

# ALL-SIS Newsletter

news from the ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIES–SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

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## Contribute!

- We're looking for contributions to our next quarterly issue. The general submission deadline is **Feb. 8!**
- Let us know what you're up to—Member News (see page 10) wants to hear from you!

## Message from the Chair

I write this on the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. During this time of year many of us seek the comfort and peace of our families and friends. For a few brief weeks, we slow down and take stock of the past year and look forward to the lengthening days ahead.

With an eye toward the time ahead, our committees are hard at work exploring ways to connect with new members, develop better services for our constituents and move the interest section into the future with strategic planning. The ALL-SIS Executive Board, with the help of all of the committees, is evaluating committee charges to ensure that we are providing meaningful contribution to you, the members, through our committee work.

If you are a past committee chair or member, we invite your feedback on the efficacy of our committee charges. All members should be on the look-out, in the coming weeks, for communication

from the Strategic Planning Committee. The Committee will be reaching out to learn more from you about future directions for ALL-SIS. I invite and encourage you to participate in our planning endeavors to ensure that ALL-SIS is moving toward our brightest future. I also encourage you to participate even further by nominating yourself or a colleague for a leadership role in ALL-SIS. See John Cannan's article in this issue to learn more about the nomination process for next year's ALL-SIS Executive Board.

Speaking of the future, the exchange on the AALL My Communities page regarding the AALL proposed name change has highlighted the way words define who we are and where we hope to go as a profession. I have followed the conversation with great interest and in the process am learning more about our professional values and the ways we, as academic librarians, contribute to the success of our students, faculty and

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## From the Editor

It's time to clear away the confetti and tinsel and get to work on some of those New Year's resolutions. Some of the more popular resolutions include traveling to new places, finding volunteer opportunities and giving back to the community.

Maybe you've decided to get out more. Would engaging in creative outreach count? Two articles on marketing and outreach—including the first installment of our new series, *Focus on Outreach* (see pages 3 and 4)—plus our regular feature, *The Collaborative Law Librarian*, may give you some fresh ideas about reaching out to your patrons and networking with colleagues.

Looking for opportunities to serve as a volunteer? Note next week's deadline for nominations (or self-nominations) for ALL-SIS Executive Board positions (page 2).

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## Message from the Chair

colleagues. If you did not follow the conversation, I invite you to do so and then to cast your vote on the proposed name change.

In my last letter, I talked about change fatigue and invited you to think both tactically and strategically to reinvent your work life and set yourself on a path to discovery. I hope, as you reflect on 2015 that you found inspiration to do both during this past semester. As we begin a new year together I invite you to look outward among your peers and find inspiration in their stories.

This issue of the *Newsletter* is about reaching out to and engaging with the communities we serve. It highlights several innovative ways to use popular culture to connect with students and engage the community—from law school memes to research fairs and cafés. Read on to learn about ways to contribute to our institutions through outreach to clinics and networking with corporate and government librarians to better understand the non-law firm opportunities available to our students.

As you consider these outreach opportunities and success stories from your colleagues, I also invite you to turn inward and reflect on your own personal successes and revel in your accomplishments. We cannot outline them all here, but I recognize each of you for the hard work and effort you put in, every single day, in service to our law schools and our profession.

I am proud and honored to name each of you a colleague and I look forward in 2016 and beyond to working with and learning from you. I wish you all a prosperous and peaceful New Year!

Warmly,  
Jocelyn Kennedy, Chair 📧

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## From the Editor

Last but not least, what better way to contribute something back to your academic law library community than by sharing your news, ideas and successes in your *ALL-SIS Newsletter*? Contact the Editor at [iwang@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:iwang@law.berkeley.edu). 📧

## Call for Nominations for ALL-SIS

John Cannan, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law

**D**eadline: January 11, 2016. The Academic Law Libraries – Special Interest Section (ALL-SIS) is seeking nominations of qualified and enthusiastic individuals to fill the following positions:  
**Vice-Chair/Chair-elect**

Recent Vice Chairs have had responsibilities that include creating a system for member recruitment, setting the roster for incoming committees, working with committee chairs to schedule SIS meetings at the AALL Conference, and making task force/working group proposals as needed.

### Secretary-Treasurer

Recent Secretary-Treasurers have had responsibilities that include recording minutes of executive board meetings and providing reference to them, tracking SIS expenses and finances, conducting SIS elections, and liaising with SIS committees.

If you know someone who would like to contribute to ALL-SIS by serving in one of these positions, please consider nominating her or him. You should clear it

with the person first to make sure the nomination is acceptable. Self-nominations are welcome.

All nominees will be submitted to the Nominations Committee who will determine a slate of candidates to be presented to the ALL-SIS Membership for the 2016 election.

If you have any questions or wish to submit a nomination, please contact John Cannan, Chair of the Nominations Committee, 215-571-4777 or [jc3238@drexel.edu](mailto:jc3238@drexel.edu). 📧

Members of the committee are:

- John Cannan, Reference and Instructional Services Librarian, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law
- Rachel Gordon, Access Services Librarian, Mercer University
- Amy Taylor, Emerging Technologies Librarian & Adjunct Professor, Pence Law Library, Washington College of Law

# Focus on Outreach

## Research Fairs—Getting the Word Out

by Kathleen Darvil, Brooklyn Law School Library & Heather Joy, Chapman University Law Library  
on behalf of the ALL-SIS Library Marketing & Outreach Committee

The great Yogi Berra once said, “You’ve got to be very careful if you don’t know where you’re going, because you might not get there.” One of a library’s essential roles is to help patrons figure out where they are trying to go and then help them to get there. Libraries offer a variety of services, resources, and tools to help users reach their destination, but educating patrons about these resources and services can be quite difficult. In academic law school libraries, getting a student’s attention is particularly challenging. Students are juggling coursework, internships/clinics, journal duties, moot court practices, and their own personal commitments. Just how can a library grab a student’s attention and show them some of the resources it has to offer?

Enter the research fair. Library research fairs are an excellent way to showcase tools and resources available to students; for example, vendors can demonstrate their products to students, and librarians can highlight the catalog and research guides. Learning can even become a game at the fairs, and prizes may be

raffled to entice students to visit all of the tables. Fairs are a great opportunity for students to learn about the different resources that are available to them and also get to know their friendly librarians. (It is important that the library have its own table.)

Each year, for the past four years, the Brooklyn Law School Library has hosted a successful one-day research fair. Associate Law Librarian Linda Holmes spearheads the event. She invites Bloomberg, Westlaw, and Lexis, and also extends invitations to other vendors students may not be familiar with, like Proquest, EBSCO, Wolters Kluwer, Hein, Fastcase, and Gale. Holmes encourages the vendors to donate a prize for the raffle, which is always held at the end of the fair. Prizes vary from year to year, and from vendor to vendor. This past year donations included gift bags, gift certificates and cash. In the past, we raffled an iPad and a Kindle. The library generally accepts whatever the vendor is willing to provide.

In order to participate in the raffle, students must visit multiple tables and get their research fair passport stamped at six of the nine stations. The passport is their entry into the drawing. The research fair passport is a ¼ sheet of paper and has spaces with each vendor’s name listed alongside an empty space to put a stamp. There is also a space for a student’s name and email address at the top. Before the students leave the fair, they turn in their completed passport to a librarian, who makes sure it is filled out and contains the appropriate number of stamps. The fair runs for about 3 hours, with two librarians rotating shifts at the library table every hour. Besides collecting passports, the librarians inform the students about the raffle’s rules, and showcase the library’s catalog and discovery platform. At the end of the fair, librarians draw the names of the winners. The winners do not need to be present to win; all winners are notified through email.

You may be thinking that this all sounds great, but how do you get students to attend? Based on

### BLS Library Databases Research Fair: September 29, 2015



The Fourth Annual Library Databases Research Fair will be held on Tuesday, September 29, 2015. The Fair will be held in the Student Lounge from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. Representatives from the following legal research companies will be here to demonstrate their databases:

- Bloomberg Law
- Ebscto
- Fastcase
- Gale
- Hein Online
- Lexis
- ProQuest
- Westlaw
- Wolters Kluwer

Come and learn how these databases will help you with your legal research. There will be handouts, light refreshments, and a raffle drawing for prizes including gift cards and gift bags.

Save the date: Tuesday, September 29th, 3:00pm – 6:00pm, Student Lounge.

## A Pilot, a Meme and a Quiz Walk into a Bar Three Student Outreach Initiatives at the UMass Law Library

Jessica Almeida & Emma Wood, UMass Law Library – Dartmouth

Innovation was the theme of the Law Libraries of New England's (LLNE) Fall meeting this year, and attending the conference inspired us to reflect on our recent experiments in service at the UMass Law Library. These initiatives grew from our resolve to "think outside of the box" and find new ways to remind students of what our library has to offer.

### Research Café Pilot Program

Developed last fall as an outreach pilot program, Research Café is a simple premise that has yielded positive results. The underlying concept is "roving reference," expanding library reach through relocation. One of our librarians spends a few hours each week in the Café (located in the law school building but in a different part from the Library) answering questions about research and the library. Last fall, this started with two, one-hour shifts per week, scheduled to accommodate both day and



Letting students know "we're here to help."  
Pictured: librarian J. Almeida with student

night students. This year, we have increased service by one hour, testing an "early morning" time slot on Wednesdays. The schedule is advertised on digital monitors throughout the school as well as via weekly emails. At the start of the program, many students and faculty members stopped by Research Café to inquire about the program and convey their support. A number of faculty members sent emails responding positively to the initiative.

The inquiries received from students in the Café typically relate to database navigation or how to find a book. Other times students stop by to chat about how their classes are going. Often (especially in the fall semester) a harried student will come by looking for a hard-to-find case, the perfect article or a local

ordinance that has eluded them. Even during Café shifts without questions, the librarian's presence is a visual reminder that the library (and

librarians) are here to help. Over time, we

have noticed an interesting trend. Though the number of questions during Research Café hours was quite low, our overall research statistics increased. More students were seeking assistance in the library because the message of Research Café was clear—librarians are here to help. The Fall 2015 student survey shows that students are aware of this new service. Although some students have not used the Café hours yet, they have come to know that help is available both in and outside of the library.

### UMass Law Meme Contest

Introduced in the Spring of 2015, the Law Library Meme Contest was a fun way to engage the law school community. Memes deliver relatable social commentary, and in this case reminded us that we are all in the same law school boat. We invited students to take a break from the semester's stress by crafting original memes about the life a law student. We sent an email to the student body soliciting memes, and

image: E. Wood

Success Kid and First World Problems Lady help promote the contest



A simple digital display ad

image: J. Almeida via Canva

promoted the contest with a library poster and an announcement on our digital signage. Many of the memes we received were recognizable images such as Success Kid or

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## A Pilot, a Meme and a Quiz

First World Problems Lady with sayings that only a law student (or someone who works with law students) could understand.

As we gathered submissions, students began to communicate their excitement over the process and the novelty of the endeavor. After the deadline passed, the



*The winning meme*

anonymized entries were posted on a bulletin board in the main foyer of the library. Students, faculty, and staff were encouraged to vote for their favorite meme.

Staff members— even some who had not set foot in the library in months— stopped in to see the students' creations. Students were found hovering over the bulletin board, debating which meme was best. After a week of buzz and a large number of votes, a winner was crowned and received a \$20 gift card for to a popular local eatery, donated by our library director. Through this endeavor, the library was able to embrace its role as a place of respite for students when they need a break from the rigors of law school.

### The Library Quiz Show

The quiz show was born of the concept that a good-humored approach to education incites student interest. We also hoped to showcase an underutilized library technology—our collaborative learning tables.



*An interactive game showcases the library's collaborative technology*

Ideal for group work, these learning stations enable projection from a laptop to large, dual screens. Though many students sit at these stations (the chairs are particularly comfortable), most do not use them for their intended purpose. We discovered that Kahoot, the free online gaming program, would be an inventive way to demonstrate this collaborative technology. We developed 10 multiple choice quizzes on topics ranging from Bluebook citation style to pop culture. Students input their answers using their smartphones or laptops, and the big screens displayed the results. We started the event with 6 student participants, and around 14 additional students joined us as the hour progressed. The pop culture categories were well received at the outset, but more interest was generated in the library categories as the hour unfolded.

We promoted the quiz show through colorful digital and print signage and an email that included pictures of our "prize pit." The prizes consisted of swag donated by our Lexis and Westlaw representatives as well as a variety of candy bars, once again donated by

our generous library director. Some students initially participated to pursue these prizes, but they were satisfied to indulge their competitive nature and share some laughs with their peers. Of course, this program is best suited for areas intended for noise. We utilized our "talking floor" and found that when students were excited over right (or sometimes wrong) answers, we were relieved to not worry about disturbing others. The success of this event was evident in the positive feedback that we received from students and their enthusiastic requests for future Quiz Shows.

What did our three new initiatives teach us? To embrace the opportunity to innovate. The possibility of failure always looms, but the prospect of improving service is a strong motivator. 🍷



*A little silliness sets the tone. Pictured: librarians J. Almeida & E. Wood*



## Committee Spotlight

Jocelyn Kennedy, University of Connecticut School of Law Library

**A**LL-SIS “provides a forum for identifying the needs and concerns of academic law librarians and developing programs and services to address them.” We charge our committees with the task of identifying and developing those programs and services. While our annual committee reports provide a snapshot of the work done in the previous year, this column focuses on what our various ALL-SIS Committees are working on this year. The goal of this column is to inform our members of committee activities and connect all of us to the important work our members are doing to help us navigate the ever-changing world of academic law librarianship.

In this Committee Spotlight, we hear from two committees working on issues of particular interest to those providing service to our faculty. The Scholarly Communications Committee is working on two projects this year that should help all of us better meet the needs of our publishing faculty, while the Faculty Services Committee has updated its Toolkit, which is of real value to anyone who wants to build or improve faculty services within their library.

### Faculty Services Committee: Building Marketing Buzz and an Improved Toolkit

Cassie DuBay, Underwood Law Library, Southern Methodist University, Chair

Last year, the committee’s top priority was to update the Faculty Services Toolkit, created in 2011. With thorough and comprehensive research as the goal, the committee undertook a major canvassing effort of the faculty services performed at every ABA-accredited law school. With final edits now achieved, this year’s committee is pleased to announce the 2015 Toolkit is now available online!

Included in this year’s Toolkit are many representative sample documents, links to webpages, job descriptions for faculty services librarians, and more. Webpage and document links are also now directly embedded into the text, making the Toolkit a more user-friendly resource. This year’s committee members will help take the Toolkit to the next level by adding permalinks for all of the web and document links—be on the lookout! We hope you find the updated Toolkit useful; through compiling the Toolkit, our committee has already learned about many great services our wonderful colleagues are offering across the country.

Taking inspiration from Isaac Newton: “If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants”—this year, we hope to create new collaborations with the many outstanding librarians outside of the ALL-SIS group. One avenue for collaboration includes a forthcoming article comparing

the marketing efforts of firm librarians and academic librarians—we see potential to generate buzz about our faculty services by borrowing from the marketing ideas of our colleagues in firms, and vice versa.

If you have feedback about the Toolkit—topics that should be added in future updates, format, elements that have been particularly useful, or other ideas—please share. We would also love to hear about collaborations you would like us to explore, as well as topics you would like to see discussed at this year’s Annual Meeting Roundtable. To submit comments to the committee, email me at [cdubay@smu.edu](mailto:cdubay@smu.edu). We look forward to hearing from you!

### Scholarly Communications: Surveying the Land of Citation Metrics

Jason R. Sowards, Alyne Queener Massey Law Library, Vanderbilt University, Chair

Have you ever been tasked with collecting download counts for one (or all) of your faculty members over a period of time? What about how often those same faculty members have been cited in the past year? Five years? Ten years? Have you ever been asked to provide numbers like these as a proxy for “scholarly impact”—though you know that the numbers you collect are not a valid measure of what they purport to measure? And what do you (or your faculty members or law school administration) actually do with all of these numbers once you’ve collected them? I’ve asked a lot of questions here, but they’re not rhetorical.

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## Committee Spotlight—Faculty Services

The Scholarly Communications Committee has decided to survey you to get answers to questions about methods of collecting data to measure scholarly impact. With tools such as HeinOnline's Author Profile Pages, Google Scholar profiles, SSRN, institutional repositories, and manually-collected citation count information from searches on WestlawNext and/or Lexis Advance (to name only a very small handful), how do we know which service is really providing the best measure of impact (if any), and what do all of those numbers mean? And what about our faculty who produce interdisciplinary scholarship? Are any of these tools accurately capturing the reach of their work? We aim to distribute the survey by the end of January, and hope that the person most informed in each library on the issue of citation metrics will complete it. The survey will inquire not only about which method(s) are used to collect citation metrics, but also what use is made of those numbers. All information provided in the survey will be anonymous and will be reported in the aggregate in the report we plan to write to accompany the survey.

Which leads me to our committee's second project. The results of the survey will be incorporated into a report that not only describes the various citation metric tools available, but also critiques them for coverage, redundancy, and ease of use. Finally, the report will also incorporate suggestions about how to interpret the data provided. We also hope to articulate the various ways in which such citation metrics are being used by faculty or law school leadership. The goal of this report is not only to educate law librarians on the various systems, but to help them have informed conversations with faculty members who request citation metrics. The committee welcomes any preliminary feedback (by sending an email to me at [jason.r.sowards@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jason.r.sowards@vanderbilt.edu)) on either of these projects. 📧

*Want to shine a light on your ALL-SIS committee's work? Contact Jocelyn ([jocelyn.kennedy@uconn.edu](mailto:jocelyn.kennedy@uconn.edu)) about your news and projects.*

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## Focus on Outreach—Research Fairs

Brooklyn's experience, a few things help to generate a high turnout. First, and most important, is location, location, location. Hold your event where there is a high volume of traffic. It does not have to be held in the library. Brooklyn Law School has a student lounge by the entrance of the main building, and that is where we hold our event. Second, while timing may not be everything, it is critical.

Brooklyn Law School has a large evening program so the fair is held to coincide with the break between the day and evening classes.

Also, consider where in the semester your event should fall. Four to eight weeks into the semester is a good time, before things become too hectic for the students. Third, give away free stuff! Who doesn't like free things? And law students LOVE free things. Make sure you provide light snacks, and again encourage the vendors to donate food or funds for snacks, as well as prizes, like gift cards and goody bags, for the raffle. Finally, you need to market the marketing event. Try a few strategies to help to spread the word. Ask the legal writing instructors to tell their first year students about the event and encourage them to attend. If you have a library orientation at the beginning of the semester, talk about the event then. And of course, post information about the research fair to your social media accounts.

A library research fair is an effective and fun marketing tool. Students are enticed by food and prizes to explore an array of library resources, some familiar and some not. The fair also provides the library with an opportunity to put its best face forward, encouraging students to seek help when they encounter a research problem. To help students get where they're going, the research fair is a great way to introduce them to the tools they will need. 📧

... this all sounds great, but how do you get students to attend?

*Focus on Outreach is contributed by the ALL-SIS Library Marketing & Outreach Committee. Look for future installments in the Spring and Summer issues.* —Ed.



## A Law Librarian in the Dark:

### *Gideon's Army*

Yasmin Sokkar Harker, CUNY School of Law

Welcome to A Law Librarian in the Dark! In this issue, I will be looking at *Gideon's Army*—a 2013 documentary about the lives of public defenders in the southern United States. Directed by attorney and filmmaker Dawn Porter, *Gideon's Army* follows public defenders as they work on behalf of clients who cannot afford to hire an attorney. The camera follows them as they manage impossibly huge caseloads, navigate a system that pressures defendants to plead guilty, and advise clients who lack the economic means to protect themselves. The documentary portrays a system that not only puts tremendous stress on defendants, but also on the attorneys who work long hours for little pay.

While the documentary interviews several attorneys, it focuses on two very different public defenders working in Georgia. Travis Williams is an attorney who fights passionately for his clients and tattoos the name of every client who loses on his back. Brandy Alexander is an attorney who tries to find the best solutions in an imperfect system—in some cases, serving as both an attorney and a life coach. In one scene, she gently counsels a young client to change his life, stating, “Who’s going to hire you with tats on your neck and all down your hands?”

We learn that each of these attorneys work on over a hundred cases at any given time. Yet we watch each of them diligently and painstakingly mount defenses for men charged with armed robbery—a crime that comes with a non-parole eligible 10-year mandatory minimum. Underlying all of their work is the pressure to take a plea-bargain—plead guilty to a lesser crime and avoid the 10-year mandatory sentence. It is a difficult decision to make, especially given the huge amount of work necessary to present a defense to the jury and the risk of an especially long sentence. Ms. Alexander’s voice wavers as she says, “win lose or

draw, tears will fall, because this kid is ... I don't think he's guilty. I don't, I think he's innocent.”

One of *Gideon's Army*'s strengths is in illustrating the difficulties of the criminal justice system for people with few financial resources. In one scene, we witness Brandy Alexander trying to get her client into a pretrial diversion program. The client is eligible for the program, but must come up with bail first —\$3,000. Ms. Alexander and the client’s mother desperately try to think of people with money to loan—grandmothers, relatives, friends—but in the end, \$3,000 was too high a financial burden.

*Gideon's Army* also highlights another difficulty for public defenders—the incredible amount of stress resulting from low pay, long hours and difficult clients. Despite large caseloads and long hours, the attorneys (who also have high student loan payments) struggle with their personal finances. Both Mr. Travis and Ms. Alexander live in small, modest apartments and must keep to very tight budgets. In one scene, we watch Ms. Alexander put \$3 worth of gas in her car, hoping that it will last until she receives her next paycheck. The lack of work/life balance is also problematic. In another scene, we watch Mr. Williams and his girlfriend negotiate how late he could work while she waited for him to spend time with her. And many clients are not only difficult, but dangerous. Ms. Alexander explains how one of her clients planned to murder her, causing her a huge amount of stress and anxiety.

Despite all the difficulties, the real joy of being a public defender is evident in *Gideon's Army*. All of the attorneys show the pride they take in dedicating their lives to due process in the criminal justice system.

*Gideon's Army* is a must-see for law students, especially those wanting to be defense attorneys. I highly recommend it.

*Gideon's Army* was released in 2013 by Trilogy Films. 🎬

This column reviews movies for law libraries and law library feature film collections. Movies about lawyers, law schools, litigation, famous trials, crime and punishment, or movies that contain “legal themes” are all possible topics. If you have a DVD title that you would like me to review, e-mail me at [yasmin.harker@mail.law.cuny.edu](mailto:yasmin.harker@mail.law.cuny.edu).

## Director's Corner: Interview with Beth Williams

Director, Robert Crown Law Library, Stanford Law School

Marlene Harmon, UC Berkeley School of Law Library



**B**eth Williams has “the best job on the planet.” Since August, Beth has been the Director of the Robert Crown Law Library at Stanford University. She and her family are settling into Palo Alto, Stanford University’s hometown, enjoying the Bay Area and its temperate weather.

Beth’s excitement about her new position and her enthusiasm about law librarianship—a career she describes as one of life’s “best kept secrets”—was unmistakable and contagious when I recently sat down with her for a fast, fifty-minute phone conversation. We discussed the wide range of work we law librarians do including research, reference, print and electronic collection development and management, cataloging, administration, writing and teaching. Beth seems to like them all, and has brought considerable experience in many of these components of the profession with her to Stanford.

The path that led Beth to Stanford, through eleven moves over seventeen years, began with a JD from Syracuse University College of Law and two years of practicing law in Maine before receiving an MLIS, with a Certificate in Law Librarianship from the University of Washington Information School in Seattle. Beth



photo: Josh Edelson; by permission/Stanford News Service

Beth Williams

returned to the East Coast to begin her career in law librarianship as a reference librarian at Columbia Law School’s Diamond Law Library. This was a “fantastic experience” under a great mentor. A highlight was being introduced to Columbia Law Library’s “deep and rich” foreign,

comparative and international law collection. Beth spent her final two years at Columbia as their Head of Public Services before heading west again, this time as far as Baton Rouge, Louisiana to become the Director of the Library and Information Services at Louisiana State University Law Center. LSU Law Center appealed to Beth both because Louisiana’s partial civil law legal system is unique among US states and because it afforded her a great opportunity to work at a public law school whose mission is to train lawyers to practice in that state. After four years at LSU Law Center, Beth made it all the way west to California and Stanford’s Robert Crown Law Library.

“Unlike anything” she’s seen before, is how Beth characterizes Stanford Law School. The diversity and depth of scholarship, teaching and publishing, the number of clinics, the variety and frequency of law school events and forums all make for a dynamic and stimulating atmosphere. Stanford Law School has “both feet firmly in the world of practice and the world of scholarship,” and Beth is focused on keeping the Law Library embedded in both areas.

Despite the recent loss of Director Paul Lomio and Deputy Director Erika Wayne’s relocation, Beth inherits an “amazing team” at the Law Library, with “great depth of talent” for providing unique and innovative services to their faculty and students. The library has no formalized faculty liaison program, but by providing services that include everything from picking up and delivering books from other campus libraries to working on long-term, in-depth research projects, it has quietly and seamlessly inserted itself in mediating services for the faculty in ways both big and small that the faculty just loves.

Beth has been able to promote two librarians: Sergio Stone to Deputy Director, and Rachael Samberg to Head of Reference & Instructional Services. As we spoke, the Law Library was in the midst of recruiting for two reference positions as well. Beth sees these changes and additions bringing a “huge new infusion of energy” to the library. She is particularly

## Member News

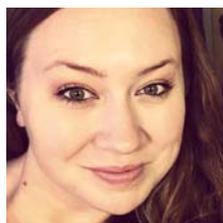
Nina Scholtz, Cornell Law Library & Marlene Harmon, UC Berkeley School of Law Library

### Positions & Promotions

**B**randon Nichole Wright started work in October as a Library Associate at the Law Library of Louisiana, where she had been employed since January 2015

as a student worker. But that's not all Brandon's news: She will graduate with her JD from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in December and begin Florida State University's Masters of Library and Information Studies program in January 2016.

In February 2016, her paper, *The Prison Law Library: A Fourteenth Amendment Necessity* will be published as a chapter in Emerald Group Publishing Limited's book series *Advances in Librarianship: Perspectives on Libraries as Institutions of Human Rights and Social Justice*. Those of you



Brandon Nichole Wright

in the Government Law Library SIS may already know Brandon as a member of its Newsletter Committee. Brandon's very excited to be involved and introduce herself to ALL-SIS members!

Thanks to **Sara Sampson**, Assistant Dean for Information Services and Director of Law Library, for the news that **Paul Gatz** joined the Moritz Law Library at The Ohio State University as a reference librarian in September. Paul previously worked as a reference librarian at Texas Tech's law library and as a Graduate Assistant at the Jenner Law Library at the University of

**Catherine Dunn** reports that she became the Director of the Law Library and Associate Professor of Law at Temple University Beasley School of Law on July 1, 2015. Since then she's been doing a lot of hiring:

- Charlene Cain started a temporary position as a Reference Librarian on November 2, 2015.
- **Carla Wale** started a permanent position as Head of Public Services on November 16, 2015. Carla's most recent position was as a Reference Librarian at Georgetown University Law Library.
- **Rena Stoeber** started a permanent position as a Reference Librarian on November 30, 2015. Rena was most recently a Graduate Assistant at the University of Illinois's Albert E. Jenner, Jr.

Illinois, where he earned both his JD and MLIS. Paul also has experience as a staff attorney at the Illinois General Assembly's Legislative Reference Bureau.

We have news from **Jason R. Sowards**, Associate Director for Public Services and Lecturer in Law at Vanderbilt's Alyne Queener Massey Law Library: "**Deborah Schander**, formerly of Georgia State College of Law, joined us at Vanderbilt Law School on December 1 as Research Services Librarian & Lecturer in Law."



photo: Meg Buscema

**Cassie Ray DuBay** was promoted in September to Head of Research Services at the Underwood Law Library, Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.

**Cynthia Condit**, Reference Librarian & Professor of Practice at the University of Arizona's Daniel F. Cracchiolo Law Library, has news about two recent graduates of the Cracchiolo Law Library Fellowship program:

- Megan Austin has accepted a position as Law Instruction Librarian at John Jaqua Law Library at the University of Oregon. She begins her duties in early January 2016.
- Abigail Deese has accepted a position at Elon University School of Law Library as Evening and Weekend Reference Librarian, as of late November.

News from  
Temple  
University

We look forward to welcoming the new academic law librarians mentioned above as ALL-SIS members! Meanwhile, see the New Member Spotlight, featuring Zanada Joyner, by Anupama Pal on behalf of the Membership Committee, on page 12. —Ed.

continued on page 11

## Member News

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Connie Sellers, part-time reference librarian at Boston College Law Library, observed her 30th work anniversary this fall. **Mary Ann Neary**, Boston College's Associate Law Librarian for Education and Reference, reports that Connie is indispensable!

Congratulations to **Meg Kribble**, Research Librarian and Outreach Coordinator at the Harvard Law School Library, on being elected Member-at-Large of AALL's Executive Board.

### Milestones

### New Publications

**Jan Bissett**, Reference and Faculty Liaison Services Librarian for Wayne State University's Arthur Neef Law Library (Detroit, Michigan), and Margi Heinen, Manager of Research Services for Sherman & Howard LLC (Denver, Colorado) have authored *Accurately Instructed in the Law: Finding State Jury Instructions*, published in the MICHIGAN BAR JOURNAL, NOV. 2015, at 48.

**Mary Ann Neary** and **Laurel Davis**, Boston College Law Library, have completed revisions for the new supplement to the *Handbook of Legal Research in Massachusetts* (Mass. Continuing Legal Education). The supplement should be published in early January 2016.

The University of Wisconsin Law Library's **Bonnie Shucha**, Associate Director for Public Services, writes: "My article, *White Slavery in the Northwoods: Early U.S. Anti-Sex Trafficking and Its Continuing Relevance to Trafficking Reform*, was recently accepted for publication in the *William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law*. It will appear in a 2016 special issue but is available now pre-publication on SSRN (<http://ssrn.com/abstract=2677445>)."

**Sara Sampson**, Assistant Dean for Information Services and Director of the Moritz Law Library at The Ohio State University, has co-authored an update to *Ohio Legal Research* with **Katherine Hall**, Executive Law Librarian/Associate Director at the University of Iowa Law Library and Carolyn Broering-Jacobs, Director of Legal Writing at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. The updated second edition incorporates recent changes to the major electronic research platforms, while maintaining a process focus that will help the reader no matter which platform is available. It also includes a fully revised chapter on citation that teaches basic citation form using the major citation manuals and, perhaps most significant to Ohio practitioners, the recently overhauled *Ohio Manual of Citations*. This book is part of the *Legal Research Series* from Carolina Academic Press, edited by **Suzanne E. Rowe**, Director of Legal Research and Writing, University of Oregon School of Law.

**Merle J. Slyhoff**, Collection Development & Resource Sharing Librarian at Biddle Law Library, University of Pennsylvania, was asked to be a guest blogger for Scholastica. Her article, *Sourcehunts and Interlibrary Loan Materials: One Library's Best Practice*, was published on September 25, 2015.



## New Member Spotlight: Zanada Joyner

by Anupama Pal, Boston College Law Library, on behalf of the ALL-SIS Membership Committee

**Z**anada Joyner joined the University of Georgia, Alexander Campbell King Law Library as the Research and Instructional Services Librarian in July 2015. Originally from New Jersey, Zanada pursued her undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees in the balmy and hot climate of the South—Loyola University New Orleans (BA, 2000 and JD, 2007), and University of Mississippi (MA, 2002). The master’s degree mentioned here is in Education, not Library Science (that came later). Her intention was to become a high school principal.

With that line in mind, she began teaching English, first at the high school level, and later, as an adjunct professor. Zanada’s career path has moved her from place to place and position to position, but she ended up heading home to New Jersey eventually. It was there—while working as a solo practitioner and teaching at a local community college—that she was encouraged to attend library school by a colleague. She took that advice to heart and, in October 2013, returned to the Loyola University of New Orleans—this time as an employee in the law library. After almost two years there providing reference services, Zanada moved to Athens, Georgia for her current position.

As a part of her daily duties, Zanada provides research guidance to faculty and students. She also

organizes “lunch and learn” sessions, gives in-class presentations and supervises the student research assistants. In the Spring, she looks forward to teaching an advanced legal research course. Though not a high school principal as she once imagined, she’s happy where she is now, cheering for Georgia football on Saturdays, spending time with her yorkie, Mackenzie, cooking up some delicious Cajun and creole dishes, and researching where to travel to next. Or maybe, which degree to get next?! 📖



Zanada Joyner

photo: Rachel Evans, Alexander Campbell King Law Library

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## Director’s Corner—Beth Williams

excited about the possibilities of incorporating legal research instruction more fully into the law school curriculum.

Stanford is on the quarter system, which allows students opportunities to take additional electives, one of which is Advanced Legal Research. Fully seventy percent of students take ALR, which the Law Library offers in fall and in winter. Beth enjoys all aspects of law librarianship, but she becomes particularly enthusiastic when discussing teaching. She points out what an advantage working one-on-one with students, almost as consultants, gives librarians. Librarians are not peers and are not as intimidating as some faculty can be. Furthermore, Beth notes, it’s an opportunity to build relationships which can pay dividends in the future. Beth is especially excited about the possibility of expanding upon the way legal research has been taught at Stanford. In addition to teaching ALR, the Law Library is focusing on teaching research skills tailored specifically to a class or a clinic and incorporating legal research instruction in specialized courses. They will soon be doing this for a course on intellectual property for the first time.

My time with Beth flew by. I found it an enlightening and stimulating conversation. We may sometimes experience change as difficult and challenging. Listening to Beth, I was forcefully reminded that it can also be exciting and fun. 📖



## Great Ideas from the Halls of Academe

### Getting a Seat at the Table at UC Irvine

Ruth Levor, University of San Diego Legal Research Center

When she was offered the first general reference librarian position at the brand new University of California, Irvine, School of Law, Jackie Woodside thought the opportunity was too good to pass up. Although she had other options, Woodside—now officially known as



photo: UC Irvine School of Law

Jackie Woodside

the Research Law Librarian for Experiential Learning—could not resist the opportunity to be in on the ground floor of an institution that had every potential for quickly becoming a top-tier law school. A Stanford Law alumna and newly minted graduate of the renowned University of Washington law librarianship

program, Woodside had already mastered the challenges of a judicial clerkship and an attorney career at the Los Angeles office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher and was eager for the new challenge of participating in the creation of a top-notch law school library.

At its “birth” in 2009, the school had fewer than fifty faculty and staff, and just sixty students. From the outset, the founding faculty was committed to a heavy focus on experiential learning (EL). Every student is required to participate in a core clinic course and also has the opportunity to take clinical electives and externships and participate in pro bono projects. In addition, the clinical faculty has added at least one new specialty each year.

As the pioneer librarians, Woodside and her colleagues were each tasked with adding a “plus” to their Research Law Librarian titles—so that now there are, in addition to Woodside, