

R I P S

Law Librarian

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From the Chair...

Deanna Barmakian, 2005-06 RIPS-SIS Chair

I am excited about the upcoming year for RIPS. I've recently heard the wonderful news that six out of seven programs proposed through the RIPS SIS have been approved for the St. Louis annual meeting. Moreover, two of the three programs we co-sponsored with other SISs were approved. This is a remarkable success rate. Hats off to **Jessie Cranford** for her excellent work in assisting our members refine and revise their creative and interesting proposals.

We have some nice projects underway, including the creation of a grant, a new strategic plan, and an annotated bibliography of legal research texts. We are indebted to **Ron Wheeler**, **Sheri Lewis**, and **Chris Vallandingham** and **Lynn Murray**, respectively, for taking the helm on these worthwhile projects. Look for more news on these later in the year.

Warm thanks are also in order for members who have agreed to chair committees, some returning and some brand new. I am always grateful when I find such enthusiastic and willing volunteers, of which this SIS has many! Please take a look at the complete list of committees and chairs in this issue. If you have an interest in working on any RIPS committee, I warmly encourage you to contact me about getting involved.

We have some excellent content in this issue covering public speaking, training in the law firm setting, the Briefs in Law Librarianship series, and an attendee view of the IALL conference. We also have some "official" news, our business meeting minutes, treasurer's report, and an explanation of the recent AALL Education Summit. My earnest thanks to all those who submitted items for this issue. Not to mention those who sent in their news. Member news is always a favorite for me. It's great to see all the neat things our membership is doing. If you have an interest in writing something for the next issue, please don't hesitate to phone or email.

Finally, I would like to thank someone who has been a friend to all things RIPS, well before and after her tenure as Chair. She has helped me immensely with some of the background stuff you just sort of have to figure out as Chair and she's just plain fun to chat with. Thanks to **Melissa Serfass** for her tireless efforts for RIPS over the years. You're our unsung hero.

That's it from me. Enjoy the issue, and keep in touch!

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Ten Steps to Releasing Your Inner Public Speaker

By Jennifer Murray
Librarian, Greenberg Traurig

There are many aspects of being a law librarian that took me by surprise. One in particular that surprised me was the vast amount of public speaking that I and other law librarians do. I guess I'll have to add that to the list of things about which library school didn't warn me. Nobody told me that I'd be teaching legal research in a lecture hall filled with 70 students. And nobody told me that I'd be presenting to my peers at law librarian programs. So when I first started as an academic law librarian, public speaking was an intimidating thought. I was sure the law students would want to throw tomatoes at me. But they didn't. Although the first few times I spoke, the thought probably crossed their minds. This involvement in public speaking isn't unique to academic law librarianship either. Whatever type of law librarianship you do, public speaking is involved. As a firm librarian, I have presented national training sessions to attorneys at my law firm. Trust me when I say you haven't lived until you have to present in the virtual environment. What a challenge!

If I sound like an old pro at public speaking, well, I'm not. I still have a lot to learn. But I have managed to pick up a few pointers over the years that I'd like to pass along to those who have the same fear of public speaking that I did. Call me an optimist, but I think everyone can release their inner public speaker.

1. Seek it out.

The best thing I did to obtain a comfort level with public speaking was to seek out opportunities to do it. I know that this is like using eye drops. It goes against your instincts. But the best way to get over your fear is to face it. And the more you do it, the easier it gets. It even becomes fun. I promise.

2. Practice makes perfect.

As comfortable as I am with public speaking, I still get nervous if I haven't been able to do a dry run of my presentation. So I always rehearse my presentations if I can. My cat has heard so much about legal research that she would be an expert researcher if she had opposable thumbs.

3. Own it.

You know the subject matter. But if you don't own it and speak with confidence, it's not going to seem like it. Even if you don't know every single thing there is to know about the topic, chances are you are still going to know more than your audience. So believe in yourself.

4. Prepare for the worst.

Don't rely on technology to work. Always have a back up.

5. Don't be afraid of "the pause."

You know "the pause." You ask a question, and no one responds immediately. If you wait long enough, someone is going to say something. No one in the audience likes "the pause" either. So they'll likely give up and answer your question. I have no statistical evidence of this, but I'm willing to bet this strategy works 80% of the time.

6. Learn tricks to deal with regular difficulties.

There are always going to be difficult situations in public speaking. For example, perhaps you have a person who is asking tons of questions. Then that person starts asking too many questions and begins to disrupt the presentation for the entire group. There are many books, websites and other resources that will give you examples of how to handle this exact problem. My favorite way to handle this problem is to ask the person to contact you afterward to answer their questions in depth. So if you encounter a difficult problem, read up on how to resolve it.

