effort to create liaisons with related organizations has been a

recurring theme in the section's history. The Task Force also analyzed the membership by job title, sex, size and geographic location of library in an effort to better understand the needs of members. (This was discussed in the *Membership* section above.)

The Task Force recommended that the SIS serve as an "umbrella" organization for **roundtables** devoted to specific topics. Members could discuss issues in the roundtables, report on the discussion and plan related educational programs. Perhaps most important, the Task Force suggested flexibility in formality, size and duration of the roundtables so that they could "come and go" as interest in the topic dictated. It was an informal arrangement based on interest in particular topics and issues.

Membership adopted the *Report of the Task Force on Long Range Planning* at the 1986 annual meeting and established three roundtables right away: Library Administration, Collection Development, and Middle Management. Roundtables on Teaching in Library Schools and Fees for Services soon followed. Just as the report recommended, the roundtables have come and gone as interest dictated. In the years since there have been roundtables on many different topics including Interlibrary Loan, Newer Law Librarians, Advanced Legal Research, User Surveys, Computer Assisted Legal Research, Continuing Status and Tenure, and Publications Requirements Roundtables.

### Strategic Plan 2002 - 2005
The strategic planning process took place over several years. Ed Edmonds, chair of the section in 1998 - 1999, appointed a Strategic Planning Committee chaired by Billie Jo Kaufman. That committee developed a preamble and a mission statement. The mission of ALL-SIS was to provide "leadership in identifying the needs and concerns of academic law librarians, to develop appropriate programs and services to address them; and to represent the interests of academic law librarians within law schools, universities, and to other groups." Several years of work lead to a draft of a strategic plan submitted by a committee chaired by Mark Bernstein. The draft plan was approved by the membership at the 2002 annual meeting. The plan identified strategic directions for the SIS relating to strengthening the role of the library and librarians in legal education and information policy and access. The plan also identified specific initiatives the SIS could undertake to further these directions, such as serving as a clearinghouse for legal research instruction. Various committees are working on initiatives identified in the strategic plan at this time. The plan is available on the web at http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/strategic_plan.html.

### Communication
ALL-SIS has several official vehicles of communications: The ALL-SIS Newsletter, the AL-SIS listserv, and the website. The ALL-SIS began publishing ALL Newsletter in its first year. It continues through the present. The name changed in 1989 to ALL-SIS Newsletter. The newsletter began as a semi-annual publication and later changed to three issues a year. There were some lapses in publication. From v.18, no. 1 in late 1998 the newsletter was published in print as well as online. The issue became an electronic only publication with volume 22, no. 1 in 2002.

The listserv began in 1996 when Mark Folmsbee and Washburn Law Library generously agreed to host the list until AALL took on that role. Traffic on the list is fairly light, but it gets heavier each year as the convention draws near. The website began in 1996 and has evolved over time. In addition to the *ALL-SIS Newsletter*, the website includes information about the section, officers, committees, reports of various committees, and historical documents including the bylaws and the current strategic plan.

### Programs

Developing programs for the annual meeting was a major focus of the ALL-SIS during the early years, according to the annual reports of that era. Some of the programs sponsored were "The Status of Academic Law Librarians" (1980), "How Academic Libraries Teach LEXIS and WESTLAW" (1982), "Using the Small Computer as a Teaching Device" (1982), "The What, Where, Why, When and How of Getting Published" (1983), "The Proposed ABA-AALS Library Standards and their Impact on the Inspection Process" (1984), and "Legal Education and the Practice of Law: Today's Challenges and Tomorrow's Needs" (1985).

The ALL-SIS continues to provide leadership in developing programs for the annual meeting. The topics have ranged widely including such diverse subjects as fundraising, collection development policies, treaty indexes, grantmaking and running effective meetings. However, some themes have emerged as perennial favorites. There have been several programs on career development both for the beginning librarian and the experienced librarian. Other recurrent themes are academic status and tenure, ABA inspections, teaching legal research, Lexis and Westlaw teaching and administration in law schools, publishing, and various aspects of the relationship between librarianship and legal education.

