

FCIL Newsletter

FOREIGN, COMPARATIVE, AND INTERNATIONAL LAW SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION

COLUMN: NEW MEMBER PROFILES

An Exceptional Librarian at the ICRC



Michele Huang Works as a Librarian at the ICRC

Mary Rumsey

Michele Huang is the Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Librarian at the library of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the pre-eminent international organization devoted to humanitarian aid and humanitarian law. In this interview, she discusses that path and her work at the organization.

Q: Where are you from

originally?

A: I was born in Belgium but am of Taiwanese origin. I lived and studied in Belgium, where I obtained my law degree and an advanced master's degree in New Information and Communication Technologies Law and Management. Right after graduation, at age twenty-five, I moved to Switzerland. French is my mother tongue. I am Belgian, so Dutch and German were my second and third foreign

languages in high school for six years – I still can read enough, but definitely not speak them. I speak basic Chinese (Mandarin), but cannot read it, and I speak and read English.

Q: How did you begin working for the ICRC?

A: I got lucky when a position opened at the ICRC. The incumbent left on very

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Volume 27, Issue 2
February 2013

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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

ASIL Annual Meeting, "International Law in a Multipolar World," April 3-6, 2013 in Washington, DC.

CALL/ACBD Annual General Meeting, "Librarian: a Multi-Faceted Professional," May 5-8, 2013 in Montreal, Canada

BIALL Annual Conference, June 13-15, 2013 in Glasgow, Scotland

AALL Annual Meeting, "Rethink Your Value," July 13-16, 2013 in Seattle, WA.

IFLA General Conference and Assembly, "Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities," August 17-23, 2013 in Singapore.

From the Chair

Heidi Frostestad Kuehl

Happy New Year! As February arrives, we are continuing our preparations for the AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle, July 13-16th. I hope that many of you will consider attending and joining our FCIL-SIS colleagues in the wonderful programming this year.

AALL 106TH ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE (SEATTLE)

Thanks to the superb work of the Education Committee, headed by Don Ford and Dennis Sears, we have many exciting AMPC programs this year. Unfortunately, because of the release date of these programs by the AMPC in March, we are not able to share the details about the FCIL-SIS specific programs yet. However, please look for an official announcement of all of the 2013 Annual Meeting Programming from the AMPC in early March. I will also follow-up and announce the FCIL-SIS programs to our membership. We were fortunate to have quite a few foreign, comparative, and international law programs accepted for this year's conference. In addition, we are planning a "deep dive" style program for our independently-produced FCIL programming this year in Seattle. Please let Don, Dennis, or me know if you have any questions about the FCIL-SIS programs this year as we are planning for the Annual Meeting. For more information about this year's Annual Meeting and Programming, see: <http://www.aallnet.org/conference/education>.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

I am extremely pleased to announce that Teresa Miguel of Yale's Lillian Goldman Law Library has been nominated as the next Vice-Chair/Chair Elect. Teresa has been very active in the FCIL-SIS as our webmaster and has also developed our Latin American Law Journals and Serials list as an instrumental online resource. I am equally excited to announce that Roy Sturgeon of Tulane's Law Library has been nominated as the next Secretary/Treasurer. Many thanks to the Chair of the Nominations Committee, Juice (Jootaek) Lee, and the Members of the Nominations Commit-

tee, Eugene Hsue and Xiaomeng Zhang, for their outstanding work during the past few months and for their excellent candidate selections for our Spring FCIL-SIS election. Lucie Olejnikova, FCIL-SIS Secretary/Treasurer, will be sending out election information in early March. Please keep an eye out for the FCIL-SIS election dates and further information from Lucie this Spring.

TRANSFER OF OUR FCIL-SIS WEBSITE TO THE AALL PLATFORM

Many thanks again to Teresa Miguel and members of the website committee for all of their efforts when transferring FCIL-SIS content to the new AALL Platform. Well done and congratulations on behalf of the FCIL-SIS membership! To see the fruits of their hard work, go to: <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/fcil>. Thanks also to Alison Shea and Don Ford for all of their hard work on the FCIL-SIS website during the past year and also throughout the transition to the new AALL platform. Please remember that the new FCIL-SIS website is still a work in progress as pages get completely transferred into the new AALL structure. Feel free to report any necessary edits to me or any member of the web committee. If you'd like to be a part of the editing process as a web editor this year, please also let me or Teresa know.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE FCIL SCHAFFER GRANT

As we prepare for the AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle, please also remember how important it is to consider donating to the FCIL Schaffer Grant. We are still working to build the corpus so that we can maintain this important initiative that builds relationships between AALL and foreign law librarians from all over the world. Visit the FCIL-SIS Grants web page for additional information about contributing to this fund: <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/fcil/grants-awards/FCIL-Schaffer-Grant-Fundraising>. Thank you for your donations this year! Thanks also in advance for the hard work of the Schaffer Grant selection committee co-chairs, Kristina



Heidi Frostestad Kuehl, FCIL Chair

Alayan and Gabriela Femenia, this Spring. I have no doubt that they will maintain our tradition of selecting a fantastic Schaffer Grant recipient for our summer AALL annual meeting in Seattle. For more information about the selection process and past Schaffer Grant recipients, see: <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/fcil/grants-awards/FCIL-Schaffer-Grant>.

Congratulations to Steven Ellis and Alison Shea who both received FCIL-SIS bursaries for the Joint Study Institute in Melbourne, Australia this month! I hope to see many of you this summer in Seattle, and look forward to working with all of you while planning for the innovative annual conference and programming. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or ideas on how to improve our SIS throughout the rest of the year. Finally, thank you to our Newsletter Editor, Deborah Schander, and Copy Editor, Carmen Valero, for their hard work on the FCIL-SIS Newsletter and continued commitment to making the newsletter a beautiful publication.

Have a great start to 2013!

An Exceptional Librarian, cont. from page 1

short notice and they needed someone with a legal background very urgently. That first job was a stopgap position. I was supposed to be monitoring International Humanitarian Law developments and discussions, but ended up researching photos and monitoring media.

After that, I worked in the “mail service.” The job was part dispatching mail internally, part selecting important documents for the ICRC archives. I learned a great deal about ICRC during that period because most of the documents came from our operational delegations. I was then hired to gather and synthesize information on the Red Cross National Societies’ activities and their cooperation with the ICRC.

Next, I became the archivist and personal assistant to a deputy director working on the Red Cross new emblem file (following the adoption of the Third Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions). Finally, I obtained my current position as FCIL Librarian.

Q: Is that a newly-created position?

A: Not exactly. This position was formerly attached to the legal division and the duties of the person then in charge weren’t exactly those of a law librarian. When the position was transferred to the ICRC Library, the intent was to “professionalize” the job. I have been working on transforming this “legal information odd-job” into that of a “real” FCIL librarian. (Although, I didn’t even know at the time that there existed FCIL librarians.)

Q: What are your responsibilities?

A: We are a very small team with limited resources. We are not divided into technical services, acquisitions, and

reference. Instead, we are all responsible for specific subjects and files and do all of the above for our respective subjects. I am responsible for International Humanitarian Law (IHL), Human Rights Law, International Criminal Law, International Public Law and Domestic (foreign) Law. Therefore, my job description includes:

- Acquisitions, cataloging and indexing, documents retrieval
- Reference – For the ICRC legal division, delegations, students, and professors mostly, but the ICRC Library is open to the general public, so we also have journalists, history researchers, attorneys, high school students, etc.
- Training (I would not dare to call it teaching) on researching IHL for new colleagues and trainees. And, as of last year, also for the Geneva Academy on IHL and HR (Graduate Institute Geneva) new students.
- Promotion of the ICRC Library as a reference library in IHL and ICRC, which includes the production of the quarterly IHL Bibliography, presentations to students, making a brochure and, ideally, coming up with an academic training module on how to research IHL.

