

FCIL *Newsletter*

Volume 15

October 2000

Number 1

Getting To Know Me...

Jean Davis, Chair

CREDO: "Be seen, be splendid."

George III

AIMS:

- Develop 6-8 goals (+ an implementation schedule) based on the FCIL SIS *Draft Strategic Plan*.
Leaders: Strategic Planning Committee
Next Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Date: Friday, October 27, 2000
in New York City (details will follow on the FCIL SIS listserv)
- Expand our Education Committee and begin 2002 program development *early* in 2001.
Leaders: Executive Committee + Education Committee
- Involve new Section members in activities.
Leader: Jean Davis
- Update the "Sources of Assistance" Lists in *Introduction to Foreign Legal Systems* (Oceana Publications, 1994). Original compiler: Daniel L. Wade
Leader: Michael McCarthy (See article in this issue)
- Revise the FCIL SIS brochure. (We distributed all remaining brochures at our activities table and AALL will pay for the graphic design.)
Leaders: Publications Committee Chair Anne Burnett + Executive Committee
- Establish guidelines and obtain advertising for the FCIL *Newsletter*.
Leaders: Publications Committee Chair Anne Burnett + Executive Committee *continued on p. 2*

In this Issue

Member News.....	3	-Exchanges Clearinghouse	5
Ellen on the Elbe	3	-Education Committee	8
Strategic Planning Meeting	3	-Electronic Issues	9
Annual Reports	4	ASIL's EISIL Project	10
-Business Meeting	4	New Member Profile	11
-Treasurer's Report	5	"The List" of FCIL Experts	11
		AALL Call for Papers	12

continued from p. 1

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- Immediate past Chair Katherine Topulos for her superb guidance.
- Active Executive Committee members Katherine, Christine Corcos, Tracy Thompson and past Chair Maria Smolka-Day.
- Editor Anne Burnett and Copy Editor Carmen Valero for their outstanding work producing the cherished FCIL *Newsletter*.
- “Lifetime” Education Committee Co-Chair Dennis Sears for providing a dynamite slate of 2001 program proposals to AALL.
- Strategic Planning Committee members, particularly past Chair Margareta Horiba and Chair Stefanie Weigmann.
- Michael McCarthy for supervising our “Sources of Assistance” updating project.
- Daniel Boyer for delivering our remaining promo pens to needy Cuban school children—a decade from now, there likely will be a Cuban Chair of our Section.
- Brooklyn Law School Library’s “Terrific Ten” and the “Palmer Crew at NYU,” my creative colleagues who ALWAYS say “Yes!” (“We *will* develop programs, serve on committees, create dazzling signs and solicit prizes for FCIL activities.”)
- Section ambassadors Daniel Boyer, Anne Burnett, Malo Bernal, Lucy Cox, Amy Flick, Jonathan Franklin, Mary Hotchkiss, Rhonda Gold, Jack McNeill, John Nann, Silke Sahl, Mary Strouse, Victoria Szymczak, Tracy Thompson and Katherine Topulos – ARE YOU READY FOR MINNEAPOLIS?
- ALL Section members and friends who proposed, coordinated, spoke at and prepared materials for AALL 2000 Annual Meeting programs, meetings and the treaty workshop developed by Generals Hoffman and Weigmann. AALL members’ evaluations were high!

OUR GENEROUS VENDOR SUPPORTERS:

- Steve Roses/Carswell Publishing for funding the FCIL SIS leaders’ lunch at the ASIL Annual Meeting and the FCIL SIS reception at the AALL Annual Meeting;
- Thomas Daniel/Lexis Publishing for purchasing FCIL SIS activities table materials;
- Susan DeMaio/Oceana Publications for championing the “Sources of Assistance” updating project;
- Heike Fenton and Marilou Righini/Transnational Publishers for coordinating the first vendor proposed/FCIL sponsored Annual Meeting program.