### Special Projects

There have been many successful projects devoted to exchange of ideas, help and collaboration among librarians throughout the Section's history. In the early years before widespread use of electronic communication and file sharing, exchanging work products and sharing results of surveys and studies was more difficult and labor intensive, and the need for vehicles for exchange of materials and ideas was perhaps more critical than in today's world of easy electronic communication. Several useful collaborative projects are highlighted below:

### Public Services Clearinghouse
The Public Services Clearinghouse initiated in the mid-eighties by Eve Greene and Pat Harris of Case Western Reserve is a great example of a cooperative exchange which benefited members. Through the clearinghouse librarians shared their handouts and pathfinders, as well as library exhibits. Librarians sent their materials to Case Western Reserve, and the librarians there distributed the materials to other librarians upon request. Contents included exhibits or "bulletin boards" such as County Courthouses, Censorship, and Humor and the Law. The print materials including handouts such as Using Shepard's Citations, and an International Legal Research Pathfinder. Clearinghouse contents and additions were announced in the *ALL Newsletter*.

### Legal Research Problems and Exams Exchange List
In the early 1980s Adrienne Adan and Jan Goldsmith of UCLA compiled a listing of almost 80 librarians involved in teaching legal research who were willing to exchange problems and exams used in their classes. The list, published in the *ALL Newsletter* provided information about who taught the class, who prepared the materials, and the contact person.

### Superseded State Pocket Part Lists
In 1983 the Section compiled a Superseded State Pocket Part List. This document listed libraries which retained superseded pocket parts for their own state codes. At that time, this superseded information was often difficult to find, and many libraries did not retain these materials. The list included the names of the schools, the dates from which they kept the superseded pocket parts, and the amount that the libraries charged for copying and mailing the material if requested. The list continued to be updated for several years.

### Mentor Project and CONALL
Throughout the years the SIS organized a number of mentoring and formal welcome projects for new law librarians. Ann Puckett coordinated a Mentor Project beginning in 1985. She advertised the program and solicited participants. The program was open to all librarians, not just academic librarians. The project was so successful during the first two years that responsibility for the program was transferred to CONELL at the 1988 annual meeting to make it a formal part of the newer law librarian orientation. In recent years, the Section has once again established a formal mentor program.

CONALL, the Convocation for Newer Academic Law Librarians, not to be confused with the AALL program CONELL, began during the last decade. Each year the CONALL Committee develops a program to welcome and orient new law librarians to the profession. One program which will not be soon forgotten is the "Alice in LawLibraryLand" skit at the 2000 annual meeting. This skit starred an all law librarian cast, many of whom were not known widely for their dramatic talents. It was intended to delve into the mysteries of academic law libraries. Alice explored LawLibraryLand with White Rabbit, meeting residents of LawLibraryLand like Dean Queen Trotta. Dramatic presentations are not required every year, but they have been popular with attendees. In 2002 - 2003, recruitment and mentoring new members was a major focus for SIS Chair Merle

Slyhoff.  Ms. Slyhoff encouraged collaboration between the Membership and CONALL/Mentoring committees to create a more formal ALL-SIS mentoring program.

### Tenure and Status of Librarians
Tenure and status of librarians was a major issue in the early day of the Section, and continues to be of interest today.  During its first year, the Section developed a program for the 1980 annual meeting on "The Status of Academic Librarians."  During the next year, the Section worked to compile documents on appointment, tenure and promotion of law school librarians and faculty.

In 1983 - 1984 Barbara Bintliff chaired the Ad Hoc Committee on Tenure and Status of Nondirector Librarians.  Their work lead to the development of the *Statement on Faculty Status of Academic Law Librarians*.  The Statement recommended that librarians be granted faculty status in recognition of their role as partners in education.  The faculty status could be granted through the law faulty, a law library faculty or the general university faculty.  The *Statement on Faculty Status* was approved by the SIS and presented to the AALL Executive Board, but the Executive Board did not act on the Statement.  Later the SIS edited the Statement and created a Resolution recommending faculty status for law librarians.  The resolution passed when it was presented to the AALL general membership at the 1987 annual meeting.  Later, tenure documents collected during this period were published as *A Representative Sample of Tenure Documents for Law Librarians*, compiled by Martha Byrnes and Barbara Bintliff in the *AALL Occasional Papers Series.*  Tenure and employment status continues to be important to the Section.  The Section currently has a Committee on Continuing Status and Tenure, and their survey of *Librarian Employment Status (of librarians who are not directors) at U.S. Law Schools* is available on the Section website at http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/cst/.