Q: Whoa! [okay, that’s not a question].

A: I don’t want people to misunderstand my workload. Our library is very small and doesn’t have a lot of visitors per year, and therefore not that many questions! Our subjects are so specialized that it narrows the number of books or articles we catalogue to quite a small number. And we don’t have that many new colleagues or interns!

Q: How did you learn how to do your job?

A: I definitely learned on the job; I do not have an MLIS, so I had to learn everything about library science from scratch.

I didn’t even know where to start when it came to acquisitions. At the beginning, I Googled a lot to find new sources, journals, databases, and other specialized libraries. That’s how I found blogs, WorldLII, GLIN, Globalex, international law associations, SSRN, etc. ... and Int-Law. Because I am a total geek, I had a lot of fun searching for and using tools to manage all these sources of information and make my IHL acquisitions as exhaustive as possible.

As a reference librarian, well, some questions probably took me ten times the amount of time normally needed to answer them. I often had to ask our legal advisors how to answer a question because I didn’t know where to start.

I asked to start doing some cataloging because I realized I needed to fully understand metadata to optimize my search strategy and help our users search our catalogue. Indexing really helped me to understand how to get the most out of our and other libraries’ catalogs. I think for someone with an MLIS this material seems very natural, but without a library background it’s a whole new world. Maybe this lack of knowledge somehow helps me when briefing our new colleagues on the library. As a former very annoying know-it-all law student, I try to put myself in their shoes and find a way to point out why some library gibberish could be so useful to them.

Q: Tell us about your experience with the American Association of Law Libraries.

A: Before I attended my first AALL annual meeting, I hadn’t even heard of FCIL librarians. I first realized that

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what I was doing at the ICRC Library was an actual profession that existed in most law universities, with its own specificities, when I attended the CONELL Marketplace and stumbled upon the FCIL-SIS table. The funny thing is, my eyes were caught by these little “Top-Ten” flyers. The first one was “Top Ten Most Fascinating FCIL Destinations” which included The Hague with the Peace Palace Library (my dream IHL library), and Geneva with the Red Cross. That’s when I realized there were some other librarians out there, probably doing the same job as I did. Of course, I was aware that in most international organizations and specialized libraries, some librarians were doing the same job, but somehow I always thought they were like me, learning on the job, with no “theory” or community to rely on.

With the AALL Annual Meeting, I discovered academic reading in law librarianship. We do have professional publications in France and Switzerland, but they are often more like *AALL Spectrum* with shorter, more day-to-day experience articles, rarely like *Law Library Journal* and rarely focused on the specificities of law librarianship.

Q: Can you describe the ICRC library and its resources in more detail?

A: Although ICRC is viewed by IHL experts as a reference institution in some ways, its library is still quite unknown. One of the best examples was my first year at the AALL Annual Meeting when most librarians reacted to my business card by saying, “Oh, I didn’t know the ICRC even had a library!” When you look at most IHL research guides, you always find links to the ICRC website’s IHL section and IHL databases, but rarely links to the library, although we catalog separately articles and chapters related to IHL, provide abstracts, and index with specialized keywords.

Therefore, being an FCIL Librarian at

ICRC is about doing everything to make the library collections and services equal to ICRC’s reputation as a reference institution in IHL and to contribute to this reputation, but with very limited resources.

One of our most important collections is the collection of preparatory documents related to the Geneva Conventions (GCs) and their Additional Protocols (APs). The writing of the GCs and their APs has been the subject of discussions in various forums. We usually know of the diplomatic conferences themselves, but what people often ignore is that other expert conferences were convened prior to the diplomatic conferences, and that Red Cross Movement Conferences have also been the beginning point of many changes in or additions to these essential treaties. We are currently working on a kind of roadmap and inventory to help researchers identify relevant documents they may want or need to consult if they are working on dispositions of the GCs or their APs.

We are also developing a collection of foreign national laws and case law, gathered by our legal advisors in the field, on the implementation of IHL at a national level. We already have a database including most of these laws, but it often only contains the relevant extracts of the law and not the entire original text. The idea is to provide, through our online catalog, access to the original publication in its entirety, along with links between the various amendments, versions, and translations, and to make citation easier. This is a huge project but it’s also a very exciting one.

Q: What frustrations and challenges do you encounter in your work?

A: Knowledge frustration: I have the constant impression that I don’t know enough, that I should be able to answer a question almost on the spot, especial-

ly when someone asks how to find an answer in IHL. Of course, it is even harder when you deal with ICRC Legal advisors who are the experts, and for whom I often have the feeling there is no way I can bring something useful or new. I guess it’s the same thing for all librarians working with professors and experts.

And there are too many online resources, my bookmarks are exploding! I forget resources that I had identified previously. I should take some time to classify them, and create some kind of FAQ-oriented research guide. I will probably have to do that anyway if I have to set up an official training module for researching IHL.

Q: What are the aspects of your work that you like the most?

A: First, the diversity of tasks. I love the fact that I can work in technical services, acquisitions, reference, and promotion.

Second, it is also rewarding to work at the ICRC, working in a humanitarian environment and particularly with such a special organization. Even though I am not a field employee, in 2008 I had the chance to do a little mission in Georgia during the conflict with the Russian Federation. Although it was only driving Land Rovers around, it gave me a sense of what the ICRC is doing on the field.

Q: Finally, what are your interests outside work?

A: Volleyball, singing, climbing, graphic novels, cinema, and good food!

**The next issue of
FCIL Newsletter is
May 2013.**

FCIL Moments: An Introduction to the Series

FCIL research is often unlike any other research we do as law librarians. Not only do we still need to conduct our research quickly and efficiently, but the document we need to find may be in

German or only available in print or in another country entirely. Because of this, FCIL librarians learn to develop additional skills. The importance of personal contacts, copy editing, and

thinking outside the box come to the forefront. In this issue, we present your stories of ah-ha moments, little victories, and lessons learned.

JENNIFER ALLISON

Librarian for Foreign, Comparative, and International Law
Harvard Law School Library

I recently started working in a new library, where one of my first FCIL questions came from a foreign researcher who wanted to research the drafting history of several Latin American human rights conventions. Except he didn't call it "drafting history" – he called it "Travaux Préparatoires," in perfect French no less. Uh-oh. How was I supposed to help with that?

I knew I had to start out by understanding what was meant by "Travaux Préparatoires." Luckily, there is help that is suitable for even the most novice treaty researcher. Jonathan Pratter of the University of Texas has created (and very recently updated) an excellent introductory GlobalLex research guide on the topic, "À la Recherche des Travaux Préparatoires: An Approach to Researching the Drafting History of International Agreements" (available at http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/travaux_preparatoires1.htm). This guide not only introduces the concept but also discusses five "publication models" of the types of documents that comprise Travaux Préparatoires. In addition to being informative, I also found this to be very reassuring. Most of the time the library catalog will not have an item entitled "Travaux Préparatoires of _____ Convention." (That would just be too easy.) This gave me license to get creative.

However, the real gold mine that I stumbled on was a six-volume looseleaf in our reference collection: *Human Rights: The Inter-American System* by Thomas Buer-

genhal and Robert E. Norris. This set hasn't been updated since the mid-1990s, which for me is often a signal to give it a perfunctory glance but then look for something newer, either in print or online. However, I then realized that the documents I wanted to find were, mainly, old. I didn't need current awareness. Instead, I needed a collection of documents showing how these conventions came to be drafted – the older the documents, the better. So after looking through the first few volumes, I knew that this would give the student the start to his research that he was looking for. The authors of this set clearly went to a lot of trouble to compile these documents, and many of them do not appear to be available online even today.