(TEN STEPS, continued on page 4)

Stepping Out from Behind the Desk

By Danielle R. Francis
Research Librarian,
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe

I am quite fond of dictionaries. I love words, their histories and their meanings. When I start writing an article or presentation, I often start with a dictionary. I find knowing how the experts define the keyword(s) of my topic puts me in the right frame of mind. So when I sat down to write this I looked up the word librarian, have you ever done this? It might surprise you. I started with the OED (because it did not involve getting up from my PC) and this is what I found: "The keeper or custodian of a library." Ok, not quite what I was looking for. Black's? [8th edition]: "An Officer charged with custody of an organization's books..." Hmm, still not very inspirational. One more shot, Webster's [Deluxe Unabridged 2nd ed.]: 1st definition was much of the same then, "A person trained in library science and working in the library." Ok, that at least points out our education and expertise...

Perhaps being a custodian means more than I think (maybe I should look it up...). I do take care of books and other print materials, but this is only a piece of my job. And in the private law library (PLL) setting a piece that, for many of us, is getting smaller. So what pieces are getting bigger? We do research, maintain online subscriptions, answer questions, and direct people to sources; but what is steadily becoming a larger part of our profession is teaching. Most of us are comfortable with one-on-one instruction, but what about training sessions and presentations? How do we become comfortable speaking in front of larger groups? How do we get attorneys and staff to attend? Why should we bother?

Getting comfortable speaking in front of groups (unless you are born that way) takes time, patience, and practice. I still get nervous at the beginning of each session. My face feels flush and I speak too fast (and since I am a New Yorker, that is saying something). But after the intro, I hit my stride and am on my way. How do you find that stride? When you go to a conference or pres-

entation, make notes on what you like or dislike about it. These will give you great ideas on what to do, and avoid, when you create your own sessions. Keep an eye out for vendor sessions; Lexis had a good one called "Put your Training Caps On" that I thought was useful. Put the cost of professional development in your budget, so you or your staff can attend trainings on training (check out Adult Learning Techniques from www.achievetheglobal.com). And of course you can always get a book on the subject. **Jennifer Murray** has an excellent article in this newsletter about presentations. Her 10 tips are great, and I recommend you read her list for more ideas.

Attendance is always tough, and here are some thoughts. Food! You have heard it before, but it works. Krispy Kremes go a long way (as do ice cream socials). CLE is also a great option. Not only do you snag attorneys in need of credit, you also highlight that you are an expert in your field. Many people do not realize that most of us have advanced degrees (some of us several), so put all those letters after your name. Marketing is obviously key, and depends on the firm's culture. E-mails are necessary but often ignored, so have back-ups. Flyers on the doors in elevator banks and bathrooms, personal notes attached to request responses, notices in library newsletters, and signs at the desk also help to get the word out. There is a fine line between nagging and helpful reminders (just ask my husband), but follow ups are also key. Send meeting requests via outlook to all those who have expressed interest, and who you think would get something out of your session. You can set the reminder to go off 30 minutes before start time as well.

Have you ever done all of the above and more, and had 2 people show up? Me too. So enlist help. Particularly friendly with a practice head partner? Suggest to her/him that you would love to do a 30 minute spiel on xyz at their next monthly lunch. Set up formal liaisons with an attorney in each practice group, preferably a mid-level associate. This person can tell you what is most needed by the group, and help you structure your presentations accordingly. Get in at the ground level. Talk to your professional development and recruiting teams,

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7. Be enthusiastic.

I received some feedback after one session of teaching legal research to first year law students that really hit home with me. If you aren't enthusiastic about what your topic, the audience isn't going to be either. Legal research isn't always the sexiest topic. But if you're a law librarian, chances are it's fascinating to you. And it's okay to let that fascination shine through in your presentation.



8. The butterflies are a good thing.

I think a good speaker never gets over the nervousness. It's what motivates you to do a good job. You just have to learn how to

harness the butterflies to create positive energy.

9. Got Water?

Nothing is worse than getting a dry mouth while you're speaking. Having water, or whatever your non-alcoholic beverage of choice is, available is a necessity if you're going to be talking for awhile.

10. Keep track of when you speak.

Ten months from now, you're not going to remember when you did what. And we all need to maintain our resume or curriculum vitae. So develop a system that works for you to keep track of your presentations as you give them. Calendar them in outlook. Write them down and stick them in a folder. Whatever works for you. But if you do nothing, I promise you that you'll be scratching your head at some point while looking at a calendar trying to figure out when exactly you talked to that group of fourth graders. Okay, this one doesn't quite fit as a public speaking tip. But I couldn't think of a tenth step. And nine steps just doesn't have the same ring to it.

(STEPPING OUT, continued from page 3)

to make sure you are on the orientation calendars for summers, first years, and laterals. Once they see what the library is capable of, they will come back for more!

