

State, Court & County Law Libraries **NEWS**



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President's Message: Advocacy is on the Agenda

Advocacy is the theme for the year and this theme will be carried out by laying the groundwork for a new SCCLL advocacy program. As I talk to members of our group from around the country, I find there are cost cutting measures everywhere that will significantly impact services patrons receive from all types of libraries in our SIS.

Budget cuts have hit close to home. This last spring, I worked hard to stop an effort to merge our county law library with our public library. During times of lean revenues our county had put together a committee of county officials and local government leaders to study various ways to save money from a list developed by our county finance department and committee members. Merging the law library and county library was on that list. I used political clout from my Board of Trustees to lobby members of the committee and provided the committee with arguments opposing the merger. Luck was on my side as our local tax revenues have significantly increased thus lessening the need for severe cost cutting measures. The committee finally decided that it did not make sense to merge the two libraries. The merger idea is dead for now but I'm sure it will come up again as it has every time there is a severe decrease in revenues.

Although funding problems are of utmost urgency, and sup-

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I think we are not taking advantage of information our group has to share.

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CHANGES AT THE DOUGHERTY COUNTY LAW LIBRARY MIRROR WIDER TRENDS

Recent visitors to the law library have noticed that significant changes are taking place. The changes at the law library are not unique. Law librarians across the country must respond to two major challenges: increasing numbers of *pro se* litigants and the skyrocketing costs of legal materials. This article will outline these two major challenges, and then explain how the Dougherty County Law Library is responding.

Courts are flooded with self-represented litigants. In a survey conducted for the 1999 National Conference on *Pro Se* Litigation, court personnel “reported that self-representation had increased moderately or dramatically in the preceding five years.” The vast majority of *pro se* litigants choose self-representation because they cannot afford an attorney, and they are unfamiliar with how the legal system works. In many cases, the opposing party is represented by counsel.

Despite the ignorance of most *pro se* litigants, Georgia courts hold them to the same standard as litigants who are represented by an attorney. Legal Aid and *pro bono* projects have been unable so far to meet the legal needs of lower income people. All of these factors combine to create a real risk of injustice. “Access to the courts, and thus justice, is denied if the public cannot avail itself of legal information. Only public law libraries can provide the public with free, accurate and up-to-date legal information, which is essential in a society such as ours with its complex laws and systems.”

The second challenge facing law libraries is the exponential growth in the cost of library materials. Li-

braries worldwide are reducing their collections of books and journals at a time when scholarly information is exploding. Between 1986 and 2000, the Consumer Price Index increased by 46%, while the cost of books increased by 62%, and the cost of scholarly journals increased by 169%. If academic and research libraries were to maintain their collections at 1980s levels, their budgets would require an increase of 250%. Libraries have reduced their acquisition of books by 26% since the mid-1980s.

The Dougherty County Law Library is responding to the challenge of *pro se* litigants in several ways. We now have form packets which can be purchased by *pro se* litigants or downloaded from our website for free. Additionally, our website contains links to helpful legal information. While I am not permitted to give legal advice to *pro se* litigants, I can show them how to find legal information. My col-

leagues at the San Diego County Public Law Library have developed several workshops for *pro se* litigants on legal research and civil pre-trial procedures. In the future we could have workshops here as

well. Currently, one-third of visitors to the law library are attorneys, and the other two-thirds are the self-represented.

The increasing expense of legal materials has affected the law library even though we have not experienced the budget cuts which have afflicted other libraries. In Dougherty County, we are conserving resources by discontinuing the

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Law librarians across the country must respond to two major challenges.

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FROM THE EDITOR:

Barbara L. Fritschel, Editor
5th Circuit Satellite Librarian,
Beaumont, TX

Maybe because I am already in Texas, I find myself excited about next year's meeting in San Antonio, even though Boston is just over. The money raised by the silent auction and a couple of challenges will help many people head to the Texas heat. I asked the grant recipients to write their articles on how they saw the conference helping them professionally—what they would bring back to their libraries. I hope that as you read those articles, you might see some ideas which will help you justify the gathering to your budget people.

Also, take a look at Shirley David's article regarding the VIPs who attend AALL. For the first time, Special Interest Sections, such as SCCLL, will be able to host a VIP to the gathering. (In the past, only local chapters could.) The grants will cover their registration fee. The comments from judges and trustees who have gone to gatherings indicate that they were not aware of just how "professional" law librarians are and the variety of issues we face. As Marcus' article on the Legislative Advocacy workshop indicates, all politics is local so we need to get our local people on board.

SCCLL List

To subscribe, follow the instructions at:
[http://www.aallnet.org/sis/sccll/membership/
listserv.htm](http://www.aallnet.org/sis/sccll/membership/listserv.htm)

To send a message to everyone on the list, send e-mail
to:
sccll-sis@aallnet.org

I would like to thank Jean Holcomb for her "Managing by the Book" column which appeared in the last three issues. This feature has moved to the Law Library Journal, starting this October.

From Amy Hale Janeke and Sharon Blackburn: We just wanted to take a minute to thank SCCLL for co-sponsoring the program "Negotiating with the Bizarre" given at the AALL Annual Meeting in Boston. We received a tremendous amount of positive feedback and many demands to have the powerpoint posted to the web. It is now available at: <http://www.sdcll.org/presentation>. Thanks again!

SCCLL News

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Articles and forms should be submitted via electronic mail to:

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Federal print collection, with the exception of the *U.S.C.A.* and *Moore's Federal Practice*. We are using the monetary savings to update and strengthen our Georgia print collection as well as to provide online access to federal and multi-state sources. Having a smaller print collection means that we have more space for the future growth of our Georgia collection. The former Federal room is now a conference room which attorneys can reserve for closings, depositions, and other meetings. Reservations can be made on-line or by telephone.

Since not all attorneys are comfortable with online legal research, we will hold training classes at the library. Those who attend will receive CLE credit. During the next three months, I will create an on-line computer catalog. Patrons will be able to find out what we have before they come to the library.

Pro se litigants are not going away; it is predicted that their numbers will keep increasing. The rapid increase in the cost of library materials shows no sign of leveling off. But the Dougherty County Law Library will continue to serve the legal information needs of our community. We especially welcome suggestions and requests from the Dougherty County bar.

Laureen Adams

(reprinted from the Dougherty County Bar Association newsletter)

Editor's note: Laureen Adam's work included footnotes. If you would like a copy of her article with the footnotes, please email me and I will send it to you.



All Politics is local

How many times have you heard this line? Certainly, it was often repeated at the most recent Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training Workshop held at the Annual meeting in Boston. This half day workshop sponsored by the AALL Washington Affairs office focused particularly on state level legislative issues. 40 participants heard from 5 speakers who urged them to become more involved in advocacy in their own setting. These speakers included Elizabeth LeDoux, Mary Alice Baish, Judy Meadows, Robert Riger, and Charles Dyer.

Elizabeth LeDoux set out the goals of the workshop with an energetic appeal to jump into the legislative process with both feet. All were encouraged to take the smallest steps to unite behind our common causes. Whether the issue is copyright law, access to government information, or keeping your local law library adequately funded, then doing a small part can play a large role in any successful goal.