Sure enough, when the student came back the next day, I showed him this set and he used it happily for several hours. He was very pleased that so much of his research could be done just with this one resource, and I was glad to have had the opportunity to appreciate an old looseleaf set for the value it continues to offer, even long after its last update had been filed.

SALLY WAMBOLD

Technical Services Librarian
University of Richmond Law School Library

More word fun in cataloging. Checking the German word(s) for private law, I input 'Burgerliches recht' without the umlaut above the u. Google Translate gave me "Castle fairly dissolute." Adding the umlaut got me "Private law," which is what I was seeking. What a difference an umlaut can make, eh?

JUICE (JOOTAEK) LEE

Research Librarian for Foreign, Comparative, and International Law
Northeastern University Law Library

This is a story about the first time I attended ASIL's Annual Meeting in 2011, two months after I became an FCIL librarian at the Northeastern University Law Library. 2011 was also the first year the Research Liaison Program of the ASIL International Legal Research Interest Group was launched. I was standing next to the volunteers and happened to meet one of our faculty members asking for help. She was looking for the official 1999 ILO Director General Report: Decent Work with pagination information. She needed an exact pinpoint citation. However, the online version from the ILO Website did not contain it. She had already sent a paging request to my school's librarians while I was out of office for the conference. The library requested it through inter-library loan, but the faculty member needed it for her presentation at the conference. I had also tried to find it, using the small screen of my iPhone, until I went back to my hotel at night. After taking a shower, I searched again in vain, until I manipulated and shortened the URL, and finally found the directory which compiled the reports of the Director-General to the ILO between 1921 and 1999 at <http://www.ilo.org/public/libdoc/ilo/P/09605>, where I found the official version and the pagination information. The faculty member really appreciated it the next day. This was my first exciting research moment after I became a FCIL librarian.

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MARY RUMSEY

*Foreign, Comparative & International Law Librarian
University of Minnesota Law Library*

Recently, one of our faculty members posed a tough question. He was looking at the General Assembly debates over the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), and also at a 1948 article on the UDHR by Hersch Lauterpacht. In that article, Lauterpacht quoted from the debates, and the quotations from speakers were in the first person. But when our prof looked at the UN records, he found only third-person records.

The prof asked me, "How did Lauter-

pacht have first-person records of the debate (with citations to UN documents), but the UN records I've found have the debate in the third person?"

The General Assembly debates over the UDHR are found in UN docs A/PV.180 - A/PV.183. These documents are available online, and they don't give the speakers' remarks in the first person. I checked other scholars who have written on the drafting of and debate on the UDHR, and found that they cited to those third-person records. But Lauterpacht's article clearly used first-person quotations.

I contacted the ready-reference folks at the UN's Dag Hammarskjöld library,

but they simply re-directed me to the online records.

As with many tough FCIL questions, this one called for the use of personal contacts. I emailed Susan Kurtas, UN librarian extraordinaire, and she provided the answer: "It is my recollection, which I confirmed with our resident expert Maritina Paniagua, that in the 3rd session the Official Records were issued as summary records, but the provisional records, issued during the session prior to the issuance of the GAOR, were verbatim records."

Susan then arranged for the provisional records to be scanned and sent to me. Our professor was delighted.

NEEL KANT AGRAWAL

*Librarian, FCIL
LA Law Library*

The extensive FCIL collection at the LA Law Library enables me to assist a variety of practitioners who rely upon the domestic laws of foreign countries in their litigation. For instance, a librarian at a global law firm with an office in Los Angeles requested three Japanese cases. As a starting point, I consulted the "Guide to Foreign and International Legal Citations," which directed me to Hanrei Taimuzu, an unofficial Japanese periodical containing cases.

I located the correct volume of Hanrei Taimuzu in our collection, based on the dates of the cases. However, I was unable to detect the case numbers or court names written in Japanese script. A fellow staff member recommended our Senior Cataloging Librarian, Ming Lu, a native Chinese speaker who reads some Japanese. Ming located the cases and we provided the law firm with the foreign materials that they needed.

