Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section / American Association of Law Libraries

FCIL Newsletter

Volume I7 October 2002 Number I

From the Chair

Kenneth Rudolf, Chair

Over the past few months I have been thinking about how the FCIL SIS can best serve its members. According to our bylaws, the SIS exists "to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information of foreign, comparative, and international law; and to represent its members' interests and concerns within the AALL." I believe the SIS has developed a number of ways to encourage the exchange of ideas and information—this *Newsletter*, the listserv, the website, the Interest Group sessions at the Annual Meeting. However, I am concerned that the FCIL has not been as successful as it should have been in communicating the concerns of the membership to AALL. In part, that may result from the difficulty of precisely identifying the concerns of the members.

Of course, the overriding interest of the membership is with foreign, comparative, and international law librarianship. In fact, however, there is an enormous range in the amount of time and the level of expertise members have with FCIL librarianship. Librarians from larger institutions (be they firms, law schools, or governmental entities) have significant FCIL collections with which to work and can devote their full energies to the area and develop a high level of expertise. On the other hand, librarians in smaller institutions will have skeletal collections and duties that encompass much more than FCIL librarianship. Even though these librarians may have a strong interest in the area, they do not have the resources, the time, and (usually) the patron demand to develop the same level of expertise as their colleagues in larger institutions.

FCIL can be a significant resource to librarians from smaller institutions. Through the SIS, they can become acquainted with more experienced librarians from larger institutions and develop relationships with these experts as mentors and personal resources. This clearly fits into the SIS objective of "the exchange of ideas and information." In addition, the SIS has been relatively successful in getting program proposals accepted at the introductory and intermediate levels.

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However, the SIS is less successful in meeting the needs of the more experienced FCIL librarians, who form a relatively small subset of our membership. Introductory and intermediate level programs do not provide the educational experiences they are looking for. When the Annual Meeting does not include programming that provides substantive material for them, they will go elsewhere to find it—ASIL, IALL, and the International Law Weekend in New York, to name a few options.

The common perception is that it is difficult to have an advanced level FCIL program accepted for the Annual Meeting. I have not kept statistics on the matter, but the Annual Meeting Program Committee's selections among the FCIL proposals seems to bear out the common perception. This year the FCIL SIS proposed eight programs. Two were introductory, one was advanced, and the remaining five were intermediate. Four programs were accepted, including both introductory level programs (one ranked in the top four, the other ranked in the bottom four). The one advanced program (ranked among the top four) was not accepted. This means that the AMPC selected one introductory program and one intermediate program ranked by the FCIL education committee below the advanced level program that was rejected.

Obviously, one year's results prove nothing. There may have been good reasons to reject FCIL's one advanced program this year. Nevertheless, one wonders if the AMPC worried that an advanced FCIL program would have too little attraction for the broader membership and draw too small an audience. (We thought the topic was one that would have appeal beyond our own membership.)

Whatever the reason, the lack of advanced level FCIL programming next year may result in a smaller number of FCIL specialists attending the Seattle meeting. Again, I admit that I have no statistics, but I perceive that the number of FCIL librarians from large institutions attending the Annual Meeting has dwindled over the twelve years I have been a member of this SIS, and that is an alarming trend. Without the participation of these specialists, the quality of FCIL programs will diminish and the members from smaller institutions will be deprived of establishing contacts with the leaders in the field. Thus, the quality of "the exchange of ideas and information" will suffer.

What can we do? For the last few years our SIS has instituted an "off-program" session on the law of a foreign jurisdiction. These have been well received. Just this summer, our SIS strongly supported a proposal that would allow SISes to schedule meetings concurrently with regular educational sessions. However, neither of these solutions is ideal. For programming that has not been approved by AMPS, the SIS incurs relatively substantial expenses for audio and computer equipment that might be needed by the speaker. In addition, scheduling meetings against regular educational sessions will diminish the size of the potential audience. Perhaps our only option at the present is to continue proposing creative programs aimed at the specialist FCIL librarian. If the program is well thought out, it will also appeal to the many AALL members who are not specialists. It is worth the effort to keep the FCIL SIS as *the* place for FCIL librarians to find support, no matter what their level of expertise.