Mary Alice Baish recounted the successes of recent legislative battles with the support of the AALL Wash-

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ington Affairs Office in Washington, DC. The UCITA (Uniform Commercial Information Transaction Act) legislation, accepted as law in Virginia and Maryland, has been stopped in 26 other states. Mary Alice also introduced a post card campaign to support the passing of H.B. 107, Digital Media Consumers' Rights Act. AALL President Janis Johnston's recent testimony before the House Committee on Administration's oversight hearing on the Government Printing Office on April 28, 2004 was highlighted. Other legislative issues included the AALL participation in the website OpenTheGovernment.org and taking action on the AALL GRC Committee state-by-state report on Permanent Public Access to Electronic Government Information. More information of the AALL Washington Affairs is located at:

<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/aallwash/>.

Judy Meadows gave examples of how to make those meaningful contacts with our representatives in any context, even in the grocery store. Judy offered some hints to obtain this goal. 1. Find out everything you can about your representative through examining his/her biography and tailor your message to key in on this background information. 2. Examine ways you can make contact through friends or relatives with similar backgrounds. 3. Make contact with the staff of each representative and offer to provide research services for constituents when necessary. This type of support allows more receptive ears to your issues when the time comes. 4. Subscribe to your congressional delegates' online newsletters, to find out when they will be home in your district. 5. Know what these delegates look like, so that you can recognize them -- either in the airport or at the grocery store and 6. Reach out to other legislative arms of library associations in your state creating a network which can become critical in dealing with any future crisis.

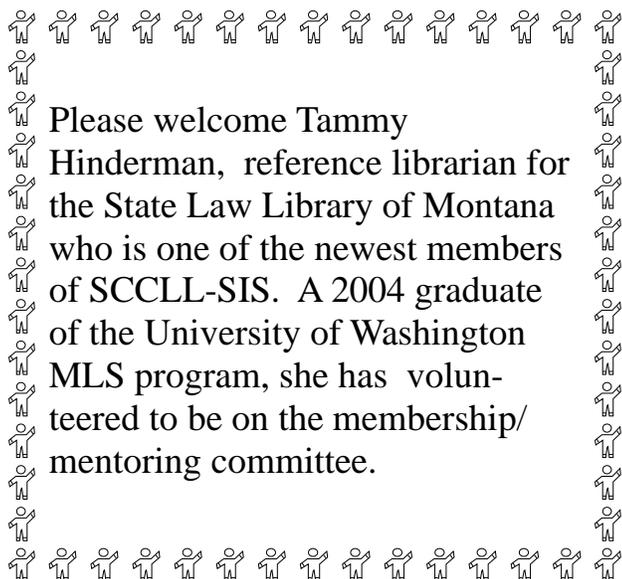
Robert Riger spoke about the crisis of funding for Florida County Law Libraries and their struggle to restore it with legislative advocacy work. Robert's description of the crisis brought home the ever changing legislative landscape which can shift at a moment's notice. Working in conjunction with Mary Alice, interested members were able to get legislation introduced and passed which restored partial funding. Robert emphasized the uphill battle to get people to understand the nature of the dilemma and to employ a lobbyist to drive home their message to restore funding. Ultimately, Riger stated "we're looking for a long-term solution, but not certain of getting a long-term solution this year."

Charley Dyer spoke to the strategies for success in legislative advocacy for Public Law Libraries in crises. The funding crisis which occurred in Florida did not happen in a vacuum and those legislators may share how to "solve" funding issues with relation to law libraries in ways detrimental to our existence. Charlie pointed to the creation of or participation in a group advocacy effort on a state and local level wherever possible. The Council of California County Law Librarians has participated for years in the legislative process through the use of a paid full-time lobbyist. Not all states or organizations are able to support such a position, however even individuals can get their message across when determination is part of the equation.

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Judging from the animated discussion period held at the end of the workshop, participants genuinely enjoyed the topic and seemed energized to take on their legislators for the sake of the legal community they serve. Barb Golden, of the Minnesota State Law Library felt the workshop “was a breath of fresh air and time well spent. Public law libraries are a valuable, but often overlooked, component of the American justice system. Now we are on the endangered list. It is important to focus attention and resources on this issue. I also appreciated the initiative of the AALL Washington Office to provide help and assistance in launching lobbying efforts where needed at the local level. It will be important to mobilize our membership. A threat in one part of the country is a threat to us all.”

Marcus Hochstetler
Mahoning Law Library Association



Please welcome Tammy Hinderman, reference librarian for the State Law Library of Montana who is one of the newest members of SCCLL-SIS. A 2004 graduate of the University of Washington MLS program, she has volunteered to be on the membership/mentoring committee.

Charley’s Corner: Law Librarians Must Vote for a President

by Charles R. Dyer, Director of Libraries, San Diego County Public Law Library

Nothing in this column represents the view of my Library or its Board of Trustees. Believe me. This time I really mean it. These are just my personal opinions.

The upcoming presidential election is seen by many to be an extremely critical one that will determine just what the United States is over the coming years. More than most elections, it is seen as a real choice in different value systems. Many conservative political supporters believe the re-election of George W. Bush would be a vindication of his policies and a final coming to an end of the more liberal times that were fostered by the New Deal and subsequent civil rights awarded by both Congress and the courts. They see the country taking a tack toward more conservative values as they see them and a strong stance toward protecting the “American way of life.” Many liberal political supporters see the election of John Kerry as a necessity for the United States to move in directions they perceive that other liberal democracies have already gone, such as national health care and greater deference to multi-national organizations when conducting foreign affairs. They see the country as in need of “catching up,” if you will.

You have undoubtedly also heard of the many legislative matters that have greatly affected librarians and their work. So as to complicate your decision-making just a bit further, I thought I’d give a scorecard to you about some of these matters:

- The USA PATRIOT Act has been roundly criticized by most professional library organizations as an intrusion on people’s freedom and potentially damaging to libraries and librarians as they go about their work. The essential provisions are that police officers may now gather information from library records without a court order, whereas before a court order was required, in order to investigate matters of national security. Also, such investigations are to be done in secret, such that a librarian is gagged from even discussing an investigation with her

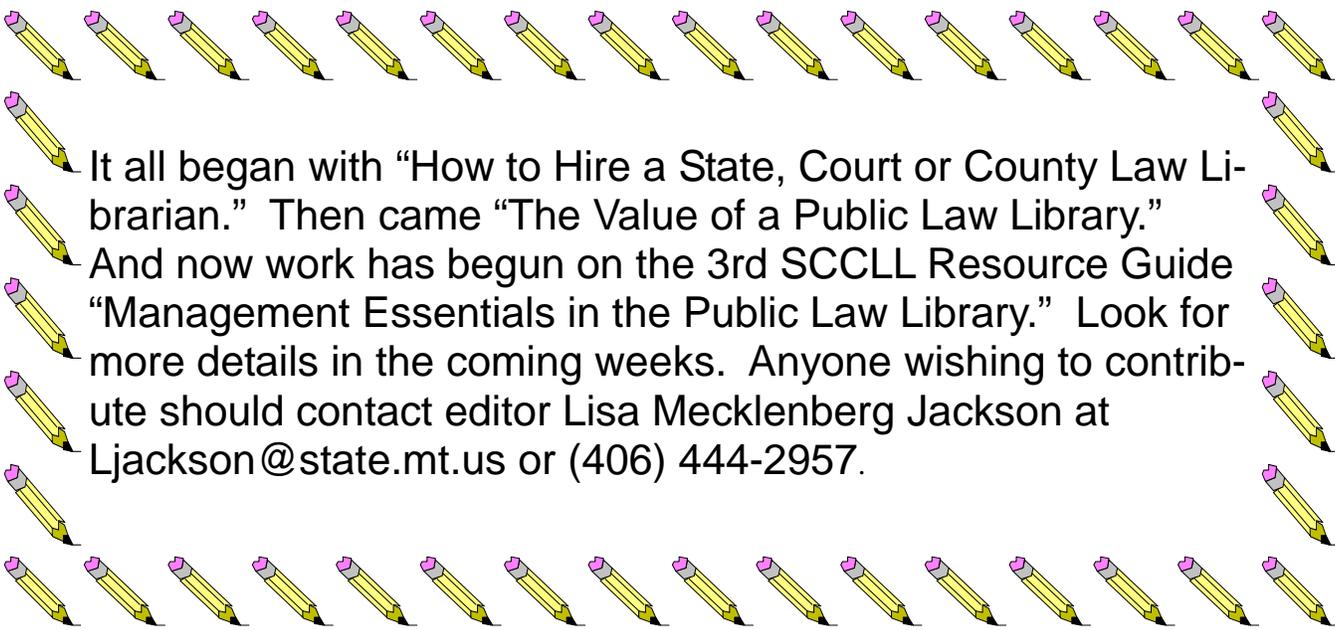
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CONGRATULATIONS!

