



ALL

NEWSLETTER

Gail Laster
Editor

Academic Law Libraries
Special Interest Section

Spring 1988

OFFICERS

Frank G. Houdek, Chair
Director
Southern Illinois University
School of Law Library

Lynn Foster, Vice/Chair
Chair Elect
Director
UALR Law Library

Elisabeth Jackson
Secretary/Treasurer
Associate Law Librarian & Director of Academics
Georgetown University Law Library

SIU LAW LIBRARY
CARBONDALE, IL 62901
MAR 24 1988

NOMINATIONS FOR ACADEMIC SIS OFFICE, 1988-89

The following names have been nominated for the office of Chair of the Academic Law Libraries SIS:

Donald J. Dunn, Law Librarian and Professor of Law, Western New England College of Law Library

Judith Wright, Director, University of Chicago D'Angelo Law Library

Under the bylaws of our SIS, further nominations may be made upon written petition of five members of the Section. Such petitions, accompanied by written acceptance of the nominees, must be filed with the Chair not later than May 1.

The two candidates for Chair have sent us biographies, which are set out below.

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Serv.
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Donald J. Dunn

J.D. Western New England College School of Law
M.L.S., B.A. University of Texas at Austin

1973-present, Law Librarian and Professor of Law, Western
New England College Law Library
1972-73, Supervising Librarian, Criminal Justice Reference
Library, Univ. of Texas Tarlton Law Library
1969-72, Senior Library Assistant and Assistant to the Law
Librarian, Univ. of Texas Tarlton Law Library

Member: AALL, ALA, LLNE

Activities: Law Library Journal Advisory Committee, Chair,
1988-89
Scholarships and Grants Committee, Chair,
1985-88
LLNE President, 1982-83
New England Law Library Consortium, President,
1981-82
ACRL Law and Political Science Section Presi-
dent, 1981-82

Publications: Editor and Compiler of Noter Up, 1985-present;
has authored articles in N.Y.L. School Law
Review, Law Library Journal, Legal
References Services Quarterly

Judith M. Wright

J.D. DePaul University
M.A. Graduate Library School, University of Chicago
B.S. Memphis State University

1980-present, Director, University of Chicago D'Angelo
Law Library
1974-77 Reference Librarian, University of Chicago Law
Library
1970-74 Documents Librarian, University of Chicago Law
Library

Admitted Illinois Bar 1980

Member: ABA, AALL, CALL

Activities: ABA Facilities of the Law Library of Congress
Committee
AALL National Legal Resources Committee
AALL Special Committee on the Educational Policy
of AALL, Chair
WESTLAW Advisory Board, 1984-87
Lecturer, Graduate Library School, University of
Chicago 1977-

OPEN LETTER TO THE ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIES SIS MEMBERSHIP FROM THE CHAIR AND CHAIR-ELECT

Two years after the publication of an excellent long range plan for the SIS, some problems remain. Many of our members feel that the SIS still lacks a focus. Separating the role of the Academic Law Libraries SIS from that of the Reader Services and Technical Services SISs is still hard to do. Our SIS needs to clarify its *raison d'etre* in the minds of our members.

Additionally, our SIS needs a structure that will enable it to carry out its role. Currently, we have roundtables which meet 45 minutes each year after our business meeting at the AALL Annual Meeting. The roundtables emerged as a discussion of various aspects of academic law librarianship. However, heretofore participation has been limited to those attending the national convention. The current structure of the roundtables needs to be refined and strengthened.

Finally, communication within the SIS needs to be improved. Most members have no idea of what is happening within the SIS (and consequently do not participate in the SIS) unless and until they attend the annual business meeting. We must do more to maintain communication lines throughout the year.

The following paragraphs contain our ideas and goals for the next year and a half. Most of these come out of the long range plan. Some are new. We ask you, our members, to give serious thought to these proposals and to respond.

ROLE

In addition to the role already defined for our SIS, that of dealing with issues particular to all academic law librarians, we propose that our SIS should also serve as a forum for academic law library directors. While the needs of those in other areas of academic law libraries are already served by SISs directly related to their interests (e.g., Reader Services, Technical Services, Government Documents, Micrographics), there currently is no component of AALL specifically related to law library administration. We feel that the Academic SIS can and should fill this void. Please note--the SIS will not abandon the interests of other academic law librarians, but rather will add a more specific focus to its role, that of serving those involved in library administration.