Utilizing colleagues in our own institutions is invaluable to advancing a wide

array of FCIL projects. Because FCIL librarianship spans a range of subjects and languages, the success of our work requires constant collaboration with colleagues. As a reference librarian, the relationships that I build with staff members in reference, technical services, circulation, and administration impact all aspects of my daily work. Serving the research needs of global practitioners in a demanding environment is truly a team effort.

ELLEN SCHAFFER

Retired Librarian

What came to my mind when you said it could be an "ah-ha" moment is the very simple question I had many years ago. I was given a citation and needed to find the article. The source was to "GIPLR". I had neither an author nor a title. After some very obvious steps, I sat there and looked at it for a bit and thought, "it couldn't be" ... but it was. The person who asked for the article had thoughtfully translated the title of the journal for me. What I needed was actually RGDIP (*Revue Générale de Droit International Public*)!

ANNE ABRAMSON

*Foreign & International Law Librarian
Louis L. Biro Law Library, The John Marshall Law School*

Often the quest for foreign law takes one down a circuitous path, so it is remarkable when that path leads back to your own neck of the woods or, in this case, to a colleague just a few minutes away. Serendipity and timing can also make an FCIL research question memorable. The question I encountered came just after I had attended Jean Wenger's excellent AALL webinar, *Global Legal Research: Foreign Law* (December 18, 2012). I relished the chance to put Jean's suggestions into practice.

A student, Shane, was seeking the Turkish Law of Obligations which is part of the Turkish Civil Code (Chapter 2 et seq.). He was interested in Turkish torts law in particular, before the law was amended in 2011. Because Shane actually wanted the prior unamended version of the law, I thought it might be easier to obtain in the English translation.

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As is often the case, I learn a great deal from the students. On his own, Shane, had found an amazing law review article, Erdem Buyuksagis, *The New Turkish Tort Law*, 3 J. Eur. Tort L. 44, which was followed by the author's *Extracts from the New Turkish Code of Obligations*. I asked him how he found this article and learned that he used our subscription to EBSCOHost. As it turns out, EBSCOHost is our only subscription service which includes the Journal of European Tort Law. Who would have thought?!

My first inclination was, of course, FLG, which led me to the Turkish Ministry of Justice website. Jean had explained in her webinar how useful Ministry of Justice websites can be. The Turkish website is no exception, especially because it contains a link to basic Turkish laws in English. As luck would have it, however, only a translation of Turkish Civil Code Chapter 1 on Individual Rights is provided. There is no translation of Chapter 2 on Torts Law, which Shane was seeking.

I then resorted to the old standby, Worldcat, and found the title *Fundamentals of Turkish Private Law* by searching under the subject heading "civil law --- Turkey" and limiting my results to the English language (21 records). I picked the record for the latest edition, noting that it was published in 2005, before the 2011 amendments. Lo and behold, the table of contents indicated that Appendix 1 of Book Two contained the Turkish Civil Code and Code of Obligations in English translation. Jean had suggested this very strategy of looking for an "Appendix in a Secondary Resource". Finding a title like this in Worldcat is a great example of how this strategy can bear fruit. There was a small catch. Only five libraries worldwide were listed as owning this title. Shane did not have time to wait, so ILL was not an option. I, therefore, continued to explore alternatives.

I did a number of "targeted internet searches", another strategy that Jean rec-

ommended. One of those searches led me to a recent Kluwer publication entitled *Introduction to Turkish Law* (6th ed). Although it referenced the Code of Obligations many times, the book did not reproduce the Code itself. Shane still wanted to take a look at it. Again using Worldcat, I noted that a neighboring library, Loyola, had a copy of this title in its collection. I contacted my colleague at Loyola, Julianne Grant, and learned that it has a relatively extensive collection of Turkish law resources. Julianne had even created a wonderful LibGuide on Turkish Law Resources. What a goldmine!

