

SCCLL News

A Newsletter of the State, Court and County Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

My Last Column as Chair

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

This is my last column as the SCCLL president and I would like to thank those who have helped me so much during this year and whose efforts may often go unrecognized. First, Kate Fitz is the web mistress of our lovely SCCLL web page and she has helped me fulfill my dream of creating an SCCLL wiki so that we can all share our documents and presentations. She's been the SCCLL web mistress for several years now, and I want to say THANKS to her for her unwavering commitment to such a large project!

Incoming chair, Barbara Fritschel, is one of SCCLL's most industriously committed volunteers and has been for many years. The Silent Auction at the annual business meeting would not exist without her, as she ran it on her own for several years. She always puts in many lovely items for the Silent Auction and arises at o'dark-thirty to prepare for it on the day of our business meeting. Additionally, in her role as Vice-Chair this year, she has put together our SCCLL reception at the Social Law Library. And she is going to present **two** programs at the annual meeting that are on my must-see list, "Embedding Librarians to Add Value to Your Institution," and "Don't Want to Be All by Myself: Federal Courts and Pro Ses." Whew!

Current SCCLL treasurer Rita Dermody has done a wonderful job keeping up with all the expenses, receipts, and tax forms that are part and parcel of keeping an SIS going. Even though she is the director of the very busy Public Law Library of King County in Seattle, WA, Rita will continue her term through the coming year. She is also presenting a program at AALL that is at the top of my list to see, "Access to Justice Committees and the Growing Importance of Law Librarian Involvement."

Past president Kathy Carlson has always given me excellent advice and I am sure that I will continue to turn to her as I move into the Past Chair position. Kathy has always been an active and supportive member of SCCLL, devoting huge amounts of time and energy to furthering our agenda with the AALL



"SCCLL always needs industrious bodies and minds for its committees. It doesn't matter if you've been a member for a year or twenty years. Submit an article! Help with the silent auction! Volunteer to be on a committee next year! Mentor someone! Don't wait to be asked - volunteer anytime via email or face-to-face."

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View from the Chair, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair



Executive Board and making sure that our concerns are heard. Thank you Kathy for all you have done and continue to do for SCCLL!

Fellow board members Joan Bellistri, Holly Lakatos, and Betsy Vipperman have all donated their time, energy, and expertise in liaising with the heads of committees and making the voice of the general membership heard when it came time for voting. Thank you all for all you have done! Holly and Betsy will be staying on as their term doesn't end for another year, and Coral Henning will be replacing Joan as the new Board Member.

Finally, the newsletter team deserves a great big thank you! Jennifer Dalglish worked tirelessly to put the newsletter together for several years and she did a wonderful job! When she stepped down, Holly Gerber stepped in, mentored along by Jennifer. John Barden was also a part of the newsletter committee this year and Joan Bellistri was the board liaison for it. The newsletter keeps us all connected in a way that nothing else does, and provides an archival record of who and what we are. It is a vital part of our identity, and too often it is taken for granted. So thank you, newsletter team! Your work is invaluable!

Many of the other committees did great work too and I hope that you all take the time to go and read their reports, which will be posted on the SCCLL web page. And I encourage **you** to become involved in SCCLL in any way you can. SCCLL always needs industrious bodies and minds for its committees. It doesn't matter if you've been a member for a year or twenty years. Submit an article! Help with the silent auction! Volunteer to be on a committee next year! Mentor someone! Don't wait to be asked – volunteer anytime via email or face-to-face. Hope to hear from you soon! ■

SCCLL News is published three times a year (Fall, Winter/Spring, and Summer) by the State, Court and County Law Libraries SIS. **The deadline for the next issue is September 21, 2012.** Please contact the Editor, Holly Gerber, at holly_gerber@co.washington.or.us with questions, comments, suggestions and submissions.

The State Court & County Law Libraries SIS does not assume any responsibility for the statements advanced by the contributors in this newsletter. The opinions expressed in SCCLL News are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SCCLL SIS.