FUN is:

Accompanying Victoria Szymczak on the quest for the perfect Qi [Manchu] Pau [gown];

Awarding a prize to friend and mentor Dan Wade during *Gateway to China*;

Defending *The Matrix* at breakfast with “Renaissance Men” Jean-Marc Elsholz and Denis Le May;

Enjoying the wit and whimsy of our foreign colleagues (Jules Winterton, Stephanie Fröhlich, Liz Martin, Marion Rimmel and Barbara Tearle);

Introducing new neighbor Silke Sahl to West Side haunts with Jeanne Rehberg and Tricia Kasting;

Rockin’ CONELL with the *MI2* theme (“FCIL members turn *Mission: Impossible* into *Mission: Accomplished* for international and foreign law researchers!”);

Sharing good food and great ideas with Marci Hoffman, Mirela Roznovschi, Ellen Schaffer, Stefanie Weigmann and Jean Wenger;

AND

Welcoming Fred Dingley, Michael McCarthy, Dana Neacsu, Mary Rumsey, Mabel Shaw and Beatrice Tice into our wonderful Section!

Member News

Jack McNeill has accepted the position as Head of Reference at Pace University School of Law Library in White Plains, New York. Jack was previously Faculty Services Coordinator/Webmaster at St. Thomas University School of Law Library in Miami, Florida.

Kudos to our Vice-Chair, **Christine Corcos**, for the publication of her new two volume work, *An International Guide to Law and Literature Studies*, published by Hein.

FCIL Newsletter is published in October, February and May by the **Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries**.

The main goal of this Section is “to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative, and international law, and to represent its members’ interests and concerns within AALL.”

FCIL Newsletter is sent free to members of the FCIL SIS. It is available for that “exchange of ideas and information.”

The newsletter can be read on the Word Wide Web at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html>.

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For more about the FCIL SIS, visit our Web site at <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/fcil.html>

Editor's Note

After missing a year of AALL, it was great to see so many of you at the meeting in Philadelphia. Many thanks to those who contributed the photographs of FCIL SIS events for the “photo spread” on pages 6-7 of this issue.

Our membership is always so generous in its “thanks” for the newsletter, but our incredible Copy Editor, **Carmen Valero**, is not always present at meetings to hear that message. Carmen’s service to the Section long predates my involvement with the newsletter, and she helped ease my transition into the role of editor. She continues to be a terrific partner in this ongoing project.

Ellen on the Elbe

To see where Section member Ellen Schafer spends her days, take a peek at the pictures of the Permanent Headquarters of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg, Germany, at <http://www.un.org/Depts/los/ITLOS/Hdqrts/Hdqrpix.htm>. Ellen serves as librarian for the tribunal. For more about the path that took Ellen to the banks of the Elbe River, see the profile in vol. 13, number 2 of the *FCIL Newsletter* (February 1999) available at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/132schaffer.html>.

FCIL SIS Members Interested in Strategic Planning

There will be a two-hour Strategic Planning meeting on Friday, October 27, 2000 in New York City. Many Section members will be in New York City from October 26-28 to attend free International Law Weekend programs. Ms. Karen Corbett will be our meeting facilitator — she has stellar credentials and is the sister of section member Silke Sahl. Further details will appear on the FCIL listserv. Please contact Chair Jean Davis (jdavis@brooklaw.edu) if you wish to attend the meeting.

Annual Reports

Minutes of the FCIL-SIS Business Meeting

July 17, 2000

Submitted by Tracy L. Thompson,
Secretary/Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER

Katherine Topulos, FCIL-SIS Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. On behalf of the SIS Katherine expressed thanks to Anne Burnett for all of her hard work on the Newsletter; to Christine Corcos for agreeing to serve as Chair/Chair-Elect; to Mila Rush for maintaining the list-serv; to the members of the executive committee for all of their assistance during Katherine's term of office; to the strategic planning committee for their efforts over the past two years; and to the education committee for their work and continued success with respect to program planning. The Chair noted that two FCIL-SIS interest groups, the African Law Interest Group and the Latin American Law Interest Group, had invited speakers this year whose programs enjoyed much success.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The editors of Legal Reference Services Quarterly have approached Katherine with the proposal of including an FCIL component to which members of the SIS could contribute on a regular and continuing basis. This is still in the consideration stage.
- The AALL executive board would like to add foreign members to the association. One member expressed concern about usurping the role of the International Association of Law Libraries (IALL).
- The minutes from last year's meeting were approved (by unanimous vote) as reproduced in the Oct. 1999 Newsletter.
- The Treasurer's report was read and admitted.
- The election results were read and admitted. It was announced that Christine Corcos from Louisiana State University has been elected as Chair/Chair-elect for the 2000-2002 term. Ms. Corcos was unable to attend the Annual Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Proposal was introduced to amend Article 8 of the bylaws of the FCIL-SIS to employ Sturgis Rules of Parliamentary Procedure rather than Robert's Rules of Order. Motion was made and seconded, and motion passed by vote of the membership.
- Stefanie Weigman will take over as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for the 2000-2001 term. Margareta Horiba and Charlotte Bynum have stepped down from the Committee. A Mission Statement, composed by the Strategic Planning Committee, was read by Katherine Topulos and will serve as the foundation for moving the Strategic Plan forward. The membership voted to adopt the Statement as read.
- Jean Davis (incoming Chair) reported on the meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee at the 2000 Annual Meeting. The Committee agreed that the working document that the Committee had developed to date needed to define more specific goals and elucidate the means to implement those goals. The Committee has agreed to meet in New York in conjunction with International Law Week in February 2001 to develop a more refined document to present at next year's Annual Meeting. The Committee will also pursue the possible use of a facilitator to assist with the process.
- Jean Davis called for volunteers to help update the list of foreign/international law librarians who are willing to serve as contacts for their various jurisdictions.
- Jean Davis thanked Katherine Topulos for all of her hard work and leadership over the past two years on behalf of the FCIL-SIS.
- Katherine Topulos introduced David McFadden to speak about exchanges and visits between foreign and U.S. librarians.
- Drawing was held for 2 bottles of wine. Winners were Lucia Diamond and Mary Hood.

Meeting was adjourned and membership hosted a reception for visitors from abroad.

**Report of the Treasurer for the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year
Submitted by Tracy L. Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer**

Please note that the discrepancy between our ending balance (\$4607.89) and our beginning balance (\$3714.48) plus our income (\$1680.49) less our expenditures (\$3060.62) (which equals \$2334.35) reflects our as yet unreported dues as well as some outstanding miscellaneous expenditures.

Beginning balance (July 1, 1999)	\$3714.48
Income	
-Dues	Not yet reported by AALL
-Contributions	\$1434.91
(Royalties donated by Randy Snyder)	<u>245.58</u>
Total Income (excluding dues)	\$1680.49
Expenditures	
-Food and beverage from 1999 Annual Meeting	\$645.12
-Meeting room fees and signage	164.21
-Newsletter	2086.75
-Giveaways	149.54
-Misc. expenses	<u>15.00</u>
Total expenditures	\$3060.62
Ending balance (June 30, 2000)	\$4607.89

**FCIL Clearinghouse for Internships
and International Personnel Exchanges/
FCIL Clearinghouse for International
Placement Committee
17 July 2000
Submitted by David McFadden**

Attendees: Adrienne Adan, Charlotte Bynum, David McFadden, Mary Sexton, Katherine Topulos, Jane Williams, Helen Wohl and Claudia Zaher.

Charlotte Bynum reported on contacting past participants in the Clearinghouse survey and it was announced that the updated survey will soon be on the Clearinghouse page of the FCIL web page. Not all past participants responded to the most recent survey and some are currently unable to participate due to building problems and other local issues.

There was a discussion of ways of expanding the Clearinghouse. Using international librarian meetings was one suggestion, including the IALL meeting in

Dublin this August, the European Union Depository meeting in Wisconsin in 2001, and BIALL. Personal contacts were seen as an important means of communicating about the existence and use of the Clearinghouse.

Another means of communicating about the Clearinghouse was through listserv announcements now that the survey will soon be available electronically. David McFadden will post announcements on lawlib and intlaw. Charlotte Bynum volunteered to take care of Eur Doc, EurLex and English and Australian lists. Jane Williams offered to see about getting postings on an ALA library school list and Janis Johnston offered (was volunteered) to help with the law library directors' list. The chair will draft a message to be sent to the various listservs.

Using word of mouth to spread the news about the

continued on p. 8

Seen in Philadelphia during the AAL



Carswell's Steven Roses and his wife Maria at the Reception for Attendees from Abroad



Malo Bernal and Lucy Cox at our colorful (and busy!) table in the Activities Area, where visitors enjoyed fortune cookies, dropped cards for a chance to win fabulous prizes, picked up colorful pens, and learned about our Section's activities



Stephen Young, Corrin Gee-Alvarado, Section Member Stefanie Weigmann, and Roy Mersky presenting "Electronic Resources in English Legal Research"



Victoria Szymczak in her Qi Pau (Manchu gown) meets "new recruit" Fred Dingley after the "Gateway to China" program

LL Annual Meeting, July 15-20, 2000



The elegant Jean Davis (Section Chair 2000/2001) and new member Michael McCarthy



Richard Roman (British Library), Joan Sherer (Dept. of State), and Raeleen Chai Elsholz (Transactive - France) at the Reception for Attendees from Abroad



Our Activities Table volunteers stayed busy; in fact, visitors to the table depleted our supply of Section brochures, so now we get to design a new brochure!



Katherine Topulos (Section Chair 1999/2000) mingles at the Reception for Attendees from Abroad

continued from p. 5

Clearinghouse was discussed. Other possible ways of publicizing the Clearinghouse include an announcement and flyers at the Reception for Attendees from Abroad which follows the FCIL Business meeting, contacting foreign LL.M. and visiting scholars and contacting the AALL attendees from abroad. Katherine Topulos offered to provide the chair with a list of all attendees at this year's AALL meeting from abroad. He will follow-up and contact them.

Education Committee Update: Riveting Program Proposals for AALL's 2001 Annual Meeting!

The FCIL SIS Executive Committee greatly appreciates Dennis Sears' stellar leadership of the Education Committee.

The Education Committee thanks the many enthusiastic Section members who attended our Philadelphia brainstorming session and volunteered to draft, coordinate or speak at 2001 AALL Annual Meeting programs. The participation of Kathie Sullivan, AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee Chair (AMPC) + the delicious cookies supplied by Virginia super chef Jay Miller (Marci Hoffman's talented husband) of "Totally Baked, Totally Deserts" = a winning format that we wish to repeat!

On August 14, ten of those involved with FCIL SIS program development and promotion (Rosemary Campagna, Jean Davis, Linda Holmes, Michael McCarthy, James Murphy, Dana Neacsu, Deborah Paulus, Sara Robbins, Silke Sahl and Victoria Szymczak) attended an excellent "Teaching Research in Academic Law Libraries" workshop at Brooklyn Law School. Led by Ken DiLorenzo and Gayle Lynn-Nelson, stars of Lexis Publishing's Librarian Relations Group, participants 1) discussed attributes of adult learning, 2) developed techniques to teach various types of adult learners, 3) reviewed alternative formats for presentations and 4) increased our ability to create effective handouts and research exercises. Did you know that adult learning diminishes after 15 MINUTES? Vary your

teaching techniques!

Our Section's 2001 proposals incorporate TRIALL techniques. Examples: proposals drafted by Mary Rumsey, Victoria Szymczak/John Nann and Daniel Wade employ alternative presentation formats-- working groups, audience interaction with speakers and a speaker's review of conference highlights with accompanying slides and music.

