MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Beth Adelman
2009 - 2010 ALL-SIS Chair

Greetings ALL-SIS!

The 1Ls are here, my children are back in school, and leaves have begun to fall. These are all clues that the very brief Buffalo summer is over!

This year there was an overwhelming response to the call for committee volunteers. On behalf of the ALL-SIS Executive Board, many thanks to the volunteers for an enthusiastic response. It’s difficult to turn away volunteers who are eager and willing to work so I increased the membership of many committees. In light of slashed travel budgets, it will ensure committees have a presence at the annual meeting in Denver.

In addition, I hope it will provide opportunities for ALL-SIS members to stay involved despite their ability to attend the annual meeting. Volunteers that have not yet heard from me are on my list of potential volunteers for task forces that will focus on specific issues. Committee memberships are included in this newsletter as well as on the website at www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/directories; committee charges are available on the ALL-SIS website at www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/committees/charges/.

And since we are on the topic of committees, I'd like to give a special thanks to the ALL-SIS Task Force for the Review of ABA Standards for
AALL invited Harvard Professor of Law Jonathan Zittrain to be the Keynote Speaker at its 102nd Annual Meeting. The theme of Professor Zittrain’s speech was “The Future of the Library – And How to Stop It.” He drew on his experiences as a cyberlaw scholar to develop a talk about how the role of the library is changing, mostly due to the increasing use of the Internet.

Professor Zittrain began by explaining “library” as noun – his traditional impression of what a library is: a medieval fortress surrounding a collection of books in order to defend them from users “messing them up.” He said it is now more akin to a bomb shelter, keeping books hidden away in case disaster strikes, with the vast majority of collections only serving a “just in case” purpose. When commenting on the growing ubiquity of computers in library reading rooms, he said libraries are now becoming destinations for “get[ting] on the Internet.” This is certainly the case in public libraries, and somewhat so in many academic libraries, but perhaps a bit less common in law libraries due to many legal resources either being available only in print, or having online versions that are difficult to use. Law is still heavily a print-based profession, which helps to stem the primacy of the Internet in terms of legal research.

This mindset also influences wireless devices such as Amazon’s Kindle, which Professor Zittrain noted is in contact with Amazon constantly. A person can download a book to his or her Kindle, but Amazon retains the ability to delete that book even though the customer has already paid to purchase it – the recent (and somewhat ironic) example being Amazon’s removal of George Orwell’s 1984 from Kindles, illustrated quite well by Professor Zittrain’s graphic of a Kindle’s screen giving the middle finger to the reader. He made the point that infringement of copyright is not the only way to make works inaccessible; the government can choose to classify information that was previously freely available. This creates the conundrum of having vast amounts of information on the Internet, but its access is controlled by various parties, and not always by libraries themselves.

He then shifted to the concept of “library” as a verb – when libraries and librarians are viewed as information repositories for users to mine. The familiar problem with this characterization is when users assume that they have more researching ability than they actually do, and don't believe they need to engage in a reference interview until they go through several frustrating dead ends. Librarians also have to contend with the hesitation that users feel about approaching them in person to ask questions, along with the proliferation of search engines and databases that allow unrefined, question-style searches in natural language. Professor Zittrain gave several examples of these, such as Ask Jeeves, Lexis, and Westlaw.

The final aspect of “library” discussed in the keynote was that of “library” as an adjective – what makes something a library? Most organizations have a mission statement that defines them. Professor Zittrain quoted parts of AALL’s Mission Statement, concerning, among other things, AALL’s view that libraries are “central to society,” and that AALL members “work toward fair and equitable access to authentic…information, and educate and train library users.” The success of that mission relies on

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Keynote, Cont’d

the continued availability and accessibility of information both in print and online. Problems occur when commercial entities become involved, and Professor Zittrain turned to the history of the Internet to illustrate that.

The creators of the Internet constructed it as a way to share information without commercialism, and that feeling of community can still be found in sites like Wikipedia. Censorship and vandalism sometimes appear, but there are also people who watch out for problems and work to either fix them or prevent them from happening. Professor Zittrain compared it to your house being on fire in a place with no organized fire department, but people will suddenly come and put it out for you. He also repeatedly made the point that most human beings have an innate wish to help others, which manifests in some ideas like the Internet Archive – documenting previous versions of websites to keep an archival record of what those sites looked like at a particular moment in the past.

Because the professor felt that being able to get help from a librarian in person has been the key part of his library experiences, the close of his speech noted that kind of interaction between librarians and users should be preserved, despite the increasing changes taking place in both libraries and society at large. The challenge for librarians is emphasizing the value and usefulness of in-person interactions to users who increasingly turn to texting and social networks as ways to foster relationships.

Professor Zittrain was a very dynamic and entertaining speaker, and was well-received by the audience. He gave the attendees several thought-provoking concepts to consider as they began their 2009 Annual Meeting experience.

Taxation Without Representation: An Overview of the D.C. Legislative Process and Research

Yasmin Alexander, Barbara and Maurice A. Deane Law Library, Hofstra University School of Law

The E-2 Sunday afternoon session “Taxation Without representation: An Overview of the D.C. Legislative Process and Research” provided a great deal of insight about D.C. governance, D.C. voting rights, and conducting legal research in D.C. Moderated by Meg Butler, the session covered the history of D.C. governance, the efforts of citizens and advocacy groups to acquire representation for D.C. residents, and tools and strategies for researching D.C. law.

Lorelie S. Masters of Jenner and Block LLP was the first speaker. As a Board Member for D.C. Vote, Ms. Masters explained current D.C. voting rights and its repercussions. She discussed how the current system denies D.C. residents their fundamental rights as U.S. citizens and explained the specific ways in which D.C. residents are not able to participate in government. She also went over the different models for securing voting rights for D.C. citizens and advocated for support of current legislative efforts. Ms. Masters’ talk was informative and persuasive, especially for those who were not previously familiar with the issues.

The next speaker was Paul Strauss, United States Shadow Senator for the District of Columbia. Shadow senators are elected but do not have voting rights in the Senate. Mr. Strauss discussed the history of D.C. governance and representation which was useful for context in which to think about current issues. He also went into depth discussing a recent D.C. voting rights bill containing an amendment which would strip the city’s ability to regulate

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With the Empirical Legal Studies (ELS) movement well under way, and increasing numbers of J.D./Ph.D. faculty joining the ranks at many law schools, academic law librarians will increasingly be called upon to support faculty and student research - and in some cases may conduct their own research - in this growing field. But not all law librarians feel familiar with the data sources and analytical concepts relevant to a social sciences approach to legal questions, and law school libraries may be unsure how to design and implement library services that support and encourage such research at their institutions. Two Annual Meeting offerings - an all-day pre-conference workshop on Saturday, hosted at American University School of Law, and an educational program session the next day - dovetailed nicely to address this gap.

The **Conducting Empirical Legal Research Workshop** was led by Professors Lee Epstein (Northwestern University) and Andrew D. Martin (Washington University in St. Louis), both joint law and political science faculty active in the ELS field. The eight-hour session provided a condensed overview of many aspects of the research design process, analytical concepts, and statistical resources and methodologies employed in ELS scholarship. Spanning much of the material Epstein and Martin usually present during a three-day workshop for faculty, and examining concepts and analytical frameworks used more commonly in sociology and related fields than in traditional legal research, the workshop by necessity only sketched lightly over the surface of topics at hand.

However, the workshop provided a good review of or introduction to some of the basic terminology (e.g., independent and dependent variables, the null hypothesis) and other fundamental concepts (e.g., reliability versus validity of data, statistical significance and confidence intervals, regression analysis) used by ELS scholars in designing research approaches and performing data analysis. Epstein broke down the typical research project into three phases: project design, collection and coding of data, and data analysis. She highlighted a few off-the-shelf sources of statistics on topics of interest to legal scholars, but focused mostly on resources for finding datasets - large raw data collections used by many ELS scholars. She also introduced participants to one of the major data analysis software tools, Stata, used widely in academic research.

Martin’s portion of the workshop, which occupied much of the afternoon, delved in even greater detail into the technical aspects of statistical analysis, applying various Stata features to data drawn from typical ELS datasets. These examples were used not only to demonstrate various types of simple tabulations and graphical presentations of data made possible by the software, but also to illustrate some of the analytical concepts employed in ELS. Especially for participants who never took a basic statistics course, this portion of the program might have presented a particular challenge - dense, complex material presented at fairly high speed.

Epstein and Martin have now led this law librarian workshop twice - at the 2008 and 2009...
conferences - and workshop organizers Amy Taylor (Duke University School of Law Library) and Jill Duffy (Supreme Court of the United States Library) noted that space sold out quickly both years. Assuming this popular workshop is offered again, those planning to attend next year’s Annual Meeting should consider enrolling early to reserve a space in this program.

The fee for the workshop, at $240, was a bit steep in the current economy. But participants who come prepared for a fast-paced, intense, and information-packed program will walk away with a better understanding of the purposes and methods of ELS research from the perspective of experienced, expert faculty engaged in the field. Participants will also learn some basics of the analytical framework and vocabulary that should improve their ability to communicate effectively with ELS researchers. Finally, participants in this workshop will gain exposure to some of the specific tools and resources for finding and manipulating the types of data frequently used in ELS literature.

The Understanding the Mean program was a good complement to the workshop. Focusing on the strengths, skill set, and educational background of the “average” law librarian, the session addressed one question that was left open by the workshop: What can academic law librarians - who may lack advanced training in sociology, political science, or statistics - do to foster and support ELS efforts, and what tasks or projects are probably beyond the scope of the law library’s role?

Program coordinator Darla Jackson (Oklahoma City University Law Library) started off the program by defining ELS and noting some of the factors in its growth and continuing relevance in legal scholarship. She also suggested several web/blog, journal, and other resources that the average law librarian can use to bone up on ELS and to keep current on developments in the field. She pointed out opportunities for law libraries that fit well within the traditional categories of library service, including performing literature reviews, identifying funding and training resources, finding data sources, and acting as liaison with subject area and data librarians, other university faculty, and administrative offices involved in human subject research oversight.

David A. Hollander (Princeton University’s Firestone Library) got a laugh right off the bat by admitting he never even took a college “intro to statistics” course. His presentation nevertheless showed how a librarian without extensive training in statistics can support ELS research. He also emphasized a few distinctions between the typical research issues that may arise in other types of legal inquiry and the information used in ELS, including the fact that in ELS much higher volumes of information are often used, and research may not be limited to a single doctrinal field. He also noted that, while locating existing datasets may be a familiar task, compiling data is a very different function. This presents a particular problem in ELS because there are many areas of law for which, at least compared to the social sciences, there is very little out there in the way of raw data. The work of compiling these datasets may take decades; the task of coding data about legal topics, moreover, can involve both relatively simple variables and more “mushy” data requiring judgment calls. Hollander posited that law librarians can be involved in such efforts, but cautioned that these are largely untested waters in most law schools.

As a political science doctoral candidate working within a law library, Mirya Holman (Duke... (Continued on page 6)
ELS Programs, Cont’d

University School of Law Library) provided yet another perspective. With graduate-level experience in statistical methods, but without law or library degrees, Holman was hired specifically to support ELS scholarship, thus offering another model for libraries to provide research support, by splitting services according to skill set. Holman suggested that academic law librarians are well-positioned to assist with at least four aspects of research support: training student research assistants, including developing standard protocols to ensure that RAs are consistent in the recording or coding of data; acting as liaisons with other libraries, faculty, and graduate students with expertise in handling data projects; locating current research and existing raw data sources; and helping with the presentation of data. Along with the background and current awareness resources mentioned by Jackson, Holman suggested attending faculty workshops and job talks involving ELS as a way of networking and keeping up to date on ELS trends and scholarship. Program handouts offered by Holman included a bibliography and FAQs about Institutional Review Boards and Human Subjects Protocol.

The final speaker, Matthew M. Morrison (Cornell University Law Library) reviewed Cornell’s historic contributions to ELS, including a plug for the leading Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, and yet another tool for researching current developments in ELS scholarship: the Empirical Research Group’s ELS Bibliography (www.law.ucla.edu/home/apps/els/). The latter, a joint Cornell/UCLA database project, indexes ELS articles appearing in the flagship law reviews of top-40 law schools and some 40 other law and economics and similarly themed journals. Morrison also spoke to some of the issues that academic law libraries face in choosing a service model to support ELS scholarship, noting that the programs at Cornell and Duke resulted largely from the activism and support of vocal faculty contingents. An open question he identified was that of infrastructure: compared to social science departments where “armies of RAs” are available, the law school curriculum and student population provide fewer resources for both the grunt work of collecting and coding data and the higher-level functions of checking and analyzing it. Will law students fill the gap, or will social sciences graduate students need to be trained to perform basic legal research, and who will be responsible for providing this training?

The session as a whole provided both encouragement and practical leads on information sources for academic law librarians working to add ELS research support to their array of services. The session, taken together with the workshop, also presented ample food for thought about the institutional issues that academic law libraries will face in the future as the ELS movement continues to grow and evolve. The two offerings combined well to address and explore the many practical, theoretical, and infrastructural implications of the ELS scholarship and the role of academic law libraries in its development.
AALL Program Reviews

Technology and Law Libraries: AALL 2009

David Lehmann
University of South Carolina Coleman Karesh Law Library

The Theme for the 2009 AALL convention was Innovate. Nowhere was this theme more clearly demonstrated than in the technology programs and workshops. From the start of the Conference, with a full day program, Cool Tools: The Workshop, to the last day’s program on Digital Archives and Vlogging for Law Libraries, the variety and scope of the technological programs for innovation was aptly demonstrated. The theme of Web 2.0 was a constant throughout the convention. The ability of law libraries to accept and adapt 2.0 internet innovative information technologies is now a necessity. Web 2.0 technologies have taken over libraries as the new technology for communication, collaboration, and information distribution.

The CS-SIS section demonstrated many of the new technology tools in their workshop on Cool Tools before the Conference official began. Last year’s Cool Tools program was enjoyed by everyone. This year it was expanded to a full day workshop. It continued in its purpose to demonstrate how to innovate delivery of services and information with the use of technology. The Saturday all day workshop included discussion and demonstration of technologies such as wikis, blogs, social networks, widgets, weblog extensions, collaboration software, AJAX, RSS, APIs, and virtual worlds. All of the participants were able to discuss, debate, and learn about the possible uses of various types of technology for dissemination of legal information and collaboration with other law librarians.

The CS-SIS and other Special Interest Sections sponsors also covered the complete gamut of innovation and Web 2.0 technology this year in the conference programs. Every section had a program devoted to the integration of technology into the law library environment.

The programs offered included the following:

- CS-SIS Hot Topic I: Why Librarians Should Care About Emerging Technologies
- Making Your ILS Web 2.0 - Open source and OPECS
- Chat 2.0: Renovating Virtual Reference
- Videos for Web Distribution and Vodcasting
- Discovering Advocacy Web 2.0 Tools: Key to Influencing Congress
- WEB 2.0 Challenge - Learning Web 2.0 Tools
- WYDSIWAYG - Web 2.0 and ADA Access
- Web 2.0 Driving Innovation in the Law Firm Library
- Vlogging for Law Libraries
- Digital Archives and Digital Preservation
- GIS Applications in the Law
- The Next Generation of Integrated Library systems

Web technologies demonstrated during the convention include innovations for the complete spectrum of law libraries: firms, public, and academic. I have highlighted several of the programs that included technology for everyone regardless of the type of law library below:

- A-1 Making Your ILS Web 2.0 Happy - This program focused on the use of open source Web 2.0 technology and the ability to integrate it into the library OPEC. The program focused on discussions of the need to augment integrated library systems (ILS) with new

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AALL Program Reviews

Technology Programs, Cont’d

technology and problems that are faced in integrating this innovation into existing technology. The program also utilized demonstrations of various methods of integrating this new technology.

- **G-4 WYDSIWYG: What You Don’t See Is What You Get** - Victoria J. Szymczak, Coordinator and Moderator of this program, has been deeply involved in Web 2.0 tools and access for disabled persons. She moved the panel through the discussion of disabilities and libraries failure to adequately address ADA needs. The program was designed to give information to help design a web site that would be compliant with section 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The information discussed and showcased should help everyone in the law library environment be more conscious of the need for adaptive technology in the law library for students and patrons with disabilities. For more information about this important facet of access to law libraries materials see the CS-SIS web site page at www.aallnet.org/sis/cssis/adaptive/design.asp.

- **E-1 Videos for Web Creation and Vodcasting** - This presentation was aimed for individuals with a high degree of skill and a good budget for technical equipment. The program covered the steps in making a video in depth and provided good websites and information to follow up on the process. The handouts were very well organized, but I found the process more than I was prepared to follow up on. The diehard film maker/videographer would really enjoy this information.

- **K-1 Vlogging for Law Libraries** - Vlogging or video blogging is an update to the standard blog or Blawg that is familiar to most law librarians. This program showed the use of library Vlogs, the necessary software and hardware essential for creating Vlogs, and methods of distributing the information. Costs and open source software were highlighted. Problems and additional uses were also discussed. This is an interesting innovation for the technologically sophisticated Web 2.0 users.

- **D-1 The CS-SIS Web 2.0 Challenge** - The web 2.0 Challenge for last year was a big success. This program was based upon last year’s session and the challenge that followed for five weeks after the program. The room was full of interested librarians, many of who had been a part of the challenge. The comments showed that those who participated really appreciated the tools and skill that they were forced you to learn during the 5 week program. This session demonstrated the successes and failures that were experienced by Meg Kribble, Deborah Ginsberg, and Bonnie Shucha, who started the program. They related many of the comments of the participants who had blogged and critiqued the program. Several of the mediators and facilitators of the program also contributed insight regarding the effectiveness of various aspects of the program. Everyone shared ideas and all present appreciated the feedback on the program. Many in the audience were part of the 102 new librarians included in the 2009 Web 2.0 challenge. This group represents the various types of law librarians and was geographically diverse.

The Web 2.0 Challenge is a five week online learning program designed to introduce law
AALL Program Reviews

Technology Programs, Cont’d

Librarians to the professional side of Web 2.0 tools. The program included the following modules.

- Week of August 3: Blogs & RSS
- Week of August 10 Flickr & Social Bookmarking
- Week of August 17 Social Networking & Twitter
- Week of August 24 Wikis & LibGuides
- Week of August 31 Web 2.0 @ Your Library

All participants must join and use these tools and during the 5 week class period have weekly electronic “chats about the tools and ways to better utilize them.” I was a participant in the challenge this year and found the experience very rewarding but it requires a substantial time commitment.

For more information on the Web 2.0 Challenge go to the CS-SIS website, http://cssis.org/category/web-20-challenge/.

Reviewing the agenda of AALL programs, which highlighted the various nuances of Web 2.0 applications and the use of technology with its many varied components shows that we, as law librarians, are continuing to adapt and adopt technology in all aspects of law librarianship. The programs at the 2009 AALL Conference showcased technology and how to adapt Web 2.0 tools to a changing library environment. If you haven’t yet begun to experiment, check out these tools for your library. They will change the way law libraries offer services, communicate with fellow law librarians, and provide access to their communities. I look forward to the future and new ways to utilize the technology that is currently available for law librarians.

D.C. Legislative Program, Cont’d

Firearms - thus forcing a choice between representation in Congress and gun control. In doing so, he highlighted the unique position in which D.C. residents are placed.

Barbara Ridley Monroe, Collection Development Librarian at Georgetown Law, was the final speaker. Ms. Monroe provided an overview of the legislative process of Council of the District of Columbia (the D.C. legislative body) and the types of legislation produced. She also went over the major publications for D.C. research, including the publications for statutes, rules and regulations, and cases. She gave strategies for using these publications online and in print and pointed out their unique characteristics. The handout she created for the session is a must for those beginning legal research in the District of Columbia.

“Taxation Without representation: An Overview of the D.C. Legislative Process and Research” provided a solid introduction to the history of D.C. governance and representation, as well as current efforts to secure D.C. voting rights. It also offered valuable guidance on conducting legal research in the District of Columbia.
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Beyond the Walls of the United Nations: Exploring U.N. Databases at AALL

Steven Robert Miller
Indiana University School of Law-Indianapolis

Understanding how to navigate the vast amount of information available from United Nations sources can only enhance a librarian’s ability to retrieve information for an increasingly global legal world and economy. Many librarians are aware of the UN websites but are unfamiliar with how to locate and search these databases.

At this year’s AALL Annual meeting, Maritina Paniagua and Susan Kurtas of the United Nations’ Dag Hammarskjöld Library (www.un.org/Depts/dhl/) gave a presentation on how to effectively use the UN databases. Rosemary LaSala of St. John’s University served as coordinator and moderator of the program. In their presentation, Maritina and Susan demonstrated different searching techniques and identified and described redesigned U.N. databases. The four research tools reviewed included the United Nations Official Document System (ODS), the United Nations Bibliographic Information System (UNBISnet), and the United Nations Info Quest (UN-I-Que).

UN Organizational Chart

Maritina Paniagua presented first and laid the foundation by reviewing the UN organizational chart. After the organizational chart, Maritina reviewed four important U.N. resources. The UN’s organizational chart (www.un.org/aboutun/chart_en.pdf) helps identify which organization within the UN is likely to produce or maintain information of interest to you.

The UN is comprised of six principle organs. They include the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat. Each organ has multiplicities of subsidiary bodies. According to the presenters, researchers often need to understand the UN organ, body, and reporting structure before they can delve into the documents they are seeking.

Major Research Tools for UN Documents

The four research tools used to find UN documents include: (1) the United Nations Documentation: Research Guide; (2) the United Nations Bibliographic Information System (UNBISnet); (3) the United Nations Official Documents System (ODS); and (4) UN-Info-Quest (UN-I-QUE).

1. Of the four research tools for UN documents, the Research Guide (www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/) is a good starting point for an overview of UN documents. The Research Guide will show researchers how UN Document Symbols work and help identify what they are seeing. The Research Guide is also organized in six special topics: (1) Disarmament; (2) Environment; (3) Human Rights; (4) International Law; (5) Peacekeeping; and (6) UN Regular Budget.

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UN Databases, Cont’d

The reference team at the Dag Hammarskjöld Library developed the Research Guide based on queries by clients (e.g., researchers, members, delegations, etc.). The reference librarians respond to questions from the public, but only through email. In turn, the queries help the reference team improve the Research Guide.

2. **UNBISnet** ([http://unbisnet.un.org/](http://unbisnet.un.org/)) provides access to three different sets of records. The sets include Bibliographic Records, Voting Records, and Index to Speeches. UNBISnet covers materials from 1979 to the present. UNBISnet has broader coverage because it has records for documents even if they are not available in full-text.

- **Bibliographic Records** - Records for earlier materials from 1946 to 1978 have not yet been placed online. Researchers can do advanced searching in UNBISnet. Researchers can limit their search to type of material by UN or non-UN documents. If the full text of the document is available online, researchers are able to link straight into it from the catalog record. There is a Thesaurus available in the UNBISnet, which is useful if you do not know a valid subject name. The thesaurus is available in the six official languages of the United Nations (English, French, Arabic, Spanish, Chinese, and Russian).

1 **Voting Records** - Security Council voting records are available back to 1946. General Assembly voting records are currently available back to 1967; the UN is in the process of going back to the beginning, and those recorded should soon be available. In addition to the recorded vote, researchers are able to link to the full text of the resolution that was voted on if it is available. Official records from UN meetings can take anywhere from a few days to a few months to be published. In the meantime, press releases provide an overview of what occurred at the meetings.

2 **Index to Speeches** - The researcher is able to search by limiting to topic, country, and UN body in which the speech occurred. This will link to the full-text of the speech in any of the UN’s six official languages. Once the researcher knows what to look for, UNBISnet is probably the best place to start researching.

3. Started in 1992, the **Official Documents System (ODS)** ([http://documents.un.org/welcome.asp?language=E](http://documents.un.org/welcome.asp?language=E)) contains all official publications from that time period forward as well as some older materials that have been added. The presenters did not recommend ODS for advanced research.

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searching, UNBISnet is better for advanced searching, but researchers can use ODS for full-text searching, which is helpful if they are looking for something more specific. Every document contained in ODS is full-text.

4. UN-I-QUE (http://lib-unique.un.org/lib/unique.nsf) focuses upon documents and publications of a periodic nature. These include annual or session reports of committees and commissions, annual publications, periodically issued reports, conference reports, or statements in the general debate. Information within each record is presented in reverse chronological order to help locate recent documents. Only title searching is available so one cannot search by subject. However, this database contains records of some materials in neither UNBISnet nor ODS. These are only bibliographic records rather than full-text documents.

Susan Kurtas spoke next about some specific legal websites of the UN. Susan showed several UN document web sites. The most important among these was the United Nations Treaty Series Collection.

The United Nations Treaty Series Collection

A few glitches remain as the conversion of the United Nations Treaty Series Collection (http://treaties.un.org/Pages/Home.aspx?lang=en) is still a work in progress. Now a free service, the United Nations Treaty Series has an advanced search feature. If the text of the treaty is available, it will be linked from the bibliographic record. Currently, it will link to a full United Nations Treaty Series volume in which the treaty appeared. This often means that when the treaty downloads, it takes a long time because it is a large file. This can be a problem in developing countries where bandwidth and older computers present more of a problem. The search of the Index is considered a “phrase search” despite that it says “keyword.” A two-word search is considered a phrase in this system.

UN Audiovisual Library of International Law

The final resource mentioned was the new UN Audiovisual Library of International Law (www.un.org/law/avl/), which Susan said is especially useful to developing nations that might have fewer noted international legal scholars. The Historical Archives contain audio and video recordings of historic UN speeches, and photographs of UN events.

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2009 ALL-SIS Reception & Awards Presentation

The 2009 ALL-SIS Reception & Awards Presentation was held Sunday, July 26, 2009, at Georgetown University Law Center, McDonough Hall. Attendees had the opportunity to join tours of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library, including a peek at materials in the rare books room. Food at the reception came from around the world from Japanese Rice Bowls to Yucca Fries.

More photos from the reception can be found at the ALL-SIS home page, www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/.

Daniel W. Martin, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, Loyola Law School, accepted the ALL-SIS Outstanding Article Award on behalf of himself and his co-authors, Katherine Pratt, Professor of Law, Loyola Law School; and Jennifer M. Kowal, Clinical Professor of Law and Director, Loyola LL.M. Tax Program. They won for their article, The Virtual Tax Library: A Comparison of Five Electronic Tax Research Platforms, 8 Florida Tax Review 931 (2008).

Sara Kelley Burriesci, Reference/Electronic Services Librarian, Georgetown University Law Library, received the ALL-SIS Outstanding Service Award for her efforts as the ALL-SIS Webmaster. In this photo, Sara is shown with James Duggan, 2008-2009 AALL President.

Nancy P. Johnson, Associate Dean for Library and Information Services and Professor of Law, Georgia State University College of Law, received

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AALL Program Reviews

Reception & Awards, Cont’d

The Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship for 2009. In this photo, Nancy is shown with James Duggan, 2008 - 2009 AALL President.

Criteria for all these awards can be found at www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/awards/criteria.asp. Thanks to Patricia Harris O’Connor, Chair, and the other members of the 2008 - 2009 Academic SIS Award Committee (Linda Barrette, Matt Morrison, Michelle Rigual, Jason Sowards, and Ronald Wheeler) for their excellent work. Thanks also to the librarians and staff of the Georgetown University Law Library for hosting a lovely reception and tours. Photo credit for the photos with James Duggan goes to Brant Bender.

UN Databases, Cont’d

The Lecture Series contains video lectures by International Law experts in specific subject areas as well as links to related resources. The Lecture Series is non-UN content, part of their effort to assist in the teaching and study of international law, especially in the developing world.

This session was very helpful to librarians who were not familiar with how to access the many resources devoted to finding and retrieving United Nations documents. Even librarians familiar with UN document research found the session to be a good refresher. The Research Guide had been revised, and the Audi-Visual Library was new to most in the audience. Some points of confusion were clarified by the presenters who gave recommendations during the presentation and during the question and answer session that followed. Overall, everyone came away with something new they had learned during the session.
The ALL-SIS: A Brief Historical Profile - 2009 Update*

Lisa Peters, The Judge Ben C. Green Law Library
Case Western Reserve University

As ALL-SIS reaches its 30th anniversary, some folks thought that it would be a good time to update Rosalie Sanderson’s history of ALL-SIS,[1] “like a pocket-part.”

Membership

Currently ALL-SIS has 1233 members. Since 2004 the Membership Committee has worked with AALL to identify academic AALL members who were not members of ALL-SIS. Membership Committee members personally contact AALL members affiliated with a law school, who are not also members of ALL-SIS members. In 2005 the committee proposed revamping the welcome kit to increase personal contact to new members. In 2006 35 newer members of the SIS received a welcome kit which included a welcome letter from the ALL-SIS Chair, Michael J. Slinger, the 2006 ALL-SIS Annual Meeting Matrix, ALL-SIS Frequently Asked Questions, and ALL-SIS promotional items. The committee sent out 138 welcome kits in 2007 and 40 in 2008. In addition the committee has reached out to student members of AALL as well as library and law students who may be interested in law librarianship. To keep in tune with the membership the committee surveyed the membership in 2004 and 2006.

Organizational Structure and Planning Documents

Organizational structure: officers, committees, roundtables, task forces

Over the past five years there have been several amendments to the bylaws. The 2006 amendments brought the ALL-SIS bylaws in line with the AALL bylaws and clarified existing policies. In 2007 three issues were addressed: Article V was amended to clarify officer reimbursement; Article VI was amended to change the dates for the filing of petitions and the timing of notification of candidates; and Article VI was amended to make clear that the Secretary Treasurer is a two year position. In 2008 Article V was amended to bring the ALL-SIS bylaw dealing with succession of officers due to vacancy in line with the AALL model bylaws for special interests sections.

Several new committees and task forces have been created. New committees include the Faculty Services Committee, the Student Services Committee, and the Continuing Education Committee. The Faculty Services Committee has initiated virtual roundtables which involve creating a limited time listserv meant to host a discussion on a specific topic. During 2005 – 2006 the committee hosted four virtual roundtables on new faculty orientations; services to non-faculty; electronic publishing, posting and storing of faculty scholarship; and managing research assistants. The virtual roundtables are archived on the ALL-SIS website. The Continuing Education Committee created a streaming video “Challenging Conversations,” which is available on the AALL website. New Task Forces include the Task Force on Job Titles, which provided academic job titles for the AALL Salary Survey, and the Strategic Directions Task Force, which developed the 2007 - 2010 Strategic Plan.

Strategic Plan 2007 - 2010

The Academic SIS Strategic Plan 2007 - 2010 was adopted at the 2007 Business Meeting. The four directives are (1) advocate, (2) coordinate and disseminate, (3) develop and adapt, and (4) preserve and enhance information policies. As with earlier plans, the 2007 - 2010 Strategic Plan identifies specific initiatives for each outcome.

(Continued on page 16)
supporting the four directives. To see the plan, visit www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/strategic/.

Resources on the ALL-SIS website

Over the past five years the SIS and its committees and task forces have made more and more information available on the organization’s website. To name but a bit of what’s available: links to faculty services websites; a directory of collection development contacts in academic law libraries; the Sourcebook for Teaching Legal Research; a full text archive of the ALL-SIS newsletters; links to law library collection development policies; a bibliography on law librarian tenure and status; an archive of virtual roundtables; links to recommended legal research resources; and current and historic survey results.

Programs

Developing programs for the AALL Annual Meeting continued to be a focus of the SIS. For example the 2004 - 2005 Program committee created a sub-committee to develop possible program ideas, which included having brainstorming sessions for section members. Programs over the last five years have covered topics such as defining what is a core collection; teaching online legal research; podcasting; supporting new faculty; and legal research on the bar exam.

Special Projects

AALL Centennial Celebration

AALL celebrated 100 years in 2006. The Centennial Committee compiled a list of Firsts in Academic Law Libraries: for example, in 1779 William and Mary became the first college to have a law school, while the first academic law library to offer 24/7 library access was Washington and Lee in 1849. To view the complete list visit www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/centennial/firsts.asp. Several articles were written by the Centennial Committee, including *Milestones in Academic Law Libraries: Law School Libraries “Among the First” Great Feats in Last 100 Years*, 9 (9) AALL Spectrum 10 (2005), by Margaret Christiansen and Christopher Knott. Also, special Centennial Grants were awarded to Sarah Glassmeyer and Emily Janoski-Haelhen to support their attendance at the 2006 AALL Annual Meeting.

Mentor Project and ALL-NEW (previously NALLM; previously CONALL)

ALL-NEW, New Academic Law Librarian’s Meeting, is held at the AALL Annual Meeting. The name has been changed over the past five years to reduce confusion with AALL’s CONELL, Conference of Newer Law Librarians, which also takes place in conjunction with the AALL Annual Meeting. In addition ALL-SIS works with AALL to connect newer librarians with mentors. Starting in 2006 biographies of newer members of ALL-SIS have been featured in the newsletter.

Prizes

The SIS continues to recognize outstanding contributions to academic law librarianship by annually awarding the Frederick Charles Hicks Award. Honorees since 2003 are Timothy L. Coggins (2004), Barbara Bintiff (2005), Roger F. Jacobs (2006), Roy M. Mersky and Robert L. Oakley (2008), and Nancy P. Johnson (2009).

Since 2002 the ALL-SIS Outstanding Article Award has been presented to author(s) of an article that enhances academic law librarianship. In 2004 two articles shared this award: Nancy Carol Carter, *The Special Case of Alaska Native Law and Research*, 22 Leg. Ref. Servs. Q. 11 (2003); and Matthew Cordon, *Beyond Mere Competency Advanced Legal Research in a Practice-Oriented Curriculum*, 55 Baylor L. Rev. 1 (2003). In 2005 Nancy M. Babb was honored for *Cataloging Spirits* (Continued on page 17)
The ALL-SIS 2009 Update, Cont’d


The ALL-SIS Outstanding Service Award was first awarded in 2007 to Lee Peoples. It has since been awarded to Diane Murley and Leah Sandwell-Weiss (2008), and to Sara Kelley Burriesci (2009).

In an effort to support news librarians an ALL-SIS CONNELL Grant program was created in 2005 to run for three years. The first grant was first awarded to Joy Hanson. The grant was awarded to Elizabeth Outler in 2006 and to Yu-Hui Chang in 2007.

The past five years have demonstrated that ALL-SIS is still an organization where “law librarians of all positions work[] together to create thriving law libraries rich with information resources, services and resourceful librarians.”

* This update was based on the ALL-SIS Newsletter, ALL-SIS Annual Reports of the Chairs, Minuets of the executive board meeting, and the ALL-SIS website.

1 This article updates Rosalie Sanderson, The ALL-SIS: A Brief Historical Profile, 23 (3) The ALL-SIS Newsletter 10 (2004).

2 Id.

ALL-SIS Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Karen E. Kalnins
Oklahoma City University School of Law

AALL’s Executive Board approved the formation of the Academic Law Library Special Interest Section or ALL-SIS at the AALL meeting in July 1979; thus the section was born. In celebration of its 30th anniversary, ALL-SIS gave away a Blackberry Pearl as the traditional 30th anniversary gift, pearls, through a drawing at the ALL-SIS table in the AALL Annual Meeting Exhibit Hall. William S. Hein & Company donated the Blackberry Pearl.

Two hundred and twenty-three (162 academic librarians, 22 firm librarians, 26 SCCLL, and 13 student or non-affiliated librarians) tried their luck at winning the Pearl. The lucky winner was Ms. Gigi Panagotacos, a collection development and reference librarian at the Faulkner University Jones School of Law Library. While she has not received the Pearl yet, she cannot wait to start using it and get rid of her landline. Ms. Panagotacos encouraged everyone to check out the AALL Activities Section at the Annual Meeting because the information keeps you updated and you just may win a prize or two.

ALL-SIS members made the table a success because they staffed it during all of the hours that the exhibit hall was open. Mila Rush coordinated the staffing and got all the slots filled with enthusiastic volunteers. Rush stated that she thinks the goal of the table is to advertise the SIS and encourage more academic law librarians to become members of ALL-SIS.

The ALL-SIS Public Relations Committee would like to thank Hein, the volunteers who staffed the table, the entrants for the drawing, and members of ALL-SIS for making our anniversary celebration a success.
The Future of Today’s Legal Scholarship: A Symposium in Honor of Bob Oakley

Leah Sandwell-Weiss
James E. Rogers College of Law, The University of Arizona

I was privileged to join around 30 librarians and others in The Future of Today’s Legal Scholarship Symposium, held on Saturday, July 25, at the Georgetown Law Center. This symposium, designed to honor the memory of Bob Oakley, the late director of the Georgetown Law Library, aimed to bring together academic bloggers, librarians, and experts in preservation to brainstorm and debate the use and preservation of blogs for historic and legal research and to develop best practices to ensure that the value of blog scholarship is not easily lost.

The morning began with a talk by Bob Berring, Walter Perry Johnson Professor of Law, UC Berkeley, Boalt Hall. He discussed four vectors that impact legal scholarship. The first is cognitive authority - what makes something an “authoritative source?” In the past we accepted Shepard’s, West Key Numbers, law reviews, etc., as authority based on our belief that someone somewhere with knowledge had vetted and filtered the information so that it was reliable. In this age of Wikipedia and Google we can now get unfiltered information. So what makes something authoritative? Prof. Berring’s second vector dealt with legal scholarship - in the U.S. we first relied on legal treatises as authority, then moved to law reviews. Now we appear to be moving to shorter forms, one of which comes from legal blogs, his third vector. He certainly sees some blogs, such as SCOTUSblog (www.scotusblog.com/wp/), as authoritative, but at this point doesn’t see them replacing more formal legal scholarship, such as law reviews. Prof. Berring’s fourth vector is the future - the need to preserve information, something that was so important to Bob Oakley.

Following Prof. Berring’s presentation, we heard from a panel on the Future Research Value of Blogs; the panel consisted of Chris Borgen, Associate Professor of Law, St. John’s University and co-founder of Opinio Juris (http://opiniojuris.org), an international law blog devoted to discussion, debate, and reports concerning international law; Lee Peoples, Associate Professor of Law Library Science, Associate Director of the Law Library, and Director of International Programs at Oklahoma City University School of Law; and Margaret Schilt, Faculty Services Librarian, D’Angelo Law Library, University of Chicago. Borgen discussed some of the background of blogs and how writing and working with one has changed over the years. He gave five useful attributes of legal blogs: to be the first draft of a first draft of history; to spot issues; to publicize issues, articles, etc.; to build community; and to create a place for feedback and discussion of issues. Blogs are not a place for deep writing and reading. As an example, he discussed the impact the legal blogosphere had on the issues surrounding Guantanamo, Abu Ghrab, and torture - blog authors got to the issues quickly, didn’t have editorial boards worrying about controversy, had deep expertise in the issues involved, and were able to use the collective wisdom of several experts.

Peoples discussed how blogs are actually being cited in legal opinions and in scholarship. He noted that 40 judicial opinions had cited blogs as of July 2007 and that since then an addition 29 opinions had cited blogs. Some citations were to support legal reasoning or analysis, while others were cited as a factual source or for a document. He then discussed how blogs are supposed to be cited according to the Bluebook (Rule 18.2.4) and how most opinions do not follow this format. He then discussed some of the unanswered legal questions involved with citing to blogs: is blogging an ex parte communication?
Symposium, Cont’d

independent judicial research? can judges take judicial notice of blog content? What can attorneys do in the future if the blog is gone? Even if the opinion quotes directly from the blog, how can one determine the context without the blog post itself?

Schilt agreed that blogs can be important to legal scholarship and noted the increasing citation to blogs in law review articles. She asked who was going to maintain these references, as the law reviews don’t. Do librarians have an obligation to archive these records? Traditionally, we have said yes, but she wonders if it’s necessary, given that some of this will wind up in traditional scholarship. She used the example of preserving workshop and symposium discussions which aren’t traditionally preserved; only the papers presented are archived. We can’t rely on the authors to preserve the blogs either, even those that are most like personal papers.

The next panel, Blogs and Reliability, consisted of Tom Goldstein, a partner in Akin, Gump, and the man principally responsible for SCOTUSblog; Toby McIntosh, Director of Editorial Quality Review, BNA; and Mike Wash, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Government Printing Office. Goldstein began by stating that blogs are “utterly unreliable.” This is true of SCOTUSblog, even though he’s put in $100,000 of his money into and has a full-time reporter and staff and his and his firm’s reputation depends on its accuracy. If, under these circumstances, he isn’t concerned with reliability and future access, then no bloggers are. McIntosh discussed the differences between blogs and established publications such as those published by BNA. Wash discussed the development of the FDSys program to preserve and maintain government documents and explained how a system like this could be applied to blogs.

The third panel on Blog Preservation, consisted of Carolyn Hank, Triangle Research Libraries Network Doctoral Fellow at the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Linda Frueh, Regional Director, Washington D.C, Internet Archive; Victoria Reich, Director of the LOCKSS Program (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe), Stanford University; Laura Campbell, Associate Librarian for Strategic Initiatives, Library of Congress; and Donna Scheeder, Director, Law Library Services, Library Of Congress. Much of what these presenters spoke about was a bit over my head in terms of methods of archiving and maintaining web materials. Hank’s presentation, however, was a fascinating study of blogger perspectives on digital preservation.

Following this panel, the attendees broke into working groups led by Maureen Sullivan, Maureen Sullivan Associates, to discuss guidelines for working with blogs now and in the future for librarians, bloggers, preservationists and researchers. Questions we considered included:

- What should a librarian consider when suggesting blogs for research?
- What should a research consider when using blogs?
- What should a blogger consider when creating and posting to a blog?
- What should be considered when selecting blogs for preservation?
- What tools, strategies, and standards should be employed in blog preservation?

While the attendees could not resolve all these questions, we did come up with some specific ideas. For example, we could begin conversations with the blogging software designers to discuss these issues and see if there are ways to easily set copyright permissions and archiving tools within the
AALL Announcements - Fall 2009

Julia O’Donnell, AALL Director of Membership Marketing & Communications

AALL2go Open for Business

AALL is proud to announce that AALL2go, AALL’s new online learning center, is open for business at www.aallnet.org/aall2go.asp! The new site offers you specialized continuing education programs designed specifically for law librarians. The convenient online format allows you to expand your knowledge base and gain new skills right from your desktop - no travel is required, and it’s open 24/7. Also, AALL2go is fully searchable, so you can quickly find material targeted to your areas of interest.

The site now includes:

- Audio recordings from the 2009, 2008 and 2007 AALL Annual Meeting and Conferences;
- 14 free videos from the 2008 and 2009 AALL Annual Meeting and Conferences for AALL members only;
- Coming soon: archived webinars and more recorded continuing education programs from 2006 to present, including more than 50 free programs for AALL members.

AALL Opens New Online Career Center

AALL recently launched a new and improved interactive job board, the AALL Career Center, available at www.aallnet.org/careers/. Designed specifically for law libraries and legal information professionals, the AALL Career Center offers members and the profession at large a highly-targeted resource for online recruitment.

For job seekers:
- Post your resume for free - post confidentially or search anonymously by creating a Job Agent;
- Browse jobs based on criteria that best match your career goals;
- Set up a Job Agent to notify you via e-mail when jobs matching your criteria are posted.

For employers:
- Post your jobs online; reporting provides job activity statistics to track each posting’s return on investment;
- Search for qualified candidates based on specific job criteria;
- Create an online resume agent, which e-mails qualified candidates daily.

2009 AALL Salary Survey Available this Fall

The AALL 2009 Biennial Salary Survey and Organizational Characteristics will be available at www.aallnet.org/products/pub_salary_survey.asp to AALL members in October.

This new edition is the only source for up-to-date information about salaries for law librarians and other law library employees who work in academic libraries; private firms and corporate libraries; and state, court, and county law libraries. The survey was carried out this summer in complete confidentiality by Association Research, Inc., a professional research firm in Rockville, Maryland, which works exclusively with nonprofit organizations.

(Continued on page 21)
AALL Announcements, Cont’d

Printed copies of the survey will be available for purchase and shipment in October, priced at $110 for AALL members and $175 for nonmembers (contact orders@aall.org). An online version of the survey results will be available to AALL members for free on the Members Only Section of AALLNET.

Symposium, Cont’d

platforms. This would make it easier for bloggers to establish their preferences. The organizers of the symposium are working with these ideas and plan to propose a uniform standard for preservation of blogs, a document to be shared by bloggers and librarians alike.

The symposium was fascinating and informative. Webcasts and presentations of the symposium are available at www.ll.georgetown.edu/ftls/schedule.cfm and www.law.georgetown.edu/webcast/eventDetail.cfm?eventID=872. If you are at all interested in this area, I highly recommend that you take the time to watch the webcast. The symposium truly honored the memory of Bob Oakley and his belief that librarians had an obligation to ensure access to information.

Professional Legal Management Week (PLMW), October 5 - 9

As part of the week’s events, AALL and the other co-sponsoring associations are putting together a free webinar on “From Boomers to Millennials: Intergenerational Issues in the Legal Workplace,” which will be held on Oct. 6, 2:00 p.m. Eastern time. The landscape of the workplace is changing, and the legal profession is no exception. Indeed, relationships between employees of different generations are sometimes more pronounced in the often tradition-bound legal workplace. Learn how to address the various challenges firms are facing with employees with differing priorities, attitudes and skills. Join a panel of experts representing AALL, ILTA, ALA, ABA LPM, LMA and IPMA in this FREE interactive Webinar and come away with a clear understanding of the issues and their solutions. Sarah Mauldin, Law Librarian at Chamberlain, Hrdlicka, White, Williams & Martin, will be the AALL panelist. For more information and to register online, visit www.plmw.org.

AALL’s Strategically Thinking Blog

Jean M. Wenger, Chair
Executive Board Strategic Directions Committee

On behalf of the Executive Board Strategic Directions Committee, I would like to personally welcome you to “Strategically Thinking,” the AALL blog for all things futuristic. As the Association develops the new roadmap for the next three years, we need you - the members - to provide the directions, speed, and forecast. Tell us what is going on in and around you. What you would like to see change and what things should we keep doing? Feel free to share, brainstorm and collaborate. Each week will feature a new thread mixed with “open mike” sessions.

The blog is for everyone and it’s open 24/7. Your input is a vital resource as we set the course for the next three years.


Thanks and see you online,
Jean M. Wenger, Chair
Executive Board Strategic Directions Committee
Joyce Manna Janto
Chris Graesser
Ruth Hill
Marcus Hochstetler
ALL-SIS Co-Sponsors the Legal Information & Technology eJournal

Lee Peoples, Oklahoma City University Law Library
& Co-Founding Editor, Legal Information & Technology eJournal

The Legal Information and Technology eJournal (www.ssrn.com/update/lsn/lsn_legal-infotech.html) was launched in 2009 with the generous support of MALLCO. The eJournal’s co-founding editors are ALL-SIS members Randy Diamond (diamondrj@missouri.edu), Director of Library and Technology Resources and Associate Legal Research Professor of Law at the University of Missouri Columbia; and Lee Peoples (lpeoples@okcu.edu), Associate Professor of Law Library Science and Associate Law Library Director at Oklahoma City University. This summer the ALL-SIS Executive Board agreed to sponsor 2/3rds of the eJournal’s cost for the next three years. MAALL will sponsor the remaining 1/3rd of the cost for three years. These sponsorships will begin in January 2010.

We are pleased to announce that ALL-SIS will receive a number of benefits for co-sponsoring the eJournal. ALL-SIS will be prominently identified as a co-sponsor on the eJournal’s homepage and in each bi-monthly issue. Thematic issues highlighting papers from any ALL-SIS workshops or programs are also possible. We welcome article submissions from ALL-SIS members and will give any articles submitted by ALL-SIS members priority for inclusion in the bi-monthly eJournal issues.

Submitting an article is easy. If you already have an SSRN account, just upload your paper and classify it under the Legal Scholarship Network > LSN Subject Matter eJournals > Legal Information & Technology eJournal. If you do not have an SSRN account, it is very easy to set one up and upload your paper for free at www.ssrn.com. ALL-SIS members should email me or Randy once you have submitted your article to make sure we give it priority when selecting articles for the bi-monthly issues.

The primary goal in establishing the eJournal was to make the scholarship and professional literature of law librarianship accessible in one place. Randy summarized the idea as follows:

Imagine talking with a recent law graduate who is interested in becoming a law librarian. The grad was a research assistant for a prolific law professor, familiar with her use of various scholarly communication networks including SSRN, and asks you where she can look at a collection of current law librarian scholarly engagement, “you know like law faculty have in their SSRN subject matter journals.” “Well you can look at LLJ, LRSQ, Perspectives, and Spectrum, all are online. You can also search on SSRN for the names of law librarians you know and who you think may have posted their work there. That will give you a list of papers an author has posted to SSRN, but there isn’t an SSRN database where you can look at all law librarian SSRN postings in one place. You can also keyword search on SSRN for topics you think law librarians may have written about and you can browse the Legal Writing Journal, Legal Education Journal and a few others where law librarians have posted their work, but no, there isn’t a subject matter journal for law librarianship… .”

The eJournal is also a vehicle for:

- Establishing our presence in a venue frequented by law faculty and deans;
Providing opportunities for the next generation of leaders to develop their writing agenda;

Building a culture of scholarly communications within the profession facilitating feedback on ideas and works in progress;

Extending awareness of law librarian scholarship throughout the legal academy and to other disciplines using SSRN; and,

Creating another avenue for sharing our teaching materials and promoting our reputation as teachers and curricular innovators, especially in use of technologies.

We currently have over 300 subscribers and are nearing the 50,000 articles downloaded mark. If your institution has an SSRN subscription I urge you to subscribe to the eJournal today. To subscribe simply log on to www.ssrn.com, click on subscriptions, Legal Scholarship Network, LSN Subject Matter eJournals, and select Legal Information & Technology. A video explaining how to subscribe may be viewed here: http://ssrn.com/update/general/ssrn_faq.html#subscrDemo.

Randy and I are extremely grateful to the 2008-2009 ALL-SIS Chair Filippa Anzalone, Vice Chair/Chair Elect Beth Adelman, the other members of the Executive Board, and to the ALL-SIS membership for supporting the eJournal. One of our primary concerns as co-founding editors of the eJournal was to keep it fully supported from within the profession and to not rely on vendor sponsorship. A description of the eJournal is included below. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me or Randy.

Legal Information & Technology
(journal description)

The Legal Information and Technology eJournal includes working papers, forthcoming articles, and recently published articles in all areas of legal information scholarship. Topics include (but are not limited to):

1. The impact of legal information on domestic, comparative, and international legal systems;
2. The treatment of legal information authorities and precedents (e.g., citation studies);
3. The examination of rules, practices, and commentary limiting or expanding applications of legal information (e.g., citation to unpublished opinions and to foreign law);
4. The study of economic, legal, political, and social conditions limiting or extending access to legal information (e.g., trends in the legal publishing industry, intellectual property regimes, and open access initiatives);
5. The finding and use of legal information by academics to produce legal scholarship, by law students to learn the law, by attorneys in practice, and by judges and others decision makers to determine legal outcomes;
6. The history of legal information systems and technological advancements;
7. Legal information system design and assessment; and
8. The relationship of substantive areas of law (such as information law, intellectual freedom, intellectual property, and national security law) and other academic disciplines (e.g., information science) to legal information. This includes the scholarship of law librarians, other legal scholars, and other academic disciplines.

The eJournal also includes working papers, forthcoming articles, recently published articles, and selected documents (such as White Papers, briefings, reports, course materials) on the practice of law librarianship. Submissions are welcome in all areas

(Continued on page 24)
of law librarianship including:

1. Administration, management, and leadership;
2. Facility design and construction;
3. Evaluating and marketing law library services;
4. All aspects of public, technical, and technology services;
5. Collection development, including sample collection development policies and procedures;
6. Electronic resource management and development including licensing, digitization, and institutional repositories;
7. Research and reference services; and
8. Legal research instruction teaching methods and substantial or innovative course materials.

**Collection Development Committee News**

Karen A. Nuckolls  
2009 - 2010 Chair

Courtney Selby and Kerry Skinner have submitted a program on collection development tools to AMPC: “Collection Development Tools: From ‘Tried and True’ to ‘Spiffy and New!’”

The committee also has plans for collaborating with TS-SIS on making collection development policies available to everyone on the AALL website. Making library collections “student-centric,” and donating and recycling materials are other hot topics on the committee’s list these days in lieu of shrinking shelving space.

At this year’s conference the Collection Development roundtable held a lively discussion on “Making the cut: collection development in the face of shrinking budgets.” Our program on “Weed, Shelve or Store: Making the Hard Decisions” was well attended by over 60 members. Discussion on just what to do with bound periodicals elicited some interesting ideas from attendees.

**Continuing Status/Tenure Committee Update**

Michelle Cosby  
University of Kentucky College of Law Library

The 2009 - 2010 Continuing Status/Tenure Committee met in Washington, D.C., on Saturday July 25. The first order of business was to review our charge. We spent some time discussing how to best maintain the ALL-SIS website, as well as discussing how to develop a White Paper. The White Paper would focus on showing why continuing status/tenure is valuable to the institution as well as to librarians. While discussing the White Paper, it was mentioned that librarians need to be aware of groups that are trying to change our status so that we can formulate an appropriate response. I found this to be a good point, and one that I never thought of before. The White Paper will take some time, and we will deal with it more in the future.

The remainder of the meeting was spent on revising the survey. Last year, a survey was sent out, but we decided to tweak it this year to make sure that we are focusing on librarian status and not other factors. For example, the previous survey asked about benefits. While this information is informative, the answers are not pertinent to what we are trying to evaluate.

Please look for more updates from the Continuing Status/Tenure Committee in the future.
A Law Librarian in the Dark

Yasmin Alexander  
Barbara and Maurice A. Deane Law Library  
Hofstra University School of Law

In the Spring of 1924, two wealthy, talented University of Chicago students named Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb murdered a 14-year-old boy by striking him over the head with a chisel. Their motive was straightforward yet baffling: they wanted to commit the “perfect crime” and get away with it. Trial attorney Clarence Darrow (well-known at the time for being against the death penalty) was hired as defense counsel and the subsequent trial became a media sensation. To the public’s surprise, Darrow advised the teenagers to plead guilty and then successfully argued to reduce their sentences to life in prison.

In the years since, the Leopold and Loeb trial has inspired countless books, plays, television shows, and movies. The psychological make-up of the teenagers, the intense relationship between the two, and the trial itself, have remained fascinating subjects for dramatization. In this installment of A Law Librarian in the Dark, I will take a brief look at two very different movies that were inspired by this notorious murder.

Compulsion is a 1959 film based on a novel of the same name. The movie concerns two teenagers named Judd and Art who engage each other in an intense friendship. Judd is a sensitive, brooding teenager who is obsessed with Nietzschean philosophy. He adores the charismatic, yet sadistic Artie who in turn bullies and teases him, yet takes pleasure in his company. Together, they follow through on a plan to murder a young boy and collect ransom from his family. They are caught when Judd’s glasses are found at the scene of the crime. Trial lawyer Jonathan Wilke (played by Orson Welles) is hired to defend the teenagers.

Although Compulsion is a work of fiction that does not use their names, many of the facts from the Leopold and Loeb story are present in the film, including the ransom note sent by the boys and the glasses found at the murder scene. In fact, while in prison, Leopold sued the book publisher and the movie production company for invasion of privacy.

The first half of the film emphasizes the psychologies of Judd (Leopold) and Artie (Loeb). It presents their friendship as pathological and depicts Artie as having a hypnotic sway over Judd. The crime is seen against this psychological context. The second half of the film focuses on lawyer Jonathan Wilke (Clarence Darrow). Played by Orson Welles, Wilke’s (Darrow’s) oratorical and lawyering skills are highlighted (some of the passages from the script were taken verbatim from the trial transcript). Through a series of courtroom scenes, Orson Welles brings Darrow’s passionate speeches to life on the screen. Compulsion is moving drama that looks at psychology in both the criminal and the courtroom aspects of the story.

Released in 1991, Swoon takes a more recent look at the Leopold and Loeb murder. Unlike Compulsion, Swoon uses the real names of the killers and imagines their story beginning with the period before the crime and ending in prison. Swoon is a black and white film that tends to be more stylized and less realistic than previous representations of the story. It presents us with bold, painterly images of the teenagers and of 1920’s Chicago and uses non-linear storytelling and visual metaphors. For example, a bed containing the two teenagers appears in the courtroom while a lawyer describes their relationship.

Swoon is especially different from Compulsion in its use of explicit romantic and sexual imagery. A few minutes into the film, Leopold and Loeb are
A New View of Law Librarianship

Jennifer Allison, Research & Educational Technology Services Librarian, Pepperdine Law School

Note: This is the first in what is hoped will be a series of columns about the experiences of those new to the academic law librarianship profession--ed.

It’s hard to write the first installment of a new column, especially if the topic is something you’ve never really written about before, and you’re not sure how much your readers care about what you have to say anyway. Nonetheless, here it is – my first effort at discussing my experience as a “newer” law librarian for the ALL-SIS Newsletter.

“Newer” is a relative term. As I am already in my late 30s, and because I came to law librarianship after almost ten years in the software industry and three years of law school, it feels odd to call anything related to my career “new.” Furthermore, I just started my third year as an academic law librarian. I have already put in a lot of hours at the reference desk, and answered plenty of legal reference (and other) questions. However, those first few months, when I sat at the reference desk and argued with myself about whether or not I REALLY want someone to ask me a question, are still quite fresh in my mind. So I guess I’m new enough, for the purpose of this column at least.

One way in which I’m definitely on the “new” end of the law librarianship continuum relates to my first-time attendance of the AALL conference in Washington D.C., in July. Each day of the conference, as I pulled my name badge (to which those glaring “CONELL” and “FIRST TIME ATTENDEE” ribbons were attached) over my head, I prepared myself for another overwhelming day, with a lot of unfamiliar faces and new information. If you saw me there, and thought I looked shell-shocked, I was.

Mind you, everyone was friendly enough, and I learned a lot. I returned to Malibu energized - ready to write research guides, test out all the latest Westlaw, Lexis, and Hein Online features, and put into action all of my conference-inspired ideas. I have done some of that since I’ve been back at work. But I have also had a lot of day-to-day work to do to get ready for the first day of classes, which seems to fall earlier every year.

For me, the conference itself started with CONELL on Saturday morning. The CONELL chairperson, Beth Adelman, had assembled an excellent group of speakers to discuss how to maximize one’s AALL membership generally and one’s conference experience in particular. There was also a small discussion group session (mine was led by David Mao, who graciously answered my questions about working at the Congressional Research Service after the AALL-related questions had dried up), and the CONELL marketplace, where many AALL special interest groups had booths set up. I was touched to see how many people had done a lot of work, starting their conference a day early, to welcome and educate us

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“newbies.” This went neither unnoticed nor unappreciated by all of us beneficiaries.

In my view, an especially inspired choice for the final speaker of the CONELL event was Cornell Winston, a law librarian at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Los Angeles. Impeccably dressed, with a booming voice and boundless enthusiasm, he encouraged all of us to get to know new people every day and not to just stick with our colleagues from our home libraries. I felt a twinge of guilt when he said this, because my conference roommate and travel buddy was one of my close colleagues, our public services librarian Jessica Drewitz. She and I planned to, and did, spend a lot of time together during the conference. But by sticking together we also, in a way, branched out. I went to a marketing program with her, and she went to the International Tax Research program with me. Since Cornell had also recommended that we attend programs outside our areas of interest, well, at least we managed that.

He also suggested that we do some sightseeing and enjoy the city. Although I did not get a chance to find Thurgood Marshall’s grave and get my picture taken in front of it (Cornell displayed his own graveside photo during his CONELL Power Point presentation), I meant to. But we went to the White House and the Supreme Court, and as we were standing in front of the Washington Monument one evening, President Obama’s motorcade passed by. These all seemed like decidedly “D.C.” experiences.

We also sweltered in the humidity of D.C. in July, as we are both more accustomed to Southern California’s dry heat. I personally wondered how so many people who work in the D.C. metro area could stand wearing a suit to work every day. I vowed to dress better when I got back to Pepperdine. With our year-round perfect weather in Malibu, I really have no excuse not to.

There were many conference highlights for me, such as getting a private tutorial on Cheryl Nyborg’s Subject Compilations of State Laws from none other than Ms. Nyberg herself at the Hein Online booth. She was exceedingly kind and gracious, and talked to me like I was a real librarian. I also was very impressed by Christopher Dykes’ 30-minute program on International Tax Law Research. The man is, in my view, a genius - he talked about taxes in a clear and understandable way, while being both entertaining and informative.

One of the most exciting events was the West party on Monday evening at the Renaissance Hotel. The AALL conference veterans we work with at Pepperdine had given us a general idea what to expect at this soiree, but of course we had no idea how enthusiastically law librarians could GET DOWN on the dance floor. Encouraged in this activity by an excellent and high-energy band (and, let’s be honest, an open bar), that party ended way too early for our liking. We were impressed by West’s generosity in hosting the occasion (although I personally was disappointed to not have won the $1000 AmEx gift card that West gave away), and in the unbridled enthusiasm for dancing displayed by so many of our fellow law librarians.

So there it is - highlights of my first AALL conference experience. I may return to this topic in future installments of this column. However, my main focus will be issues I face in my work as an academic law librarian that are directly attributable to my “limited experience” status. In my next column, I am planning to specifically discuss what I call THE NAME DILEMMA, or (1) what do you call faculty members at your law school, and (2) how did the manner in which you address them evolve? Having earned my JD from Pepperdine and taken classes from many of the professors I now
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In the Dark, Cont’d
shown exchanging wedding rings in secret. Here, Leopold and Loeb are lovers in a blatantly homophobic society. Swoon does not, however, excuse the killers from the crime. Nor does it give an easy answer as to the motivation or psychology of the killers. Instead, it asks us to see Leopold and Loeb as a romantic couple and only then to contemplate their crime.

The Compulsion DVD was released in 2006 by 20th Century Fox. The Swoon DVD was released in 2004 by Strand releasing.

A New View, Cont’d
support, this is a particularly interesting and troublesome issue to me. I would love to hear your thoughts on this topic! Feel free to contact me at jennifer.allison@pepperdine.edu.
Member News

Events & Awards


Northeastern Law Library Associate Director Sue Drisko Zago became President of the Law Librarians of New England chapter at the AALL national meeting.

New Positions and Promotions
Anthony Miller is the new Reference/Electronic Services Librarian at Florida A&M Law School. Prior to joining FAMU College of Law, Anthony worked as a webmaster for the state of Florida’s Geological Survey in Tallahassee, where he maintained and built various sites for the Department of Environmental Protection. He has been a member of STARS (Students & Technology in Academia, Research & Service) Alliance since its inception. He received a B.S. in information Technology from the Florida State University and an M.L.I.S in Library and Information Studies. His areas of research include computer science, information technology, and legal research.

Karen Gingold has been hired as a Reference Librarian at Florida A&M Law School. Before joining FAMU College of Law, Karen Gingold served as the Account Manager for a national financial consulting company for eight years. As such, she assisted employers in the implementation of qualified retirement plans and educated employees regarding retirement benefits. Karen received a J.D. from Barry University, a M.L.S. from the University of South Florida, and a B.A. in Legal Studies from the University of Central Florida. Her areas of interest include immigration law, labor law, and health law.

Mary Kate Hunter will be joining the staff of The George Washington University Law Library in September 2009 as a reference librarian.

Lee Peoples has been appointed Director of the Oklahoma City University Law Library effective July 2010.

Barbara G. Traub is now serving as Interim Director of the Rittenberg Law Library at St. John’s University School of Law, as well as continuing her duties as Head of Reference and Instructional Services.

Stacy Fowler was promoted to the position of Technical Services Librarian at St Mary’s School of Law, effective August 1, 2009. In her new role, Stacy will be responsible for conducting, coordinating, and supervising technical services in the Law Library, including serials control, acquisitions, interlibrary loan, filing, shelving, processing, government documents, binding, and mail service. Stacy was the Acquisitions-Serials Supervisor at St. Mary’s Law Library since 2006.

Charles F. Finger has been hired as the Associate Director at St. Mary’s Law Library, starting September 1. He had been Collection Development Librarian and Research Attorney at Cornell University Law Library since 2001. As Associate Director, he will assist the Director manage the library operations and personnel, among other duties.

Yolonda P. Harrison is the new Electronic Resources/Reference Librarian at Seton Hall University School of Law’s Peter W. Rodino Jr. Law Library. She recently received a Master of Library Science and Juris Doctor summa cum laude from North Carolina Central University’s Dual-Degree Program. As an undergraduate, Ms. Harrison earned two bachelor degrees, one in Communication Studies and the other in Afro-American Studies, both from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In June 2009, Laura Fargo joined the Dee J. Kelly Law Library of Texas Wesleyan School of Law as the Library’s new Public Services Librarian. Laura received a B.S. in Telecommunication from University of Florida and graduated in May from a joint J.D./M.L.S. program at Florida State University. She was an intern at the FSU College of Law Research Center from August 2008 - May 2009.

Michelle Rigual has been appointed Director of the Law Library and Associate Professor of Law at Texas Wesleyan School of Law, effective July 31, 2009. Michelle was previously the Associate Director and Associate Professor of Law Librarianship at the University of New Mexico School of Law Library.

This summer, after 5 years at Cornell Law Library, Julie M. Jones moved to Connecticut to begin her new job as Associate Director of Library Services at the UConn Law School Library.

Washington University Law Library is pleased to announce that after serving for seven years as Access Services/Government Documents Librarian and Lecturer in Law, Tove Kloving is assuming new duties, as she becomes our

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Member News

Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian and Lecturer in Law.

Washington University Law Library welcomes Judy Stark, as the new Access Services/Government Documents Librarian and Lecturer in Law. Judy previously worked for several years as electronic services and research librarian, solo librarian, and office administrator at Jenkens & Gilchrist and at Mintz Levin in Chicago, Dallas, and Washington, D.C.

Publications/Presentations

Oklahoma City University’s Lee Peoples has written an article, The Citation of Wikipedia in Judicial Opinions, to be published in vol. 12 of the Yale Journal of Law & Technology (2009).

Kathryn C. Fitzhugh, Reference/Special Collections Librarian at the University of Arkansas - Little Rock Law Library published her first encyclopedia article, Moses Aaron Clark, 1834-1924, in the online version of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, available at www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net.

Please send future submissions for the ALL-SIS Member News Column to Sue Kelleher, sue.kelleher@ttu.edu.

Chair, Cont’d

Law Libraries. The task force is chaired by Kristina Niedringhaus and committee members are Barbara Bintliff, Caitlin Robinson, Gordon Russell, Spencer Simons, Merle Slyhoff, Tory Trotta, and Michelle Wu. This task force acted swiftly to mobilize, gather feedback from stakeholders, and draft comments and recommended changes to the ABA Standards for Law Libraries on behalf of ALL-SIS. These recommendations will advise AALL on this issue as it prepares to make its recommendations to the ABA.

The 2010 Annual Meeting in Denver will be here in a flash. We have already begun to make plans for ALL-SIS events. Local arrangement contacts have been established at both the University of Denver and the University at Colorado Boulder. We are grateful for all of the local support we’ve received so far. Special thanks to Patty Wellinger, JoAnna Patrick, Robert Linz, and the entire local arrangements group for their support.

How can ALL-SIS support you and your organization? Please contact me (cadelman@buffalo.edu) or any member of the executive board with your ideas or concerns. I wish you much success as you embark upon a new academic year.

Best,

Beth Adelman
ALL-SIS Chair
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.

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

General Information

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 deadlines for this year’s remaining issues are January 20 and May 19, 2010. Thank you for your contributions and for your consideration.

The ALL-SIS Discussion Group

ALL-SIS on the Web

Discussiongroup.htm.

Newsletter Information & Deadlines for 2009 - 2010 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

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. Please direct any questions to the forum moderator at owner-all-sis@aallnet.org. For more information, see ALL-SIS Discussion Group Instructions, 23 ALL-SIS Newsletter 18 (Summer 2004), available at www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/newsletter/23_3/