From The Editor's Desk

Holly Gerber, Washington County Law Library (OR)

As the Annual Meeting in Boston approaches, we have a great deal of news and information to share. If you haven't volunteered for an SCCLL committee, see Barbara Fritschel's message below as there are still a number of committees that need members. The AALL Government Relations Office has created a [print resource usage log](#) to help prove that print resources are still incredibly useful in our libraries. The Joint Roundtable on Services to Pro Se Patrons and Prisoners is holding another [meeting at Annual](#). I was fortunate enough to attend the event last year, and I highly recommend attending as it was an interesting event with an exceptional speaker. We have some happy news as the [Utah State Courts' Self-Help Center](#) gained legislative approval and funding to expand its services statewide. Amy Hale-Janeke has put together a wonderful [roster of SCCLL events at Annual](#), including the handout from the Legislative Advocacy Training 2012 UELMA breakout session. In the issue's final article, Eleanor Gerlott takes readers into [her library's experience](#) dealing with a book thief. Plus, check out the back page for some exciting member news. ■

Volunteer for an SCCLL committee

Barbara Fritschel, Vice Chair/Chair Elect

There is still time to sign up to be on a SCCLL committee for 2012-13. Most committee work is carried out by email or conference calls, so attendance at the annual meeting is not a requirement. The bulk of the work of the SCCLL and the value it provides to members, is done by the committees. Committees that can use members are: Advocacy, Bylaws, Grants, Membership and Mentoring, Nominations, Public Relations, Standards, Strategic Planning, and Technology. For more information about a committee or to volunteer, contact Barbara Fritschel at Barbara_Fritschel@ca7.uscourts.gov. ■



SCCLL Reception in Boston—there is something new this year!

Barbara Fritschel, Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Join us for the SCCLL reception in Boston. We will meet on Monday, July 23rd at the Social Law Library in the John Adams Courthouse. (See <http://www.sociallaw.com/article.htm?cid=9977> for directions—it is just a short hop on the green line from the convention center.) The Social Law Library is the oldest law library in the country, established in 1804. It is a membership library with over 9,000 members. Stop in between 6- 8 p.m. for refreshments and to see this unique institution. Watch the SCCLL Discussion Group for updates and information on how to RSVP.



AALL Announcements

There's Still Time to Register for the 2012 [AALL Annual Meeting](#)

Designed by law librarians, for law librarians, the AALL Annual Meeting is an event you look forward to every year. Join nearly 2,000 of your colleagues from across the country to find out what they are doing in their libraries.

This year in Boston, July 21-24, you can look forward to:

- [Keynote speaker Richard Susskind](#)
- [Nearly 100 educational sessions](#)
- A day-long [special series of legal technology programs](#)
- [A bustling Exhibit Hall featuring about 100 vendors](#)
- The return of the [Association Luncheon](#)
- Connecting with the people who understand the issues you face every day

Make sure your plans for this summer include the No.1 educational conference for legal information professionals—you can't afford to miss it.

[Register today!](#)

Spread the word to your nonmember colleagues: Nonmember Conference Registration packages include a complimentary one-year AALL membership. By joining us in Boston, they'll be joining AALL!

AALL Announcements, continued

A New AALL Membership Year is Underway—Don't Miss Out!

AALL's new membership year just began on June 1. If you haven't renewed already, be sure you do today so you don't miss out on valuable member benefits.

- **Career resources**, such as the online [AALL Career Center](#) and [continuing education](#) to help you learn new skills to advance in your career
- **Access to specialized information** created just for law librarians, such as the [AALL Biennial Salary Survey](#) and the [AALL Price Index for Legal Publications](#)
- **Subscriptions** to the monthly magazine, [AALL Spectrum](#), and quarterly journal, [Law Library Journal](#), to help you keep up on the latest trends in law librarianship
- **The opportunity to network and connect with other law librarians** from across the country who share similar interests and are facing the same challenges
- **Discounted rates on all AALL products and services**, such as publications, webinars, and online job postings.

AALL is offering a discounted membership rate for AALL members who are recently unemployed (\$58 instead of \$228). Unemployed AALL members should fill out the [online form](#).

Find more information or [renew your membership online](#). If you have any questions about your membership renewal, contact AALL Headquarters at membership@aall.org or 312/205-8022.

AALL2go Pick of the Month

AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: [Challenging Conversations](#).