### Vision for the Future of the Academic Law Library
In August 1993 Auturo Torres, chair of the Section, appointed Dick Danner to chair the Special Committee to Create a Vision Statement for the Future of the Academic Law Library.  That committee identified trends affecting academic law libraries, analyzed them, and developed a statement of the core values of academic law librarianship.  Based on this work the committee composed a vision statement.  The committee envisioned that academic law libraries would take the lead to support research and instructional activities of the law school by 1) creating the means of access to legal information for the law school community, 2) becoming developers and publishers of electronic and other legal information products to benefit our law school communities, 3) developing information and communications systems linking the law school to local, national and international information sources, and 4) providing instruction for law students and others in legal research and information retrieval.  The Vision Committee also anticipated that the library would play a major role in law school computing services.

### Qualities of an Ideal CALR Vendor Relationship
Relations with CALR vendors has been a serious concern of the section throughout its history.  From the earliest years librarians discussed the issue and developed programs on various aspects of this relationship.  At the 1982 annual meeting in Detroit the ALL-SIS sponsored an informal discussion on LEXIS and WESTLAW and sponsored a program on teaching LEXIS and WESTLAW at the same meeting.  In 1992 Cam Riley was appointed Chair of the ALL-SIS Ad Hoc Committee on WESTLAW and LEXIS Policies.  Eventually the CALR Roundtable was established to discuss these issues.  The roundtable evolved over time and has become the Relations with Vendors Committee.  This group, chaired by Nancy McMurrer, developed a document entitled *Qualities of an Ideal CALR Vendor-Library Relationship with Benchmark Signs of Success*.  Ms. McMurrer described the development of the document and the Roundtable's work in a recent *Law Library Journal* article:  Nancy McMurrer, "Special Feature:  Working Together:  Academic Law Librarians and CALR Vendors," 95 Law Libr. J. 569 (Fall, 2003).

### Statistics "Crosswalk"
Statistics have long been a part of the academic librarian's life.  We report statistics about our collections, resources and services to several organizations including the American Bar Association, The Association for Research Libraries and the National Center for Education Statistics, and the Section has addressed statistics issues a number of times through the years.  In work which grew out of a Statistics Roundtable in 2000 - 2001 Mila Rush prepared a "crosswalk" of statistics showing intersection and differences of statistics typically demanded by these organizations.  The "Crosswalk" is available at the ALL-SIS website.

### Relations with Other Groups

From its earliest days members understood the value of communication with related organizations. Over the years links to other organizations varied from somewhat formal to almost non-existent. In recent years, we have formalized our links again. In 2001 - 2002 the author established formal liaisons from the ALL-SIS to the ABA Section on Legal Education Law Libraries Committee and the AALS Committee on Libraries and Technology. The ALL-SIS also has a CALI committee which works as an Advisory Board for the CALI Legal Research Community Authoring Project. The Section also has formal ties with other SISs. Last year ALL-SIS chair Merle Slyhoff established formal liaisons to RIPS-SIS, CS-SIS and TS-SIS to bridge the gap between the ALL-SIS and the job related sections to which many academics belong.

### Prizes

Recently the Section created two prizes for academic law librarians. The **Frederick Charles Hicks Award** was proposed by the 1999-2000 Awards Committee appointed by ALL-SIS chair Victoria Trotta and chaired by Sally Holterhoff. The **Hicks Award** is an annual award for outstanding contributions to academic law librarianship. It is named in honor of Frederick Charles Hicks, the first great American law librarian scholar who was also the first academic law librarian to serve as president of AALL. **Penny Hazelton** was the inaugural winner of the Hicks Award in 2000. Other honorees are **Frank Houdek** (2001), **Richard Danner** (2002), and **Bob Berring** (2003).

The **ALL-SIS Outstanding Article Award** was created in 2002 to honor ALL-SIS members for publishing articles which enhance academic law librarianship. **Melissa M. Serfass** and **Jessie L. Cranford** were the inaugural winners of the ALL-SIS Outstanding Article Award for their article "Federal and State Court Rules Governing Publication and Citation of Opinions," 3 *Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* 251 (Spring 2001). Both of these awards honor the recipients and help raise the profile of the section and academic law librarians in the profession.

### Reception

One of the more pleasant ALL-SIS traditions is the reception at the annual meeting. It usually takes place at an academic law library near the convention site. This tradition began at the 1985 annual meeting in New York. The first reception was held at Fordham University Law Library, and it was sponsored by the F.W. Faxon Company. That first reception was held "to provide an opportunity for academic librarians to meet at an event which crosses job lines" and to generate new members for the section, so it was open to all academic law librarians not just those who were members of the section. The reception was so successful that the tradition has endured and the event has become a very popular annual affair. Touring host libraries has been an added bonus at the receptions. In recent years the Section's awards have been presented during the annual reception.

Throughout the section's history, many of our issues have been constant: teaching, library administration, collection development, CALR management, and working effectively in our own institutions. The section continues to provide a forum to exchange ideas about these issues and news ones as they arise. Kathleen Carrick, chair in 1983 - 1984, insisted that ALL-SIS must "provide a strong forum for our concerns and interests" and must "produce the programs, newsletters, and information that not only justify the existence of this SIS, but encourage other academics to join and take an active role." Now technology has enhanced our ability to communicate and exchange ideas and work products. Let's look forward to an even richer next 25 years of collaboration and exchange in the ALL-SIS with law librarians of all positions working together to create thriving law libraries rich with information resources, services and resourceful librarians.

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## ALL-SIS Milestones

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|---|---|
| 1977 | AALL establishes SISs as entities |
| 1979 | AALL Executive Board approves petition to create ALL-SIS |
| 1979 | First issue of ALL Newsletter published |
| 1980 | ALL-SIS Bylaws adopted by membership |
| 1983 | Superseded State Code Pocket Part List published |
| 1983 | Legal Research Problems and Exams Exchange List published |
| 1984 | Statement on Faculty Status approved by SIS |
| 1985 | First annual ALL-SIS reception at annual meeting at Fordham in NYC |
| 1985 | Mentor project started (Puckett) |
| 1986 | Clearinghouse of publications and exhibits established (Greene and Harris) |
| 1986 | First ALL-SIS brochure published |
| 1986 | Report of the Task Force on Long Range Planning  (Carter) |
| 1986 | Roundtables established as ALL-SIS entities |
| 1987 | Resolution Recommending Faculty Status for Librarians passed by AALL membership at annual meeting |
| 1988 | *A Representative Sample of Tenure Documents for Law Librarians* published (Bintliff and Byrnes) |
| 1988 | Mentor project of ALL-SIS moved to CONELL |
| 1989 | First annual directors breakfast meeting held |
| 1990 | First annual middle managers breakfast meeting held |
| 1994 | Vision for the Future of the Academic Law Library published (Danner) |
| 1996 | ALL-SIS listserv begins (Folmsbee) |
| 1996 | ALL-SIS website is created |
| 1998 | Strategic Planning Committee Appointed (Kaufmann) |
| 1999 | Strategic Plan Preamble and Mission Statement Published |
| 2000 | CONALL established for Newer Academic Law Librarians |
| 2000 | Hicks Award established |
| 2000 | Penny Hazelton awarded first Hicks Award |
| 2000 | Alice in Law Libraryland (skit for CONALL) |
| 2001 | Author's Dating Game (skit for CONALL) |
| 2001 | Statistics "Crosswalk" compiled (Rush) |
| 2002 | Outstanding Article Award created |
| 2002 | Serfass and Cranford inaugural winners of Outstanding Article Award |
| 2002 | Strategic Plan presented to members (Bernstein) |
| 2002 | Strategic Plan Adopted by ALL-SIS members |
| 2003 | Member benefit brochure published |
| 2003 | Statement on Qualities of an Ideal CALR Vendor-Library Relationship adopted by Section Executive Board (McMurrer) |

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The Collection Development Committee will be sponsoring a roundtable discussion on Sunday, July 11, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

This forum will focus on how academic law libraries are coping with static and reduced budgets, and it will provide an opportunity for librarians to brainstorm about possible solutions to the budget crisis that most law libraries are facing.  What tactics have you employed in your library?  What frustrations have you experienced?  Come and share your pain (or just your opinions) with other budget-challenged librarians!

