



# The ALL-SIS Newsletter

Volume 24, Issue 2

Spring 2005

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Carole L. Hinchcliff  
2004 - 2005 ALL-SIS Chair

Greetings ALL-SIS Members,

I hope that your Winter/Spring semester is off to a productive start. At this mid point in the academic year, ALL-SIS committees are working through their “to do” lists from the Boston meeting, and beginning to plan for making the most of our meeting time in San Antonio. I know that it can be a challenge to carve out time to do committee work, however, if we each contribute, together we can achieve results that benefit ALL-SIS members.

To this end, I will briefly mention some

new projects undertaken by ALL-SIS:

- AALL chapters and special interest sections will each be contributing to AALL's upcoming Centennial Celebration, and ALL-SIS will be playing its part. The newly formed ALL-SIS Centennial Celebration Committee will be lead by a former ALL-SIS Chair, **Rosalie Sanderson**. The other members of the committee are **Nancy Adams, Margaret Christiansen, Rick Donnelly, Christopher Knott and Kumar Percy**. The first project of this committee is to compile a list of one hundred firsts in academic law libraries. Rosalie and her committee are looking to you to provide interesting facts about academic law libraries and academic law librarians. The result

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## ALL-SIS Programs Accepted for 2005 Annual Meeting

Lee F. Peoples, Head of Reference Services  
Oklahoma City University Law Library

The ALL-SIS Program Committee is pleased to report that 7 out of the 33 programs sponsored or co-sponsored by the SIS were accepted for the 2005 AALL Annual Meeting. As those of you who have submitted proposals know, the process is competitive. This year a total of 195 program proposals were submitted to fill

only 58 program slots during the Annual Meeting.

Programs sponsored by the ALL-SIS selected for the 2005 Annual Meeting include:

1. Creating & Using Interactive Electronic Legal Research Lessons
2. Room at the Top: Strategy Tips from the Hiring Squad

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## Message from the Chair, Cont'd

will be a short article, which we hope will capture some interesting snippets of our history - information that may make old timers feel nostalgic, and other facts that will be of interest to newer academic law librarians. So, who did have the first Lexis and Westlaw terminals? Watch for announcements from Rosalie Sanderson about how ALL-SIS members can help celebrate AALL's Centennial.

- **Karen Douglas** has agreed to report to ALL-SIS on the work of the TS-SIS Committee that is exploring ways to have AALL annual meetings better meet the needs of TS-SIS members. As you are aware, a number of ALL-SIS members are also members of TS-SIS, and the ALL-SIS Executive Board is interested in making sure that the annual meeting provides a worthwhile educational experience for all academic librarians, whatever their job responsibilities may be.
- The ALL-SIS Executive Board approved a proposal from the CONALL/Mentoring Committee to create a grant to pay for one newer academic law librarian to attend CONELL at the 2005 AALL annual meeting in San Antonio. More details about this opportunity will be available this spring on the ALL-SIS website.
- Check out the fresh, new look of the ALL-SIS home page. One terrific new feature is the convenient list of links to the home pages of academic law libraries at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/libraries.html>. Please send comments and corrections to ALL-SIS Web Administrator, Diane Murley at [dmurley@sui.edu](mailto:dmurley@sui.edu). Also, feel free to contact Diane if you have a suggestion for useful additions to the ALL-SIS web site. We want to continue to build this resource.

As you make plans to attend the San Antonio meeting, keep in mind that the annual

ALL-SIS events are scheduled as follows:

- Sunday, July 17th: 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. ALL-SIS Breakfast and Business Meeting sponsored by LexisNexis
- Tuesday, July 19th: 7:00 - 8:45 a.m. ALL-SIS Director's Breakfast & Program. By invitation only, and arranged by Spencer Simons.
- Tuesday, July 19th: 7:00 - 8:45 a.m. ALL-SIS Middle Manager's Breakfast & Program sponsored by BNA, and arranged by Amy Osborne
- Tuesday, July 19th: 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. CONALL at St. Mary's Law School
- Tuesday, July 19th: 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. ALL-SIS Reception & Awards, St. Mary's Law School. Hosted by Robert Summer and sponsored by Westlaw.

Watch the ALL-SIS list serv and the next ALL-SIS Newsletter for information about ALL-SIS sponsored programs and meetings in San Antonio.

Wishing you every success and happiness in 2005,  
Carole L. Hinchcliff

## ALL-SIS Centennial Celebration Committee

Rosalie Sanderson, Instruction Librarian  
Mendik Library, New York Law School

Academic law librarians and law libraries have played a central role in AALL since it began almost 100 years ago. To be sure that academics are a part of the centennial celebration of the founding of AALL, ALL-SIS Chair Carole Hinchcliff appointed an ALL-SIS Centennial Celebration Committee charged with planning and carrying out activities in the ALL-SIS to celebrate the AALL Centennial. Committee members include Nancy Adams of Georgia State ([nanadams@gsu.edu](mailto:nanadams@gsu.edu)), Margaret Christiansen of Regent University

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## Centennial Celebration Committee, Cont'd

([margchr@regent.edu](mailto:margchr@regent.edu)), Rick Donnelly of the University of Florida ([donnelly@law.ufl.edu](mailto:donnelly@law.ufl.edu)), Christopher Knott of Georgetown ([cak9@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:cak9@law.georgetown.edu)), Kumar Percy of the University of Texas ([kpercy@mail.law.utexas.edu](mailto:kpercy@mail.law.utexas.edu)), and chair Rosalie Sanderson of New York Law School ([rsanderson@nyls.edu](mailto:rsanderson@nyls.edu)).

The committee is exploring appropriate ways to celebrate the centennial. While we are developing a plan, we would love to hear your ideas. The centennial will be celebrated over the next two annual meetings, beginning in 2005 and culminating with the 100th anniversary of AALL in 2006. Ms. Hinchcliff suggested that we might begin by developing a list of "100 firsts in academic law libraries." We need your help to create a good list. These firsts can be serious bibliographic or information milestones as well as fun firsts. For example, we might ask which law school library was the first to install a WESTLAW terminal? Which law library was the first to be directed by a woman? In a less serious vein we might want to know which law library was first to open a coffee bar on the premises.

