



ALL

NEWSLETTER

Gail Laster
Editor

Academic Law Libraries
Special Interest Section

Spring 1989

OFFICERS

Lynn Foster
Chair
Director
UALR/Pulaski County Law Library
400 W. Markham
Little Rock, Ark. 72201
(501) 371-1071
FAX (501) 371-0167

Donald J. Dunn
Vice-Chair/Chair Elect
Director
Western New England
College Law Library
1215 Wilbraham Rd.
Springfield, MA 01119
(413) 782-1454

Elisabeth S. Jackson
Secretary/Treasurer
Associate Law Librarian
Georgetown University Law Library
600 New Jersey Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 662-9162
FAX (202) 662-9202

SIS ELECTIONS

By now you should have received your ballot. Please return it by June 10 to Elisabeth Jackson at Georgetown. The winners will be announced at the SIS business meeting. Candidates for the office of Vice-Chair/Chair Elect are Arturo Flores and Ann Puckett, and for the office of Secretary/Treasurer, Tim Coggins and Merle Slyhoff.

EDITOR WANTED

The SIS needs a new editor for the newsletter. If you are interested, contact Don Dunn at the Western New England College of Law.

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Notes from the Chair

As my year as ALL SIS Chair draws to a close, it is time for a "State of the SIS" report. Our SIS is alive and well, with 418 members at the present time. Our five roundtables are going strong, under the guidance of Kay Andrus, Ed Edmonds, Penny Hazelton, Nancy Johnson (taking over for Nick Triffin), and Merle Slyhoff.

Don Dunn has assembled a slate of outstanding programs, listed elsewhere in this issue, many of them in cooperation with other SISs. Steve Barkan is coordinating a Thursday workshop on grant writing and fundraising sponsored by our SIS, which many of us will be attending.

One new development is the Reno meeting of academic library directors. To our knowledge, this is the first such meeting conducted at AALL. Judith Wright and I have been working on what we hope will be an informative and useful meeting.

My thanks go to the following people: to Elisabeth Jackson, for her hard work as Secretary-Treasurer for the past two years; to Peter Schanck, for his good advice; to Frank Houdek, for his suggestions and for his drafting of the resolution on the proposed AALS regulations; to Judith Wright for her innovative program ideas; to Don Dunn for his work as Vice-Chair/Chair Elect; and to our roundtable leaders.

I hate to end this column on a warning note, but by now all of you who administer academic libraries are probably aware of the proposed changes to the AALS regulations. Many of us are alarmed by some of the changes relating to libraries and directors. It does seem ironic that the AALS purports to have higher standards than the ABA, yet may abolish its recommendations that law library directors have both degrees and be full members of the teaching faculty.

These proposed changes are discussed elsewhere in this issue. I hope all of you will attend our business meeting and support the resolution which Frank Houdek has drafted, opposing them. Our aim is to get full AALL support for this resolution and to send it to AALS.

In conclusion, our SIS is going strong, thanks to the support and interest of its officers and members. It is in good hands for the future. But we must assert ourselves and speak up for the interest of all academic law librarians, and for our libraries.

Lynn Foster



SIS BUSINESS MEETING

Mark your calendars now for the Academic Law Libraries SIS annual business meeting, which will be held on Sunday, June 18, from 10 AM till noon in the Strand Room. At this time, items on the agenda include the announcement of the winners of the SIS elections, a report on the year's activities of the SIS, announcements of the SIS Reno programs and reception, and presentation of the SIS resolution on the proposed AALS regulation changes regarding law libraries. Roundtable meetings will follow the business meeting.

RENO RECEPTION

This year our SIS reception will be held at the National Judicial College Library on the campus of the University of Nevada at Reno. Clara Kelly, the librarian and our hostess, has planned what promises to be a delightful event, on the patio of the National Judicial College. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

The National Judicial College is a unique institution, being a college for trial judges. We will have opportunities to tour the library, as well as to meet each other and enjoy the outdoors and the refreshments.

The vendors sponsoring the reception are Information Access Company, Ebsco Subscription Services, Innovative Interfaces and the R. R. Bowker Company. We appreciate their generous contributions to this special event. Thanks also for the hospitality and contribution of Dean William B. Lawless and Clara Kelly.