Most law librarians will have to deal with challenging conversations throughout their careers. The ability to productively handle difficult and sometimes emotionally charged communications is a necessary skill for librarians to develop. This presentation, led by William Lindberg and Pamela McClean from the Ash Grove Group, uses two brief vignettes to illustrate

“Most law librarians will have to deal with challenging conversations throughout their careers. The ability to productively handle difficult and sometimes emotionally charged communications is a necessary skill for librarians to develop.”

AALL Announcements, continued

specific strategies and techniques to improve one's ability to handle challenging conversations. The vignettes are acted out by academic law librarians Brian Baker, Victoria Williamson, and J. Denny Haythorn. A reading list and handout are included with the video presentations.

Find this and more than 100 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members on [AALL2go!](#)

Act Now! Help AALL Build the Case for Continued Access to Print Legal Resources

AALL Government Relations Office

A recent query from the Office of the Law Revision Counsel in the U.S. House of Representatives about the importance of the printed General Index of the U.S. Code made clear that the threat of elimination of print legal materials and reference publications continues to loom. The many law librarian responses to Law Revision Counsel Ralph Seep's question demonstrated that many library users, particularly members of the public, rely on the print Index and it is essential that this resource continue to be available.

As state, court and county law librarians, you know the importance of no-fee permanent public access to official legal materials. Many of you frequently see first-hand the value of print legal resources. That's why we're asking you to help us collect evidence to prove the continued need for legal materials in print and other tangible formats.

To that end, the Government Relations Office has created a print resource usage log that will aid in collecting more information about the use of print in your libraries. We ask that you log each time you use, or help someone to use, a federal legal resource in print. Examples include the print Code of Federal Regulations, Congressional Record, and U.S. Code.

The [usage log](#) is short and simple and won't take more than 5 minutes to complete. Please provide answers to as many of the questions as you can and ask your colleagues to do the same. Your answers will only be recorded and viewed by the AALL Government Relations Office staff, though we will make public an overview of the responses. Thank you for your help with this important new project!



Joint Roundtable on Services to Pro Se Patrons and Prisoners

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

If you are going to AALL, you don't want to miss this event! This roundtable, jointly sponsored by the LISP, SCCLL, and SR-SISs, is truly an interactive forum where participants discuss problems and solutions for dealing with two major segments of the public population. It originally formed a few years ago when the impact of pro ses and prisoners was becoming increasingly evident and law librarians needed a way to exchange information on what worked, what didn't, and why. It is a moderated forum, which keeps the discussion lively, and business cards are exchanged almost faster than the eye can see!

The first half of the hour is devoted to discussing prisoner mail. In the past we've had a librarian from a prison discuss what life in a prison library is like. Last year we had an exoneree who worked out of a law library tell his story and eventually won his freedom. This year, we will have a short presentation on how to get started answering prisoner mail and places to seek funding.

The second half of the hour is always spent discussing new ways of dealing with pro pers. In the past we have had people share "prescription pads" that they developed and gave to the county clerks so that when pro pers showed up at the library, the librarians could see exactly which form packets had been "prescribed." That idea was quickly adopted by others and proved to be a great hit.

Other past topics include strategies to get local court approval for form packets, what it takes to get a free law clinic started in a law library (along with pitfalls to avoid), and other invaluable information from the trenches.

This year SCCLL investigated trying to get this roundtable put up as a live webcast for those who could not attend AALL, but it was cost prohibitive. Notes will be taken and hopefully a somewhat accurate summary will be written up afterwards.

This year's roundtable will take place Monday, July 23rd from noon to 1 p.m. in the Sheraton-Independence Ballroom West. Seating will be limited so it's first-come, first-served.

"This roundtable, jointly sponsored by the LISP, SCCLL, and SR-SISs, is truly an interactive forum where participants discuss problems and solutions for dealing with two major segments of the public population."



Utah State Courts' Self-Help Center Gains Legislative Approval

Jessica Van Buren, Utah State Law Library

The Utah legislature passed a bill during its 2012 session creating a new program under the direction of the Utah State Law Library. SB 100 (<http://le.utah.gov/~2012/bills/sbillenr/SB0100.pdf>) directs the State Law Library to establish a statewide Self-Help Center.