Mary E. Matuszak, law librarian, was awarded the Bernadette Cregg award in recognition of her dedication, loyalty and outstanding work as an employee of the New York County District Attorney's Office.

Did you see the great write up of Shirley David in the Sacramento Bee? Check it out at <http://www.sacbee.com/content/news/story/10771644p-11689849c.html>



It all began with "How to Hire a State, Court or County Law Librarian." Then came "The Value of a Public Law Library." And now work has begun on the 3rd SCCLL Resource Guide "Management Essentials in the Public Law Library." Look for more details in the coming weeks. Anyone wishing to contribute should contact editor Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson at Ljackson@state.mt.us or (406) 444-2957.

own lawyer. Does this extra power improve the security of the country? Or does the potential for abuse or simply gross mistake outweigh the supposed gains? You make the call.

- The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and a few others of its ilk have created considerable havoc for libraries. The requirement that any library accepting funds for computers or telecommunications to filter computers so as to prevent a child's access to pornography seems reasonable enough, but in practice the filtering software is very difficult to use without eliminating much of the adequacy of web searches. Most such software is also very inadequate for the purpose it is intended. Some of the software was written for other political motives, such as prevention of information about abortion rights, etc. And they add considerable expense to libraries. These acts are the result of Republican control of Congress (the original was signed by Clinton), but Democrats have gone along with them to avoid backlash in their own districts. Since the Congress is unwilling to listen to testimony as to the failures of this software, we have had to rely on the courts. The most recent Supreme Court decisions have made factual errors, presuming that the software can be turned off with ease for those (such as adults) who want broad searches. Whether later cases will get anywhere will depend in part on who is appointed to replace our Supreme Court justices who will retire next term.
- The Library Services and Technology Act, which adds considerable largesse to the pool of funds available to public libraries (and in some states public law libraries) actually has been reasonably adequately supported during the Bush Administration. Federal money for the telecommunications discounts has dropped slightly, but it, has not been written off altogether. (I never expected that program to last as long as it has. It always seemed to me as being meant to help ease libraries' budgets into the modern telecommunications age.) I believe that this may be in part due to the influence of First Lady Laura Bush, a former school librarian. It may also be that Congress has seen fit to allow this funding so long as things

like the CIPA are in place.

- Funding for scholarships to library schools has actually increased significantly during the Bush Administration. Here, Laura Bush has definitely had an affect. The amount of overall money is not large, compared to, say, increases in the Defense Budget, but it is going in the right direction. I hope that whoever is elected will continue this trend.
- The several bills that have been aimed at Internet piracy, i.e., large-scale copying of copyrighted works through electronic means, have, for the most part, been written with a very heavy hand. They would enable producers of "soft" material, i.e., electronic copies of copyrighted works, to include technological measures that would eliminate fair use of their products alongside making piracy harder. In truth, these acts would not prevent piracy, as determined computer experts can bypass any security measures if the price is right. Mostly, the acts will enable creators of materials that would never be pirated, such as scholarly materials, to use the measures unfairly against libraries and educators. Unfortunately, these acts appeal to both Republicans and Democrats. Republicans like the self-policing aspects and freedom to allow businesses to conduct such measures. Democrats, especially at the national level, receive a significant amount of funding from the producers of the works most susceptible to pirating, i.e., Hollywood, and they support these measures as well. This issue may well be the one that calls out for the reforms that Ralph Nader wants, i.e., to remove the power of the large corporations to infiltrate our politics so badly.

Those are the most obvious aspects of the elections with regard to libraries. Now for some other

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thoughts:

As librarians, we are more informed than most Americans.

In recent decades, the Republican Party has adopted a more conservative stance on family values. Much of this is due to the influence of the Christian right, which became mobilized during the Reagan years. In so doing, the Republican Party was able to pick up much of the South, where conservative Democrats became Republicans. The main thrust of this movement was to create a political party that could offer a more structuralist, Platonic idealist notion of social values. Traditional values, where people were defined according to the values' system and their place in society was so determined, would give peace of mind ("clarity" if you will) to the population. The conceptual framework was established. God has spoken. Thy Will be done.

In contrast, the Democratic Party became a conglomeration of various groups who do not share in the power given to the segments of society that the traditional values extolled. Inner city politics meshed with various sub-cultures to try to get out the vote to cure the ills of modern society. In this sense, the Democratic Party appealed to those who hold a more Aristotelian realist view of the world. The essential starting point for them are the facts, the aspects of existence that cry for help, rather than the value concepts extolled by the Christian right. That the Democratic Party should have a tough time in national elections only makes sense. It is local elections, with relatively homogenous groups seeking power, that Democrats can win. Blacks in Chicago; gays in San Francisco. At the national level, they do not have a common theme, but many themes. The biggest rallying cry for the Democrats seems to be, "Anybody but Bush!" i.e., anybody who might be more willing to listen to their individual issues.

There are librarians in all political parties. Indeed, there are probably a larger percentage of librarians in third parties than from the population as a whole. Librarians usually do more thinking than other folks, on average. But there is a tendency among librarians to sympathize with their clientele. A larger portion of the clientele that goes to public libraries are from the various groups who gravitate toward the Democratic Party. Among law librarians, it varies. The public law librarians would see these Democratic groups even more than the public librarians. The law firm librarians would tend to work for large defense firms, so they might well feel more obliged to support big business. The academic law librarians would likely take their cue from their faculties, which tend to be more liberal than the population as a whole.

But deep down, librarians, and I mean law librarians as well, would be the type to examine the facts and come to their own conclusions. Some might well opt for the traditional values and support the Republicans, but do so with a different conviction than those within that party who "follow like sheep" their ministers. These librarians know the sense of maintaining an orderly system.

Some librarians and law librarians, and I am among them, allow their search for facts to be the more overwhelmingly aspect of their decision-making process. In that sense, we refuse to deny what we see simply to maintain an orderly system. We may well be the ones who try to make order out of lots of things, who catalog things and place them into groups, but we also recognize that such arrangements are human processes made for the convenience of the next user. No classification system is the final answer. Times change; people change; and sometimes values must change, too.