Doug Lind (Georgetown) and Shaun Esposito (Arizona) are planning the roundtable.  They will announce the room location and additional program details through the ALL-SIS listserv.  Watch for more publicity as we get closer to the Annual Meeting.

Margie Axtmann, Chair
Collection Development Committee

**ALL-SIS Legal Research Committee:**
**Legal Research Web Sourcebook &**
**AALL Boston Advanced Legal Research Workshop**

Submitted by Wendy Scott, Assistant Director for Faculty & Outreach Services, H. Douglas Barclay Law Library, Syracuse University College of Law

The ALL-SIS Legal Research Committee is developing a Legal Research Web Sourcebook. The Sourcebook, which will reside on the ALL-SIS web site, will be a password-protected repository of legal research course materials that can be shared with all members of AALL.

The goals of the Sourcebook are threefold: 1) to make legal research syllabi, course proposals and course materials available to members of AALL who teach legal research; 2) to stimulate the creation of new legal research courses and new methods for teaching legal research, and: 3) to support legal research training programs in non-academic law libraries.

The Legal Research Committee needs your help to make the Sourcebook a success. If you would like to contribute your legal research course and training materials to the Sourcebook, please contact Jennifer Murray at Jennifer.Murray@asu.edu. More information on the Sourcebook and how to contribute will be available at the ALL-SIS PR Table at the annual meeting in Boston.

If you teach Advanced Legal Research, please join the Legal Research Committee's Advanced Legal Research Instructors Workshop in Boston on July 12th from 7:00 - 8:45 am. The roundtable will give participants an opportunity to share their teaching experiences, discuss successes and 'challenges,' and stimulate ideas for future creative and effective collaboration among instructors.

For more information about either of these projects, please contact:

Beth DiFelice, Co-Chair, ALL-SIS Legal Research Committee
Assistant Director & Head of Public Services
Ross-Blakley Law Library, Arizona State University
beth.difelice@asu.edu
(480) 965-4871

OR

Wendy Scott, Co-Chair, ALL-SIS Legal Research Committee
Assistant Director for Faculty & Outreach Services
H. Douglas Barclay Law Library
Syracuse University College of Law
wescott@law.syr.edu, (315) 449-2838

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**For the Boston-Bound.....**

Will you be in Boston to attend the AALL Annual Meeting this summer? If so, be sure to stop by the Academic Law Libraries SIS table in the vendor hall. This year marks the 25th anniversary of our SIS and there will be a special display at the table commemorating the occasion. There will also be a drawing for an Amazon gift certificate with entry forms available at the table.

Plan on joining your academic law library colleagues for the ALL-SIS reception. This year's reception is being held on Tuesday July 13th at the Harvard Law Library from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Transportation to Harvard will be provided with details on times and pick-up locations available at the ALL-SIS table in the vendor hall.

See you in Boston!!

# ALL-SIS Discussion Group Instructions

Greetings from the Topeka hinterland!  I wanted to take a moment to explain how to join and participate in the Academic Special Interest Section Discussion group hosted by AALL in Chicago.

Currently, AALL staff automatically subscribe all current members of the SIS to the discussion group in August of each year.  Under current policies established by the AALLNET advisory committee, the older subscriber list is purged, and the list of current members is recompiled and replaced.

### Some Minor Things to be Aware of?

1) If your address is incorrect in the AALL database, it will be incorrect in the discussion forum.
2) If you change your address, or want to subscribe (participate) using some other address, you need to manually subscribe with your new one.
3) If you want to unsubscribe, you also need to do this manually.