The reception will be held immediately following the AALL Business Meeting, from 6 PM to 8 PM on Monday, June 19. Buses will provide transportation between the hotel and the College.

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CARBONDALE, IL 62901
SIS LAW LIBRARY

≈ ALL SIS PROGRAMS ≈

As you know from our last newsletter, the Academic Law Libraries SIS is sponsoring or co-sponsoring four programs and sponsoring one workshop in connection with this year's annual meeting in Reno. There should be something of value for everyone. Please support our SIS by attending as many of these as possible.

Collection Development Policies: Hindrance or Blessing
Time: MONDAY, JUNE 19 1989, 8:00 P.M.-9:30 P.M.

This program, co-sponsored with the Technical Services SIS, will address the recurring topic among academic law librarians pertaining to the usefulness versus the uselessness of collection development policies. Sample policies will be provided.

Sexist Language: What We Say, Hear, Read, and Write
Time: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1989, 9:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M.

This program is intended to function as a consciousness-raising program with the underlying theme of "If sexist language offends some people, and non-sexist language offends no one, then there should be no reason for it to occur at all." A bibliography and an exhibit will be provided.

Technical Services Librarians: Fight or Flight?
Time: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1989, 10:45 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

Also co-sponsored with the Technical Services-SIS, this program addresses the problems associated with the shortage of technical services librarians (including the decline in interest of technical services as a career path being expressed by students in library schools, attempts to transfer to other departments, and relocation to academic libraries and special libraries).

How to Run an Effective Meeting
Time: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1989, 10:45 A.M.-12:15 P.M.

This program, to be run exclusively by Maria Sekula of the Social Law Library, should be especially beneficial to anyone who has to conduct or attend meetings. You will learn a variety of techniques that should be useful in your daily life. Anticipate a lot of audience participation in this one.

Workshop on Grant Writing and Fund Raising
Time: THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1989, 8:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.

In addition to our diversified program offerings, the ALL SIS also is sponsoring a one-day "Workshop on Grant Writing and Fund Raising." The instructor will be David C. Bauer, one of America's most successful grant writers. He has raised millions of dollars for universities and government agencies. Workshop Director Steve Barkan of Marquette University Law Library reports that we have reached our maximum enrollment of 40. However, if you still want to attend, give Steve a call. He might be able to add an extra seat or two.

I hope to see most of you in Reno.

Donald J. Dunn

MIDDLE MANAGEMENT ROUNDTABLE

The Middle Management Roundtable will discuss one or perhaps both of the following topics at the Reno meeting. Please bring any ideas or related documents you wish to share.

1. Academic Law Library Staffing Patterns: Automation, budget crises, increasingly sophisticated patron needs, complex copyright regulations, resource sharing, and demands for professional autonomy are just a few factors leading to demands for change, creativity, and innovation in libraries. Middle-managers are usually centrally involved in structuring, restructuring and evaluating the reporting relationships of their library organizations. What typical staffing patterns are now commonly used in academic law libraries? What effect does organizational design have upon the creativity, flexibility and productivity of an academic law library?

2. New-Employee Training Programs: It has been suggested that planned, structured, or even informal orientation and training programs are absent in most academic law libraries. Is this observation accurate? What orientation and training methods are currently in use in your library? Do you have continuing training or staff development programs? Is your orientation and training limited to paraprofessional or professional staff members?

Copies of the staff organizational charts I have received over the past few months will be available at the meeting. In addition, I am happy to provide our roundtable group copies of any written staffing pattern or training program materials you would like to share with our roundtable group. Please provide me one copy by June 10th and I will see that sufficient copies are available in Reno.