As librarians we are more informed than most Americans. It is especially important that we vote.

Editor's note: Please notice that Charley is not advocating for one candidate or one party, although he does not attempt to hide his own beliefs. Too often the stereotype of librarians includes political passivity. Marcus' and Charley's articles give us reasons to make those stereotypes false.

Latest info-Kiosks recommended by Governor Schwarzenegger's California Performance Review Report- [http://www.report.cpr.ca.gov/ cprprt/issrec/stops/it/so23.htm](http://www.report.cpr.ca.gov/cprprt/issrec/stops/it/so23.htm)

The “Inside” Information on New Jail Kiosks

It seems that prison and jail law libraries have finally entered the electronic age (some of them anyway). Several county jails in California and Hawaii have completely discarded their legal print collections in favor of touch screen kiosks containing computer loaded with state and federal codes and cases, legal dictionaries, and guides to criminal defense.

Lexis teamed up with Touch Sonic Technologies (www.touchsonic.com), a California based computer and software design company, and developed wall-mounted kiosks that use touch screens to find and access legal information. The kiosks are made of shatterproof glass and no mouse or external keyboards are used and are specifically constructed for a prison's tough environment and can withstand daily abuse. In fact, Touch Sonic said they tested the endurance of the kiosks with crowbars and all the kiosks withstood the abuse, according to an article by Peter Boylan in the March 16th edition of the Honolulu Advertiser (<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2004/Mar/16/ln/ln28a.html>).

Boylan's article said the cost of the kiosks was \$20,000 for Hawaii and \$94,000 for California. I am not sure why there is such a discrepancy in the pricing. Perhaps Hawaii requires less access to materials than California and therefore chose a lower priced plan?

The wall-mounted kiosks will certainly help save money on hardware, according to San Diego County Jail Counselor Julie Hardardt. She pointed out that one problem of maintaining access via technology is that inmates vandalize the hardware of traditional computers, including mice and keyboards. I won-

dered aloud why inmates who need access to legal materials would vandalize their own equipment. She replied, "It's not the ones who are really using the equipment for legal research who tear up the equipment. It's those who only want pro per status so they can get out of their cells who end up tearing up the equipment."

I found out that eight of the kiosks were located in California, all within Riverside County. Three of the kiosks are in the Robert Presley Detention Center (RPDC), and the others are located in the Blythe Jail, Indio Jail, Southwest County Jail, and Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility.

To get more information about how the kiosks work and how they are used. I spoke with Corporal Segovia at RPDC. She was very helpful, especially when I told her that I wanted to find out as many specifics as I could so that I can share the information with other county law librarians.

Segovia said there are three kiosks in the RCDC and only about 10 inmates are representing themselves, so there isn't a lot of conflict over accessibility at this time. However, inmates have to sign up to use the kiosks and those who are representing themselves have priority access.

Two kiosks are located on different floors of the RPDC, each in an isolated room, according to Segovia. Additionally, the rooms are accessible only at certain hours. Only one person at a time is allowed in the room, and they are locked in by themselves. The inmates are removed from the room at meal-times but are allowed to go back afterwards. An inmate is allowed to use a kiosk for up to four hours a day.

The third kiosk is located in the administrative segregation floor where dangerous or high risk inmates are housed. These inmates are known as "greens" due to their distinctive prison attire which shows their risk status. This kiosk allows greens access to legal information without taking up excess manpower because in order to go to any other floor, greens have to be fully shackled (both feet and hands) and two deputies must escort them to and from the location. By having a kiosk available on the administrative segregation floor, the

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greens can use the room easily.

Segovia said the kiosks do not allow inmates to save information on them, and no printing is allowed. In addition, inmates may not save information on disks as disks have the potential to be used as weapons. I was told that metal parts of the disks can be turned into shivs- boy, the things you learn from those who work in jails! Inmates have access to a typewriter for making notes. Inmates use their booking numbers as their password.

As far as the scope of legal information available on the kiosks, Corporal Segovia said, "Inmates have access to all California state codes and cases, including title 15 and parts of title 24 which deal with housing issues for inmates. All federal cases and codes are part of the package, including all Supreme Court decisions. Shepards and Witkin is included too." Periodicals and newspaper access is not included. The kiosks do not have a live internet connection but are updated by a Lexis representative every 90 days.

According to Segovia the transition to electronic materials started about two years ago when the jail purchased Law Desk from West. They kept the print materials so that inmates could get used to using the electronic materials gradually. When the jail was ready to switch over to completely electronic access, they solicited bids from West and LexisNexis and went with LexisNexis.

Although these kiosks now allow prisoners to perform legal research, no instruction on how to use the system or how to do legal research is available. Perhaps this system is so easy to use that explaining the legal system and legal research isn't necessary (insert big belly laugh here). If it turns out that the kiosks are cost effective, saving staff time (which translates into money), perhaps other counties and states will adopt them.

The latest update is that Governor Schwarzenegger's California Performance Review Report, released August 3, 2004, at <http://www.report.cpr.ca.gov/cprprt/issrec/stops/it/so23.htm>, suggests using legal information kiosks in prison law libraries instead of books to save the state money.

According to this report, more than \$4 million dollars are spent

annually on legal print publications. The report concludes, "Since kiosk electronic database information will be available at 49 percent of the cost of the printed materials, annual savings of approximately \$1.9 million could be realized after the anticipated installation costs." However, there isn't any mention of whether inmates can effectively access the information. Further, updates are only made quarterly.

Sounds like there may be a few bugs in the system that need to be worked out before these kiosks will truly allow inmates to effectively access of legal information, but this may be better than what was there before.

Amy Hale-Janeke
San Diego County Public Law Library



“Designing Artificial Intelligence-Base Agents for Your Reference Desk.”

At the AALL Meeting in Boston I went to a program called “Designing Artificial Intelligence-Base Agents for Your Reference Desk.” Roy Balleste of Nova University Law Library discussed his creation of an artificial intelligence icon named Laura, a “librarian assistant” that responds to questions typed and submitted to it. If you click onto <http://www.nsulaw.nova.edu/library/index.cfm> and then go to “A.I. Assistant: L.A.U.R.A.”, you will get to Laura.

The basic program behind it is a free software system called Pandorabots, available at pan-dorabots.com. The icon Laura is a graphic of a woman which actually moves as speech comes through your computer’s speaker, stating the words that are printed in response to your typed-in query. The software takes its best guess at responding to a question. I tried it out, and it was very good for what it was. Of course, since the questions I asked had not been asked before, the software did not answer them well. What the software does is collect the questions, which Mr. Balleste later then types in a proper response, so that the system “learns” and is able to handle the question if it is repeated. Presumably, there is some fudge factor built into the software so that, if you are close to a previous question and answer, the software would respond to you with that answer. The software works on an if-then logic.

After nearly falling off my chair at Laura’s literal interpretation of my question,

At the AALL program, I asked Mr. Balleste if there were other logical operations that the software could employ, such as deduction, induction, comparison-contrast, or analogy. Alas, the program had not been designed that far. It was also obvious to me that the amount of material that would have to be introduced into the memory of the program would need to be much, much larger in order to be able to use these other, more advanced forms of logic. Nevertheless, the beauty of the system is that it is much more open-ended than your typical branching website.