Why should we bother? Because we have so much more to offer than sitting behind the reference desk, or even giving one-on-one training. And giving our all is what makes us a vital part of the team that is our firms. Successful legal research in a private law firm is a combination between attorneys having the knowledge and resources to do their own research, and the knowledge of when to come to the experts (us). Getting involved in training allows us to teach our patrons how to better use the services at their disposal, and gives us the opportunity to show them resources we can access on their behalf. It also allows us to highlight the value we provide to the firm (keep management happy) and to individual attorneys. We are librarians, but no dictionary can capture what that means. We are custodians of books, but also of knowledge and of the skills to share that knowledge.

Volunteers Needed for RIPS Projects

Strategic Planning: The Executive Board of AALL has recently set a series of Strategic Directions for the Association. Using those as context, **Sheri Lewis** has generously offered to take the lead in updating and revamping RIPS' strategic plan. Sherri needs the help of a couple of folks. Especially for those of you who have been active with RIPS in the past, please consider volunteering for this worthwhile, finite project.

New Grant: With the significant monetary savings from distributing our newsletter electronically, the RIPS Board has decided to provide a grant. Details regarding what the grant will cover, who will be eligible, parameters for selection of a recipient, etc. need to be worked out. **Ron Wheeler** has kindly offered to help RIPS get our Grant off the ground. It would be wonderful to have one or two volunteers to help Ron finalize these details and select our first recipient. Please consider volunteering for this Committee.

IALL Conference: Open Access Under the Tuscan Sun

**By Cynthia S. Fellows, State Law Librarian
Alaska State Court Law Library**



The International Association of Law Libraries held its 24th Annual Course in International Law Librarianship, September 4-8, 2005 in San Domenico di Fiesole, a town just outside Florence. It is a long journey from Alaska to Italy, but for me it was a very rewarding trip as the conference content

was especially interesting, well presented, and the venue was superb.

The conference was hosted at the European University Institute, a postgraduate research institute in the social sciences, created in 1976 by the Member States of the founding European Communities. The first day's programming included three excellent lectures about European Union constitutional law presented by EUI faculty. The keynote speaker was Professor Giuliano Amato, a current member of the Italian Senate, former Prime Minister and former Vice-President of the Convention on the Future of the European Constitution. Other lecturers covered the EU Copyright Directive, the Italian Legal System, Italian Legal Information on the web, and the *Ius Commune* (European civil law).

Of particular interest was a presentation on the Open Access (OA) movement. This movement, whose participants include universities, research centres and supercomputing consortia, is committed to promoting access to scholarly literature. The movement recognizes that although the Internet has changed the communication, exchange and distribution of information in the research environment, dissemination of scholarly content is nonetheless hindered by increasing subscription costs and the dominant role of a few powerful commercial publishers.

In Italy, the OA movement has been pursuing a "bottom up" approach whereby librarians, IT staff and senior re-

searchers have been actively promoting awareness of OA issues. During a conference at the University of Messina in November 2004, over 30 academic institutions agreed on OA principles and signed the "Messina Declaration" in support of the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities. Since the Messina event, 63 of 77 Italian universities have signed the Berlin Declaration in support of an open access paradigm. They are committed to implementing policies requiring their researchers to deposit a copy of all their published articles in an open access repository, encouraging researchers to publish in open access journals, and advocating development of the open access infrastructure.

In addition to these excellent programs, participants were treated to a tour of Siena, including the University of Siena law library, an evening reception hosted by the publisher Casalini Libri, dinner and a lecture on Machiavelli at Casa Machiavelli (winery), and dinner at Villa Viviani, Settignano. Every venue was in the beautiful Tuscan hills outside of Florence, with excellent food and wine and the stimulating companionship of librarians from many different countries. Next year's IALL conference is in St. Petersburg, Russia, September 10-14, 2006, and I encourage anyone with an interest in travel and learning about international law to consider making the trip. You will find it well worth your while!



AALL Education Summit Report

By Pamela Melton
Associate Director for Administration
Coleman Karesh Law Library, University of South Carolina

The AALL Education Summit took place September 24 and 25, 2005, in Oak Brook, Illinois. The purpose of the Summit was to devise a strategy for providing continuing education and professional development for law librarians outside of the Annual Meeting programs. AALL has always offered some form of professional development programs, but the most recent effort, launched in 2000, was only partially successful. The Executive Board decided that a major rethinking of content and delivery options was in order.

Representatives of all AALL Chapters and SISs were invited to participate in a two day workshop. I attended as the official representative of RIPS. Other librarians with extensive background in education planning and the members of the Executive Board also attended. As background information, participants were given the "Generations in Law Librarianship" survey, conducted in 2004, which questioned AALL members about education opportunities offered by AALL. The results compiled by generational categories (Silent, Baby Boomers, Gen X, Gen Y). Reference was also made to the Core Competencies of Law Librarianship (<http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/competencies.asp>).