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 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 world wide web at:

http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html.

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

REPORTS FROM THE ORLANDO 2002 AALL ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the FCIL-SIS Business
Meeting (July 22, 2002)
Submitted by Mirela Roznovschi,
Secretary/Treasurer

Welcome and Introduction: Tracy Thompson, FCIL-SIS Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees. She thanked colleagues that helped her during her tenure. She gives special recognition to Jean Davis (immediate past Chair), Katherine Topulos (past Chair), Mirela Roznovschi, the Secretary/Treasurer, and Dennis Sears (Education Committee Chair). She thanks Rhonda Gold, the Chair of the Schaffer Grant Committee, 2002 and members of the Grant Committee. She thanks Marci Hoffman and Marie Louise Bernal for being instrumental in organizing the FCIL-SIS and ASIL program Creating Commercial Connections - Trade Laws of Latin America at the Library of Congress on March 2002. Tracy hopes similar programs will continue in the future. This program, sponsored by the Law Library of Congress, Law Librarians' Society of Washington D.C. (LLSDC), the American Society of International Law, and the AALL (FCIL SIS) was well attended, well-received, and well reviewed. It would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of Marci Hoffman. The Chair thanks Stephanie Burke, the Editor of the Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Special Interest Section Newsletter (http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis. html), and Anne Burnett who is reorganizing the FCIL SIS (http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/fcil.htm

<u>1</u>) Home Page. Tracy thanks all chairs of FCIL SIS interest groups.

The Chair announced that the 2002 Shaffer Grant recipient, Yemisi Dina, law librarian at the College of the Bahamas Law Library, Nassau, The Bahamas, was unable to attend the AALL Annual Convention. She was not granted a visa to enter to the US. Regarding the grants, the Chair discloses that no funding was available for this year. Only the registration fees for the annual Convention were covered. The Chair proposes that a subsidy be provided from the FCIL money saved by having the Newsletter published only online. This money, plus what will come from the Shaffer Grant, could guarantee that more applicants will send their applications in future years. Then, the Chair announced upcoming meetings on the next days of the convention, and especially the Strategic Planning meeting. Tracy Thompson reminded the FCIL SIS members that the proposals for the 2003 Annual Meeting in Seattle have to be sent to Jean Wagner and David Sears by August 12.

Announcements: Tracy Thompson, FCIL-SIS Chair, reminded the audience that Jean Davis started last year the "Spirit of the FCIL-SIS" award. Tracy Thompson wants to continue this tradition. The year 2002 recipients of the "Spirit of the FCIL-SIS" award are Marci Hoffman (Georgetown) for organizing the Creating Commercial Connections - Trade Laws of Latin America workshop; Jill Watson (ASIL) for hosting the Librarians' Luncheon and Roundtable at the ASIL Annual Convention every year: and Mirela Roznovschi (NYU) for her work on LLRX.com and for her continuing

outreach to librarians around the world. These three members epitomize the Spirit of the FCIL-SIS. The Chair announced the calendar of FCIL- SIS related events scheduled for the next days of the Convention.

Approval of minutes: The members approve by unanimous vote the minutes of the 2001 meeting published in the October 2001 issue of the Newsletter (http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/vol16/issue1/161index.htm.

The Secretary/Treasurer Report was presented by Mirela Roznovschi. The current balance as of 05/31/2002 was \$4,737.50. The Secretary/Treasurer pointed out that the FCIL Newsletter switched to a "primarily electronic" format in pdf and html beginning with the October 2001 issue. This format change was supposed to provide significant savings to the section, which has devoted the majority of its budget in recent years to the printing and mailing of paper copies. The savings were not apparent in this financial statement because the 2000-2001 newsletter expenditures were reported in the year 2001-2002 financial statement. The savings will be evident in the next financial statement. FCIL-SIS donated the excess \$959.35 from the Creating Connections – Trade Laws of Latin America" workshop held on March 13, 2002 to the Friends of the Library of Congress. The Treasurer's report was adopted unanimously.

Election results: Members approved in majority the election results. Chair Tracy Thompson announced that Jean Wagner has been elected as Vice Chair/Chair-elect and introduced her briefly. Jean serves as Reference Librarian for

Government Documents and Foreign and International Law at the Cook County Law Library in Chicago. Jean Wagner gave her thanks for being elected Vice-Chair/Chair Elect.

Interest Group Reports: Lyonette Louis Jacques presented the Electronic Issues IG meeting agenda. One of the issues is related to the disappearance of French primary materials from Lexis. Pascal Petticollot from the French Prime Minister's cabinet, present at the meeting as a guest and speaker in one of the FCIL SIS programs, discloses that all French primary materials and cases of the French supreme courts will become free of charge in the French database Jurifrance with an English interface starting September 2002.

Lyonette wanted to know if other libraries subscribed to the German database JURIS. If yes, she wants to have feedback regarding the efficiency of the database and searching features. Dan Wade from Yale Law Library and Mirela Roznovschi from NYU Law Library are familiar with this database as their libraries have subscribed to it. Mirela promises to write a tutorial for searching this database.

Strategic planning: The Chair invites the members to participate and energize the FCIL SIS activities. The incoming chair Ken Rudolf is planning to ask Jean Wagner to lead the strategic planning committee. The FCIL SIS already has a plan to implement the plan.

Interest Group discussion: Chair Tracy Thompson discovered that incorrect information related to the IGs is posted in the FCIL SIS website. The executive committee wants to reevaluate the IGs and their attributions. In recent years IGs handled more than acquisitions issues. They had speakers and interesting presentations. She suggests that the leadership for these groups be for two years. A mechanism to change the leadership of the groups has to be in place. The same person could chair an IG for more than two years if no other person is interested in becoming chair. A two year commitment to leading the group would energize IGs. Ken Rudolf wants to mention in the bylaws the two year tenure for IG group leaders and others related issues.

Seattle 2003 programming: Chair Tracy
Thompson reminds the attendees that the
2003 AALL Annual Meeting and
Conference *Program Planner's Handbook* is available at
http://www.aallnet.org/events/am_03/03
Proposer's Form and the Workshop
Proposer's Form at
http://www.aallnet.org/events/am_03/03
proposer.asp

The Chair discussed the four recommendations of the Annual Meeting Educational Program Committee (AMEPC). There are two recommendations with which we should be most concerned: #1 and #3.

Recommendation #1: Permit Meetings, Roundtables, etc. During Educational Programs

That SISs and committees be allowed to schedule small meetings, roundtables, discussion groups, and educational opportunities any time from Saturday 7 AM through Wednesday 5 PM except during the following times: exhibit hall – one hour per day; the two business

meetings; the member open forum, keynote or plenary sessions.

Chair's comments: Allowing SISs to schedule against programs is a great idea and would allow us to maximize the Annual Meeting to best meet our needs. It might also lead to higher quality programming in an effort to draw attendees.

Recommendation #3: AMPC Program Selection Guidelines

To the extent possible, programs selected should proportionately represent the memberships of the SISs. Chair's comments: I think this is a terrible idea. They have established a potential guideline of 1 program per 200 SIS members. I think that guideline would quickly become a justification for program decisions and lower quality programs would be selected to fill quotas over higher quality programs from smaller SISs.

Recommendations #2 and #4: AMPC Composition and Charge

Recommendation #2: Add job function to the appointment guidelines. Modify the charge to refer to Association educational policies and the needs of the members.

Chair's comments: #2 provides for a more balanced AMPC.

Recommendation #4: Professional Development Committee develop a rubric for proposal selection.
Chair's comments: #4 is common sense. I had just assumed such a thing was already in existence.

SIS Members are encouraged to contact an AMPC representative to voice their opinions and ideas. Please see the AMPC roster at

http://aallhq.org/public/committees.asp?code=COMMITTEE/COM AMPS.

New for the 2003 Annual Meeting will be 30 minute program slots. Program planners are encouraged to consider utilizing these time slots for updates or other programs.

The Chair and David Sears consider that there is a new generation of international and foreign law librarians that want to revisit the former Institutes of AALL FCIL SIS. The concept of continuing education for international and foreign law librarians is on the agenda for next year and years to come. Then, the Chair asked Rhonda Gold to explain the situation of the International Citator Project at the Nova Southeastern University Law School. Another partner of this project is the Association of Legal Writing Directors. The goal is to come up with a manual of legal citations for international organizations and foreign jurisdictions. The manual will be published by Aspen and it will be a comprehensive resource for international and foreign law researchers. Indigenous formats will be covered.