STRUCTURE

The roundtables should publish agendas. They should meet separately from the business meeting. They should develop programs and activities that can be carried on outside the confines of the annual meeting, throughout the year.

In addition, a directors' roundtable should be established. Since so many directors are AALS members, we should present a program (or at least hold a roundtable meeting) at the AALS Annual Meeting. There seems to be a

consensus that it's time for a change from the "deans and directors" format currently offered at AALS and the Academic SIS would seem to be the logical body to bring about such a change.

COMMUNICATION

Our newsletter should appear at least three times a year. It should contain information and advice to help us do our jobs better. It should also keep members abreast of the current and forthcoming activities of the SIS, thereby encouraging them to take a more vigorous role. Additionally, each issue of the AALL Newsletter should contain an item about our SIS, to inform both our own members and others in AALL of our activities. Once again, the goal is to encourage participation and keep communication lines open. In this regard, our clearinghouse function should be advertised.

What do you think? We would like--no, we need--to hear from you. If we are to establish a clearer focus and role for the Academic SIS, if we are to create a more effective structure, if we are to improve communication, you must help us. Please call or write Frank Houdek, Chair, at Southern Illinois University (618/536-7711) or Lynn Foster, Vice-Chair/Chair-elect, at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock (501/371-1071).

Frank Houdek
Lynn Foster

AUTOMATION SURVEY

**YOU CAN PARTICIPATE!
RETURN THE SURVEY!**

You will be receiving a philosophical survey concerning automation in the next few weeks. Please fill it out and return. The survey is part of an AALL Atlanta program (sponsored by the Academic SIS) - "Should We Cooperate with the Main Library?: Consideration of Multi-library Cooperation in Automation."

The program will be divided into four parts. Part one will cover results of a philosophical survey distributed to all academic libraries on the issue of automation and the main library. Parts two and three will involve role playing scenarios between a director of a law library, a law school dean, and a university librarian as they discuss the library and automation. The fourth part will involve a question and answer session with the audience.

**THANK YOU FOR RETURNING THE SURVEY!
THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!**

Sally Wise

GAIL LASTER NEW EDITOR

Gail Laster has graciously volunteered to become the next editor of the Academic Law Libraries SIS Newsletter. She is the secretary at the UALR Law Library and enjoys working with PCs. Send Gail your submissions for the Newsletter, in hardcopy or in Word Perfect on a diskette. Gail can be reached at 501-371-1071.

MENTOR PROJECT MOVES TO CONELL

ALL/SIS members should be proud to learn that the Mentor Project we have sponsored so successfully the past two years has become an official part of CONELL. Response to the Mentor Project from both Mentors and Mentees has been overwhelmingly positive. The single most common criticism, however, is that sponsorship by the Academic Law Libraries SIS gives the impression that the Project is open only to academic law librarians. That criticism is borne out by the figures. Academic librarians account for two-thirds of Mentor Project participants, but less than one-half of the AALL membership. We wanted to remedy that imbalance, because the Project has proved to be as beneficial for new private and government librarians as it has been for academics. Several people suggested that helping people get through their first Annual Meeting seemed a natural extension of CONELL's function, and Nancy Johnson and Colleen McCarroll, Co-Chairs of CONELL, graciously agreed.

I am very pleased with the success of the Mentor Project. It is an important contribution to the Association as a whole, and I am grateful to the officers and members of Academic SIS for giving me the support to start it.

Mentor Comments " "

Are you wondering whether you should participate in the Mentor Project? Here's what a few of your colleagues have to say about their experience.

"This is an excellent program....I only wish that I would have the opportunity of meeting more of the younger members on the same basis."

"This experience has been a terrific way for me to make a very real connection with someone I would otherwise not meet."

"This program would have been invaluable to me in my early years."

"It's really nice to know that AALL and the people involved in the mentor project care enough about the newer members to work on this...."

