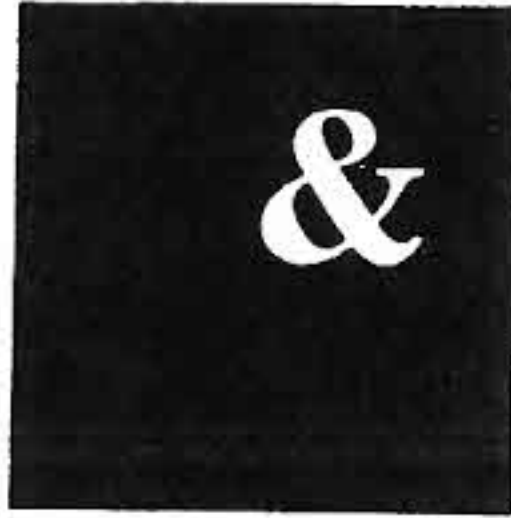


STATE, COURT & COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES



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A Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

Chair's Message

National Conference on State Court Libraries

November 11-14th found many of us in attendance at the conference held in Columbus sponsored by the State Justice Institute. Erick Low and Paul Fu directed the event, with Peggy Rogers of the National Center for State Courts as co-ordinator. The two and a half day sessions were divided into focus groups after a day of floor testimony from each participant. A strategic planning effort resulted in issues identification and recommendations from each focus group. The process was an exhaustive look at concerns with possible solutions, and provided an opportunity for us to hear from some judges and court administrators in working sessions for the first time. The lovely Ohio Supreme Court library hosted a gala reception for us Friday evening, and Ohio's Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer spoke at lunch. On Saturday the State Court Administrator, Steve Stovall gave us parting remarks. Focus group leaders were David Badertscher for technology, Deborah Norwood for public services, Marcia Koslov for finance and Pamela Gregory for management, staffing and organization. The conference

consensus statement: Our consensus is that law libraries are integral to the administration of justice. The law library community, governing bodies, and participants in the judicial process must communicate effectively and work jointly to implement strategies that insure access to legal information and excellent library service for all. Congratulations are due to Erick, Paul and Peggy and to all of the participants for making this effort so worthwhile. Many of the State, Court & County membership paid their own way to this event, about half I'd estimate. Here is a recap of the recommendations of each focus group: (cont'd next page)

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