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# ALL-SIS NEWSLETTER

Volume 16 Double Issue No. 2 & 3

Late Spring 1996

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Another academic year is completed, and we are all (I hope) making plans to gather in Indianapolis soon. The ALL-SIS has a interesting slate of programming prepared for us. Thanks to our Education Committee of Marlene Alderman (Chair), Rich Leiter, Sheryl Summers-Kramer, Diane Murley, and Gary Hill for helping to ensure the ALL-SIS is well-represented at this Conference.

In this newsletter we have a wonderful slate of candidates for your consideration. Many thanks to our Nominations Committee of Carol Alpert (Chair), Claudia Dansby, and Jenni Parrish for their hard work.

Thanks to Vice-Chair Elect Sara Robbins, outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Faye Jones, Grace Mills, Newsletter Editor, James Duggan and Ellen Platt, PR Committee, for service above and beyond the call of duty. They really carried on the work of the SIS during my extended medical leave this past academic year.

There are a number of opportunities for involvement in the SIS for next year. Please contact incoming Chair Sara Robbins if you have an interest in serving the SIS.

It has been a privilege to serve as your Chair. I look forward to seeing all of you at out table in the activities section in Indianapolis, and at our business meeting on Sunday morning.

Jacqueline Orlando

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Academic Law Libraries  
Special Interest Section  
Newsletter  
Received on: 06-26-96  
SIU Law Library

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Submissions may be made on 3 1/2" computer disk or by electronic mail. Electronic mail is preferred. The opinions expressed in the columns are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of ALL-SIS. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject for publication any submission or advertisement.

## News from San Antonio '96

By Sara Robbins, Vice-Chair/ Chair-Elect

At this year's Association of American Law School's annual meeting in San Antonio, several programs relating to law libraries were held. The programs sponsored by the AALS Committee on Libraries and the Section on Law Libraries both dealt with issues of technology; the program for "new" directors covered a variety of topics of interest.

As many of you know, every other year, the AALS Committee on Libraries sponsors a "Deans' and Library Directors' Workshop". This was one such year and the subject was "Planning, Financing, and Managing Computing Services in the Law School". The panel of speakers included Claire M. Germaine (Law Librarian, Cornell; organizer and moderator), Dick Danner (Associate Dean for Computing & Library Services, Duke), Jeremy Davis (Dean, University of North Dakota), and Roger Jacobs (Law Librarian, Notre Dame) substituting for Notre Dame's Assistant Provost for Information Technologies who got lost on the way to Texas. Among the issues discussed were the necessary infrastructure to meet the computing needs of faculty, students and staff; types of organizational structure best suited to meet the needs of the institution; education and training programs for the various segments of the law school community; and the financial implications of rapidly evolving technologies. This program was quite well attended by librarians, deans and even some faculty. For those who might be interested, it is possible to get the audio tape of this program (Recorded Resources Corp.).

The second program, sponsored by the Section on Law Libraries, was titled "Management of Law School Automation and the Impact on Libraries" and was organized by Ed Edmonds (Law Librarian, Loyola University, New Orleans). A new format was used this year: round table discussions focusing on a variety of specific issues, including planning automation for a new building, CD-ROM networks, the creation of electronic texts for the Internet, curricular implications of automation (electronic casebooks, faculty run discussion lists), required use of laptop computers, and the changing role of the library at different stages of law school automation. There were 10 different groups, each facilitated by a law librarian or legal educator with experience in his/her topic. The program was structured to allow each attendee to participate in 2 different groups, although there was a lot of moving around throughout the whole program (you all know how hard it is to get a library director to sit still in one place for any length of time). The small group setting allowed for both general and individualized discussions of the particular topics. Again, this program was very well attended and was quite well received by the participants; the noise level was pretty intense. Ed produced a nice handout for the program which contains some outlines and materials for some of the different groups. If you are so inclined, contact Ed to see if he can send you a copy

For the "new" directors, Judy Anspach and Judy Gaskell arranged for a series of informal discussion groups held over a two-day period, each led by a different "experienced" director. Some of the topics addressed were budgeting, maintaining a good relationship with the Library Committee, and dealing with the Dean. These sessions provided for close interaction between the participants, enabling them to gather information relevant to their particular situations. The report on this program was excellent as well.