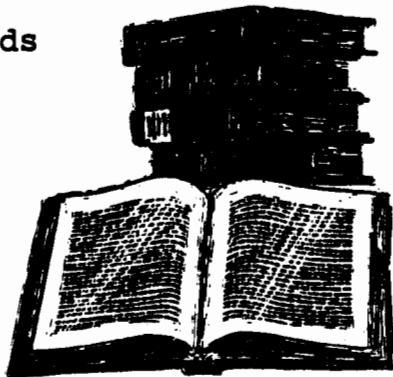
Kay Andrus

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE

The Collection Development Roundtable discussion will focus on the decision-making process and looseleaf treatises. Do collection development librarians decide not to purchase materials in this format due to the high cost of upkeep? Do librarians try to maintain a policy of keeping all looseleaf treatises current? If not, what policy exists for these materials? Do librarians systematically review and order new volume(s) of outdated materials? How are patrons informed that material is not being supplemented? Do librarians track upkeep costs by title and/or publisher? Should publishers offer academic law libraries special pricing for maintenance of these titles?

The Roundtable discussion will attempt to offer answers for these questions of increasing concern for many libraries. Any written statements reflecting answers to the questions raised above will be helpful to the discussion. Statements or additional questions can be addressed to Ed Edmonds, Law Librarian, Loyola University Law Library, 7214 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118 (504-861-5543).

Ed Edmonds



FEES FOR SERVICE ROUNDTABLE

The Fees for Service Roundtable will meet during the Academic Law Libraries SIS meeting in Reno.

Over the past year we have been collecting information on fee for service programs offered by various academic law libraries. Adeen Postar, Georgetown, has compiled the information and will be discussing her findings at the meeting.

As libraries consider instituting fee for service programs, be it reference services or access policies a major question to consider is staffing. Do these new tasks become part of an already over-burdened reference or circulation department? Are new positions created? Do full-time guards or part-time employees check identification? What happens if the guard calls in sick? These and similar problems will be the focus for discussion at this year's meeting.

If your institution currently has a fee for service program, or you are considering such a service, I encourage you to attend the roundtable to share and learn new ideas.

If you have any questions or suggestions, you can contact me at (215) 898-9013.

Merle J. Slyhoff

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION ROUNDTABLE

The Library Administration Roundtable will meet on Sunday, June 18 immediately following the Academic SIS Business Meeting, in the Strand Room. Topics that seem to be of universal interest are the following:

1. Communication from the library administration to members of the staff, via meetings, newsletters, bulletin boards, etc.
2. Effective ways of keeping and using statistics.
3. Personnel administration -- recruitment, training and evaluation of librarians and staff.
4. Library planning -- budgets, space allocation, disasters.

Please bring your own concerns to the roundtable. It should be an excellent time to talk about matters that effect all administrators on a daily basis. I look forward to meeting with all of you on the 18th.

Nancy Johnson

TEACHING IN LIBRARY SCHOOL ROUNDTABLE

Plan to attend the Teaching in Library School Roundtable discussion Sunday morning following the Academic SIS Business Meeting. On the agenda:

Reports from:

Sara Robbins (Brooklyn)
and Melanie Solon (Ohio State)
Re: Courses -- What They Cover

Virginia Wise (Michigan)
Re: Library Schools and Fieldwork/Intern
Programs

Penny Hazelton (Washington)
Re: General Update of Programs

New Business:

New AALL Educational Policy Statement
(20 AALL Newsletter 147-8 December 1988)

Where do we go from here?

Penny Hazelton

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION REPORT

The Law and Political Science Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries is an energetic, accessible group which is actively trying to recruit more participation by law librarians. With over six-hundred members, the section is concerned with a variety of topics which range from legislative policies to ethics in government. The section also focuses on legal and political science sources and methodology.

The LPSS Committee on Bibliographies has been particularly active over the past year. The Committee is currently involved in compiling a list of political science and legal indexes which will be critically reviewed and evaluated for inclusion in a published report. The Committee also produces bibliographies and pathfinders designed to assist patrons and librarians in the academic environment.

At the 1989 American Library Association Conference in Dallas, the LPSS is coordinating a program entitled "The Numbers Game: Public Opinion Data and Libraries". Speakers at this program include Dr. James Benniger of the University of Southern California School of Communications; John Weekly, President of Weekly/Gray/Mckinndy, Inc; and Jim Jacobs, Data Services Librarian at the University of California, San Diego. The program will be presented on Sunday, June 25, 1989 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Any law librarians attending ALA in Dallas are encouraged to attend the LPSS Business meeting on Tuesday, June 27, 1989 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Additional information, regarding the LPSS may be obtained from Joan Howland at the University of California, Berkeley Law Library.