The Utah State Courts' Self-Help Center (SHC) has actually existed as a program under the direction of the State Law Library since December 2007. The intent was to have a two year pilot program in two of the state's eight judicial districts, followed by a request to the legislature to fund a statewide program.

The SHC is virtual – all services are provided via a toll-free telephone help line, as well by email, text messaging and online chat. Staff provide no in-person services. SHC attorneys help people understand where they are in their case, explain court procedures, provide forms and give referrals. They do not provide legal advice. Services are also provided in Spanish.

Unfortunately, the economic downturn put expansion plans on hold. Statistics and customer service survey data demonstrated the program's success, and feedback about the SHC was overwhelmingly positive. The Utah Judicial Council's support for the SHC never wavered, and despite the tough economy, the court continued to find modest funding during tight budget years to keep the fledgling program afloat.

The new economic reality tested staff flexibility and creativity. In addition to the Council's funding, staff secured grants from the State Justice Institute, the Utah State Bar Foundation (IOLTA) and a local foundation for several years.

Thanks to the hard work and determination of the SHC's director Mary Jane Ciccarello, the program added staff and gradually expanded from serving two of the state's eight judicial districts to six. The only judicial districts unserved were two of the state's very large districts (which includes Salt Lake County), comprising 60% of the state's population. Without funding for additional staff the SHC could not expand any further.

“Anyone who works in a public law library knows the tremendous stress self-represented litigants place on the legal system. We are excited to be embarking on this new adventure to help the courts provide access to justice to those who are trying to work their way through the system on their own.”

Utah State Courts Self-Help Center Gains Legislative Approval, continued

Jessica Van Buren, Utah State Law Library



At its August 2011 budget session, the Council decided the courts would advance only one piece of legislation: a bill to officially establish the Self-Help Center under the State Law Library, and provide the funding necessary to make it a statewide program. Court administrators carefully selected the senator who would champion the bill, and garnered the needed support. The bill moved through the legislature without a single vote in opposition, and several attorney-legislators spoke favorably about the program.

Between the end of the session and the availability of new funds July 1, we have been feverishly preparing for the expanded program. We were able to repurpose existing space within the library to house all the staff in a central area, but it did require building a new wall, installing additional power and data lines, and relocating some books and shelving. We've also been consumed with the hundreds of small tasks that come along with new staff, including ordering new computers, phones and phone lines, furniture, office supplies.

New staff will be trained in July, and statewide services will be available by the end of August. The expanded Self-Help Center is staffed by one full time attorney – the director – and six part-time attorneys. Services are provided Monday – Thursday, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm.

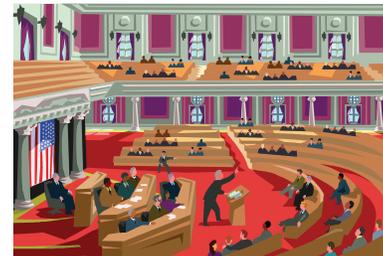
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SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

Here is a handy way to keep track of all the SCCLL-related events that are happening at AALL this year. Many of our members are involved in AALL programs and we don't want you to miss a thing!



Saturday July 21st

Legislative Advocacy Training 2012: Becoming an Effective Advocate

8:30am - 12:30pm @ HCC-Room 102

Law librarians, as constituents and experts in their field, play a critical role in influencing public policy at the federal and state levels. AALL's annual Advocacy Training is designed to teach you the skills you need to successfully advocate for the information policy issues that matter to you, your library and the profession. The training will feature a special guest speaker, Joseph Demers, a Massachusetts legislative staffer, who will discuss the "dos and don'ts" of effective advocacy and provide specific examples to help you get your message heard by decision-makers.

You'll also have an opportunity to choose from two hands-on breakout sessions: the first, on developing best practices and strategies for promoting the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) and overcoming challenges in your state; and the second on ensuring law library participation and collaboration in the future of the Federal Depository Library Program. The breakout sessions give participants the chance to brainstorm with colleagues in other states; you'll come away with practical ideas that you can take back to your library and your community.

