

FCIL Newsletter

Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section

From the Chair

Mary Rumsey

The March of the Law Librarians will soon begin, as these ungainly creatures head for their annual meeting—this year, in New Orleans. Whether you sport colorful plumage or prefer drab, I hope you can make it. FCIL librarians, in particular, need the chance to flock together (okay, enough lame bird metaphors). Only a few of us are lucky to have FCIL colleagues at our own workplace—and some don't have FCIL colleagues in their own state.

Any AALL annual meeting is a great way to connect with other FCIL librarians who can share strategies, alert you to new resources, and commiserate about naïve or

unreasonable reference requests. This year's meeting will also offer great programs. See page three for a handy listing of FCIL related programs and meetings.

Much of the informal action takes place in the Interest Group meetings and anyone is welcome to attend these sessions. Newer FCIL members should also try to attend the FCIL-SIS Business Meeting—it's a way to declare your FCIL interest, meet the wily veterans of the SIS, and it makes a nice entrée to the FCIL-SIS Reception Honoring Attendees from Abroad, which begins immediately afterwards. That Business Meeting takes place on Monday July 16th, at 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.



The AALL Annual Meeting is July 14-17, 2007.

(If you're especially new, you might even win the bottle of wine awarded to the Newest FCIL Member by Dan Wade and his caucus.)

We're especially lucky this year to welcome our FCIL Schaffer Grant Recipient

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Upcoming Meetings:

- AALS/ASIL Conference on International Law: What is Wrong with the Way We Teach and Write International Law, June 17-20, 2007 in Vancouver, British Columbia.
- ALA Annual Meeting, June 23-26, 2007 in Washington, D.C.
- IFLA General Conference & Council, August 19-23, 2007 in Durban, South Africa.
- IALL Annual Meeting, December 1-5, 2007 in Mumbai, India

New Newsletter Design!

Let us know what you think!

Welcome to Cheng Zhen

Barbara Bean

Cheng Zhen, Director of the Information Centre at the National Library of China, has been selected as this year's winner of the FCIL Schaffer Grant for

Foreign Librarians.

Mr. Cheng heads the unit of the National Library that provides legal reference to the Chinese Government, National People's Congress, State Council and its

agencies, as well as the general public. He is currently working on a project with the Washington University School of Law to compare Chinese and U.S. government publications
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From the Editor

Mabel Shaw

I would like to express a sincere thank you to our former editor Amy Burchfield for her invaluable assistance in launching our new format for the FCIL Newsletter. Our goal was simply to update the look with some color and graphics, while maintaining the great content and useful information.

I've come to realize that my first order of business is to encourage FCIL members to contribute content. The en-

ergy of our newsletter depends upon it. Pass along to us any news about yourself or your library. Maybe you've published an article, tried out a new teaching program, or perhaps your library is undergoing renovation. Most articles do not require a large time commitment and it is nice to stay connected to your colleagues in this electronic world. Our next issue will be in October and I look forward to your contributions.



Send articles, news, or comments to Mabel at shawm@law.georgetown.edu

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from China-- Cheng Zhen, Director of the Reference Department at the National Library of China in Beijing.

Congratulations to Dennis Sears and Marylin Raisch, who were elected as incoming Chair-Elect and Secretary-Chair respectively. I'm looking forward to relinquishing my vast power to Jonathan Franklin, who I'm sure will use it only for good.

I have many people to thank for their help over the past year; Dennis Sears and Mirela Roznovschi for their attention to FCIL-SIS matters; Heidi Kuehl

for her website work; Barbara Bean for chairing the FCIL Schaffer Grant Committee, and Tom Kimbrough and Mary Sexton for serving on it; Amy Burchfield for getting the newsletter out, always; Lyo Louis-Jacques for an endless stream of ideas; Victor Essien, Dan Wade, Barb Garavaglia, Molly Brownfield, and Carolyn McKelvey for their work on the Strategic Planning Committee; Laura Cadra for chairing the Membership Committee, and its members: Suzanne Castroman, Michael Daniels, Don Ford, Alison Shea, Rachael Smith, Roy Sturgeon. Special

“Much of the informal action takes place in the Interest Group meetings”

thanks to Mabel Shaw for agreeing to take over as editor of the FCIL-SIS Newsletter; Amy, we'll miss you!

See you in New Orleans—

Mary

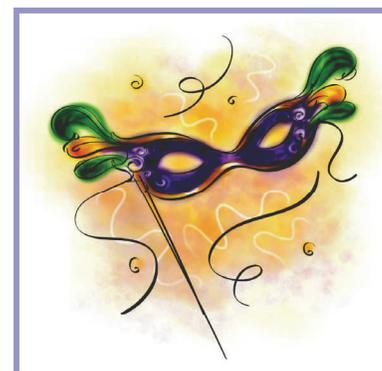
Book Reviewers Wanted

If you would like to write a book review for the International Journal of Legal Information, the journal of the International Association of Law Libraries, please send an email of interest to Thomas Mills at twm26@cornell.edu for a list of titles.

Reviews are typically between two and four pages in length and are published three times a year. A list of books available for review is sent out at least two months in advance of the deadline for each issue. Once you choose a book to review, it will be sent to you to keep. This is a great opportunity to publish.