As of August 15, AALL members had submitted 154 program proposals and 14 workshop proposals for the 2001 Annual Meeting. Kathie Sullivan, Jean Davis and other AMPC members met in Chicago in mid-September to review these program and workshop proposals. Jean Davis is the AMPC liaison assigned to contact all coordinators of the FCIL SIS sponsored proposals.

Early in 2001, the Education Committee will begin developing FCIL SIS program proposals for AALL's 2002 Annual Meeting. You'll be hearing from us....

The FAB FCIL SIS Sponsored Programs:

The Global Citizen: Immigration Law Research Challenges (a two-part program)
(Coordinator: John McNeill)

Global Trade: WTO "Millennium Year in Review" and WTO/GATT Research
Additional sponsors: Academic Law Libraries SIS, Government Documents SIS
(Coordinator: Linda Holmes)

Mastering "The Matrix": Teaching with Technology
Additional sponsor: Computing Services SIS
(Coordinator: Victoria Szymczak)

The New Reality of a United Germany: German Legal Sources and Research Strategies
(a two-part program)
(Coordinator: Stefanie Weigmann)

*New Realities for Developing Global Collections:
New Approaches and Cooperative Projects*
(Coordinator: Jules Winterton)

New Realities in Data Protection: The Transatlantic Debate
Additional sponsor: AALL's Government Relations Committee
(Coordinator: Anne Burnett)

Prometheus UNbound – "Firing Up" United Nations Legal Researchers!
Additional sponsor: Government Documents SIS (panel program + follow-up roundtable with the FCIL-SIS Blue Helmet research team)
(Coordinator: Mary Rumsey)

**Report of the Electronic Issues Interest Group
July 18, 2000
submitted by Marilyn J. Raisch**

Convenor: Marilyn J. Raisch, International and Foreign Law Librarian, Bora Laskin Law Library, University of Toronto

Attending: Vicki Szymczak, Brooklyn Law School; Bobbi Weaver, California Western School of Law Library; Mila Rush, University of Minnesota Law School; Malo Bernal, Library of Congress; Lyonette Louis-Jacques, University of Chicago Law School.

The following items were prepared for the proposed agenda:

1. Partnering of institutions via shared electronic portal web sites and links; distance education; how or if this is enhancing access to resources;
2. Issues of archiving and preservation- new initiatives such as Hein Online and more backfiles of primary and secondary sources.

Partnering and portals

In connection with distance education and web links, Marilyn Raisch announced a conference to be held at the Bora Laskin Law Library of the University of

Toronto February 22-24, 2001 entitled "Not a Box but a Window: Law Libraries and Legal Education in a Virtual World" (the conference web site is at <http://www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/conferences/future/index.htm>). This conference would explore new roles and configurations for the virtual education and collections that may be the future of most forms of legal education. Vicki Szymczak described some of the presentations on this and related topics at the recent CALI conference.

With regard to archiving and preserving legal materials, Malo Bernal described some of the work of the Special Committee on Authentication and Preservation of Digital Information. A program proposal for a panel of speakers, a town meeting, or some form of group discussion is being planned. The problems of archiving and providing United States government information for GPO depositories is scheduled for a Hot Topic presentation at this meeting, and all agreed it would be interesting to hear about the issues by a "virtual" GPO library concept. Those present also agreed that AALL members should express concern because with only a very few exceptions, the commercial market is not focused on archiving.

The final charge for the group, assigned to the convenor, was to draft a goal statement for this interest group, which would be submitted in compliance with the FCIL call for such statements so that its overall mission and strategic planning can be completed.