Ann Puckett

CONNELL MENTOR PROJECT

As a supplement to its regular program, CONELL sponsors the Mentor Project. The Mentor Project brings together new AALL members with seasoned veterans who are willing to share their experience. The purposes of the Project are to provide an informal, personal source of information for members who are attending their first Annual Meeting; and to provide an avenue by which experienced law librarians, the Mentors, may meet promising new members of the profession.

The Mentor Project is open to librarians from all types of libraries, and each participant will be assigned to a Mentor or Mentee whose profile matches, as closely as possible, his or her request. You may participate even if you don't attend CONELL.

To become a participant, fill out and return the form below by May 1, 1988.

_____ I want to be a 1988 AALL Annual Meeting Mentor.

_____ I need a 1988 AALL Annual Meeting Mentor.

Name _____ Library _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Briefly describe your current position and your career goals and achievements.

Please mark the characteristic that is most important in your Mentor Project partner:

Same type library _____ Same geographic area _____

Same job duties _____ Other (explain completely _____)

Return by May 1, 1988 to: Ann Puckett
South Texas College of Law
Library
1303 San Jacinto
Houston, Texas 77002

≈ ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAMS ≈

Now is your chance to mark your calendars so that you don't miss any of the Academic SIS programs, or its workshop, at the Atlanta Annual Meeting. Tuesday, June 28, will be the SIS's "big day"--three of our four programs are scheduled on Tuesday.

Academic Law Library Inspections: What You Need to Know will present James White, the ABA's consultant on legal education, Don Dunn, Jane Hammond and Kathie Price to speak about inspections and accreditation in general. We'll also be discussing the new "pilot program" being tried by volunteer libraries. To facilitate the exchange of information, this program will consist entirely of questions and answers. To submit questions, contact moderator Lynn Foster (at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock). **Time: 9 AM—10:30 AM.**

Strategic Planning for the Library Manager will help you to formulate plans to set your goals and objectives, establish a realistic timetable, and identify necessary resources. Panelists Jana B. Matthews, from the M & H Group, Robert Scott, President of Ramapo State College, and Bob Oakley, who is also doubling as moderator, will discuss the value of such plans to you, your dean, and upper level university administrators; and how to write them. **Time: 10:45 AM—12:15 PM.**

Developing a Model Reader Services Department will be presented in a dialog with the experts format. Coordinators Liz Kelly and Steve Barkan have chosen experts who will be on hand to discuss the delivery of various types of services to law library users. They will provide handouts and answer questions. Do you want to improve an existing service, or offer something new to your users? This is the program for you. **Time: 1:30 PM—3 PM.**

On Wednesday, to combat the fatigue we all feel on the last day of the Annual Meeting, the program **Should We Cooperate with the Main Library? Considerations of Multi-Library Cooperation in Automation** will present roleplaying by Rennard Strickland, outgoing dean of Southern Illinois University, Joan Giesecke, Assistant Dean at the University of Nebraska's Love Library, and Alan Holoch. In addition moderator Sally Wise will present the results of her survey of automation in academic law libraries. **Time: 1:30 PM—3:00 PM.**

In addition to these programs, the SIS is sponsoring a one-day **Workshop on ILLs: Sharing the Wealth**, which has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 25, from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. The workshop will acquaint participants with state-of-the-art ILL operations, including telefax, electronic mail and software for reports and statistics. The faculty will include Jim Hoover, Paul Coppocello from OCLC, and Dennis Reynolds from CAPCON. Presentations

will be offered by RLIN, OCLC, local network representatives and librarians involved in innovative approaches to ILLs. Participants will brainstorm, sharing problems and solutions, and engage in group discussion. Attendance is limited to 50. The \$60 registration fee includes breakfast, lunch and materials. For more information contact organizers Shelley Dowling or Dee Clarkin at Georgetown Law Library.

We think you'll agree that this is an outstanding array of programs. We hope to see you there.

Lynn Foster

Notes from the Chair

Having used the "Open Letter" which appears elsewhere in this Newsletter as my soapbox, I will turn now to reporting on some of the positive aspects of the Section's year to date.