At this point there are many possibilities. We might plan to celebrate the centennial with events, parties, awards, articles, or any number of other activities. To develop our centennial celebration plan, we need your ideas. This will be a celebration by the entire section and all academic law librarians, so stand up and be counted. Tell us what you think. Send any of us an email. If you have an academic law library first in mind, let us know. We look forward to hearing from you. As our plans develop, you will be the first to know! Let's make this a memorable centennial. Our predecessors deserve it!

## 2005 Programs, Cont'd

3. Shrinking Budgets and the Long-term Impact on Library Collections
4. Mexican Americans and the Law
5. Publishing Outside the Law Library Box: Opportunities Beyond Law Library Publications
6. What is a Core Collection Anymore?
7. Strength, Problems, Opportunities & Threats: Analyzing the Dynamics of a Successful Library Organization

Committee members worked quickly and diligently under tight deadlines. Committee members include: Emma Cuesta, Ruth Levor, April Schwartz, Eric Young and Committee Co-Chairs Ajaye Bloomstone and Lee Peoples. Watch the next issue of the ALL-SIS newsletter for information on what the Program Committee can do to help you propose a successful program for the 2006 Annual Meeting.

## ALL-SIS Seeks Nominations for Annual Awards

George H. Pike

Director, Barco Law Library & Assistant Professor of Law  
University of Pittsburgh School of Law

The ALL-SIS Awards Committee (George Pike, Jim Milles, and Sally Wambold) is now accepting nominations for the following three awards.

**The Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship** recognizes an individual or group which has made outstanding contributions to academic law librarianship through continued efforts to improve law librarianship. The award, presented by the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section (ALL-SIS) of the American

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## ALL-SIS CALI Legal Research Authoring Group

Nancy Johnson  
Georgia State University Law Library

There is a partnership between the Academic Law Libraries SIS and CALI to solicit and review CALI legal research lessons. The group began a few years ago when we decided that law librarians should become active in authoring lessons. We are the experts in legal research and we need to share our knowledge. The number of lessons has grown to forty and several more will be available in a few months. See: <http://www2.cali.org/index.php?fuseaction=lessons.subjectlist&cat=LWR>

The Authoring Group is in the process of revising the Topic Grid to reflect accurately the topics that have been completed, assigned, or still available. Once Deb Quentel, CALI's Director of Curriculum Development, posts the revised Topic Grid to the website, she will once again begin accepting proposals for new lessons.

We want to encourage you to write a CALI lesson and, definitely, to use the lessons in teaching and reference work. CALI authors always appreciate feedback on their lessons.

I chair the committee and the other members are Kris Niedringhaus, Sara Kelley, Pat Fox, Kit Kreilick, and Brian Huddleston. Please contact Deb Quentel or any member of the Authoring Group for additional information.

### The Call for Papers Has Begun . . .

Virginia Davis  
Chair, AALL LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee  
University of Houston O'Quinn Law Library

Have you been thinking of writing an article of interest to law librarians? Maybe you just need a push to get started? Whether for fame or for fortune, this is your chance to enter the AALL/

LexisNexis™ Call for Papers Competition.

The AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee is soliciting articles in three categories:

- Open Division for AALL members and law librarians with five or more years of professional experience
- New Members Division for recent graduates and AALL members who have been in the profession for less than five years.
- Student Division for budding law librarians still in school. (Students need not be members of AALL)

The winner in each division receives \$750 generously donated by LexisNexis, plus the opportunity to present his or her paper at a special program during the AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio. Winners papers will also be considered for publication in the Association's prestigious Law Library Journal.

For more information, a list of previous winners and an application, visit the AALL website at [http://www.aallnet.org/about/award\\_call\\_for\\_papers.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_call_for_papers.asp). **Submissions must be postmarked by March 1.**

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee: Chair, Virginia Davis, [davis@uh.edu](mailto:davis@uh.edu); Renee Rastorfer, [rrastorf@law.usc.edu](mailto:rrastorf@law.usc.edu); or, Patricia Wellinger, [pwellling@law.du.edu](mailto:pwellling@law.du.edu).

### ALL-SIS Collection Development Committee Activities

Connie Lenz, Associate Director for Collection Development  
University of Minnesota Law Library

This spring, the Collection Development Committee will compile a directory of key collection development contacts in all academic law

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## Collection Development Committee Activities, Cont'd

libraries. The committee also will survey collection development librarians regarding the organizational structure used for collection development in their libraries. The results of the survey will be summarized in a final report describing the various organizational structures.

The Collection Development Committee is looking forward to the annual meeting in San Antonio, where the committee will present a program on Shrinking Budgets and the Long-Term Impact on Library Collections. Co-Chair Connie Lenz (University of Minnesota) will coordinate and committee member Beth DiFelice (Arizona State University) will moderate. Speakers include Mike Chiorazzi (University of Arizona), Co-Chair Doug Lind (Georgetown University), and Caitlin Robinson (University of Iowa).

## Supporting New Professionals: The AALL Annual Meeting Grants

Paddy Satzer, AALL Grants Committee Chair  
Schoenecker Law Library, University of St. Thomas

The AALL Grants Program provides financial assistance to law librarians or graduate students who hold promise of future involvement in AALL and the law library profession. Funds are provided by vendors, AALL, and AALL individual members. Grants are awarded to cover the Annual Meeting registration fee or the registration fee for workshops presented at the Annual Meeting. Preference is given to applicants who are new to the profession and active in AALL or one of its chapters.

The AALL Grants Program began in 1952 and is one of the oldest and most successful AALL programs. More than 1,000 librarians have received funding to assist them in attending AALL educational activities. Many of those recipients are

leaders in the profession today. For additional information, check out the application on the Association's web site, at <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/grants/grants.asp>.