The proposed statement of Goals of the Electronic Issues Interest Group is as follows:

The principal goal of the Electronic Issues Interest Group is to explore and promote ways to disseminate, implement, and make effective use of, electronic legal information in the area of foreign, comparative, and international law. Specific steps towards this goal would include

- 1) Linking to the work of the Special Committee on Authentication and Preservation of

continued on p. 10

Digital Information and to keep track of such initiatives throughout the Association which also have relevance to the use of electronic information in this subject area of international and foreign law;

- 2) Approaching publishers with questions about their practices with regard to the quality of electronic products in the international and foreign law area, its licensing, dissemination, and authentication.
- 3) Leading the way in identifying and prioritizing the important electronic materials that should be considered for archiving and seeing if and how the material can be preserved.
- 4) Connecting members of the FCIL-SIS to conferences and publications which particularly deal with updating information on products, sources, and creative uses of electronic formats, as, for example, in teaching specialized legal research.
- 5) Providing a forum for members to raise issues of concern regarding access to, and the reliability of, electronic forms of legal information for foreign, comparative and international law.

The Electronic Issues Interest Group will convene at the next annual meeting in July, 2001.

Update on ASIL's EISIL Project

Jill McC. Watson

ASIL Director of Library & Information Services

Jean Davis reported in the last FCIL *Newsletter* on a breakfast held for information professionals who were attending the ASIL Annual Meeting to talk about developments on the electronic front. At that gathering, international law librarians outlined the works in progress at their libraries and universities. One of the areas discussed was ASIL's efforts to begin developing an "Electronic Information System for International Law" (EISIL) that could draw on the effort and expertise of members and other international law specialists.

The very good news is that ASIL has received financial support for EISIL through the Scholarly Communications Program of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Since the Society was founded for the purposes of encouraging and facilitating scholarly communication -- a goal it has pursued for almost a century -- Mellon feels it is well suited to this project.

EISIL will be designed initially for scholarly and professional audiences. It will feature topic-based indices (an overarching classification scheme with connections to primary source documents) and best sites evaluations (links to evaluated sites). EISIL's management structure will engage the full range of scholars and researchers needed to ensure the site's genuine contribution to international law.

"As an electronic library, the Web presently leaves much to be desired," ASIL Executive Director Charlotte Ku, who is spearheading the project, points out. "The beauty of the Internet is immediate desktop access to what has been posted. The challenge, however, is not only finding what you are looking for, but also being confident that what you have found is credible and comprehensive. This is where the Web has gaps, and why EISIL could play an important role helping to fill them."

Jonathan Charney, Professor of International Law at Vanderbilt and co-editor in chief of the *American Journal of International Law* believes EISIL also represents a possible response to the transitional challenges all scholarly organizations are facing in the electronic environment of the 21st century. "The professionally refereed journal is by no means dead or necessarily even threatened. By the same token, it would be naïve to suggest that learned societies can retain their leadership in print without taking a leadership role in the electronic environment."

Recognizing the essential role that information specialists play in this process, we are already planning another gathering of those librarians from around the country who will be attending the 2001 ASIL Annual Meeting, which will be held in Washington, DC April 4-7, 2001.

See the Education Committee's report on p. 8 for a list of FCIL SIS sponsored programs selected for next year's AALL Annual Meeting.

New Member Profile: Dana Neacsu

Dana Neacsu is a reference law librarian at Columbia Law School's Arthur Diamond Law Library. She has a law degree from the Bucharest University Faculty of law, an advanced law degree from the University of Caen School of Law and Political Science, in Normandy, France, an LL.M. from Harvard Law School, and she is a member of the New York bar. Dana is expecting her MLS degree from CUNY College this December.

Dana has written articles on substantive law (product liability and immigration) and jurisprudence (critical legal studies). She enjoys being a part of the legal academic environment and she is looking forward to becoming a pro-bono lawyer representing asylum seekers under the aegis of the New York City Bar Association. In her spare time she enjoys high-speed downhill skiing.