SCCLL member presenting:

- Michele Finerty, University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law

[Editor's note: See pages 17-19 of this newsletter for the handout from the UELMA breakout session]

SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

Sunday, July 22nd

Breakfast, Business Meeting, and Silent Auction

7:00 am - 8:30am @ Sheraton-Independence Ballroom West

Yes, we know it's early. But please come have breakfast with your colleagues and friends and bid on wonderful objects donated by our membership. Proceeds benefit the scholarship fund for future annual meetings. We will keep the reports and speeches short.

A4: E-stats Collection for Your Non-Stacks Collection

10:45am - 11:45am @ HCC-Room 304

Library analytics have become more important than ever in the electronic era. As budgets tighten and students demand more online resources, evaluating usage of such resources becomes a key issue in allocating expense funds. Statistical analysis is one way to determine whether a library is getting its best bang for the buck. However, obtaining and analyzing such statistics can be a scattered and challenging process. Speakers will discuss the ways libraries obtain patron usage statistics with a central focus on electronic resources. Participants will see demonstrations of third-party statistical gathering software, as well as learn how to gain access to statistics held and distributed directly by vendors. An overview of COUNTER and SUSHI compliance will also be presented.

SCCLL members presenting:

- Ian Kipnes, California Western School of Law Library



SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

Sunday, July 22nd

B-3: Digital Content: The What, the How, and the Where

1:15pm - 2:45pm @ HCC-Room 210

This program will cover the basics of creating digital products, including best practices, specifications, metadata, workflow, quality control and assessment, and vendor relations. Additionally, participants will learn how to manage digital content, including making the content available for users, assessing user needs, ingest of content, access issues for digital content management, preservation options, and digital repositories. This program is co-sponsored by the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA).

SCCLL members coordinating/presenting:

- Janet Fisher, Arizona State Library Archives & Public Records

Poster Session

2:45pm-3:45pm @ Exhibit Hall

The Law Library Association of Maryland will have a poster on display in the Exhibit Hall. Creators of accepted posters will be on hand during the poster session presentation period to answer questions and discuss their work, but the posters will be on display throughout the entirety of the Annual Meeting. Don't miss this chance to see what your busy colleagues are up to in their libraries – and get inspired!

SCCLL members Katherine Baer and Mary Jo Lazun from the Maryland State Law Library created the poster and will be on hand to answer questions during this time.



SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

Monday, July 23rd

D4: Access to Justice Communities and the Growing Importance of Law Library Involvement

8:30am - 9:45am @ HCC-Room 304

Engaging with key organizations can help law librarians broaden their base of support and increase their effectiveness. This program will give an overview of Access to Justice (A2J) committees around the country. Participants will learn how the committees work and about their importance for the preservation of law libraries and access to legal information. Very few law librarians are currently members of A2J committees, but law librarians who are A2J members in Washington and Maryland will describe the ways their committee connections strengthen partnerships with courts, legal aid organizations, and bar associations. Speakers will explain how connections to A2J committees help promote law libraries and how they create mutually beneficial opportunities to expand A2J. A short question-and-answer period will invite audience participants to offer input regarding their local A2J and advocacy efforts.

SCCLL members presenting:

- Rita Dermody, Public Law Library of King County, Seattle, WA
- Sara Galligan, Ramsey County Law Library, St. Paul, MN
- Steven P. Anderson, Maryland State Law Library, Annapolis, MD



SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

Monday, July 23rd

E1: State Advocacy Strategies: Learning to Connect, Grow, and Survive

10:45am - 11:45am @ HCC-Room 210

Law librarians battling to safeguard public law library service against proposed state budget cuts that—should they become reality—challenge its very existence. Participants will identify alternative advocacy strategies devised by public law librarians (state, court, and county) aimed at preserving their operations in hard economic times. Participants will be able to select, from among these alternative strategies, a blended advocacy plan—drawing elements from other states, but tailored to fit their own unique jurisdictions.