The survey revealed a great deal of discontent not only about programs at the Annual Meeting, but also about the lack of professional development opportunities outside of the Annual Meeting. Clearly, we had our work cut out for us. The majority of the summit was spent on identifying priorities and setting strategies for the next three years of professional development within AALL. It was a very complicated process, and they worked us very hard. From the official start on Friday, until the conclusion on Saturday, every minute was utilized to advance the process, including meals. The facilitator, Cate Bower, managed the group of about 70 participants extremely well. I believe that a very full and fruitful conversation was had and that everyone who wished to

contribute was given the chance. A lot of possible roles for the various stakeholders were discussed, but for the sake of a manageable strategy for the next three years, we were asked to set a limited number of priorities. We came to the following conclusions about the roles of three respective entities; AALL, the Special Interest Sections and the local Chapters:

AALL's role/ responsibilities:

- Grant Funding for SISs and Chapters that want to develop their own programs
- Repackaging Annual Meeting materials and programs for distribution outside of the meeting
- Creating a clearinghouse and calendar of professional development opportunities (there was a lot of discussion about making our members aware of relevant continuing education sponsored by other organizations)
- Creating a speakers' bureau database of AALL members who are willing to take programs on the road
- Providing technical expertise and a technical platform to assist Chapters and SISs in their educational activities.

SIS roles/responsibilities:

- Develop content and programs relevant to the section
- Monitor and convey to AALL the educational needs of the section
- Provide local content and programs

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Chapters

- Partner with local resources (Bar, SLA, other groups that have similar interests)
- Provide AALL with information about local member needs.

At the AALL level, President Claire Germain is working with the Executive Board to appoint task forces that will create a structured approach and framework for an integrated professional development program for the next three years. The next board meeting is October 14-15 and the board plans to spend half a day discussing and ratifying next steps from the summit. AALL Headquarters staff immediately set to work investigating calendaring systems and will have one operative as soon as possible. The speakers' bureau database similarly should be easy to implement and they are working on that.

As far as RIPS is concerned, we already do an excellent job with the first two of the roles identified at the summit: developing content and programs relevant to the interests of the section members and monitoring and conveying to AALL the needs of the members. We also already provide several very worthwhile professional development/continuing education tools outside of the Annual Meeting in our annual Legal Research Teach-In Kits and the Briefs in Law Librarianship series (which I promoted to the participants unashamedly). I believe that it would only take a small additional effort to begin to fill the third role, that of content provider for local programs. It is a great opportunity to serve the needs of our members.

The facilitator, Cate Bower will have a final report for the participants by the end of this month that will summarize the discussions, place them into context, and provide a framework to help move forward with clarity. I will be happy to share the contents of that report with the membership of RIPS. I will also be happy to hear and pass to the AALL Board on any comments, suggestions, or criticisms you may have. It was an honor and a privilege to represent RIPS at this important event.

Roundtable on Internet Use Policies

By Anne Cottongim
Public Services Librarian
Arthur Neef Law Library, Wayne State University

On Monday, July 18, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. during a program time slot, approximately 15 people attended a roundtable on Internet use policies moderated by Gary Yessin and myself. The roundtable was a follow-up to an earlier survey of academic, county, and state court libraries on the same topic.

The survey's assumption was that every public services librarian eventually has to decide whether to allow a patron to view some form of pornography, play games, or perform other non-legal web surfing. Libraries were asked whether they have a policy regarding the appropriate use of the Internet. Those with policies were further asked if the policy was written, whether it was different for different classes of patrons, and for details about enforcement. As you might expect, libraries draw the line in different places; some do not allow any non-legal Internet use, some limit the content, while still others allow free access to the Internet without restriction.

Roundtable attendees expanded on the topics of the survey and discussed the desirability of having AALL draft guidelines, of following ALA's very open access policy, or of leaving individual libraries to develop their own policies without guidance.

The outcome of the survey and roundtable discussion will be published by Hein as part of the Briefs in Law Librarianship series.



Why Not be an Author?

By **Bobbie Studwell**

**Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law
University of Nevada Las Vegas
William S. Boyd School of Law**

The **Briefs in Law Librarianship** series is geared towards librarians and law library administrators seeking to answer questions quickly without having to create their own mini-on-line survey. The series goal is to identify subjects of interest to all law librarians and locate authors interested in writing about those topics. Each document in the series includes information about processes, policies, and procedures used by libraries that might be of interest to others in the field just initiating a similar policy, procedure, or process. The royalties from these publications go directly back to the RIPS-SIS treasury.

Authors for the series develop two documents. They begin by creating a survey instrument. The survey is then e-mailed to selected SIS listservs. As they fill out the survey forms, respondents are also asked to send pertinent policy statements, handbooks, manuals, user studies, procedural statements, planning materials, or selected reading lists that might be published in the final document.

Each Brief follows a similar format. A short introduction to the topic is followed by the survey results and comments. The author then prepares a brief analysis of the results and a bibliography. Each author also includes sample documents for which they have received copyright permission to include. The author completes the document about six months after the survey mailing. Briefs are published as a part of the William S. Hein Company's AALL Publication Series.