Adjournment: Chair Tracy Thompson officially turned over the FCIL SIS leadership to Ken Rudolf, the incoming Chair 2002-2003. He thanks Tracy Thompson. Ken announces what he intends to do during his leadership: changing bylaws, discussing vacancy issues, evaluating strategic planning concerns, and the implementation of a new committee for training the next generation of international and foreign law librarians. Ken Rudolf declares the meeting adjourned.

Electronic Issues Interest Group

(July 21, 2002)

Submitted by Marylin J. Raisch, Chair, upon report of acting chair for 2002 annual meeting, Lyonette Louis-Jacques

Attended by: Lyonette Louis-Jacques (acting chair, with thanks from Marylin Raisch), Jonathan Pratter (Texas), Daniel Boyer (McGill), and Arundhati Satkalmi (St. John's University Law School. Issues discussed at this year's meeting fell into three categories: foreign law databases, FCIL web site content, distance learning and e-services in our area (such as e-reference). Foreign databases are now expanding and reaching sophisticated levels. The German database Juris was discussed. Mirela Roznovschi of NYU has experience with it, and other attendees expressed interest. Indian languages and databases were also mentioned. Daniel Boyer of McGill discussed the need to pressure Lexis to reinstate the complete library of French law rather than just the Juris-Classeur materials now posted, which are a fraction of the old French law library. After the Electronic Issues IG drafts a letter, the FCIL SIS executive committee will be consulted to approve it. Pascal Petticollot announced that as of September 15, 2002, Legifrance will have all French primary law for free.

FCIL SIS web site content development was discussed. Those present discussed expansion of the publications committee or creation of a sub-committee on adding content to the site. Categories of desired content included more links to research guides, and history of the development of FCIL librarianship. Distance learning was discussed and a possible audience for FCIL as subject matter could include new librarians and use tutorial or

courseware options such as the Blackboard/WebCT sorts of models. There could be contributions from existing databases such as LLRX or from various collections and libraries. E-reference, of the 24/7 variety, was also discussed and there could be evaluation of the consortia, which may have experience with it. Finally, Lyonette distributed a preliminary list of electronic aids to collection development (a version had been mailed out to the FCIL-SIS listsery). Suggestions for additions, changes comments, etc., should go to Teresa Stanton at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Law library; she is organizing the information.

Education Working Group

Submitted by Victoria Szymczak

The Education Working Group met for one hour on Tuesday morning and enjoyed good attendance. The group that met was unofficially chaired by Victoria Szymczak of Brooklyn Law School. Attendees limited their discussion to three main topics. The first concerned opportunities available to teach foreign and international research skills. Second, attendees expressed a desire that lesson plans for such teaching be shared by AALL collegues on the FCIL web page. The third topic revolved around legal education in China. Each topic is discussed briefly below.

Topic 1: Only one attendee taught international and foreign law research in a formal, for-credit environment. Two attendees had experience teaching a session at the request of a professor or student organization. Most attendees had no experience teaching in these

areas, but were very interested in hearing how others approached their teaching opportunities. Several librarians said they would feel more comfortable approaching their patrons to offer research sessions, if they could review other lesson plans that have worked for more experienced teachers. This line of thought led the group to address the second topic that occupied our agenda.

Topic 2: The second topic focused on the availability of lesson plans and syllabi from those in the organization who taught classes. The FCIL web page does link to syllabi, however, the links have been static. All who attended agreed that an attempt should be made to repopulate the links with additional lesson plans and syllabi. Victoria Szymczak agreed to contact the web master for FCIL to discuss this possibility. She also agreed to post a request for these materials on the FCIL discussion list.

Topic 3: The third topic of discussion at the meeting addressed the Chinese legal system. We were fortunate to have two visitors from Peking University. The group listened to our visitors as they instructed us in the role technology has, and has not played in legal education at their University. It was our visitors' impression that the law students in China are extremely interested in using the Internet to learn about American laws and culture. They have access to equipment at their schools and internet cafes in order to review such information. Unfortunately, our guests informed us that the government of the People's Republic of China is very restrictive and regulated access to the information that can be retrieved from the Internet.