Joan Howland

PROPOSED AALS RULES CHANGES

As many of you know, the AALS is considering changes to its bylaws and regulations. Current bylaw Section 6-10(d) states:

The librarian should be a full participating member of the faculty.

Current Executive committee Regulation 8.3(a) states:

The librarian should have both legal and library education...

Both of these recommendations have been omitted from the proposed changes. In addition, other specific requirements like a list of

titles, a specific number of seats, an up-to-date card catalog, a current collection etc., have been omitted. Many of us agree with the stated aim of the changes, which is to switch from quantitative to qualitative standards. However, many of us are concerned about the weakening of standards regarding directors. We feel that omitting recommendations for the double degree and full faculty status will weaken, not strengthen, the quality of law libraries.

Frank Houdek has drafted the following resolution, which we will introduce at our business meeting. It is my hope that both our SIS and the general membership can pass it and send it on to the AALS. If you are concerned about this issue, and agree with this resolution, please attend our business meeting on Sunday, June 18 at 10 AM in the Strand Room, and vote for it.

Lynn Foster

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools is now considering the Report of the Special Committee to Review the Requirements of Membership in the AALS, as published in AALS Memorandum 88-92, November 17, 1988, and will transmit a final draft to the AALS House of Representatives for action at its January 1990 meeting; and

WHEREAS the proposals embodied in the Report would eliminate current requirements demanding that "the [law school's] librarian should have both legal and library education" and that "the librarian should be a full participating member of the faculty;" and

WHEREAS the dual degree requirement is designed to insure that the librarian possesses expertise in both librarianship and law; and

WHEREAS the faculty membership requirement is designed to provide the librarian with a status which will insure access to information and influence on decisions pertaining to the library and the school equal to that of other faculty members; and

WHEREAS the elimination of these requirements would consequently lessen the ability of the librarian to function effectively as the leader and advocate of the library within the law school as a whole; and

WHEREAS a less effective library leader would threaten the general quality of the library, including its collection and services; and

WHEREAS a library diminished in quality would endanger the overall ability of the law school to provide an adequate legal education for its students and to serve as a leading force for legal scholarship; and

WHEREAS the purpose of the Requirements of Membership in the AALS is to provide for the highest standards of legal education and scholarship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Association of Law Libraries urges the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools to

reject the proposed changes in the Requirements of Membership in the AALS in so far as they alter the educational degree standards of the law school librarian and the status of the librarian as a full participating member of the faculty; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Board of the American Association of Law Libraries immediately transmit this resolution to the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools.

Frank Houdek

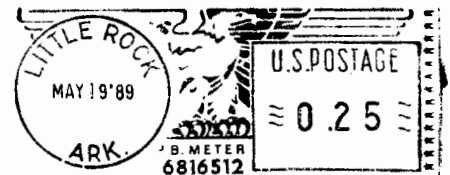
LAW LIBRARIANSHIP COURSES OFFERED BY LIBRARY SCHOOLS

During this past year, Melanie Solon and Sara Robbins have requested from the 52 library science schools copies of syllabi for courses offered in the area of law librarianship. To date, 31 responses have been received. A second request from the remaining 20 schools has gone out and expectations are high that additional responses will be received. A first, cursory review of the syllabi received show the following trends. The course which is provided most often is a legal bibliography course (17 positive responses); the second most popular course is a joint legal bibliography and administration/law librarianship course (10 positive responses). Seven schools offer law library administration or law librarianship courses as separate units. A few other courses are offered in more specialized areas, such as legal databases and legal issues in librarianship (not law librarianship per se), and at least three schools offer internships or independent studies in the area of law librarianship.

Melanie and Sara expect to use the information they have received to produce a more comprehensive analysis of these course, with the ultimate aim of an article for publication.

Sara Robbins

UALR SCHOOL OF LAW
LAW LIBRARY
400 W. MARKHAM
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201



HR
Ms. Hejja B. Ryoo
Southern Illinois University School of Law Library
Lesar Law Bldg.
Carbondale, IL 62901