And for those who didn't think that they had had meetings enough already, the American Bar Association Law Libraries Committee held a breakfast meeting as well. The committee is undertaking a review of the site visitation questionnaire and the questions suggested for site evaluators in light of the new library standards approved in August 1995. A possible result of this effort may be consideration of a new unified site evaluation questionnaire for library related issues (possibly also covering computing). If you have any recommendations, suggestions, or comments on this, the Committee would really like to hear from you. The members of the Committee are quite numerous; a complete list can be found in the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar Committee Directory (1995/96) that was recently sent out by the ABA. If you don't have access to the directory or don't personally know a member, please send your thoughts to either of the two co-chairs of the committee, Roger Jacobs and Joan Howland, or to me. Time is a factor, so the sooner the better; consequently, please communicate through e-mail or by fax.

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#### Editor's Note

*I don't know how involved the Spring 1996 semester has been at your institution but our Law Library (Boali Hall, University of California) is undergoing a major transition. As this is written, our Law Library will be closed in anticipation of renovation and new facilities in the Fall of 1996. I apologize for any and all inconveniences that the arrival of this Newsletter has caused. This, a double issue, is the final issue of volume 16.*

*Aletha L. Honsowitz, an ALL-SIS member, offered her manuscript of an article on law students, law schools and technology. Unfortunately, technology did not cooperate in transferring her article to this newsletter. Until then, please find the March 1996 issue of Ingham County Bar Briefs and her article will be in a forthcoming issue of this newsletter.*

## Ruminations on Library Food and Drink Policy

By Shaun Esposito, Public Services Librarian, University of  
Kentucky Law Library

At the University of Kentucky Law Library we had, until this past fall, followed a food and drink policy typical at many libraries. A sign posted on the front door declared "No Food or Drink". No formal enforcement policy existed and library staff rarely encountered offenders in the act of consuming food or beverages, and offenders were rarely if ever reminded of the policy.

At the beginning of this past summer I was charged with reviewing our food and drink policy and drafting one that would be fair and enforceable by all library staff. Faced with this task, my immediate thought was: What is everyone else doing? I was particularly interested in the policies at other academic law libraries. In an attempt to gather information on policies I posted the following message to the Law-Lib listserv: (1) What policy, if any, does your library have concerning food and drink in the library and (2) How is this policy enforced and by whom? (For example, is the policy actively enforced or are only flagrant violators singled out; are some patrons, such as undergraduate students using the law library, scrutinized more closely than law students?).

Responses to these questions revealed a wide range of policies resulting from varying food and drink philosophies. Thirty-three schools responded to the question I posted about library food and drink policies.

Of the 33 responding libraries, food and drink policies and their enforcement broke down this way:

DEGREE of ENFORCEMENT				
Neither Allowed	Drink Only	Food & Drink	OK	Strictly Enforced
5	3			
Moderately Enforced				
7	11	1		
Little or No Enforcement				
3	1	2		

Where food is allowed, one library had no restrictions, while two permitted only non-noisy snacks. Where drinks are allowed, three libraries had no container restriction, ten required spill proof or spill resistant containers and two required non-disposable containers.

through comments from other librarians, it occurred to me that problems with food and drink result from a lack of basic courtesy by a few library users: those who crunch on loud food in the library and those who leave a mess behind. The same problems with lack of courtesy also underlie problems with excessive noise in the library. The final policy adopted by the University of Kentucky Law Library emphasizes the importance of courtesy to other library users and links the food and drink policy to noise considerations. The remaining concern I had was that if the law library's policy was more lenient than other campus libraries, particularly the main undergraduate library, the law library might be inundated by undergraduates using our library as a study hall where they could eat and drink. That is why the final policy emphasizes limitations on library use by those who are not law students.