One could place Laura at the interface to a large database which has natural language searching capabilities. Laura’s response would be rather repetitious, such as, “Here are a list of cases that meet your search criteria.” I suppose that, if the search brought about a very large number of hits,

Laura might say, “You have so many hits. Perhaps you could enter additional search terms to make the search more precise.” Of course, the better advice might be, “You have so many hits. Perhaps you would like to read a few of them to see if there is a pattern you can find that could be deployed as a limiter using an AND NOT or BUT NOT Boolean operator.” But, of course, Laura would be presuming that the searcher even knew what a Boolean operator was, which is not necessarily so if the initial search was a natural language query.

While writing the above paragraph, I went

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back to Laura to try to ask a question that I thought she might know the answer to. Here is my question, followed by her answer:

Human: Say, Laura, could you tell me where the restroom is?

Laura: "Laura, could you tell me where the restroom is."

After nearly falling off my chair with laughter at Laura's literal interpretation of my question, I then asked it again. Here is my question and Laura's answer:

Human: Where is the restroom?

Laura: Our hours of operations are Monday to Friday, 8AM to Midnight, Friday 8AM to 10PM, Saturday 9AM to 9PM and Sunday 10 to 12. [Note that Laura did not specify the hours very closely for Sunday. She could have stated them better as 10AM to Midnight. But the output she gave was written by a human.]

Laura gave me a good answer to a question I didn't ask. Evidently, there is a limit to the length of the answer she will give, since she cut off before the end of the sentence.

Actually, Laura gives a lot of flip answers. I would think that the law students at Nova find "her" amusing. It's a good start, but artificial intelligence has a long way to go before it'll have any impact on library staffing.

Charles Dyer
San Diego County Public Law Library

A City "Witch" In History

Going to Boston for AALL was a real experience in "living history." It seemed to me that you couldn't even sit down for a quick bite of lunch without glancing up and seeing a sign telling you that the building you were eating clam chowder in was 300 years old and the site of some historical event. Considering that I live in a state that didn't even enter the Union until 1850, I was impressed pretty much continuously.

As cool as the history was in Boston, my real history lesson came when my friend and I trekked to Salem to visit the Salem Witch Museum (www.salemwitchmuseum.com). We both thought it would be interesting to see the museum and hang around in Salem a bit and we were not disappointed.

The Salem Witch Museum sits on a quiet corner across the street from a nice park. In order to see the museum, you buy a ticket and wait your turn to go into the "exhibit hall." When it was our group's turn, large black doors opened up and we were led into a large room with vaulted ceilings. A circle in the center of the floor illuminated with red flood lights was the room's only source of light. The circle contains all the names of those convicted and executed as witches during the infamous witch trials of 1692. Once our group was assembled in the middle of the room, the program started. The program consisted of a series of staged sets of life-sized paper mache people dressed in period clothing and posed to reenact some part of

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the Salem Witch Trials. A sonorous Vincent Price-type voice introduced each segment and scene, which was then lit up with lights.

“Townspople were accused of witchcraft and the only evidence provided was ‘spectral evidence.’ That is, the young girls insisted that they were visited by the astral bodies of the accused and forced to engage in unspeakable acts,” the recorded voice intoned as the flood lights lit up a vignette of teenaged girls pointed at an older woman and seeming to fall into fits.

“The accused were hanged, or in one case, pressed to death. Five men and fourteen women died during the hysteria,” the voice continued. “Many others were also accused but were not put to death because they ‘confessed’ their crimes. The penalty for them was to be stripped of their lands and monies.” When one jury actually acquitted an elderly woman accused of witchcraft, they were instructed by the judge to go back and deliberate again due to the outcry of the townspeople. No pressure there, huh? Unsurprisingly, the jury returned a second time with a “guilty” verdict and the old woman was hanged.

There was literally no way to convince others you were not a witch once you were accused. It was a prime example of the “guilty until proven innocent” method of justice and I found that I do not care for it. As I processed the stories of persecution and trials, I came to realize that one of the reasons I am glad to live in this day and age is the structure of our court system. No longer can one be persecuted for one’s religious beliefs or lack thereof in a court of law (it seems public officials running for office are

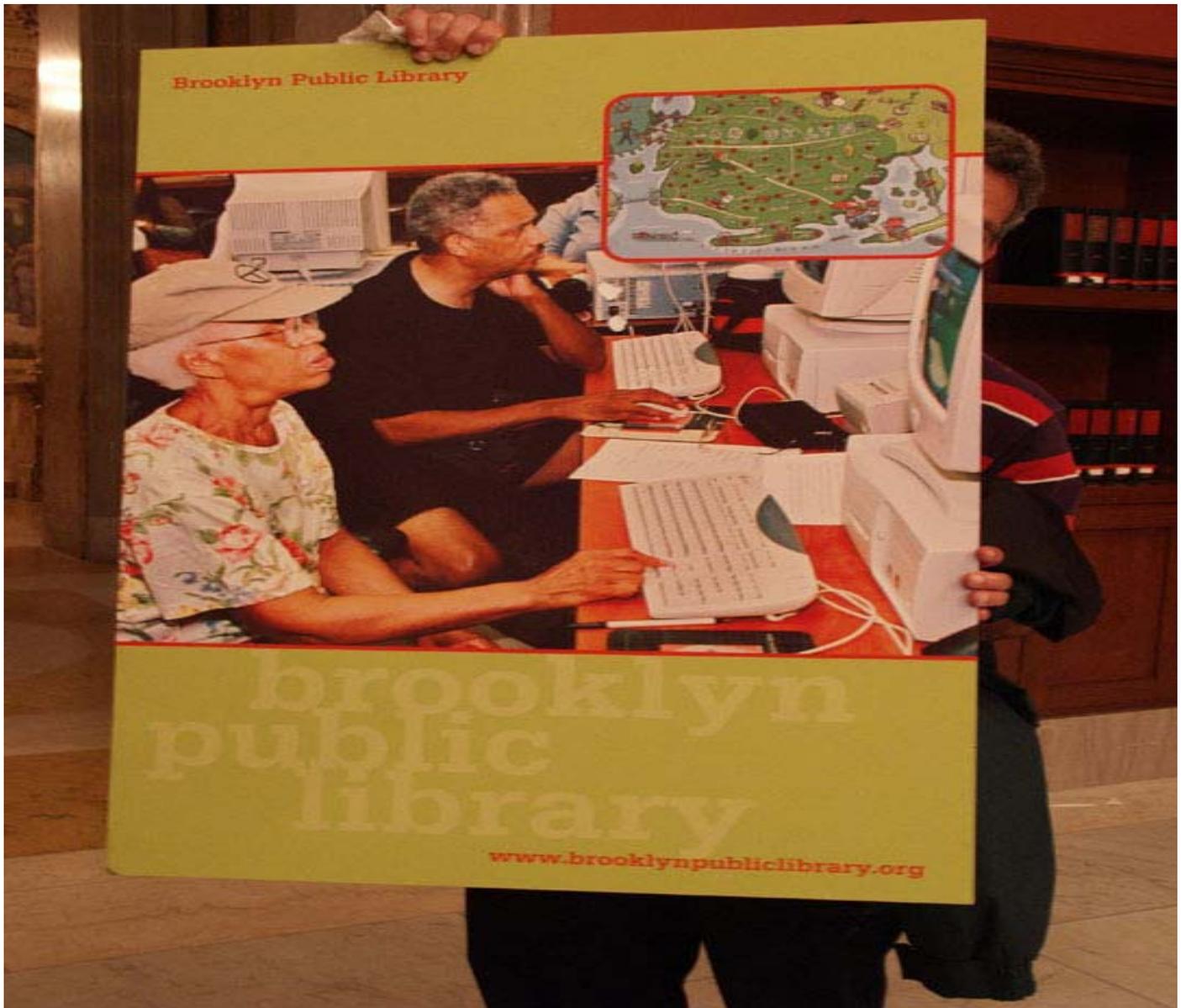
fair game in the press, though). No longer is “spectral evidence” enough to strip someone of their lands, wealth, and in some cases, their lives.