SCCLL members presenting:

- David Badertscher, Retired, University of Chicago
- Jonathan C. Stock, Retired, Connecticut Judicial Branch
- Maryruth Storer, Orange County Public Law Library, Santa Ana, CA

Joint Roundtable on Services to Pro Se Patrons and Prisoners

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm @ Sheraton-Independence Ballroom West

Limited boxed lunches available- first come, first served

G2: Turner v. Rogers, Due Process, and the Pursuit of Court Access: Trumpeting the Law Library Connection

2:45pm - 4:00pm @ HCC-Room 302

Turner v. Rogers (131 S.Ct. 2507) is a 2011 decision that calls for fundamental fairness and access to the courts in civil cases. “Civil Gideon” champions the right to counsel in civil cases. Law librarians can unite with Turner as a landmark case in the delivery of legal services to the unrepresented. The Turner case offers a new perspective for advocating the library’s role in access to justice services. The program will conclude with a dialog on how law librarians might implement the Turner principles.

SCCLL member presenting:

- Sara Galligan, Ramsey County Law Library, St. Paul, MN



SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair



Monday, July 23rd

SCCLL Reception

6:00pm - 8:00pm @ OFFSITE-Social Law Library

(1 Pemberton Sq # 4100 Boston, MA 02108)

Tuesday, July 24th

I6: Embedding Librarians to Add Value to Your Institution

10:15am - 11:45am @ HCC-Room 210

More and more, librarians are thinking outside the library and discovering that expanding their traditional roles can make them more valuable to their parent organizations. Embedded librarian programs have unique relevance for law libraries, and they can look very different depending on the type of organization they serve. This program will give three different perspectives on utilizing embedded librarians to improve the interaction between librarians, faculty, attorneys, and other library users in academic, law firm, and government law libraries. The panelists will impart how organizations benefit from these programs and what elements are needed to implement a successful program. The presentations will be followed by guided roundtable discussions specific to the types of law library in order to explore the challenges and possibilities of launching an embedded librarian program.

SCCLL member presenting:

- Barbara Fritschel, 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, Milwaukee, WI

SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

J3: Turbo Form Powers – Activate! Creating and Maintaining Online Dynamic Legal Forms

2:30pm - 3:15pm @ HCC-Room 306

Online intelligent legal forms are the future of form delivery for self-represented litigants. However, developing such forms can be labor intensive and complex. If your state or county court is considering developing online dynamic legal forms, you will want to learn from first adopters about what works well and what doesn't, as well as how TurboForms will impact all public law librarians. Speakers will address the creation of a vendor-supported and fee-based system implemented state-wide in Arizona (TurboCourt), as well as a large metropolitan county court's home-grown and free system (eCourt in Maricopa County), which is used by select other county court systems in the same state.

SCCLL members presenting:

- Gretchen Hornberger, Coconino County Law Library, Flagstaff, AZ,
- Myndi Clive, Maricopa County Superior Court Law Library, Phoenix, AZ
- Jennifer Murray, Maricopa County Superior Court Law Library, Phoenix, AZ

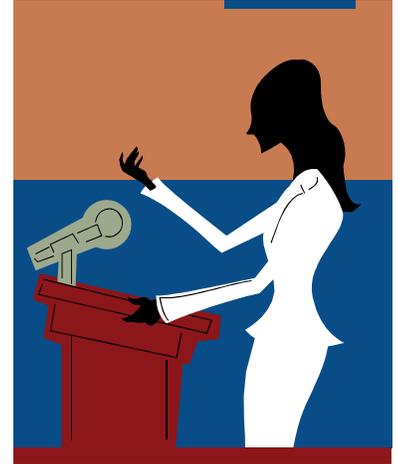
K1: Don't Wanna Be All By Myself: Federal Courts and Pro Ses

3:45pm - 4:45pm @ HCC-Room 210

Federal courts assistance to self-represented litigants is relatively recent compared to efforts at state and county levels. This program will look at self-represented litigants in the federal courts, with an in-depth look at two pilot district court clerk's office projects: the Pro Se Assistance Program in the Northern District of Illinois, which provides basic legal information and contacts with pro bono attorneys, and the Pro Se Pathfinder in the District of New Jersey, which is an electronic resource to help people determine whether they are eligible for bankruptcy and helps complete basic forms. Comparisons with state and county efforts will be made.