Apologies for the length of this vignette, but I think it illustrates so many great lessons of FCIL research, in particular, and legal research in general. Research is truly a learning process and no effort is wasted. Even though many of the resources and strategies I used did not lead to the ultimate goal of finding an English translation of Chapter 2 of the Turkish Civil Code prior to 2011, I learned a lot of valuable information along the way. For example, I learned that the Turkish Civil Code had been based almost entirely on the Swiss Civil Code. It remained in force almost 80 years, before being amended in 2011. Perhaps an English translation of the Swiss Civil Code would suffice for Shane's purposes. Jean was able to steer me to a print copy of the Swiss Civil Code in English at Cook County Law Library as well as an electronic version.

One should not overlook the resourcefulness of one's students. I would never have thought to check EBSCOHost as Shane had done. He reminded me what gems it might contain. Lastly, I am fortunate to live in a global city with fantastic libraries and librarians, so I don't have to travel too far on a quest for the law of another country. In this instance, some of the best resources were right here in my own backyard.

RYAN HARRINGTON

Reference Librarian for Foreign & International Law

Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School

About a year ago I was asked to locate the Travaux Préparatoires for the Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture. I could see that some people had cited to a report on the drafting of the convention, but I couldn't locate the report online or in anyone's catalog. Researchers were probably acquiring and discarding this report, resulting in a great duplication of time and effort.

This was my moment of awareness. Why don't I purchase the report from OAS and upload it to our website so other people don't experience the hassle of figuring out whether something exists and where to get it? I looked for other instances of Travaux research I had done and uploaded them as well.

With the help of a student assistant, we located Travaux for a host of treaties online and provided links on our Collected Travaux website: <http://library.law.yale.edu/foreign/collected-travaux>. We also went through our catalog to locate collected Travaux Préparatoires in print. When we found a collection of Travaux we scanned the table of contents and uploaded them and the call number to our site.

I got wonderful feedback after publicizing this project on the FCIL and Int-law listservs. I will continue to update the site, especially as I come across Travaux in the course of my reference work. I hope you will forward your findings on to me as well. I'm very grateful for the support and for finding a way to contribute to the profession.

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LYONETTE LOUIS-JACQUES

*Foreign and International Law Librarian and Lecturer in Law
University of Chicago Law School*

As one of the embedded librarians for our Law School's Corporate Lab student teams, I've tried to identify useful resources for their comparative corporate law research. Besides the multinational surveys on LexisNexis and Westlaw, Reynolds & Flores' *Foreign Law Guide*, and our library catalog, I've found these databases to be great starting points:

- International and Comparative Legal Guides (ICLG): <http://www.iclg.co.uk/>
- Getting the Deal Through (GTDT): <http://www.gettingthedealthrough.com/>
- Practical Law Company (PLC): <http://us.practicallaw.com/>
- International Encyclopaedia of Laws (IEL): <http://www.ielaws.com/>

There are challenges with several of the resources. ICLG was free, but is now a subscription service. Because of budget constraints, we are de-duping print and e-resources. We were paying for the standalone GTDT, but, when it came time to renew, we decided to rely on

access via the Bloomberg Law database for "free". However, the content doesn't quite look the same, and we have no guarantee of continuing availability of the GTDT on BLAW.

[To access Getting the Deal Through via BLAW, look under the "Legal Analysis & News" tab --> "Books & Treatises". "[P]rovides international comparative guides to law and regulation in 46 practice areas and more than 100 jurisdictions, with concise explanations to the most important legal and regulatory matters that arise in deals and disputes worldwide," including antitrust regulation and intellectual property]

Sometimes these standard tools do not cover the country or countries a student is researching. I have found pockets of free multi-jurisdictional collections such as the International Bar Association Arbitration Committee's country arbitration guides (<http://www.ibanet.org/Article/Detail.aspx?ArticleUid=A646CF32-0AD8-4666-876B-C3D045028E64>) and the European Corporate Governance Institute's country corporate governance (http://www.ecgi.org/codes/all_codes.php) links.