As a public law librarian, I see how the system works and fails to work everyday. People complain that the accused were not punished by the system even though they *know* the person was guilty- they just can’t prove it. There are those who are frustrated that they can’t have someone put in jail on their say-so and those who think that the legal system should function as a sort of charm school, punishing the rude or obnoxious. I am many times a kind of reality therapist for those who don’t understand how the legal system works: “No, it isn’t illegal to be a jerk.” “No, you can’t throw someone in jail because you don’t like their religion.”

I am grateful that I live in a day and age where I can practice the religion I choose or choose to be religion-free. I am grateful that I can’t be hauled off to jail when someone doesn’t like my behavior. Good thing, too, or I’d be doing a life sentence!

In any case, I came back from Salem and Boston with a new appreciation of the beauty of our legal system. While it isn’t perfect, our laws offer us many protections and the courts decide how those protections apply and when. Part of my job is to help the public understand what protections the law offers and how courts apply them. It made me glad to be a public law librarian.

Amy Hale Janeke



Bridge Across Boston—State, County & Court Librarians gather for cocktail party at the Boston Public Library during the 97th Annual Conference of AALL. That's Bob Riger, camera-shy Exec. Director of the Miami-Dade County Law Library holding up the poster that gives center stage to historic Brooklyn Public.

The photographer, Deb Melnick, Principal Law Librarian for the Civil Court of the City of New York, resides in Brooklyn and was excited to spot a little bit of home among the collection of library posters belong to our gracious host. Coincidentally, Bob Riger, randomly drafted as poster-holder, originally hails from Brooklyn, NY.

In Just Five Days

Although I have been a law librarian for fourteen years, the 2004 AALL Conference in Boston was the first full conference I have been able to attend. The five days spent attending programs and social events, chatting with colleagues and vendors, were some of the most valuable and fruitful days of my career.

I have been with the Maryland State Law Library for just over eighteen months. Previously I spent twelve years as a law firm librarian. My position at the State Law Library, Outreach Services Law Librarian, is a new one, established as a result of a study commission in 2001 evaluating the status of the Maryland county law libraries. The primary job responsibility of the Outreach Librarian is to provide advice and consultation, and act as a liaison from the State Law Library, to the county law libraries throughout the State. Other job responsibilities include planning and promoting Library events and materials of use to our varied customers; providing reference at the main desk; and acting as liaison to multiple segments of the State population, including the public libraries and the inmate population.

State employees quickly learn how restricted public institution budgets can be. Attendance at this year's AALL Meeting needed to be specifically requested and justified by the Library Director. In preparation for this request, I compiled a schedule of five full days, with time blocked out to meet with vendors and colleagues outside of scheduled programs. I committed to as many events and programs as possible to get the highest level of interaction with colleagues and to receive the greatest return on invest-

ment.

I expected that the conference would provide opportunities to interact with colleagues as well as to learn or improve upon skills that would apply in regular Outreach responsibilities. Colleague interaction and skill improvement are activities that can be accomplished at a low level during normal work hours and situations. At a conference, however, the ability to network and learn are exponentially higher. There are no interruptions, you are free to have lengthy conversations, and people are generally more relaxed than when they are in their offices.

Programs furnish the chance to learn, while not under daily deadline pressures and time constraints. In the short space of a planned program, I picked up what might have taken hours of attempts, mistakes, and successes to learn during normal work hours.

The programs were not the only events with practical applications. The Exhibit Hall provided the opportunity to talk to vendors of all types and see products in real-time demonstrations, all at my own pace and with an ability to have the discussion totally customized to my own requests. Social events, both formally scheduled ones such as the Lexis Dessert Extravaganza and the West reception and informal ones such as the SCCLL-SIS dinner at Bertucci's, provided the opportunity to network with colleagues in similar positions around the country. We discussed theoretical as well as practical aspects of our jobs, and asked each other for

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assistance with ideas for our own institutions. The Special Interest Section business meetings and roundtables, like the social events, encouraged further networking among colleagues, with more focused discussions on real daily issues. These last meetings were the most valuable time spent at the conference. For example, at the LISP-SIS business meeting I was able to put faces to several familiar names and to speak with those people in a small personal forum about inmate reference and providing law reference training to public librarians, both issues critical to an Outreach Librarian. From these colleagues I collected not only specific contact information (and contacts are always better once you've met face-to-face) but also offers of materials used in their local training programs to help in outlining training programs of our own. As a direct result, the State Law Library's plans have progressed much more quickly than would have been possible without the time spent at the conference.

The most valuable result of the conference attendance has been the special energy that comes from being reminded that I've chosen the right field and that my ideas have a place and meaning in my chosen profession. The conference truly re-energized me. And all in just five days.

Catherine McGuire
Outreach Services Librarian
Maryland State Law Library

Meeting "Mom" at AALL

I suppose I should not have been surprised to meet my Mom for the first time at the AALL annual meeting in Boston. Like childbirth, the details of our initial acquaintance are a little fuzzy on my end. I remember roaming around the Sheraton before the SCCLL breakfast, then somewhere running into Mom, and Mom and I kind of fell into our relationship. We had pretty much worked out the details of my adoption by the end of breakfast, or sometime after. I'm not really sure.

What I am certain of is that we fit these putative roles. We're not a perfect match, which would be unnatural, of course, given the generational difference, not to mention the genetic input from Dad. But the choice of professions is certainly part of the traits shared from mother to son. Mom certainly would not be Mom if she were an accountant. I would never be an accountant, as I can't add.

But this is all foolishness, naturally, because Mom and I are law librarians, and her timely arrival, much like the stork had dropped her off, proves that law librarianship is me. Self-identity can be flashes of images. Before this year, a wet spaniel in knee-high weeds by a rusted fence and cold fingers on a side-by-side shotgun was me. But now I find that I am also processing books at the reference desk or explaining digests and key numbers. My profession has become definitional in a way that years of practicing law never did.

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Having been many different things, I have been to many different professional gatherings. There's always coffee in the morning, and dull speakers all day. But with law librarians something binds us more closely than other professions. You feel like you know everyone, they know you, and we're all in it together somehow. This feeling of kinship with the speakers and other people in the audience drew my attention and kept it day after day. We share something in common that is distinctive to a newcomer like myself, but what that exactly is I'm not sure. Perhaps we, as professionals, are simply different from typical corporate employees, and this accounts for the shared quality I recognize. Corporate people are perfectly fine, of course, but generally boring, prosaic personalities whose mothers are probably the women written on their birth certificates.