The newest authors in the Series are **David Armond** who wrote the Survey on Commercial Document Delivery Practices and **Vicente E. Garces** who wrote the Survey on Collection Development Policies and Selection Practices. Other Briefs cover job descriptions, legal research instruction, emergency preparedness planning,

electronic reference, electronic reserves, food and drink policies, reorganizing and restructuring, licensing, circulation practices, and collection development.

Possible new topics for the series include, but are not limited to the following:

- Gifts and Exchange Policies and Procedures in Law Libraries
- Collection Organization Schemes in Law Libraries
- Electronic Resource Sharing in Law Libraries
- Approval Plans and Collection Development Plans in Law Libraries
- Space Planning
- Use of Video and Multimedia Collections
- Remote Users and Policies on Access to Collections and Reference
- Branch Libraries
- Non-Librarian Professionals
- Networked Information Resources
- Library Security
- Printing Services
- Constructing and Reconfiguring (and Funding) Library Buildings
- Services to Users with Disabilities
- Support Staff Classification Schemes
- Cataloging Digitized Collections
- Storage Facilities
- Mentoring Programs
- Marketing and Public Relations
- Collaborative Collection Resource Sharing Programs
- Teams and Team Building
- Quality Customer Service Programs
- User Surveys
- Strategic Planning
- Library Use Fees
- Staffing - Computer Staffing Configurations in particular.

Member News

Position Changes

After eighteen years of service as Head of Public Services, **John Tessner** has recently retired from the Hamline University Law Library. Earlier in his career, John worked at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He co-authored the second edition of the Minnesota Legal Research Guide published in 2002. John is a graduate of Gonzaga University School of Law and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Library and Information Science. He is a member of the Wisconsin Bar Association.

Sherri Thomas, fresh out of University of New Mexico School of Law and soon to graduate from San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science, has joined the University of New Mexico Law Library as a Visiting Librarian. Sherri will work half-time for the Utton Transboundary Resources Center developing a database of water technology law and half-time in the Law Library at the reference desk and assisting with the development of web page content and various grant writing projects.

Laura Scott is now a Reference Librarian at Duke University School of Law Library. She was previously the reference librarian at Choate, Hall & Stewart in Boston.

Pat Fox and **Mary Marzolla** have been appointed Acting Co-Directors of the Legal Information Center at Widener University School of Law upon the retirement of Eileen Cooper as Library Director in August 2005. Pat has been with Widener since 1994 and was serving as Associate Director on the Harrisburg, PA campus and Mary has been with Widener since 1990 and was serving as the Head of Public Services on the Wilmington, DE campus.

James G. Durham is the new Head of Public Services at the Touro Law Center Library in Huntington, New York. Previously James served as Publications and Reference Librarian at The Fred Parks Law Library at South Texas College of Law in Houston. James received his M.L.I.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his J.D. from the Ohio State University in Columbus. He is licensed by the State Bar of New Mexico.

News from UCLA's Hugh and Hazel Darling Law Library:

June Kim has recently accepted an appointment as a Reference Librarian. She had previously served in a temporary position at the same.

Cindy Spadoni is the new Head of Acquisitions. She was formerly the Head of Reference Services at O'Melveny & Myers, LLP in Los Angeles.

Kathleen Thompson is now the Evening Access Services/Reference Librarian. Katie obtained her library degree from the University of Pittsburgh in August 2005. She had previously been working at the University of Pittsburgh Barco Law Library for the past seven years.

Cynthia Lewis has been promoted to Associate Law Librarian. She previously served as the library's Electronic Resources Librarian.

Presentations and Publications

Mike Hughes, Associate Director, Quinnipiac University School of Law Library, served as the Chair and Commentator for the session on Irish Language/Irish Literature at An Gorta Mór (The Great Hunger) conference held at Quinnipiac University on September 17, 2005. The members of this panel included professors from a variety of law schools. Representatives from around the globe participated in the day-long event devoted to all aspects of The Great Hunger in Ireland's history and its impact on the world.

Cindy Shearrer, Research Librarian/Coordinator of Faculty Services at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law Library and **Steve Lambson**, Senior Research and Computer Services Librarian of the same are participating in a joint effort of the Missouri Bar and the Missouri Library Association to extend training to public libraries in meeting the legal research needs of their patrons. The program identifies tools and techniques widely available to librarians as they assist patrons with law-related questions. The program recently won LexisNexis' Community Partnership award for State Bar Associations of 25,000 or more members. Eight sessions have been presented to public libraries, one to penal institution librarians, and one to the Missouri Library Association annual meeting. More sessions are anticipated.