FCIL Clearinghouse for Internships and International Personnel Exchanges/ FCIL Clearinghouse for International Placement Committee (July 24, 2002) Submitted by David McFadden, Chair

Attendees: Margaret McAleese, Carole Hinchcliff, David McFadden, Ken Rudolf, Mary Strouse and Jean Wenger.

There was a discussion of the current Clearinghouse Page on the FCIL web site. Margaret McAleese noted the need to update the Australian entries.

Most of the meeting time dealt with trying to find ways to contact potential libraries for exchanges and visits. Mary Strouse volunteered to help assemble a list of law schools with sister schools. Carole Hinchcliff agreed to assist with posting on the law library directors' listsery. David McFadden needs to update the Clearinghouse letter for these purposes. It was also discussed to use the Spectrum and the FCIL Newsletter to promote the Clearinghouse. Other listservs were also mentioned including int-law and law-lib and listservs from BIALL, CALL and Australian law library groups. Another possible place for finding potential libraries is by contacting law library and foreign general library associations.

Carole Hinchcliff discussed her library's experiences with a visitor from Wales and suggested and volunteered to help draft Guidelines for a Successful Exchange.

It was also discussed that a new flyer on heavy stock paper be used to advertise the Clearinghouse at various meetings including IALL and BIALL.

Another way suggested to promote the Clearinghouse was to sponsor a program at the annual meeting sometime in the future.

Ken Rudolf said that he would be asking for volunteers to help identify libraries willing to host a librarian and in publicizing the Clearinghouse to librarians and library organizations. He also agreed to look for volunteers to help design an attractive brochure.

<u>Latin American Law Interest Group</u> <u>Enjoys Its Florida Setting</u>

(July 23, 2002) Submitted by Dan Wade

The Latin American Law Interest Group meeting table resembled King Arthur's. There were more than a dozen attendees. A number of Florida law schools, which are interested in collecting Caribbean Law, were represented. The focus of the meeting was to have been a paper, "Legal Literature in the Caribbean," by Yemisi Dina, Librarian at the College of Law in the Bahamas, Nassau. Unfortunately, Ms. Dina was unable to obtain a visa in time to attend the Annual Meeting, but she was able to send her highly useful paper.

Members of the interest group spent their time introducing themselves and talking about their collecting of Latin American materials and particularly Caribbean materials. Of note was Pedro Padilla-Rosa of the University of Puerto Rico talking about his recent book buying trips in Latin America. If one cannot find books through normal channels, it might prove useful to email

him, as he may be able to give you a contact in a Latin American country that will assist in locating the book.

Mary Ann Hyatt, Director of Florida Coastal School of Law, told the group about a "Caribbean Iniative" where several Florida law schools have joined together in a program which will feature student exchanges between those schools and Caribbean schools. This should promote the collecting of Caribbean law materials and develop a network of new contacts.

More from Orlando and Beyond

Creating International Connections

Lee F. Peoples, Head of Reference Services, Oklahoma City University Law Library

"Creating Connections" was the theme of this year's American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting and it became reality throughout the event. The first connection I noticed was between my sweaty clothes and body while waiting in the shade of a palm tree on International Drive for the trolley. Despite the Florida heat I managed to make more significant international connections: formal ones with new ideas at organized sessions and informal social connections at smaller meetings and receptions.

Devolution in the United Kingdom: A Revolution in Online Legal Research outlined the transfer of power back to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the sources of legislation produced by the new regional legislatures. It was exciting to hear the program presenters speak with conviction and purpose about local democratic rule created by the

devolution of power. This devolution has also produced something equally exciting for law librarians interested in foreign legal materials, free access to regional legislative documents at the websites of the respective legislatures; http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/index.htm, http://www.mi-assembly.gov.uk/index.htm with an article discussing devolution at: http://www.llrx.com/features/devolution.htm.