The final food and drink policy adopted by our library, incorporated into general library policies, reads:

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY LAW LIBRARY  
GENERAL RULES

Library Use

The library's primary reason for existence is to support the academic programs of the University of Kentucky College of Law and provide a comfortable place for the faculty and students of the College of Law to study and conduct research. Other individuals outside the College of Law, whether members of the University community or the general public, are also welcome to use the law library to conduct research using materials held by the law library. Much of the library's collection must be used only in the law library. For information about circulation privileges and check-out periods, please contact the circulation desk.

Noise

In order to be conducive to thoughtful study and research, the law library needs to be quiet. Please keep conversation in the law library reading rooms to a minimum and speak as softly as possible. If another patron is disturbing you, please ask that patron to refrain from continuing to act in the disturbing manner. If the other patron remains uncooperative, please see someone at the circulation desk. Patrons who continue to behave in a loud or disturbing manner after being warned may be asked to leave the library.

Food, Drink and Tobacco Products

Many of the problems associated with beverage consumption in libraries results from those few inconsiderate persons who fail to clean up after

themselves and leave disposable containers behind. Paper cups and cans also tend to be less stable and easier to spill than drinks in non-disposable containers.

To strike an accommodation between the needs of those using the library for long hours of tiring study and the need to maintain a clean and sanitary research environment, the law library will permit drinks to be consumed if they are in a non-disposable container such as a plastic travel mug or ceramic mug. Should a spill occur, please clean up after yourself.

Food consumption in the library presents similar problems. Noise problems also exist when patrons attempt to open cellophane bags or munch on crunchy, noisy foods. Again, to strike a balance between the needs of individual users and all patrons, the law library will permit the consumption of snack items which may be opened and consumed quietly. Please be considerate and clean up after yourself so the next patron does not have to stare at your crumbs or leftovers. Please enjoy your pizzas, buckets of chicken, and the like before entering the law library reading rooms.

Use of tobacco products is prohibited in the law library.

Observance of these simple rules of courtesy will ensure that the library will be a comfortable place for each person yet conducive to study and research by all users.

This policy was posted in late August 1995. Thus far we have not found any problems related to our new policy. Further evaluation will be made at the end of this academic year and changes, if needed, will be made then.

If you would like to contact Shaun concerning the information in this article he has given us a variety of means of doing so:

Shaun Esposito  
Public Services Librarian  
University of Kentucky Law Library  
620 S. Limestone St.  
Lexington, KY 40506-0048

(606) 257-8347 (voice)  
(606) 323-4906 (fax)  
shaun@pop.uky.edu or  
sesposito@uklans.uky.edu



*(The excerpts of the following article were submitted by Howard E. Trivers, Baker & Daniels, Indianapolis, Indiana, Local Arrangements Publicity Committee. While Mr. Travers is not a member of this SIS, he is a fellow law librarian and he does offer some insights that provide a contrast to the in-depth articles about Indianapolis that have been in the AALL Newsletter.)*

### A Hoosier Boy Returns Home

They say that change is sometimes good for you. A year ago, on a whim, I accepted a reference position in Indianapolis, Indiana. As I drove with my dog over the Appalachian Mountains in my pickup truck, hauling a U-Haul trailer full of my meager possessions, I knew I was heading back to a more conservative city, but simpler lifestyle. Indiana had been my home during high school, college, and some years in between, but I had not lived in the state in ten year. While your visit and stay in Indianapolis for the 1996 AALL convention will be much shorter than mine, I hope the following observations from a former big city person will help you understand the city, culture, and people.

Although crime is rising to unacceptable rates for the locals, Indianapolis is still a very safe city compared to other urban centers. You can walk around the downtown area late at night and be relatively safe. The completion of the Circle Centre Mall, more people are downtown in the evening hours. During the summer months, crowds of young people loiter around Monument Circle-the heart of the city. For those AALL members who are bringing children to the convention, Indianapolis is your town. It is extremely family oriented with many activities for children such as the largest children's museum, two indoor ice skating rinks at the Pam Am Plaza.