FCIL Relevant Programs in New Orleans

- ◇ Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons on Sunday, July 15, 2:00pm.
- ◇ FCIL-SIS Executive Committee Presents "Chinese Government and Legal Information" on Sunday, July 15, 5:15pm.
- ◇ Rome: The Power of Film to Teach Foundations of Roman and Civil Law on Monday, July 16, 8:45am.
- ◇ De-Coding Civil Codes: Appreciating Napoleon's Code and Its Legacy on Monday, July 16, 8:45am.
- ◇ Globalization Moved My Cheese: Or, How Do I Find International Law on Monday, July 15, 10:30am.
- ◇ A Closer Look: Uncovering the Spanish Roots of the Louisiana Civil Code on Tuesday, July 17, 9:00am.
- ◇ LC's Classification Web: An Electronic Gateway to Indigenous Government and Law in the Americas on Tuesday, July 17, 9:00am.



The traditional colors of Mardi Gras are purple, green and gold which symbolize justice, faith, and power.

FCIL Business & Interest Groups Meetings in New Orleans

Mingle with colleagues and make new friends at informal meetings such as these. All are welcome and we look forward to your contributions.

Sunday, July 15th:

- ◇ Teaching Foreign & International Research Interest Group, 12:00pm.
- ◇ Strategic Plan Committee, 1:15pm.
- ◇ Publications/Public Relations Committee, 2:30pm.

- ◇ African Law Interest Group, 3:00pm.
- ◇ CIS & East European Law Interest Group, 3:00pm.
- ◇ Membership Committee, 3:45pm.
- ◇ Clearinghouse for Internships & International Personnel Exchanges Interest Group, 4:15pm.

Monday, July 16th:

- ◇ Electronic Issues Interest Group, 7:30am

- ◇ Asian Law Interest Group, 7:30am.
- ◇ Foreign Selectors Interest Group, 11:45am.
- ◇ Latin American Law Interest Group, 12:00noon.
- ◇ Business Meeting, 5:15pm.
- ◇ Reception for Attendees from Abroad, 6:30pm.

Tuesday, July 17th:

- ◇ Education Committee, 12:00noon.

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and information dissemination. An active participant in legal information conferences in China, he is involved in the development of a Chinese Association of Law Libraries.

At AALL, Mr. Cheng will give a presentation to the FCIL-SIS on how the

Chinese government information is currently published and disseminated, and the implication of recent regulation on freedom of government information in China.

This grant was made possible through the generosity of Ellen Shaffer, other

FCIL librarians, and friends of the law librarian community, and has brought a librarian from outside the United States to the AALL Annual Meeting since 2001.

The selection committee (Barbara Bean, Thomas Kimbrough and Mary Sexton) considered an unusually strong pool of 16 applicants, from 11 countries.



The Back Page News

- ◇ Grace M. Mills, Florida A&M University, College of Law, visited Beijing, Guilan and Shanghai during a trip to China in November of 2006. She was a professional delegate for the U.S.-China Joint Education Conference, co-sponsored by the People to People Ambassador Program and the China Education Association for International Exchange. In addition to the scheduled visits to several Chinese educational institutions and landmarks, Grace had the opportunity to visit the China University of Political Science and Law where she met Professors Yang Yuguan and Zeng Er-Shu, and Officers Li Chi and Tang Yan to discuss the similarities and differences in Chinese and American academic law libraries. Grace also visited their law library facility and several Beijing landmarks. Professor Frank Y. Liu, of Duquesne, graciously facilitated these professional law meetings. Grace now has a Chinese name given to her by her Chinese law colleagues.

Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section

The FCIL Newsletter is published three times a year. Current and past issues are posted on the FCIL website at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/newsletter.html>

Editor: Mabel Shaw, Georgetown Law Library
Copy Editor: Carmen Valero, Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps

Our next issue will be in October. All submissions are welcome!



María Eugenia Giménez, Associate Director of the Dean Rusk Center at University of Georgia School of Law; **Ann Puckett**, Professor of Law and Director of the Law Library at University of Georgia School of Law; **Anthony Addy**, Law Librarian at the Supreme Court of Ghana; **Anne Burnett**, Foreign and International Law Librarian at University of Georgia School of Law

- ◇ The Alexander Campbell King Law Library at the University of Georgia School of Law hosted a training visit for Anthony Addy, Law Librarian for Ghana's Supreme Court, for two weeks in October and November 2006. Mr. Addy has been working towards automating many of the resources used by the court, and he sought to observe firsthand a number of electronic resources and applications used at UGA. In addition to availing himself of the resources accessible at UGA, Mr. Addy visited the United States District Court in Atlanta where he observed their online filing system and also met with law librarians at the district and appellate court libraries. Members of the law school commu-

nity enjoyed a presentation of Mr. Addy's electronic database of Ghanaian statutes, jurisprudence, and scholarly articles, developed to assist his court's justices in their research. The Law Library thanks Maria Eugenia Gimenez at UGA's Dean Rusk Center for facilitating Mr. Addy's visit.

FCIL Profile

The Foreign, Comparative and International Law SIS began in 1985, but has been in existence since 1947, albeit under varying names. Our primary objective is to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative and international law. The SIS also represents members' interests and concerns within AALL.

FCIL sponsors a rapidly expanding schedule of educational opportunities through programs, institutes, and workshops each year. The members share expertise among themselves and with other librarians. They write, speak, consult and otherwise provide assistance to others through active discussions and information sharing on INT-LAW and the FCIL.

- ◇ Duke Law Library is undergoing a major renovation and will be closed until the project is completed. Librarians and staff will be relocated to another building, but will continue to offer reference and circulation services with a core collection of 10,000 titles. Telephone numbers will remain the same. Please note that they will be unable to provide any interlibrary loan service and most of their collection will be inaccessible. This project is scheduled to be completed in August 2008.
- ◇ AALS and ASIL are sponsoring an upcoming conference on international law called "What is Wrong with the Way We Teach and Write International Law?" in Vancouver, Canada. Teachers and scholars will come together for three days of intensive discussion. For more information, visit the [conference website](#).