In addition to being simply neat people, law librarians

right now are like doctors or physicists at the beginning of the twentieth century. We feel that the next twenty years will cause more change to our profession than the last fifty, but don't know exactly the nature of the changes to come. We may be indispensable parts of a new revolutionary age in the dissemination of legal knowledge. Then again we may be broken and scattered among the growing number of information specialties, and the term "law librarian" will fade away like milkman, carriage driver, or philosopher.

Chances are the current group of speakers and leaders in AALL won't be around to see our future. As the current generation retires, the grand task of law librarians who directly follow them may be to forge a link between the paper-dominated past and the new world in whatever form it ultimately takes. Soon young staff people

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Jason Raymond with his "Mom" Judy Flader

across the country will puzzle over the love lavished on antique card catalogs and wonder why they all haven't been thrown out. Someone will have to explain it to them, and translate the standards and expectations of this generation of leaders to the ones who spent that week in July on a swing somewhere.

For my part, I believe the nature of law librarians is more special than the type work we do. Whether we all share some mysterious common gene or a mindset, something worthwhile creates a singular band. And for me this was the real benefit of attending AALL's meeting and finding Mom and all the other law librarians who took the time to make me feel as though I had arrived back home after a long time away. Our profession creates a passion, which is to say it exudes a definite character that one attaches to and then fiercely identifies with and seeks to maintain for the next person who finds it.

Before the conference was over I went to Lord & Taylor and found a suit. Somewhere in the blizzard of emails, I had missed that many people view the closing gala as a formal affair. Since I was sitting with Mom and assorted other friends and newly made relatives, I didn't want to be underdressed. As the salesclerk was ringing up my purchases, he inquired why I needed an entire outfit so urgently. "I'm going to a formal dinner with my Mom", I explained. "Oh," he said, "well, you got to take care of them, as you only get one." Not always one, I thought, but they're rare enough.

Jason Raymond
Public Services Law Librarian
Wyoming State Law Library

AALL 2004 BOSTON AND BEYOND

This was my first time attending the AALL meeting and what a fun and informative experience it was!

There was so much to do that it was sometimes hard to pick what to do each day. I was up early for breakfast meetings and back to my hotel late at night. Then I was up early the next day so excited I couldn't wait to see what new information I would learn. I thought I would attend all the workshops I had marked ahead of time, but I was so wrong! I would be talking to someone or read about a different workshop and then changed my schedule so I could attend the best ones for my library.

My favorite workshops were:

NEGOTIATING WITH THE BIZARRE: STRANGE QUESTIONS AT THE REFER- ENCE DESK

The speakers were Amy Hale Janeke and Sharon Blackburn and they were so funny they had everyone laughing. This workshop made you feel like you aren't alone in dealing with all the crazy questions your patrons ask. They also covered how to handle these questions so you don't have to spend a lot of time dealing with problem patrons— just tell them nicely that they are not going to find what they want in the law library.

THE (UNDER) WORLD OF LEGAL INFOR- MATION: PROTECTION NETWORKS FROM

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HACKERS, WORMS, AND MALICIOUS EXPLOITS

This workshop helped me to protect my computers from viruses, worms and hackers. They talked about spyware tools to clean your computer of outside hackers who track where you have been on the Internet. Ways to protect passwords include adding symbols, switching between lower and upper case and using numbers. They also talked about internal threats and the ways email can be used to attack systems. They recommended all windows/computer/virus software updates stay current.

“CAN I GET SOME HELP HERE?” PROVIDING EFFECTIVE REFERENCE SERVICES WHILE AVOIDING UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW

The speakers were Judith Lihosit, Paul Healey, Patricia Lopez and Amy Moberly. This workshop focused on how each state’s code/case law defined unauthorized practice of law. While no librarian has ever been convicted of UPL or sued for malpractice, they recommended using disclaimers and gave some examples. They concluded with being mindful of UPL but not living in fear of it.

Oh, and then there was the vender area. (Wow!!) I could spend a whole day there. West and Lexis had wonderful short presentations where you learned the newest versions of Shepard’s, Westlaw, Keycite, new data bases, better main screens and international law. They were all very informative and something I will use at my library on a regular basis. There were so many different vendors. I brought home lots of literature to look at when I have more time.

I have to say there was a little fun too.

Let me tell you about the dessert extravaganza event sponsored by Lexis—if I had been on a diet I would have been in big trouble. They had a chocolate fountain with all kinds of fruit & breads, cakes, cookies and so much more. At the West customer appreciation event I got my picture taking wearing a Boston Red Sox shirt. The food was great ranging from ball park to Chinese. The music was wonderful.

The receptions, luncheons and breakfast meetings were very helpful. I had a chance to meet people, learn new things and have a good meal as well. I had to keep checking the schedule to make sure that I didn’t miss any. One breakfast meeting I saw in the schedule was on services to pro se patrons and prisoners. This meeting was just what I needed since I am the law librarian for the jail inmates in our county jail. We discussed what other law libraries do with their jail inmates and what guidelines they follow. I have decided to joining the SR-SIS standing committee on library services to institutional residents because of this meeting.

Boston was a wonderful place to hold the conference and there was so much to do within walking distance.

I cannot thank SCCLL enough for the grant which helped me experience my first AALL conference!

Thank you.
Patti Worl
Skagit County Law Librarian

AALL as a mini-sabbatical

After attending the 97th annual meeting of AALL in Boston, I have thought a lot about how my library and I benefit from my attendance. What I have learned and brought back to my organization can be seen in three parts—informal contacts, vendor meetings and educational programs.

One of the most invisible benefits is the informal contacts with a variety of colleagues which take place on elevators, in the hallways, at receptions, or even in a food line. I meet new people and, over time, I develop a national network of contacts that enhances my information gathering ability well beyond the local limits of my law library. These friendly professional contacts are available for offering their expertise on various aspects of legal research, to helping out with the unique ILL, or even to sort out issues unique to our own libraries.

More primarily, however, is the networking, sharing and spending time with old friends and making new friends. My attendance is always like a mini-sabbatical and I return to my library reinvigorated to learn other libraries have the same issues and some even offer novel solutions.

A second major benefit of conference attendance is the new products and developments of the legal publishing vendors. LexisNexis and West Group are quite wise to have us attend a certain number of product demonstrations in order to receive our gift for the current year's conference. One service I found useful is LexisNexis' Research on Call, a fee-based service that offers access to experienced research specialists. In my institution, I am the

only professional librarian for about 280 attorneys, so services like Research on Call can be beneficial, if funding permits.

On the Westlaw side, its cool new product is Westlaw StatutesPlus which was released in February 2004. After retrieving a statute, StatutesPlus provides links to prior versions of the statute, as well as links to annotations or full cases in a systematic way.

The third major benefit of conference attendance is the variety of programs that provide education which can help with our daily work and interactions with people. These programs range from legislative updates to career development. As a result, we can improve client services, develop new ways of doing things and gain new information on how to handle situations. Specifically, the session by Andy Evans on creating library displays has me considering putting up an exhibit of historical Chicago City Council ordinances which I can get facsimiles of from the Illinois State Archives. The session by the librarian who had set up a library in Baghdad despite the war was an eye opener. The update from Washington by Mary Alice Baish is very important in learning what we can do with our elected representatives to help maintain the free flow of information. The system and method on how state appellate court opinions are created gave great insight into the behind the scenes process. Additionally, the keynote addresses were very thought provoking in the areas of communications and privacy.

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Finally, this conference really does open one's eyes to the many variety of law-related institutions and the pervasiveness of law and jurisprudence in so many aspects of our lives today. And all of the factors—the informal meetings, the vendor products and the educational programs—contribute to a greater professionalism and help make us better librarians. After stepping away from the daily work environment and looking at our profession and our work from a broader viewpoint, I see our profession through the eyes of others. As a result, I return to my organization invigorated and with more enthusiasm for the job and with the profession.

Scott G. Burgh
City of Chicago Department of Law

VIP's Reflect on AALL Annual Meeting

Each year at the AALL annual meeting we are privileged to have among us members of our operating boards and committees and others members of the legal community. Many of them are sponsored by an AALL local chapter through the AALL VIP program. At the San Antonio meeting the SIS's will also have an opportunity to sponsor VIP's.

SCCLL SIS has led the way in welcoming our local library board members and others in the legal community to our annual meeting. For many years a judge or other board member has administered the oath of office for the new and ongoing officers at

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Loren McMaster, Member, Board of Trustees, Sacramento County Public Law Library, Shirley David, Sacramento County Public Law Library, and Sandy Marz, Washoe County Law Library at the SCCLL SIS Trustees and Librarians Luncheon.

our business meeting. At the meeting in Boston, the Honorable Jeffrey Gunther of the Sacramento California Superior Court inducted our officers. As this is to be his last meeting before he retired from the bench, he reflected on the many AALL meetings he had attended and the friendships he has made among our members.

The Boston annual meeting was the seventh consecutive year that SCCLL SIS hosted a Trustees and Librarian luncheon. The luncheon is an opportunity for librarians and trustees and others to chat informally about mutual issues and concerns and to hear from a library trustee and librarian from the local area where the convention is held. This year, Jeffrey Swope, President of the Board of the Social Law Library and Robert Brink, Executive Director of the Social Law Library put together an enlightening and entertaining PowerPoint presentation of documents from the library's long illustrious history and pictures of the new library that is being built to meet the community's future needs. I learned that the "social" in the Social Law Library's name comes from the 18th century concept of the "social contract."

Here are comments from three chapter sponsored VIP's who attended the Boston meeting.

"I was thrilled to have been able to attend the American Association for Law Librarians annual conference. I would recommend it highly, particularly for state court administrative staff responsible for strategic planning and legal research activities. The conference offered dozens of substantive and fascinating programs and the entire event was ex-

tremely beneficial and well done."

"My involvement with VALL and AALL came as a result of a study conducted on Pro Se Litigation in Virginia on which our Supreme Court Law Librarian, Gail Warren, served. From her, I was introduced to the substantial role public law librarians play in responding to self-represented litigants on a daily basis. The 2004 conference, 'From Boston to Mumbai', featured a number of programs specifically devoted to serving pro se litigants. As a result of my attendance at the conference, I am far more knowledgeable about how court administrators at the state and local levels may wish to partner with public law librarians so that together we might expand access to justice for all citizens. "

Kathy Mays
Director of Judicial Planning
Office of the Executive Secretary
Supreme Court of Virginia

"What an honor to be selected by the Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL) as their VIP for this year's Annual Meeting and Conference in Boston. Many thanks to Diana Jaque, Immediate Past President, and Jennifer Berman, President, for opening doors and for facilitating my stay. I came back from my 3 day stay in Boston rejuvenated, with eyes opened, and an increased appreciation for the profession and the institution. I brought back a laundry list of recommendations for our Board and an expanded network of contacts. What was most impressive was the commitment and the energy of the

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professionals and the diversity of issues facing them all--be it in the corporate, academic, government or public setting. Clearly AALL's public law library section is the smallest. Nevertheless we share much in common: how to do more with less money, how to mesh print with electronic media, how to archive and preserve information how to properly compensate our employees. I encourage all trustees to attend a conference; after all, dialogue opens doors. Perhaps, with different kinds of librarians and trustees working together, we can find answers. "

Susan Steinhauser

President, Board of Trustees
Los Angeles County Law
Library

"When I was asked if I had any interest in serving as a trustee for our local county law library nearly three years ago, I knew the obligations of the role included certain oversight responsibilities imposed by statute, case law, and policy. I expected monthly meeting during which I would be reviewing and approving matters related to the administration of the law library, working with the library director and other trustees on assorted issues related to the preservation and advancement of law libraries, and perhaps even an occasional emergency meeting to deal with something completely unforeseen and unexpected. I had no idea that I would have the opportunity to travel to Seattle or Boston to participate in the annual meeting and conference of the American Association of Law Libraries. Frankly, before I became a law library trustee, I did not know the or-

What was most impressive was the commitment and the energy of the professionals and the diversity of issues facing them all.

ganization existed. When I first heard about the organization approximately six months after joining our local board of trustees, I was so unimpressed that I passed on the opportunity to attend the annual conference in Orlando, Florida. What was I thinking?"

"As a seasoned trustee who has now attended his second annual conference, I can now declare without reservation that next to the big parties the Democrats and Republicans throw every four years, no group of professionals holds more impressive annual gatherings than law li-

brarians-- not lawyers, doctors, nurses, chiropractors or even judges' conventions come close. The annual meeting of the AALL is truly a tightly planned and well organized event. Ever-

everything from the site selection to the entertainment has been first class."

"This year's 97th annual meeting in Boston was truly impressive. The theme of the conference "Boston to Mumbai: The World of Legal Information" set the tone for the gathering. The rapidly evolving world of technology has catapulted us into the information age and it was evident from the displays, programs, and the conference speakers that the planners successfully provided a forum rich in opportunity to learn more about the challenges confronting AALL's members in this changing world of technology and information. "

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"I was amazed at the number of committee and special interest section meetings, receptions and workshops that are scheduled. Equally astonishing is the number of attendees, approximately 2600 I was told, and the number of people walking around with fancy ribbons of all colors around their neck. I studied the program and learned that each color reflected some level of distinction the participant deserved. Some people had so many different colors on their chest that I wondered how the person in charge of passing out the ribbons can keep track of who gets what colors. I had just one ribbon. It was orange, signifying my status as a special guest at the conference—courtesy of NOCALL. Thank you very much."

"I would be remiss if I did not report that the Association luncheon was the highlight of the meeting for me. The State, Court, and County Law Libraries SIS reception at the Boston Public Library was fabulous as were the socials sponsored by LexisNexis and Thomson West. However, being present during the annual awards program to see two distinguished law librarians from California receive the prestigious Marian Gould Gallagher for Distinguished Service was easily the pinnacle of the conference for me. Shirley David and Tom Reynolds are a credit to the profession and represent the best of AALL. I learned an immense amount about their impressive careers and dedication to the advancement of their profession. We in Sacramento are losing Shirley to retirement and I am glad for the opportunity to know and have worked with her. As for Mr. Reynolds, I am sorry I never got to know him. He seems like a delightful fellow. But now that I know about him and his service, I feel as if I have

known him for years and look forward to meeting and working with many more Tom Reynolds and Shirley Davids in my future service as a trustee. I am looking forward to next year's meeting in San Antonio."

David DeAlba

Member, Board of Trustees, Sacramento County Public Law Library

Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento

When the announcement comes out the for 98th annual meeting in San Antonio, with its various activities including the librarian and trustees luncheon on Sunday, invite a trustee or library committee member to attend. It's a very rewarding experience.

Shirley David

Sacramento County Law Library