Connecting With the Worldwide Effort to Combat Crimes Against Humanity: The Creation of the International Criminal Court provided a scholarly discussion of the need for, creation and bases of jurisdiction for the International Criminal Court. Professor Roger Clark began the discussions with an introduction to the traditional (territory and nationality) and non-traditional (passive personality and universal) bases of iurisdiction for the ICC. Professor Clark outlined how these bases of jurisdiction have been used in past international criminal proceedings and treaties. Useful power point slides from the presentation are reprinted in the Educational Program Handout Materials. David Sterling discussed treaty negotiation, ratification and the future of the ICC. He provided URL's to several relevant websites including: http://www.iccnow.org (the Coalition's home page with current news and events, a detailed section on the Rome Conference and links to documents): http://www.usaforicc.org (a page with advocacy resources); and, http://www.un.org/law/icc/index.html (the UN website for the ICC with links to all authoritative documents). William

Pace discussed the significance of the entry into force of the Rome Treaty and elaborated upon the Coalition's efforts to create the ICC.

I also managed to attend the early morning meeting of the FCIL-SIS
Teaching Foreign and International
Legal Research Interest Group. The consensus was that posting course syllabi for foreign and international legal research courses was beneficial and should continue in the future. Librarians and faculty members from Peking
University were present and discussed their database of Chinese laws and regulations,
http://www.chinalawinfo.com.

Attending social events and the exhibit hall proved to be a valuable way to meet fellow international law librarians. The International Association of Law Libraries reception provided an excellent opportunity to meet distinguished international law librarians and hear about the upcoming meeting hosted by Yale Law School this Fall, http://library.law.yale.edu/library/iall200 2/. Several foreign and international book vendors were in attendance in the exhibit hall. Meeting them and hearing about new titles and databases was an interesting collection development exercise.

Another worthwhile experience was meeting my AALL assigned mentor. I specified my interested in international law when applying for a mentor and was matched with an international law librarian. It was very encouraging for me as a young international law librarian to meet someone with several years of experience willing to share insights and knowledge. The discipline of

international law librarianship would be well served if more experienced members chose to participate in the mentoring project. More information is available at:

http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor project.html.

Connections were definitely created at this year's AALL Annual Meeting. I left

more educated and motivated about international law librarianship than ever. I felt reassured in my decision to become a law librarian because of the people I met. They came to the profession from diverse backgrounds, did interesting things at their libraries and most of all were eager and willing to share their knowledge and experience with a new law librarian.



<u>LEGAL LITERATURE IN THE CARIBBEAN: RECENT</u> <u>DEVELOPMENTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY</u>

By Yemisi Dina, Law Librarian, College of the Bahamas Law Library, Nassau, The Bahamas

The Caribbean is made up of young jurisdictions with growing legal literature. The laws of most of these countries are based on the laws of their former colonies. Antoine (1999) also confirmed this, saying that:

"---The countries of the Commonwealth Caribbean continue to exhibit perhaps excessive tendencies of reliance on the form, structure, substance and content of the law as expressed in England." 1

Legal literatures considered for the purpose of this presentation are legislation, law reports, journals and textbooks.

This presentation is an attempt to review the developments of Caribbean legal literature in the 21st century with emphasis on the following English-speaking countries:

Anguilla Cayman Islands St. Lucia

Antigua & Barbuda Dominica St. Vincent & the The Bahamas Grenada Grenadines

Barbados Guyana Trinidad & Tobago Belize Jamaica Turks & Caicos

British Virgin Islands Montserrat

(BVI) St. Kitts & Nevis

LEGISLATION

All of the aforementioned countries have published their own legislation after independence and they come in series. This area has seen a significant development in the last 20 years. Subsidiary legislation is usually published in Official Gazettes but some territories compile and publish at the end of each year. These publications are usually handled by the Attorney General's office/ the Ministry of Legal Affairs.

The law library of the Faculty of Law University of West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados publishes an index of statutes, which gives an update of changes in statutes in all English-speaking Caribbean countries.