Linda Tashbook, Foreign International Comparative Law Librarian at the University of Pittsburgh Barco Law Library recently published an article titled "The Six Sad Questions" in the Spring 2005 issue of the Journal of Information Ethics. She explains, "it tells about the series of inquiries that came from a retired English professor who wanted to sue someone when he learned that his life's work had been appropriated."

Cheryl Nyberg, Reference Librarian at the Gallagher Law Library of the University of Washington gave two presentations on finding fifty-state law surveys on the Internet at programs of the National Conference of State Legislatures. The first session was in Seattle on August 18, during NCSL's annual meeting, and the second was in Chicago on September 22, during a joint conference of the Legal Services Staff Section, the Legislative Research Librarians, and the Research and Committee Staff Section.

Catherine McGuire, Outreach Services Law Librarian at the Maryland State Law Library, presented two sessions of a Continuing Education class titled "Law on the Frontlines" to reference librarians on staff with the Carroll County Public Library in Maryland. The aim of the course was to help public librarians to feel more comfortable with addressing legal reference questions. The class contained three segments: an overview of the U.S. legal system, including types and levels of "the law", process and common terminology; tips on the analysis of legal reference questions and basic legal citation formats; and a highlights tour of "hot" internet sources for law to aid the public librarian in addressing legal reference questions. Included in the source segment was a short but intensive discussion of when and where to best refer questions.

Other news

Laurie Urquiaga, Associate Director for Access Services/Copyright Coordinator at Brigham Young University Howard W. Hunter Law Library is happy to report that she has recently passed the Utah bar exam. She writes "I completed my MLS in 1985, but just finished my JD in April after seven years of study at the J. Reuben Clark Law School. I'll be sworn in to the bar on October 12."

Ron Wheeler, Head of Faculty and Public Services at the University of New Mexico School of Law Library, placed 1st in the category for Librarians as Trainers, in the AALL Day in the Life of the Law Library Community Photo Contest. Ron's photo, entitled Training Research Assistants, featured his colleague and RIPS member **Barbara Lah** training UNM Law Library Research Pool students. Ron's photo will be featured, along with other contest winners, in the December 2005 issue of AALL Spectrum.

RIPS

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RIPS

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RIPS Programs—AALL 2006

I would like to thank all of the members of the RIPS Program Committee for their hard work, and also to thank everyone who submitted a program proposal. The Committee sponsored seven program proposals this year, and the following six were selected for the 2006 annual meeting:

The Emotional Intelligence of Law Librarians: Successful Leaders Pioneer Change

Proposed by: **Kelly Browne**

Kelly will share the outcome of her survey of "successful" law librarians and describe the resulting profiles of various law librarian positions in different types of law libraries. Susan Freeman, an expert on EQ, will discuss techniques for bridging the gap between current and desired ranges in different areas of emotional intelligence. The "Ready for the Reference Desk Players" will perform skits illustrating the profiles and techniques for developing your EQ.

Forensic Science Techniques and the Rules of Evidence

Proposed by: **Peggy McDermott**

This program will tie together various techniques in forensic investigation and their evidentiary foundations. The program will include a member of the staff of the Division Forensic and Environmental Pathology at Saint Louis University who will discuss techniques of forensic investigation, and either an attorney or law professor who will discuss their implications for federal and state rules of evidence.

Marketing Your Library Through CLE Programs

Proposed by: **Pamela Melton**

CLE programs can create goodwill and recognition for law libraries. This program features an academic law librarian who has developed CLE programs that she takes on the road around her state and a private firm librarian who develops and provides CLE programs for in-house consumption.

Pioneering Change in Medical Malpractice Research

Proposed by: **Darcy Kirk**

As law librarians, we are confronted with the challenge of knowing how and where to find medical malpractice materials -- whether statutes, regulations, bills, studies or news reports. In this program, an insurance law specialist will explore the maze of medical malpractice resources on the web, showing the audience how to sort out, evaluate and locate what is available for its research needs.

Pioneering Change Through Technology: The Evolving Role of Handheld Devices in Law Libraries

Proposed by: **Eric Gilson**

This program will examine library and information-related applications available for handheld devices, including PDAs and smartphones. The program will identify how these devices are being used to access library content, and explain ways to harness this technology and deliver effective services for handheld users.

The Virtual Frontier: Developing and Delivering Training Using Web Meeting Software

Proposed by: **Rita Kaiser**

This program will discuss a virtual training program developed for public reference librarians and implemented by librarians from the King County Law Library in Spring 2005. Rita will discuss criteria for selecting web training software, provide an overview of existing software programs and their features, and describe the methodology used to identify the elements necessary to design this type of training format.

RIPS also co-sponsored three programs with other SISs, two of which were selected. Those are *Teaching Online Legal Research to Law Students: What do Students Really Need to Know When They Arrive at a Law Firm?* co-sponsored with ALL SIS and *Finding Current and Historical Economic Information Through the Federal Reserve* co-sponsored with the GD SIS.