Writers Wanted

FCIL Newsletter is looking for writers for our next issue.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

Open call for authors (accompanying photos welcome)

- Joint Study Institute (February 13-16, 2013)
- ASIL Annual Meeting (April 3-6, 2013)
- CALL/ACBD Annual General Meeting (May 5-8, 2013, extended deadline)
- Other upcoming conferences

ARTICLES/MEMBER NEWS

Open call for authors

If you are interested in writing on one of these topics, contact Deborah Schander (dschander@gsu.edu).

Submission deadline:
May 1, 2013

FCIL Newsletter

FCIL Newsletter is a publication of the Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. It is published in February, May, and October of each year.

Current and past issues of FCIL Newsletter are available on our website, at <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/fcil/newsletters>.

We welcome submissions. Contact us for more information.

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COLUMN: How the FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians Positively Impacts U.S.

Schaffer Grant Recipient Strikes Again: Priya Rai Assists Fordham Comparative Law Class

Lucie Olejnikova & Teresa Miguel-Stearns

The positive effects of the FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians continue to gain momentum! We all know the Grant has already made a difference in the lives of its recipients, but as you will read in this column, the Grant recipients continue to make a difference in our work just as much.

Priya Rai, our 2012 FCIL Schaffer Grant Recipient, gave an excellent presentation covering access to Indian legal information last year at the AALL Annual Meeting in Boston. Her comprehensive presentation was well-received not only by all those who attended her talk but also by those who have since accessed her slides on the FCIL website.

Shortly after her presentation, Fordham Law Professor Clare Huntington was in need of Indian family law resources as part of her Comparative Family Law course. Prof. Huntington contacted Alison Shea, FCIL Librarian at Fordham Law Library, for information. Ms. Shea had met Ms. Rai and

attended her presentation only weeks earlier, and personally connected Ms. Rai with Prof. Huntington. This instant connection resulted in Ms. Rai assisting Prof. Huntington and her class with Indian legal research. Ms. Rai also made herself personally available to assist Prof. Huntington and her class when they traveled to India in conjunction with the course. Prof. Huntington kindly shares her experience:

"As an Associate Professor at Fordham Law School, I teach a class entitled Comparative Family Law: U.S. and India. The class focuses on each country's approach to sex trafficking, domestic violence, and child abuse. Each student in the ten-person seminar works on an independent research project over a year-long period. The class also travels as a group to spend ten days in India, visiting NGOs working on these issues and taking a joint class with law students at the National Law School of India University in Bangalore. Priya Rai's work has been tremendously helpful to my students and me. Her presentation, *Access to Indian Legal Information in Digital Environment*, has

been instrumental to our research of family law issues in India. It is not easy for an American law student (or American law professor, for that matter) to know how to do legal research in another country, but Ms. Rai's work has been an excellent starting point. Additionally, I had the pleasure of meeting with Ms. Rai when I visited the National Law School of India University in Delhi. I was deeply impressed by her accessibility, commitment, and intellectual engagement. She is a treasure to researchers around the globe."

What a story! The Grant's legacy has come full circle once again.

Many thanks to Alison Shea for sharing this tremendous story, and to Priya Rai for being such a tremendous colleague and ambassador for both the FCIL Schaffer Grant and the profession.

Please send us a note on how the FCIL Schaffer Grant has impacted your work, for inclusion in the next issue of our *Newsletter*.

FCIL-SIS Election 2013 - Ballot Information

NOMINEES

Vice-Chair/Chair Elect - Teresa Miguel, Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School
Secretary/Treasurer - Roy Sturgeon, Law Library, Tulane University Law School

VOTING

Voting will take place in March 2013. Lucie Olejnikova, FCIL-SIS Secretary/Treasurer, will send out more information shortly.