SCCLL member presenting:

- Barbara Fritschel, 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, Milwaukee, WI



SCCLL Roster of Events at AALL Annual Meeting, continued

Amy Hale-Janeke, SCCLL Chair

K4: Customer Service and Marketing: Shaking Things Up to Achieve a Great Library Identity

3:45pm - 4:45pm @ HCC-Room 312

Customer service, image, and marketing are important in gaining loyalty from consumers in the corporate world, but they are just as important in all types of law libraries. While certain companies automatically make you think of great customer service, others can be quite the opposite. Learn how you can create better customer satisfaction and loyalty in your library, while having a little fun along the way. Shake things up, get some new ideas, and put them into action!

SCCLL members presenting:

- Donna Williams, University of San Francisco School of Law, San Francisco, CA
- Amy Hale-Janeke, 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, New Orleans, LA

Legislative Advocacy Training 2012

Advocating for UELMA in Your State Handout

Emily Feltren, Michele Finerty, Elizabeth Holland July 21, 2012

By volunteering to work for the enactment of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) in your state, you'll learn how to be an effective legislative advocate. Remember, legislative advocates are made, not born!

Use the following tips to start advocating for UELMA in your state:

- Know the Issue. Read and familiarize yourself with UELMA. You'll find numerous links to information about the Act on the back of this handout.
- Connect. Contact Emily Feltren and Elizabeth Holland in the GRO. They'll connect you with any officials, legislators or individuals who have taken the lead in your state.
- Get what you need. The GRO will request informational packets from the Uniform Law Commission be sent to you.



- Reach out. Your allies can help! Contact your state's uniform law commissioner, chairs of chapter government relations committees, or other state library associations for help.
- Meet. Arrange a meeting with the contacts you have. Formulate questions to ask and get answers face to face.
- Help out. If a bill has not yet been written, offer to assist your state contact in recruiting sponsors or co-sponsors.
- Track it. Follow the bill's progress throughout the legislative process.
- Speak up. Draft testimony or letters in support of the bill. Again, the GRO will have information to guide you.

Remember, the paths to UELMA differ from state to state. In Connecticut, the state uniform law commissioner first reached out to AALL, while in Colorado (the first state to enact UELMA), Emily Feltren connected Susan Nevelow Mart to representatives in the Uniform Law Commission and state Senate. California's group of law librarians called upon the state's legislative counsel because she had been a member of the ULC's Committee to Draft UELMA and learned that there was already a bill with a sponsor!

With the help of the GRO and its resources, advocating for UELMA can be a fun and rewarding way to support access to official, authentic online legal information while making a difference in your state.

UELMA Links

Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (Final Text):

<http://www.aallnet.org/Documents/Government-Relations/2011Oct-UniformElectronicLegalMaterialAct-Final.pdf>

UELMA Summary:

<http://www.uniformlaws.org/ActSummary.aspx?title=Electronic%20Legal%20Material%20Act>

AALL's FAQs: <http://aallnet.org/main-menu/Advocacy/aallwash/Advocacy-Toolkit/7-Uniform-Electronic-Legal-Material-Act/UELMAFAQ.pdf>

UELMA: Why States Should Adopt the Act:

<http://www.uniformlaws.org/shared/docs/UELMA%20Why%20States%20Should%20Adopt.doc>

Law Librarians Push for the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act, The Recorder, Feb. 2012:

<http://www.law.com/jsp/lawtechnologynews/PubArticleLTN.jsp?id=1202542565023&slreturn=1>

AALL Endorsement Letter:

http://www.uniformlaws.org/Shared/Docs/UELMA/AALL%20Letter%20of%20Support_DarcyKirk.pdf

Uniform Law Commission Electronic Legal Material Committee Page

(includes links to texts of drafts, reports, etc.):

<http://www.uniformlaws.org/Committee.aspx?title=Electronic%20Legal%20Material%20Act>

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<http://www.mnhs.org/preserve/records/legislativerecords/authentication.htm>

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The Case of the Missing Law Books

Eleanor Gerlott, Lancaster County Law Library (PA)

Recently the Lancaster County (PA) Law Library had the unfortunate experience of having to prosecute someone for library theft. I have been the librarian at this library for 30 years, and, although we have had occasions when someone may have “helped themselves” to a book of particular interest to them, we never had a situation such as this one. In this particular case we believe the gentleman in question (not an attorney) was actually systematically taking certain types of books to start his own collection. There is a piece of information I should tell you about our library before I begin the story—the library has a somewhat unique layout and location. The library has 3 entrances and exits, and it is a thoroughfare for people going between two parts of our courthouse. We have no security system.