Forget about mass transportation, because none exists. You can catch a bus heading north, south, east, west, but forget about getting anywhere in between. Also, taxis are difficult to locate in Indianapolis. You have to call and wait or go to a hotel or airport. The car is still king and it is the most efficient way to travel around Indianapolis. Driving is very easy, however since the streets run straight north, south, east, and west with hardly any curves in the road and are very flat.

Indianapolis has grown over the years, but still retains an enjoyable rural flavor. People are very pleasant, friendly, and everyone makes eye contact, and says hello.

If you have time and a car, you may want to drive to Bloomington (one hour drive), home of Indiana University. It is one of the most picturesque college towns in the country with excellent nightclubs and restaurants nestled in the hilly southern Indiana countryside.



## Announcements

The following is a notice from Sandra Braber-Grove to all ALL members.

I have accepted the position of Computer Services Librarian at the Alyne Queener Massey Law Library at Vanderbilt University Law School effective April 8, 1996. My last day as Media/Computer Services & Reference Librarian at the David C. Shapiro Memorial Law Library at Northern Illinois University College of Law will be April 1, 1996.



**Nominations for the 1996 ALL SIS Executive Board**

The following is the nomination slate for the 1996-1997 ALL SIS Executive Board. The Nominations Committee, headed by Carol Alpert, New York University, selected this slate of candidates. We wish to thank them for all their work! And we also thank the candidates for their decisions to run for the following offices.

Mark your ballot by placing an "X" on the appropriate line. No other marks may be made on this ballot. Only members in good standing of the Academic Law Libraries SIS may vote. Thank you for voting. Ballots must be postmarked on or before **July 12, 1996**.

**Vice-Chair/Chair Elect**

Scott B. Pagel

*Biography*

Director of the Law Library, Associate Professor & Assistant Dean for Information Services, The George Washington University. Education: BA, Michigan State University (1972); MLS, University of Michigan (1977); JD, Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley (1985). SIS and AALL Activities include: Special Interest Section Council; Contemporary Social Problems Special Interest Section; *Law Library Journal* & *AALL Newsletter* Advisory Committee; Awards Committee; Constitution & Bylaws Committee; Scholarships & Grants Committee. AALS Advisory Board, Journal of Legal Education. Chapter memberships include tenure with LLSDC, MAALL, SWALL, LLAGNY and NOCALL.

*Candidate's Statement*

As with all segment of the law library community, academic law librarians face many issues as they try to define their role in the AALL. Are the goals and practices of private and academic law librarians so different that AALL can no longer meet the needs of both, or are we merely passing through a period of growing pains within both communities which will vanish as we learn to communicate with each other more effectively? Is the Internet becoming, as one participant of Law-Lib recently suggested, the CB of the 90's, or are there ways that academic librarians can still make it a useful means of communication? Are there ways in which the ALL-SIS can play a role in the survival of Law Library Journal? Should the AALL take leadership positions on issues such as citation format or leave it to the marketplace to resolve?

Having raised all of these important questions, I probably will disappoint some members by not presenting my views on these controversial topics. While I have strong personal positions on questions such as those raised above, I think that it is important for an SIS chair not to speak as an individual, but as a representative for his/her constituency. In recent years, some have asked that candidates for AALL national offices state their positions on controversial issues such as citations format. I feel that such questions are appropriate in a political, but not in a professional, setting. My views on these issues are irrelevant-my goal as Chair would be to seek, for the SIS membership, a consensus as to the issues we should address and the positions (if any) we should take. I would attempt to speak and work on behalf of the SIS, regardless of my own views on an issue.