LAW REPORTING

Jamaica has the earliest history of law reporting from 1774. Newton (1978) observed that law reports in the Commonwealth Caribbean were short-lived and punctuated by long gaps. According to her, "No law reports have ever been published for Belize, The Cayman Islands, the Leeward or the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Bahamas Law Reports never continued beyond Volume I, which contained a selection of Supreme and Magisterial Court cases for the period 1900-1906. The Barbados Reports reached volume 2. The first volume covering cases relating to Barbados which were determined in local courts and found in English Reports for 1694, 1831 and 1853-1893; the second containing cases decided in the island's Court of Error during the years 1860, 1863, 1878 and 1894-1903. ------"2

Newton further identified the main reasons why most unit law reporting efforts have not been sustained: Lack of interest on the part of the local legal profession; Lack of personnel with sufficient time to undertake the editorial responsibilities; Lack of adequate financing. Today the above mentioned reasons have prevailed upon the publication of law reports in the Commonwealth Caribbean as only these countries currently publish law reports: Bahamas, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago. And there still exists some gaps in some of these publications. The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) has also published a set of law reports covering that jurisdiction. Butterworths also publishes the West Indian law reports, which covers the entire territory of the West Indies.

JOURNALS

A lot of journals have been published over the years but there is still a dearth in this area. There are a few journals being coordinated by the Faculty of Law, University of the West Indies. Please visit the Law library web page for a listing of these titles.

TEXTBOOKS

Lecturers at the University of West Indies have published extensively on virtually every area of law. Cavendish Publishers, the Caribbean Law Book publishing and other private publishers have published some of these texts. The Faculty of Law Library Cave Hill, Barbados continues to be the leading repository of West Indian legal Literature.

IMPACT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT has had a lot of impact on the accessibility of Caribbean legal information. The following sites are very useful:

www.caricom.org Caribbean Community

www.oecs.org Organization of Eastern Caribbean States

www.ecsupremecourts.org.ic Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court

www.offshoreon.comOffshore online resourceswww.belizelaw.orgSupreme Court of Belizewww.uwi.edu.bbUniversity of the West Indies

The legislation of the following countries are available on CD-ROM: Anguilla, Belize and Jamaica (law reports are also available). Unreported judgments of some Caribbean countries are available on Quicklaw.

I wish to thank members of the Foreign & Comparative & International Law for giving me the opportunity to share this experience. I am not originally from the Caribbean but I have for the past year been involved in the daunting task of setting up a law library to support the new LL.B Program at The College of The Bahamas. The Caribbean legal literature shares the same background as my original country. Thank you.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY ON CHINESE PATENT LAW¹

By Robert H. Hu, Texas Tech University School of Law Library

This bibliography is created to help the researcher to readily identify publications which deal with the subject of Chinese patent law. The list covers books and monographs, articles, dissertations and theses, and other material on this topic, which are arranged alphabetically by author name. While the vast majority of the entries are in English, the few entries in Chinese are indicated with "*".

I. Books and Monographs

This section lists books and other book-like materials. The list is comprehensive but not complete given the amount of publications taking place everyday. All entries are arranged by author alphabetically.

Beijing Review. *Burgeoning Patent Industry in China*. English ed. Beijing: New Star Publishers, 1991.

A Brief Introduction to the Patent Office of the People's Republic of China. Beijing: [The Office], 1993.

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¹This bibliography is a slightly modified chapter of a newly published book, *Research Guide to Chinese Patent Law and Practice*, *2002* (Buffalo, NY: William S. Hein & Co., Inc., ISBN: 157588710X, 1 volume, 390 pages)

II. Dissertations and Theses

The section lists doctoral and master theses written by law students. All entries are arranged by author alphabetically.

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III. Other Publications

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IV. Law Reviews and Articles²

This section mainly contains articles from law reviews. However, included also are articles from other sources, such as journals and newspapers. For convenience of the reader, all entries are selected and categorized under broad subjects, and the entries under each category/subject are arranged by author alphabetically.

IV.1 Case Commentary

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IV.2 Computer Software

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* Deng, Yahu. "On 'Full Disclosure." *China Patents and Trademarks* 34 (1993): 46-49. Zhang, Rongyan. "Another View on 'Full Disclosure' and Related Matters." *China Patents and Trademarks* 36(1) (1994): 51-54.

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²Since there are a large number of articles from law reviews and journals, this section is divided into several subject categories and the articles are grouped under each relevant category.

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