Submitted by **Jessie Wallace Burchfield**,
Program Committee Chair

Business Meeting Minutes 2005



Sunday, July 17, 2005
Marriott RiverCenter, San Antonio, Texas

Call to Order

The 2005 Business of the Research Instruction and Patron Services Special Interest Section (RIPS-SIS) was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by SIS Chair **Pamela Melton**.

Old Business

A. Committee Reports

The following committees submitted reports:

1. Web Page

On behalf of **Melissa Serfass**, Pamela Melton reported work is ongoing to update and add content to the SIS's web page. **Eric Gilson** of Rutgers-Camden is the new Chair of the Web Committee.

2. Public Relations/Recruitment

Peggy McDermott, Chair, thanked all RIPS-SIS members who responded to pleas to staff the activity table in the exhibit hall this year. She reported on activities at CONELL and noted that the Public Relations Committee contacts all CONELL members who express an interest in the RIPS-SIS. Finally, she noted that, the last **Baby Puron** having been given away, the Public Rela-

tions Committee will be selecting a new promotional item to give away in 2006.

3. Patron Services

The committee reported that work is ongoing to compile sample policies.

4. Nominations

Melissa Serfass, reporting for Chair **Kelly Browne**, congratulated Kelly for compiling a wonderful slate for the seats of Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and Member-At Large. She also thanked all of the candidates who ran for office in 2005 for their contribution to the SIS.

5. Program

Deanna Barmakian reported that, for the 2005 annual meeting, the RIPS-SIS submitted eight program and workshop proposals, of which AALL accepted four.

6. Newsletter

Jennifer Murray reported that the committee successfully published three issues in 2004-2005. The newsletter included a revived member news feature, and a new book review column with a hoped-for focus on general library publications. She also reported that **Michelle Rigual** of the University of New Mexico will take over as newsletter editor for 2005-2006.

6. Teach-In

Gail Partin reported that the Teach-In, now in its 13th year, remains as popular as ever. Libraries of all types submitted research training materials for inclusion in the Teach-In Kit. Thomson/West continued to sponsor full-color printing and mailing of somewhere between 500 and 700 kits to libraries for National Library Week.

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LexisNexis's give-away for library week - sticky note pads this year - is also overwhelmingly popular. Last year LexisNexis received more requests than they could fill. This year, to keep costs down and make more pads available, LexisNexis and the Teach-In committee agreed to go to the "sticky note" format, and LexisNexis was able to fill request for 25,000 to 26,000 pads.

This year the RIPS-SIS is partnering with the ALL-SIS, which is creating a web-based collection of teaching materials. Materials submitted to the ALL-SIS site can be vetted for inclusion in the Teach-In Kit, and the ALL-SIS site can be an online repository for Teach-In materials.

Pamela Melton added that the tables of contents for many past Teach-In Kits are on the RIPS-SIS web site, and that some items are available for downloading. Finally, Gail solicited submissions for the 2006 Teach-In Kit.

B. Briefs in Law Librarianship Series (BILLS)

Bobbie Studwell reported that the Briefs in Law Librarianship Series is up to its eleventh survey, and that all published surveys are available from Hein. Bobbie presented honoraria to this year's authors of Briefs in Law Librarianship. **David Armond** was honored for his Survey on Commercial Document Delivery Practice, and **Vic Garces** was honored for his Survey on Collection Development Policies and Selection Practices. Bobbie reported that several surveys are in the works. These upcoming surveys deal with faculty liaison services, internet training practices, and public intern policies and practices.

C. Annual Report to the Membership

Pamela Melton, outgoing Chair, delivered the annual report to the members.

The first RIPS-SIS online election was a success, and participation was about the same as in the last election conducted by paper ballots.

The RIPS-SIS newsletter is now distributed online only. This has reduced costs substantially for the SIS. The SIS has been able to use these savings for a contribution of \$600.00 to the Strait minority scholarship fund and has plans to use additional savings to create a grant to attend the AALL annual meeting. The preferred recipients will be RIPS-SIS members, and the grant, in addition to covering all or part of the AALL registration costs, will pay for RIPS-SIS dues for a year. Grant recipients will be honored at the RIPS-SIS business meeting.

During the fall, the SIS will be trying to identify a person to attend the 2006 Annual Meeting as part of AALL's VIP (Valuable Invited Participant) program. This program allows an SIS to invite a non-librarian with connections to law libraries to the AALL annual meeting. AALL covers the full registration for the invitee, and the SIS covers travel costs. The Chair solicited ideas for VIPs to whom RIPS could extend invitations.

The RIPS-SIS has been involved in planning for the 2006 AALL Centennial celebration, and the Executive Board is exploring ways to participate in the variety show or in other centennial activities.

AALL has asked each SIS to send a member to a summit to be held in September of 2005 to discuss the educational goals of the AALL and its special interest sections. The Executive Board has asked the outgoing Chair to represent the RIPS-SIS at this summit.