ALL-SIS Board Nominations continued

George H. Pike

*Biography*

Director, Barco Law Library, University of Pittsburgh. BA, Albertson College of Idaho (1982); JD, University of Idaho (1985); MLS, University of Washington (1988). Member of AALL and ALL-SIS since 1987. Chapter, SIS and AALL Activities include: Editor, WestPac News; Executive Board Member, Western Pacific Chapter; designed material for Reader Services SIS; Local Arrangements and program committees, WestPac '93 Annual Meeting; Local Arrangements, Internet Room, ALL '95 Annual Meeting; Program Committee, WPLLA and Northeast '96 Regional Meeting. Co-Author (with Peter S. Nycum), Defining "Fair," Simple" and "Equitable": An Analysis of LEXIS and WESTLAW's New Pricing Structures, 11(2) ALL-SIS Newsletter 2 (1990).

*Candidate's Statement*

About an hour ago, I was asked to be a candidate for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section. At the Same time, I was encouraged to prepare a short bio and candidate statement, "as soon as possible, and here's the fax number..." So, having given the matter an hour of serious thought, let me say that first and foremost, I am honored t be asked to stand for election to this position. H have been involved with AALL and the ALL-SIS for a number of years and have tried to be active on a number of levels within my profession. My professional involvement is very important to me and I have thoroughly enjoyed the friendships that I have made as a result.

The theme of last year's conference (which I remember of so well!) was "Connected for Justice", and I would like to think that would be the theme of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section. We as academic law librarians play a critical role in the educational process of our students as they become transformed into lawyers. The SIS should do all that it can to promote our own education and activities to assist us in facilitating that role. But we also must remember that our interaction with these lawyers is but for the first few years of their professional careers. We must connect with our colleges in this profession who are charged with continuing the education of these lawyers in their firms, the courts and corporations and the counties. We can do this through joint activities and programs with the other SIS's, such as in the areas of research instruction and research technology-particularly with the Internet. (My personal area of interest having done two CLE programs for local attorneys who were fascinated by a technology that many of us take for granted.) We can do this through articles in the ALL-SIS Newsletter and encouraging our members to publish in other areas. We can do this through one-on-one connections at AALL, regional meetings and local programs. I'd like to think that should make these connections and I'd venture to say that for the good of our patrons, we must.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thought and also for your support.

ALL-SIS Board Nominations continued

Secretary/Treasurer

Ellen Platt

*Biography*

Education: JD, University of Oregon (1991); MS, University of Washington (1992).

Employment: Reference Librarian at Marquette University Law Library, October 1992 to present.

*Candidate's Statement*

I have served as Public Relations Chair both for my local chapter (LLAW) and for the ALL-SIS and know how important it is to communicate the business of the organization to its members. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to contribute my time and energy to the ALL-SIS as Secretary/Treasurer.

Theodore A. (Ted) Potter

*Biography*

Education: JD, University of Toledo College of Law; MLS, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Employment: 1982-83, Assistant Law Librarian (Reference/Serials), Ohio Northern University; 1983-86, Head of Acquisitions, University of Toledo Law Library; 1986-current, Assistant Law Librarian for Public Services, University of Toledo Law Library.

AALL Activities: Publications Policy Committee (member), ALL-SIS Long Range Planning Committee (member), Dance SIS (Swinger, fox trotter, etc.).

*Candidate's Statement*

After serving in many capacities at the regional level, I am interested in using the skills I learned there to serve at the national level. The position of Secretary/Treasurer of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section would allow me to serve on a broader scale. I have many years of experience in leadership roles and I enjoy working with people on the issues that affect our profession.

**BALLOT**

Return this ballot slip by July 12, 1996 to Faye E. Jones, ALL-SIS Secretary/Treasurer, Associate Director, University of California, Hastings College of the Law Library, 200 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Vice-Chair / Chair Elect

Scott B. Pagel \_\_\_\_\_

George H. Pike \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary / Treasurer

Ellen Platt \_\_\_\_\_

Theodore A. (Ted) Potter \_\_\_\_\_