Our experience with this particular man began last summer. From late July through early September he made at least a dozen visits to the Law Library. He asked numerous questions, and he frequently wanted us to help him find cases or statutes on Westlaw. At one point he actually identified himself to us—he was boasting that a drug-related case in which he had been the defendant had been reported in New York Supplement, 2nd, and the judge had liked one of his arguments (even though he lost the appeal.) He also indicated that he had a paralegal certificate, but we weren’t sure if his certificate was legitimate or not.

Early in September we suddenly began noticing some “gaps” in the books on our shelves. We are a medium sized county law library; we have about 26,000 volumes, and we don’t have much extra shelf space. So when 4 or 5 adjacent books are not on the shelf, there is an obvious gap. The first “gap” we saw was in the Code of Federal Regulations—7 volumes of Title 12 and one volume of Title 13. A few days later we realized that 4 volumes of the Federal Jury Practice and Instructions were also missing. Over the course of the next few weeks we found about a dozen other volumes that were mysteriously missing; with the exception of the CFR volumes, all were standard treatises.

We were obviously very concerned; we were missing over \$2,000 worth of materials. We began to rack our brains as to what had happened to all of these books. Gradually we began to put together the pieces of the puzzle, and realized that our soon to be alleged perpetrator had been working in the areas of the missing books, and also that he frequently came to the library



The Case of the Missing Law Books, continued

Eleanor Gerlott, Lancaster County Law Library (PA)

with some sort of backpack or duffel bag. We also began to realize that his frequent requests for us to look up items online may actually have been a way to distract us. The library has one full-time and one part-time staff person; if only one of us was working while he was here, we had no way of knowing what he was doing while we were finding things online for him.

At this point we contacted our sheriff's department and the county detectives. We gave them a list of all of the missing items and discussed our suspicions with them. We decided that the next time our "friend" came into the library, we would notify the deputies, and they would search his duffel bag when he left the library. Pennsylvania's library theft statute (18 Pa.C.S.A. 3929.1) gives library employees or peace officers the authority to do this. About 8 weeks passed, and, quite honestly, I was actually beginning to think that maybe we would never see this man again. Maybe he had decided not to press his luck by coming back to the library, and, in some respects, that would have been fine with me!

However, he did return, and one of the first things I noticed was that he had a duffel bag that appeared to be empty. My heart was pounding, but I contacted the deputies and even managed to stay calm enough to answer a reference question for him. The deputies stopped him when he left the library, and he had 3 more CFR's and a book on federal procedure in his duffel bag. He tried to say that he was in a hurry when he left and just accidentally scooped the books up with his papers, but the county detective didn't buy that story, and our "friend" was arrested and charged with library theft. He eventually pled guilty; he served 5 months in prison and was ordered to pay fines and costs. Unfortunately the detectives were not able to recover the material that we believe he had previously taken from the library, but he is barred from ever using the Law Library again.

No more books have mysteriously disappeared since this man's arrest, so we believe the mystery of the missing law books has been solved. However it's also a mystery that we hope never repeats itself!

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The Back Page

Member News & Announcements



Kentucky State Law Librarian, Jennifer Frazier, was featured on an episode of Who Do You Think You Are? With Jerome “the Bus” Bettis, that aired on NBC on March 9, 2012. You can see the episode for yourself on NBC’s website at:

<http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are/video/>

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The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has appointed Julie Tessmer as the Wisconsin State Law Librarian. Julie, who has been with the library since 1982, most recently served as Deputy Law Librarian and then as Interim State Law Librarian upon Jane Colwin's retirement in June 2011.

Julie's extensive professional experience includes serving as Law Library Consultant in both Nigeria and Serbia for the National Center for State Courts, and she has chaired or served on various committees of both the Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin and the American Association of Law Libraries.

Julie is also a member of the United States Navy - Reserves Component, and as such she served in active military service in Iraq in 2009-2010 and is certified as a Legalman through the Naval Justice School.

Congratulations, Julie!



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Laura Orr, the Washington County (OR) Law Librarian, was presented with the 2012 Washington County Bar Association Professionalism Award.