First and foremost, an outstanding array of educational programs will be presented at the Annual Meeting in Atlanta this summer under the sponsorship of the Academic Law Libraries SIS. Vice-Chair Lynn Foster is primarily responsible for developing and coordinating these excellent offerings and I am sure that come June, we will all be loudly singing her praises for assembling such an interesting and diverse group for us. Lynn describes the programs in detail above--let me just take this opportunity to urge you all to attend as many as you can if you come to Atlanta. With the coordinators, speakers, and formats that are in place, you are not likely to be disappointed.

In addition to the educational programs in Atlanta, the Academic SIS will once again hold a gala reception to which all AALL members are invited. Robin Mills of Emory and Nancy Johnson of Georgia State have graciously agreed to co-host the reception, which will be held on Monday, June 27, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Emory University Law School. They have "personally pledged" to make the evening a memorable one, so I urge you to come mingle and munch with your colleagues. I am also pleased to acknowledge the participation of DIALOG Information Services, Readex Microprint Corporation, University Publications of America, and Information Access Company as joint sponsors of the event.

Another action to note is the work of the Nominations Committee (Ann Puckett, Chair; Arturo Flores; and Kathy Carrick). They have submitted a slate of two nominees--Donald Dunn and Judith Wright--for the position of Vice-Chair/Chair Elect. (Recall that the By-Laws were amended last year to make the term of the Secretary/Treasurer two years; thus, Elisabeth Jackson will continue in that office for one more year.) Biographical information for these candidates is offered in the newsletter and I urge you to study it carefully. Please also remember that under the Section's By-Laws, additional nominations may be made by the membership through the petition process. This must be done by May 1. Ballots will be mailed in mid-May.

During its January 1988 meeting in Miami, the AALL Executive Board adopted a resolution urging each Special Interest Section to establish a formal method of submitting the names of possible nominees for national office to the AALL Nominations Committee. The purpose is to insure that the Committee identify all potential candidates which reflect "the Association's rich diversity." While the creation of a formal method will be the subject of discussion at our business meeting in Atlanta, I urge you now to do two things. One, if there are any individuals who you would like to propose as possible suggested nominees from the Academic SIS, please submit their names to me by April 15. Two, if you have any thoughts on what the formal method for gathering suggested nominees from the Section should be, please let me know by May 30.

For various reasons, most beyond our control, the production of the Section Newsletter was thrown off schedule during the first half of this year. We are trying mightily to right the ship and your patience is appreciated. By now, you should have received the first issue of the year, edited by Kristy Elam of St. Louis University. The issue before you, Number 2, was edited by Lynn Foster and Gail Laster at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock, as will be the remaining issues for the year. I wish to thank Kristy for the time and effort she put in as editor and also to welcome Lynn and her group aboard. I encourage you to submit materials which you wish to share with our members directly to Lynn.

Finally, the Section's annual business meeting and roundtable discussions will be held in Atlanta on Sunday, June 26, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. I realize this may interfere with attendance at other SIS and Committee meetings but despite the best efforts of all involved, such conflicts seem to remain unavoidable. A complicating factor this year is the special plenary session, featuring Nina Totenberg of National Public Radio, scheduled by the Program Committee for Sunday at 3:00 p.m. In any case, I will soon be preparing the agenda for our meeting and I urge you to inform me of any items which you wish to see placed on that agenda. The proposed agenda will be published in the issue of our Newsletter just preceding the Annual Meeting.

Frank Houdek, Chairman

ALL INVITED TO ATLANTA ACADEMIC SIS RECEPTION

The Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section will hold its annual reception at the Emory University Law Library in Atlanta during the AALL Annual Meeting this June. The reception is being co-hosted this year by Emory University School of Law and Georgia State University College of Law. Robin Mills (Emory) and Nancy Johnson (Georgia State) are already deep into planning a very special evening for all those who attend. As in the past, an open invitation is being issued to all members of AALL to join the SIS for refreshments, library tours, and conviviality--Georgia style. Transportation will be provided to take participants to and from Emory.

The Academic SIS is pleased to acknowledge the generous support of the following firms, serving as co-sponsors of the Reception: DIALOG Information Services, Inc., Information Access Company, Readex Microprint Corporation, and University Publication of America.

Please make plans to join the Academic Law Libraries at their reception on Monday evening, June 27, 1988, at Emory University School of Law in Atlanta.