### The Fix?

If your address is incorrect in the AALL database, you won't receive messages through the discussion group.  If you have any doubts about your address, please check your listing in the database from time to time.  The AALLNET web interface is pretty easy.

  a) Go to:  http://www.aallnet.org/
  b) Select member log in
  c) Enter the email address that you use for AALLNET (and is in the AALL database)
  d) Enter your password
  e) Should see "Welcome to the AALL Members Only Section"
  f) Select tab that says, "Edit my record"

### To Subscribe?

If you change your address, or want to subscribe (participate) using some other address, you need to manually subscribe with your new one.

  a) Go to: http://www.aallnet.org/discuss/ and select "AALLNET Online Discussion Center"
  b) Login, by clicking in the upper right hand corner, where is says: "you are not logged in"
  c) Enter the email address that you use for AALLNET
  d) Enter your password
  e) Select the "all forums" tab
  f) Select the group you want to join, and click on the "subscribe" on the far right
  g) Follow the remainder of the instructions (fairly easy)

### To Unsubscribe?

Finally, if you want to unsubscribe, you also need to do this manually.

  a) Go to: http://www.aallnet.org/discuss/ and select "AALLNET Online Discussion Center"
  b) Login, by clicking in the upper right hand corner, where is says: "you are not logged in"
  c) Enter the email address that you use for AALLNET (in the AALL database)
  d) Enter your password
  e) Select the "all forums" tab
  f) Select the group you want to join, and click on the "subscribe" on the right
  g) Follow the remainder of the instructions (fairly easy)

### Looking for An Overview of all AALL Discussion Groups?

http://www.aallnet.org/discuss/

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with concerns or issues surrounding the discussion group; I can be reached at mark.folmsbee@washburn.edu (785) 231-1088.

Happy to help.

Mark Folmsbee
ALL-SIS List Manager
(Associate Dean Computer Services, Washburn School of Law)

**ALL-SIS Officers**

| Sally Wise, Chair | swise@law.miami.edu |
|---|---|
| Carole Hinchcliff, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect | hinchcliff.1@osu.edu |
| Merle Slyhoff, Past Chair | mslyhoff@law.upenn.edu |
| Kit Kreilick, Secretary /Treasurer | kkreilick@law.fordham.edu |
| Suzanne Thorpe / Executive Board Member | s-thor@tc.umn.edu |

**The ALL-SIS Listserv**

The ALL-SIS listserv is used for official ALL-SIS announcements, news from AALL, and discussion of topics of interest to our members. If you're a member of ALL-SIS, please subscribe! To subscribe, go to < http://lists.washlaw.edu/mailman/listinfo/all-sis>.

To send a message to the list, address the message to < *all-sis@lists.washlaw.edu*>. Please direct any questions to the list owners Mark Folmsbee (zzfolm@acc.wuacc.edu) or James Duggan *(duggan@siu.edu).* List archives are available at <http://lists.washlaw.edu/mailman/private/all-sis>*.*

**ALL-SIS on the Web**

ALL-SIS is on the web! Visit the ALL-SIS Home Page at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/. Electronic versions of *The ALL-SIS Newsletter* are available on our website, as well as other vital information. Contact David Burch, Website Manager (david.burch@lls.edu).

**Newsletter Deadlines for 2004-2005 Academic Year**

Newsletter deadlines will be announced at the end of the summer. Please check the ALL-SIS website and listserv for details.

Please submit all articles and announcements to the ALL-SIS Newsletter Editor. Are you working on any interesting special projects? Have you attended a meeting and learned something you want to share with colleagues? Do you just want to rant and rave about some problems related to academic law librarianship? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please send your thoughts. Any format, printed, faxed, or e-mailed will do, but it would be easiest for Newsletter production if the article is sent either as an attached text or word processing file or as the body of an e-mail. Thank you for your contributions and for your consideration.

*ALL-SIS was established in 1979 to promote interest in and to address Issues of common concern to those employed in academic law libraries. The SIS serves as the umbrella organization for all interests--administration, collection development, consortia, directors, fees for service, interlibrary loan, public services, technical services, middle management, etc....*

*ALL-SIS provides opportunities for all librarians to contribute to the overall betterment of the entire academic law community. ALL-SIS has grown to more than 800 members and is the second largest SIS in AALL. Our members come from all aspects of academic law librarianship. Because of the SIS's broad coverage and subtopic focus, all those working in academic law libraries can benefit from membership and are encouraged to join.*