In 2001, the Minority Leadership Development Award was created to assure that AALL's leadership remains vital, relevant and representative of the Association's diverse membership. The Award provides up to \$1,500.00 toward the cost of attending the Annual Meeting, an experienced AALL leader to serve as the recipient's mentor, and an opportunity to serve on an AALL committee during the year following the monetary award. For additional information, check out the application on the Association's web site, at [http://www.aallnet.org/about/award\\_mlda.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_mlda.asp).

Applications for both AALL Grants Programs must be received at the Association's headquarters by April 1, 2005.

## New Database for International Law - EISIL

Stephanie Burke Farne  
Senior Reference and International Law Librarian  
Boston University School of Law

There's a new free web resource that can help you with researching, teaching, and increasing your own knowledge in the field of international law. More than just a finding guide, the [Electronic Information System for International Law \(EISIL\)](http://www.eisil.org) can be used in classroom, law firm and non-legal environments as an educational or instructional tool. EISIL is available at <http://www.eisil.org>.

EISIL includes over 1,500 selected sources, organized into 13 subject groupings in a fully searchable database that provides access to the

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## Annual Awards, Cont'd

Association of Law Libraries, is named in honor of Frederick Charles Hicks, the first great American law librarian/scholar who was also the first academic law librarian to serve as president of AALL. Past recipients have included Penny Hazelton, Frank Houdek, Dick Danner, Bob Berring and Tim Coggins.

### Criteria:

A nominee can be an individual or a group, and should exhibit extended and sustained contributions in one or more of the following areas:

- History of contributions to the field of law librarianship through research, publications and other activities displaying an active participation in the advancement of academic law librarianship;
- Achievement in a particular area of academic law librarianship;
- Service to AALL;
- Service to the ALL-SIS

### Submission Procedure:

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Preference will be given to members of the ALL-SIS.

Nominations must include:

- A letter of nomination, including the candidate's full name, title, and institution name and address. If the candidate is retired, include name, home address, and most recent former employer;
- A narrative supporting the nomination, to include a discussion of the candidate's contributions to academic law librarianship;
- The name, e-mail and phone number of the nominating party.

Nomination materials may be sent

electronically or in paper (5 copies) to the ALL-SIS Awards Committee Chair.

The award will be presented annually at the discretion of the Awards Committee.

**Deadline:** All nominations must be received by March 31, 2005.

**The ALL-SIS Outstanding Article Award** honors section members for contributions to the enhancement of academic law librarianship through publishing. Articles published in any format in any publication other than Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum (articles from those publications are eligible for AALL Article of the Year awards) during the year prior to the award qualify for consideration. Any aspect of academic law librarianship may be addressed. A plaque will be presented to the author or authors of the winning articles. The 2004 recipients of the award were Nancy Carol Carter for her article, *The Special Case of Alaska: Native Law and Research*, 22 Legal Reference Services Quarterly 11 (2003) and Matthew Condon for his article, *Beyond Mere Competency: Advanced Legal Research in a Practice-Oriented Curriculum*, 55 Baylor Law Review 1 (2003).

### Criteria:

- Article must be authored by an ALL-SIS member. For co-authored articles, at least one author must be a member of ALL-SIS.
- Nominated articles for each year's award must have been published in the previous calendar year, i.e. 2004.
- Articles will be evaluated on:
  - Relevance of topic to some aspect of academic law librarianship, including but not limited to public services, technical services, legal research or teaching;
  - Quality of writing;

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## Annual Awards, Cont'd

- Effectiveness of communication technique.
- Articles may have appeared in any publication (paper or electronic) including AALL publications (except Law Library Journal or AALL Spectrum), chapter newsletters, non-AALL publications, or in-house publications.
- When appropriate, awards will be presented for excellence in writing in different areas of academic law librarianship, such as technical services, public services, or administration.
- Awards will not be presented in a given year if the Committee does not feel submissions meet the award criteria.

### Submission Procedure:

- Articles for consideration may be sent electronically or in paper (5 copies) to the ALL-SIS Awards Committee Chair (George Pike, [pike@law.pitt.edu](mailto:pike@law.pitt.edu)).
- Articles may be submitted for consideration by any AALL member, including the authors.

**Deadline:** All nominations/submissions must be received by March 31, 2005.

**The ALL-SIS Outstanding Service Award** honors an ALL-SIS member who has made outstanding contributions to the SIS in areas of section activity and in professional service.

### Criteria:

The following criteria will be considered in reviewing nominations for this award. Nominees may excel in one or more of the following areas:

- Outstanding leadership in the Section, at meetings, and in committee work.
- Special and notable service to the Section, such as participation in special projects.

- Participation in Section educational programs and public speaking activities.
- Mentoring activities which encourage others in the section.
- Activities which encourage others to join the Section.

The above list is not intended to be an exhaustive list of criteria. Individuals whose contributions to the Section take other forms may also be nominated.

### Submission Procedure:

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Nominees must be a member of the ALL-SIS, active or retired. Nominations may be submitted by any SIS member.

Nominations must include:

- A letter of nomination, including the candidate's full name, title, and institution name and address. If the candidate is retired, include name, home address, and most recent former employer;
- A narrative supporting the nomination, to include a discussion of the candidate's contribution to the SIS;
- A curriculum vitae of the candidate;
- The name, e-mail address and phone number of the nominating party.

Current Executive Board members and Awards Committee members are ineligible for nomination.

**Deadline:** All nominations must be received by March 31, 2005

Nominations/submissions for all three awards may be sent in print or electronically to the ALL-SIS Awards Committee Chair, George H. Pike ([pike@law.pitt.edu](mailto:pike@law.pitt.edu)), Barco Law Library, Room 404, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 3900 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260. Questions can be directed to the chair at 412-648-1322 or [pike@law.pitt.edu](mailto:pike@law.pitt.edu).

## ARL Workshop Provides Insight for New Library Managers

Beth Adelman, Head of Public Services  
Georgia State University Law Library

I participated in the Association of Research Libraries Library Leadership for New Managers Workshop in the fall of 2004. The experience consisted of a four-day workshop in Washington, D.C., a facilitated project planned and completed in the participant's home institution, an online survey, and participation in an online forum. The sixteen workshop participants were provided with background reading to be completed in advance. Homework was just the beginning of the experience.

The in-person workshop, led by very skilled facilitators, was an intense experience. The facilitators set the tone for a confidential environment so that participants would feel comfortable talking openly. There was a lot of territory to cover and it required constant participation. Despite the interactive nature of the workshop I found the experience to be introspective and I had many enlightening moments about my professional situation. The workshop was well crafted and covered topics such as leadership characteristics and influencing, emotional intelligence, dialogue, and environmental scans.

The facilitated project, due six weeks after the in-person workshop ended, was a practical way to put the participants' newly acquired skills to work. With guidance from the facilitators each participant utilized the skills they learned to plan and carry out a project in their own workplace. Each participant posted their project proposal and a final report to the online forum. The results were phenomenal. The final reports showed many successful projects including the one planned for and carried out in my institution.

Finally, each workshop participant was given the opportunity to complete an online leadership survey. Designed to assess individual leadership styles, the baseline for self comparison was a group of University Librarians. I found the feedback from the survey to be an accurate assessment of my leadership style.

I enthusiastically recommend this workshop to any new library manager. I learned a number of skills that are put into practice daily. I should note, though, that this is the kind of workshop in which the rewards are based on individual effort. The workshop requires endurance and it demands various forms of participation from large and small group work to individual, online activities. The workshop is time intensive and the time commitment spans far beyond the in-person workshop, but the payoffs are well worth the hard work.

For more information visit the Library Leadership for New Managers Workshop website: <http://www.arl.org/training/institutes/managers.html>.

### EISIL, Cont'd

highest quality primary materials, authoritative Web sites and helpful research guides. For each source, EISIL also offers helpful background information for researchers, such as citations and references, dates when laws or treaties were concluded, and links to related resources. For more information, and a one-page classroom handout, go to the About EISIL page, or, see the article on LLRX.com at <http://www.llrx.com/features/eisil.htm>.

EISIL is managed by the Washington D.C.-based American Society of International Law (ASIL). Founded in 1906, ASIL is the leading non-profit membership organization dedicated to advancing the study and use of international law. Additional information on ASIL is available online at <http://www.asil.org> or by calling 202-939-6000.

## Developments in Legal Education: The End of the Traditional Bar Exam?

Sara Kelley, Reference Librarian  
Georgetown University Law Center

*Note: This is the first entry in what we hope will be a continuing column about interesting developments in legal education. Each article will present a brief overview of a controversy or recent trend in the theory or practice of legal education. If you have ideas for future columns, or if you are interested in writing about a legal education development yourself, please contact Sara Kelley at [sek28@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:sek28@law.georgetown.edu).*

A few months ago, the *Georgia State University Law Review* held a symposium on a topic that is probably considered heretical by many in legal education. The symposium was called “Rethinking the Licensing of New Attorneys: An Exploration of Alternatives to the Bar Exam.”<sup>1</sup> According to critics of the traditional bar exam, it relieves law schools of responsibility for admitting only students who are likely to become competent lawyers and for preparing their graduates for the actual practice of law.<sup>2</sup> It does this by purporting to prevent the licensure of law school graduates who are not minimally competent to practice,<sup>3</sup> while in fact failing to test many skills that are critical for success as an attorney.<sup>4</sup> Debate continues on whether this failure to test essential skills has been corrected by the adoption of the Multi-State Performance Test in 31 jurisdictions.<sup>5</sup> Another criticism of the bar exam is that it has a disparate impact on minority bar applicants.<sup>6</sup>

So how would the critics replace the traditional bar exam? Below are brief (and probably incomplete) descriptions of a few of the possibilities:

### Existing Alternatives

Even now, not everyone is admitted to practice by taking a traditional, closed-book bar exam. For example, Wisconsin recognizes the

“diploma privilege” – that is, students who graduate from Wisconsin law schools are admitted to practice without taking an exam. To qualify for admission under this privilege, graduates must complete ten specific courses with a 77 average (constitutional law, contracts, criminal law and procedure, evidence, jurisdiction of courts, ethics and legal responsibilities of the legal profession, pleading and practice, real property, torts, and wills and estates) and must complete at least 60 of their law school credits in thirty specified subject areas, also with a 77 average.<sup>7</sup> Graduates who do not meet these requirements may still sit for the bar exam.

Another example of an existing alternative to the traditional bar exam is Maryland’s open-book essay exam for lawyers seeking reciprocity.<sup>8</sup> This exam is “designed to test the license applicant’s ability to research and utilize Maryland law related to civil, criminal and appellate procedure, evidence, rules related to decedent’s estates, family law and juvenile proceedings, property actions and alternative dispute resolution” and other basic rules of Maryland law.<sup>9</sup>

### The Arizona Proposal

A student group at the University of Arizona Rogers College of Law has proposed one radical alternative to the traditional bar exam: Instead of spending two months studying for a two-day written examination, bar applicants under this proposal would spend one year in a post-JD apprenticeship program that provides reduced-fee representation to “lower middle-income” persons. Applicants to the program would be required to graduate from an ABA-accredited law school with a minimum GPA of 2.75, and to complete specific core classes. Those selected as apprentices would be employed by a freestanding 501(c)(3) organization that would be created with one specific purpose

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## Developments in Legal Education, Cont'd

being alternative attorney licensure. That organization would also employ experienced attorneys to supervise, train, and evaluate the apprentices as they rotate through each of six practice areas. These “lawyer-mentors” would conduct performance evaluations throughout the six rotations. Apprentices who successfully completed all evaluations would become licensed after an appropriate character examination. Apprentices who were unsuccessful in the evaluations or who failed to complete the year-long program could still be licensed by taking the standard bar examination.<sup>10</sup> So far, the Arizona bar has not acted on this proposal.

### The New York Proposal

A joint committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the New York State Bar Association has proposed a “Public Service Alternative Bar Exam” (PSABE). Like the Arizona proposal, licensure under the New York proposal would require law school graduates to have completed certain core courses and to apprentice in a public service capacity prior to admission to the bar. Under the New York proposal, however, graduates selected for the program would apprentice for three months with the New York state court system. These program participants would “work with court attorneys, assisting in the drafting of judicial opinions. . . . [They] will be supervised by senior court attorneys and receive direct feedback from their respective supervisor as well as the judges for whom they are writing.” Participants would also take part in case conferences, meeting with parties and their counsel to attempt to resolve discovery and scheduling disputes, and to facilitate settlements. Finally, they would help in court offices staffed by attorneys who assist self-represented litigants.<sup>11</sup> Law graduates admitted to practice under this proposal would then be required to perform 150 hours of pro bono

work in the courts during their first three years of licensed practice.<sup>12</sup> There has been no action taken on the New York proposal.

### Conclusion

Wide-scale adoption of any of the above alternatives to the traditional bar examination, while not likely in the near future, could eventually lead to major changes in law school curricula. Such adoption would also create a need for collection development changes in many academic law libraries. Widespread adoption of the diploma privilege, for example, would probably increase the number of law students taking the courses required to qualify for the privilege and therefore justify increased collection in those subject areas. Adoption of more hands-on alternatives such as the Arizona or New York proposals would probably lead to an increased emphasis on clinical education, with a resulting increase in the need for practice materials in academic law library collections. Perhaps the increased focus on skills education would even lead to greater awareness of the importance of legal research classes in the law school curriculum and a greater teaching role for academic law librarians.

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1 The papers from this symposium were published in volume 20, issue 4 of the *Georgia State University Law Review* (2004).

2 *E.g.*, Kristin Booth Glen, *Thinking Out of the Bar Exam Box: A Proposal to “MacCrate” Entry to the Profession*, 23 *Pace L. Rev.* 343, 355-57 (2003).

3 *Id.* at 347 n. 3.

4 ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, *Legal Education and Professional Development: An Educational Continuum* 278 (Robert MacCrate, ed., 1992); Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York & Committee on Legal Education and Admission to

## Developments in Legal Education, Cont'd

the Bar of the New York State Bar Association, *Joint Committee Report: Public Service Alternative Bar Examination* 2-3 (2002), available at <http://www.abcnny.org/pdf/report/Joint%20report%20on%20the%20State%20Bar%20Exam.pdf> [hereinafter "Joint Committee Report"].

5 Sally Simpson & Toni M. Massaro, *Students with "CLAS": An Alternative to Traditional Bar Examinations*, 20 Ga. St. U. L. Rev. 813, 825 (2004); National Conference of Bar Examiners, *Multistate Examination Use* (2001), at <http://www.ncbex.org/tests.htm>.

6 E.g., Beverly Moran, *The Wisconsin Diploma Privilege: Try It, You'll Like It*, 2000 Wis. L. Rev. 645, 653.

7 *Id.* at 647-48 nn. 35 & 36.

8 Society of American Law Teachers, *Potential Alternatives for the Existing Bar Exam*, at <http://www.saltlaw.org/barexamalternatives.htm>.

9 *Id.*

10 Simpson & Massaro, *supra* note 5, at 817-18.

11 Joint Committee Report, *supra* note 4, at 11-12.

12 *Id.* at 6.

## Write for AALL!

Mary L. Wells, Chair - Publications Committee  
Research Librarian, University of St. Thomas

The AALL Publications Committee invites and encourages members to publish with AALL, sponsor of the AALL Publication Series, a wide-ranging resource that includes professional development materials, bibliographies, research guides, and library management resources. If you have an idea for a new publication or need an outlet for your research, consider contacting AALL with your idea.

You can submit publication proposals by using the electronic form at <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/publications/propfmwp.htm>, or by downloading the proposal form at <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/publications/proposal.htm>.

Fill in the proposal form and send it by e-mail, fax, or postal mail to:

Director of Publications  
American Association of Law Libraries  
53 Jackson Blvd., Suite 940  
Chicago IL 60604  
E-mail: [jodonnell@aallnet.org](mailto:jodonnell@aallnet.org)

Along with your proposal, include a resume describing your professional and writing experience, and a writing sample of 1500 to 3000 words, preferably from the proposed publication.

Additional information for submitting a proposal, procedures for review, and publishing policies are available at the Publications Committee's website at <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/publications/>. Don't miss this opportunity to advance your profession, impart useful information and enhance your own professional standing. AALL is eager to publish new materials and actively welcomes proposals for publications.



## Trials and Tribulations of a Law Librarian

Jennifer S. Murray

Formerly at Arizona State University Law Library  
Now with Greenberg Traurig, LLP

*Note: This is the ninth and last in what has been a series of columns about the experiences of those in the academic law librarianship profession - ed.*

This is my last column for the ALL-SIS newsletter. I have left academia for the challenge of working as a law firm librarian. And, as much as I have loved writing the column, it just is no longer an appropriate endeavor for me. Understandably, while waxing nostalgic about the column, I became introspective and thought back to its genesis. When I starting writing the column I had one goal in mind: honesty.

I wanted to offer an honest discussion of the issues facing a newer law librarian. But I wonder if the column really had any impact? Could I show any results from having written this column? And I realized, sadly, that I could not. Let's face it. Writing a column for a law library newsletter doesn't generate fan mail (or hate mail, thank goodness). So I have never really known what anyone thought of my ramblings. I guess the only measure on which I have to base the success of this column is myself. Since I refused to let this column end without claiming some sort of result from it, I realized I had to take action. Luckily the New Year provided me with the perfect opportunity.

My New Year's resolution is not to participate in office gossip. As any one who witnesses me rush out to my mailbox on Saturday morning to retrieve my Us Weekly magazine can tell you, this moratorium definitely does NOT apply to celebrity gossip. I'm still willing to have an in-depth discussion of the breakup of Brad and

Jen with anyone who is interested. But office gossip is out. Maybe this baby step will help me figure out how to be a more honest person when it comes to my professional life.

It hasn't been easy. Some of my colleagues have offered me prime bits of gossip. And I've had to keep quiet about it. It's almost been like they are testing me. But, you know what? I have stuck to my resolution, and it really feels good! I genuinely feel like a better person.

So I am planting the seed here. I figure if even only a hand full of others follow suit and resolve to not participate in office gossip, then this column will have served a purpose. But I cannot end without thanking ALL-SIS newsletter editors (both current and past), Shaun Esposito and Leah Sandwell-Weiss, for allowing me to undertake the idea. And thanks to you all for humoring me and actually reading it. At least, I think some of you have been reading it! Take care and maybe I will see you back in academia one day.

## Announcing a New Column: Tales from the Trenches

Colleen Williams, Reference Librarian  
Georgia State University

The ALL-SIS Newsletter Committee would like to announce a new column: "Tales from the Trenches." It will be edited by Colleen Williams and will feature submissions by anonymous writers. If you have interesting stories about life at your academic law library, please contact Colleen at [colleen@gsu.edu](mailto:colleen@gsu.edu).

## AALL Comes to San Antonio!

Monica M. Ortale

Faculty Services & Reference Librarian

The Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law

July 16 - 20, 2005 AALL comes to San Antonio, Texas! President Tory Trotta's theme? Strategize: Values, Visions, Vistas.

As co-chairs of the Local Advisory Committee (LAC), you might say Mary Forman & I (a/k/a M&M) are already implementing Tory's theme as we "strategized" to gather chairs for the sub-committees. Well, we'll call it strategize, but others might say we got them at a weak moment! Either way we are now organizing for the first AALL annual meeting to visit Texas in 22 years!

Among the excellent programs and opportunities for networking, there will be time to discover the beautiful vistas of San Antonio and her surrounding areas, the ethnic diversity of the area, fabulous food and historically significant sites. "But," you say, "Texas, in July!" Well there's not much we can do about the thermometer, but hey, Texas has some of the most efficient air conditioning in the country. You might need short sleeves outside, but you'd better pack a jacket for the inside! In the coming months we'll be sending out some survival tips (like drink lots of water, or other cold beverage of your choice, wear a hat, carry a portable fan, walk slowly and enjoy the smell of some of the best food south of the Red River) and we'll highlight the multicultural experiences that make up San Antonio.

"Things are Bigger in Texas!" Just take a look at the giant sized boots outside North Star Mall. A tribute to just two of my not so secret vices, shopping and shoes! San Antonio has fabulous shopping, and La Villita, a complex of 27 restored buildings on the site of a Coahuiltecan Indian Village, is next to the Hilton. Each

building showcases various artists. There's painting, jewelry, pottery and beautiful weavings, all unique to the region. Just a short trolley ride down Commerce St. is El Mercado, a veritable warehouse of pottery, and then there's the farmer's market. If you don't get enough to eat browsing the stalls, then head to the restaurants. La Margarita is my favorite, and I can picture it now as the colorful waiter carries the sizzling fajitas platter, the steam streaming behind and, oh, the aroma! But, for those with a car, head north on I-35 for about 30 minutes and be prepared to visit the mecca of all shopping. The factory outlet stores of San Marcos, hundreds of them, too many to mention, but definitely worth the trip when you consider the savings.

Ah, but I digress. For those who love shopping for footwear, there are marvelous bootmakers. Try Lucchese, hand made bootmakers since 1883, or Crazy Horse custom boots, both in San Antonio. For me, shoes are everything, and the factory outlet shoe stores are an option. But, if you want something closer to the convention center, then Dillard's & the shops in RiverCenter have a wonderful assortment. When all are tried on and bought, there's nothing like relaxing at a table on the Riverwalk level, watching the tourists and the riverboats, sipping a Starbucks coffee, knowing that the bags surrounding you are full of shoes just waiting for the right occasion, like, the General Business meeting.

The Preliminary Program will be out soon, so look for the fascinating library tours (one of which is the very private library at The Alamo), the fun trips like tubing down the Guadalupe River, and information about a fantastic closing banquet. Come visit San Antonio, relax, and enjoy our Texas hospitality!

## Handling the Entertaining Patron

Debora Person, Administrative Law Librarian  
University of Wyoming

Many of us chose our profession because we enjoy assisting people. It is the humanness of our patrons that makes librarianship fun and interesting, that entertains and yet still makes us want to serve. If you happened to catch Amy Hale Janeke's and Sharon Blackburn's amusing presentation, "Negotiating with the Bizarre: Strange Questions at the Reference Desk" at AALL in Boston, you are already familiar with the blog they have created for librarians to report their funny or bizarre reference questions at <http://bizarquestions.blogspot.com/>. The site has contributions from librarians across the country.

As public service professionals, we may wince at the perception that we are making fun of our clientele. After all, much of what we call bizarre is really naivete or misconception. We have been taught from an early age that there is no such thing as a dumb question (a statement on which I have formed my own opinions since teaching foreign languages at an introductory level to college students), and such patron questions often offer us "teaching moments," which we love. But sometimes our patrons truly give us the opportunity to rejoice in how varied is the human thought process, and it is delightful.

One librarian on the blog reports that their patron wanted to know, "What's the case law on the type of font to be used for corresponding with public officials?" Other questions mentioned in the presentation at AALL were (paraphrased here): "I need a motion to desist. My neighbor put a hex on me." "I'm being harassed spiritually" (by demons). "I need to review the anti-witchcraft provision of the Patriot Act." "How do I copyright my name? I want to sue people using my name in court documents."

As a state-supported academic institution with absolutely no security, staff in our library are surprised to field questions from people asking whether they are allowed into the building and to observe how they use our facility. One young lady told us that her uncle used to attend our law school, and so she hoped she was eligible to enter and tour the library. We have a paralegal student from the nearby community college who brings her own hefty print cartridge to the Laserjet 1200 series printer in our reference area because she doesn't want to abuse our supplies, though she spends literally hours in the offices of various law school faculty getting free instruction to assist her in her coursework.

It is frequently the regular patrons who provide the most interesting stories. Another librarian on the blog relates, "One of our regular crazies called me at 8:30 a.m. this morning to tell me about the secret orgies that are going on at the White House with Barbara Bush... In the past, [she] has announced that Aretha Franklin stole her boyfriend, [that] Martha Stuart was sneaking in her windows at night and trying on her hats, and that Kobe Bryant kept showing up at her apartment building." We have a local resident who comes to the library regularly. He is researching how he can get a cut of the money from drug busts that black helicopters are making on his property.

One regular patron used to call frequently to get copies of court cases. A mysterious but friendly man who changed his name and town of residence though he was still recognizable by voice, he wanted all items sent to a post office box number, always paid by money order, and would never leave a telephone number. The first several times he called I had to explain to him that I needed case citations to determine which cases he wanted; *United States v. Smith* just wasn't enough information. From the time I successfully described what a case citation

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## The Entertaining Patron, Cont'd

looked like, his calls would always begin with, “Debbie, I have some citin’s for ye.”

We smile. The stories are fun, and amusement is healthy. These library patrons give us a short respite in our routine address of legal resources. But in our capacity as librarians we recognize that some of these patrons have been to attorneys and been turned away or do not have money to pay for legal assistance. For them, ridiculous or not, an injustice (or perceived injustice) has occurred. It is very difficult to explain that not every injustice can be treated by the legal system. Sometimes injury or loss just cannot be repaired. It’s like a doctor who tells his patients to live with the pain. Some people will accept it, and some will go to other practitioners to find relief. And so, many find themselves in our libraries, trying to sort for remedies through the immense complication we call the law.

This is raising questions for law librarians across the country. How are law librarians handling the questions of their patrons seeking legal research assistance? And what role do librarians play in answering these questions? How are academic libraries addressing pro se patron needs through collection development?

These issues of reference librarian liability regarding legal assistance and the handling of the self-represented litigant have been well-represented in our literature. Paul Healey has done a nice review of library literature on this topic in his article, *Pro Se Users, Reference Liability, and the Unauthorized Practice of Law: Twenty-Five Selected Readings*, 94 *Law Libr. J.* 133-138 (2002). In this annotated bibliography, Mr. Healey divides bibliographic references on the topic of reference liability into three categories: reference liability in general (general

librarian), unauthorized practice of law and pro se users (law librarians), and legal sources on unauthorized practice of law (legal community).

Among the sources he cites in the first category, there is a split in addressing user needs that occurred in the mid-1980s. Since the first articles in 1976 where the idea of reference liability appears to have been floated, “no reported court decisions or established legal theory...support the concept” of librarians incurring liability for activities conducted at the reference desk.<sup>1</sup> The literature addresses this and has taken a turn to a more general acceptance of the role of librarians in assisting self-represented litigants and a skepticism regarding the possibility of librarian liability.

The issue of unauthorized practice of law and pro se users is most relevant to our academic libraries and has been addressed in the law library literature frequently in recent years, though publication dates do not reflect the same schism that is apparent in the general library literature. Many of these articles are authored by our own members and reflect efforts to balance professionalism with ways to meet needs of the self-represented litigant without practicing law. With equal representation librarians advocate both help to any degree it is possible and advise against over-stepping the role of reference. Cautious advocates suggest practical means to handle patrons through disclaimers, handouts, and limited reference interviews. Interestingly, a trend may be growing that indicates less concern over the liability of reference librarians and greater discomfort over the ethical dilemmas of assisting self-represented litigants.

Those legal resources that address unauthorized practice of law, however, roundly support assistance of the self-represented litigant. The American Bar Association has stated clearly that, “Informal help with legal problems, coming from neighbors, friends, coworkers, religious advisors,

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## The Entertaining Patron, Cont'd

teachers, social workers, law librarians, and others who have had experience handling a similar legal problem or who are considered to be reliable sources of information, has not generally been considered unauthorized practice."<sup>2</sup>

For every patron who walks through the door with an unusual question or request, there is a librarian who is applying patient, creative reference assistance. These patrons make great stories, but they can also represent problems with which our profession struggles. It quickly becomes obvious when reviewing our scholars that librarians are not in agreement on how best to handle these patrons, and across the country assistance varies broadly. Do we help the mother looking for a motion to stop her son from dating his current girlfriend because she is of questionable reputation? Or do we work closely with the local court and public librarians to find the most effective means of helping the patron? This question may not have a right or wrong answer at this time. However occurrences appear to be on the rise, and it is time for academic libraries to develop policies and alliances to prepare for these patrons.

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1 Paul Healey, *Chicken Little at the Reference Desk: The Myth of Librarian Liability*, 87 *Law Libr. J.* 515-33 (1995).

2 American Bar Association Commission on Nonlawyer Practice. *Nonlawyer Activity in Law-Related Situations: A Report with Recommendations*. Chicago: American Bar Association, 1995, at 35.

## Member News

### Awards and Honors

Chenglin Liu, the Foreign & International Law Librarian at the University of Houston Law Center, published his book, *Chinese Law on SARS*, in July 2004.

### New Hires:

**Helane Davis**, Seattle University School of Law Publications Coordinator and recent graduate of the UW Law Librarianship program, has accepted a position as **Associate Director/Head of Public Services** at the **Evans Law Library, University of Kentucky**. We wish Helane much success in her new position!

Beginning February 1, 2005 **Theodore (Ted) Potter** will be the **Head of Public Services** at the **University of Iowa Law Library**. Ted is leaving Marquette University Law Library after six years of service.

**Maryellen O'Brien** joined the **Florida Coastal School of Law** in February as a **Reference Librarian**. Maryellen comes to Florida from Houston, Texas where she was a Reference Librarian at Winstead Sechrest & Minick P.C., and the University of Houston O'Quinn Law Library. She received both her MLS and JD from the University at Buffalo. Maryellen O'Brien, has recently been accepted to the Sunshine State Leadership Institute. The Institute is a comprehensive series of learning sessions that focus on developing an understanding of leadership, within a conceptual framework and with practical applications.

**Joey Hernandez** joined the **Florida Coastal School of Law** in April as a **Reference Librarian**. Joey has a J.D. and a M.L.I.S. from the University of Iowa. In her previous life, Joey was a Police Officer for the Nashville Metropolitan Police Department and is a Gulf War Veteran. Joey has recently been listed by the Army to be cross trained into a job that can be utilized in Iraq. She is attending 31B training (Military Police) in the Fall. The school will be held at Ft. Leonard Wood MO, and will be conducted in two phases to last a total of 30 days. She will most likely return to Florida for a short period to anxiously await deployment orders (currently the tour of duty is 18 months).

**Mary Ann Hyatt**, Director of the Florida Coastal School of Law Library in Jacksonville, Florida, has accepted the directorship of the **Jaqua Law Library at the University of Oregon**.

**Sandy Sadow** has returned to her position as **Collection Development Librarian** for the **Widener University Legal Information Center** for Wilmington, Delaware, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She had formerly held this position but left in 2000 for some extended travel. She is now

*(Continued on page 17)*

## Member News, Cont'd

back, bringing with her a new perspective, and renewed energy.

**Jennifer Locke** joined the reference department of the **Georgetown University Law Library** as **Faculty Services/Reference Librarian** during the Fall 2004 semester. Jennifer completed her M.L.I.S. at the University of Washington in 2004 and received her J.D. from the Duke University School of Law.

**Pacific/McGeorge School of Law** recently hired three public services librarians: **Monica Sharum** became the **Electronic Services Librarian** on November 1, 2004; **Paul Howard** (formerly at Loyola LA) is the new **Foreign and International Law Librarian**, effective January 10, 2005; and **Teri Townsend** will start as a **Reference Librarian** on February 28, 2005.

**Phill W. Johnson** left the University of Illinois College of Law to accept a position as **Director of Electronic Services and Communications** at the **University of Missouri -- Kansas City School of Law** beginning October 1st of 2004.

**Mark Plotkin** joined the **University of Miami Law Library** as the **Reference/Internal Instructional Services Librarian**. Before moving to UM, Mark worked at the Miami-Dade Public Library in the Social Science/Humanities department. He also worked in the U.S. Department of Justice Libraries and the U.S. Supreme Court Library. Mark received an MSLS from Catholic University and a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

The **Loyola University Chicago Law Library** welcomes the newest member of its reference department, **Julienne Grant**. Julienne graduated cum laude from the DePaul University College of Law where she was a Dean's Scholar, on the Dean's List, was the 2002 - 2003 "Top Scholar" (Michael Jaharis Alumni Scholarship), won the CALI Excellence Award in four classes, was a member of Phi Kappa Phi (DePaul Academic Honor Society), and received the Phi Kappa Phi Award of Excellence with Highest Distinction. Julienne received her M.A. in Library and Information Science from Rosary College (now Dominican University) where she was selected as a member of Beta Phi Mu. She received an M.A. in Ibero-American Studies from the University of Wisconsin and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Middlebury College. Julienne has worked as a law clerk at two Chicago firms. She has six years of experience as a reference librarian and bibliographic instructor at Columbia College. She has taught Spanish at the college level, and worked for two years as a reference librarian at the Wilmette Public Library.

**Lisa Wagenheim** joined the **Law Library, James E. Rogers College of Law, University of Arizona**, in January, 2005, as a **Reference Librarian**. Prior to her employment at the University of Arizona, Lisa freelanced as an attorney with a local civil litigation firm and was the Electronic Services Librarian at the University of Maryland School of Law. **Iain Barksdale**, the former Electronic Services/Reference Librarian at the University of Arizona, has taken a position as the **Assistant Director for Information Technology** at the **Salmon P. Chase College of Law Library, Northern Kentucky University**.

## Promotions

**Kim Clarke** was promoted from Head of Public Services to **Library Director of Pacific/McGeorge School of Law**, effective October 1, 2004.

**Susan Lewis-Somers** was recently promoted to **Associate Director for Public Services** at the **American University, Washington College of Law Library**. Susan currently serves as ALL-SIS Secretary-Treasurer. She came to American University in 1999 as Senior Reference and Educational Services Librarian. Before that, Susan was a reference librarian at the Yale, Northwestern and Willamette University Libraries.

Please send future submissions for the *ALL-SIS Member News Column* to Beth Adelman, [eadelman@gsu.edu](mailto:eadelman@gsu.edu).

**ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIES—SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES**

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## General Information

ALL-SIS was established in 1979 to promote interest in and to address issues of common concern to those employed in academic law libraries. The SIS serves as the umbrella organization for all interests—administration, collection development, consortia, directors, fees for service, interlibrary loan, public services, technical services, middle management, etc.

ALL-SIS provides opportunities for all librarians to contribute to the overall betterment of the entire academic law community. ALL-SIS has grown to more than 800 members and is the second largest SIS in AALL. Our members come from all aspects of academic law librarianship. Because of the SIS's broad coverage and subtopic focus, all those working in academic law libraries can benefit from membership and are encouraged to join.

## The ALL-SIS Discussion Group

The ALL-SIS discussion group, aka mailing list, is used for official ALL-SIS announcements, news from AALL, and discussion of topics of interest to our members. If you're a member of ALL-SIS, you should be automatically subscribed! To send a message to the list, address the message to [all-sis@aallnet.org](mailto:all-sis@aallnet.org). Please direct any questions to the forum moderator at [owner-all-sis@aallnet.org](mailto:owner-all-sis@aallnet.org). For more information, see *ALL-SIS Discussion Group Instructions*, 23 ALL-SIS Newsletter 18 (Summer 2004), available at [http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/23\\_3/Discussiongroup.htm](http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/23_3/Discussiongroup.htm).

## ALL-SIS on the Web

ALL-SIS is on the web! Visit the ALL-SIS Home Page at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/>. Electronic versions of *The ALL-SIS Newsletter* are available on our website, as well as other vital information.

## Newsletter Information & Deadlines for 2004 - 2005 Academic Year

Please submit all articles and announcements to the ALL-SIS Newsletter Editor. Are you working on any interesting special projects? Have you attended a meeting and learned something you want to share with colleagues? Do you just

want to rant and rave about some problems related to academic law librarianship? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please send your thoughts. Any format, printed, faxed, or e-mailed will do, but it would be easiest for Newsletter production if the article is sent either as an attached text or word processing file or as the body of an e-mail. The **deadline** for this year's remaining issue is **May 18, 2005**. Thank you for your contributions and for your consideration.