The FCIL SIS Executive Committee congratulates Dana Neacsu on two recent publications: a thought-provoking article, "CLS Stands for Critical Legal Studies, If Anyone Remembers" in Volume VIII, Issue No. 2 of Brooklyn Law School's Journal of Law and Policy, and "Doing Legal Research in Romania" for LLRX.com (<http://www.llrx.com/features/romania.htm>).

"The List" of FCIL Research Experts

You have been given a research project which doesn't come under your own area of expertise. In fact, you may never have had any prior need or opportunity to do any research in this area. Faced with starting at square one, you feel that if you could contact someone with expertise in that area of law and ask a relatively simple question or two you might be pointed in the right direction and perhaps save yourself hours, if not days, wasted in false starts. The problem is how do you find the right person to ask? Especially if the question deals with Estate Law in Ghana, NAFTA or a Finnish legal phrase?

While your own personal network of contacts will

still usually be the first place to start, there is now a viable alternative. Visit Oceana Online (www.oceanalaw.com). Access "Sources of Assistance." There you will find a list of Foreign and International Law Librarians Willing to Help Non-Experts ("the List").

Originally compiled by Daniel L. Wade for the 1992 AALL Annual Meeting Program: "Share the Word, Share the World: Foreign, Comparative and International Law for the Non-Expert," the List then appeared in chapter 20 of Richard Danner's and Marie-Louise Bernal's "Introduction to Foreign Legal Systems," Oceana Publications (1994). Now being updated by members of the American Association of Law Librarians' (AALL's) Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section (FCIL-SIS), the list will be more useful than ever before.

To find a librarian who is an expert in researching the law of a particular country, use the Search by Jurisdiction feature. To find one who is an expert in a particular area of International Law, choose the Subject Expertise feature. To find that individual who can help you with that Finnish phrase, select the Languages feature.

Contact information is provided for everyone on the List.

No one can be an expert in everything. There is no need to constantly re-invent the wheel. The List was originally produced, is being updated by FCIL-SIS and will find a home on Oceana Online because everyone involved understands that one of the most powerful research tools available to the professional librarian is the ability to tap into and access the combined knowledge of other members of the profession.

Contact the people on the list. More than likely they may be able to point you in the right direction or tell you something that keeps you from starting down a blind alley. If you are a librarian who specializes in Foreign or International Law and are willing to help other librarians who have questions involving your areas of expertise, please access Oceana Publications, Inc. <http://www.oceanalaw.com/default.asp> "For the FCIL SIS Experts Project, Click Here."

American Association of Law Libraries Call for Papers

Have you been thinking about writing an article about law librarianship? Or are you already writing an article and just need an incentive to finish? If yes, read on! The AALL/LEXIS Publishing Call for Papers Committee eagerly solicits your articles for its annual competition. Up to three winning authors will receive a prize of \$750, generously donated by LEXIS publishing, and the opportunity to present

their papers to their colleagues at the Annual Meeting. Winning papers also are considered for publication in the Law Library Journal, the scholarly journal of the law library profession. Visit ALLNET at http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_call_for_papers.asp for more information, including selection criteria and application procedures. Submissions are due by March 1, 2001. Good luck!

Questions? Contact a member of the Call for Papers Committee: Adeen Postar (chair) at ajp@dejlw.com, Karen Beck at beckka@bc.edu, or Maria Protti at Maria_Protti@ci.sf.ca.us.

Foreign Law Library Visits and Exchanges

Interested in visiting foreign law libraries or exchanging places with law librarians from other countries? See testimonials of law librarians who've already done it at: <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/testimonial.html>. There is a listing of law libraries willing to participate in exchanges and visits; look for the list at: <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/clearintro.html>. To be added to the list of participating libraries around the world complete the questionnaire at: <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/survey.html>.

If you've visited a foreign law library or participated in an exchange, please contact David McFadden, chair of the FCIL Clearinghouse for Internships & International Personnel Exchanges Committee, to be included on the Internet testimonials page.

For further information about the Clearinghouse, go to: <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/clearintro.html> or contact:

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