The outgoing Chair introduced the new officers and board members. They are:

- **Jessie Cranford**, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect
- **Jennifer Murray**, Secretary-Treasurer
- **Lynn Murray**, Member-At-Large.
- **Ron Wheeler** continues as Member-At-Large.

D. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, **Lee Ryan**, reported that, as of May 31, 2005, the RIPS-SIS had a balance on hand of \$6,453.38.

(BUSINESS, continued on page 16)

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(BUSINESS, continued from page 15)

Income for the period from June 1, 2004 to May 31, 2005 was \$4,208.00. Expenses for the period from June 1, 2004 to May 31, 2005 totaled \$2,005.88. An adjustment of \$214.20 was necessary to reconcile the RIPS-SIS records with the records of the AALL Headquarters. A copy of the complete Treasurer's Report is directly follows these minutes.

New Business

There was no new business.

Closing Statements

The outgoing Chair, **Pamela Melton**, thanked all the members of the RIPS-SIS who contributed over the past year. Special thanks went to the rest of the Executive Board for their support - and prompt responses to emails - during the year. The outgoing Chair also presented the RIPS business meeting door prizes-a \$25 gift card from Starbucks and a \$25 gift card from Barnes & Noble. The winners were: **D.R. Jones** and **David Armond**.

Incoming Chair **Deanna Barmakian** presented outgoing Chair, **Pamela Melton**, with a bobble-penguin and a Waterford crystal bowl as tokens of appreciation for her service. Pamela ceremonially passed Puron the Penguin to Deanna to signal the formal beginning of Deanna's service as Chair of the RIPS-SIS.

In closing remarks, SIS Chair **Deanna Barmakian** thanked **Pamela Melton** for her service to the SIS and hailed here as "one of the most enthusiastic, creative, fun, speediest-in-responding-to-emails, and best put-together" law librarians she has ever known.

Deanna welcomed new members, noting that the RIPS-SIS is known as an easy SIS to get involved in. She solicited any and all ideas for the SIS for the coming year from members in all types of libraries.

She announced the following new committee and task force chairs:

- **Eric Gilson**, Web Page Committee
- **Holly Lakatos**, Patron Services Committee
- **Lynn Murray** and **Christopher Vallandingham**, Research Text Task Force
- **Marc Silverman**, Research Instruction

For the newsletter, the goal for the coming year is to institute new columns. Contribution can be quite short, and the newsletter publishes only 3 times per year, so this opportunity to publish ought not require too much time. Deanna asked any interested contributors to contact her.

The new Chair encouraged all members to participate in planning RIPS-SIS programs and roundtables for the next AALL annual meeting. She reported that in 2006, RIPS and other special interest sections will be allowed to schedule programs, events, roundtables and committee meeting in competition with the annual meetings educational programs.

Deanna reiterated Pamela's remarks about AALL's VIP (Valuable Invited Participant) program, and she too solicited ideas for stakeholders to whom the RIPS-SIS might tender an invitation.

Deanna offered final thanks to all who served in the RIPS-SIS during the previous year, to all who came to the business meeting, and to all who plan to participate in the SIS in the coming year.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by **Lee Ryan**,
RIPS-SIS Secretary

Treasurer's Report 2004-05

Balance on hand 6/1/2004		\$ 4,465.46
Income		
Dues	\$ 4,008.00	
Sales: Teach In Kits & BILLS	\$ 200.00	
Total Income		\$4,208.00
Expenses		
Food & Beverages - 2004 bus. meeting	\$ 195.79	
Joint Reception - 2004 annual meeting	\$ 373.98	
AV & Related Labor - 2004 bus. meeting	\$ 258.30	
Promotional Items - 2004 annual meeting	\$ 661.84	
Gift for Outgoing Chair	\$ 41.80	
Honoraria (BILLS authors)	\$ 90.17	
Newsletter (postage - July 2003 invoice)	\$ 384.00	
Total Expenses		\$ 2,005.88
Excess revenues over expenses	\$ 2,002.12	
Adjustment to reconcile SIS balance with balance as stated by AALL HQ		- \$ 214.20
Balance on hand 5/31/2005		\$ 6,453.38

Submitted by **Lee Ryan**
RIPS Treasurer 2004-2005

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- Number 2 February 3, 2006
- Number 3 May 5, 2006

Submissions from RIPS members are highly encouraged. Please send submissions as an email or an email attachment to the copy editor: Deanna Barmakian, barm@law.harvard.edu. The opinions and editorial views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS or the American Association of Law Libraries. The Research Instructions & Patron Services SIS does not assume any responsibility for statements advanced by contributors to this newsletter. Subscriptions to *RIPS Law Librarian* are included in the membership dues for RIPS of \$15 per year. To become a member of RIPS, go to https://secure.aallnet.org/sis_application.asp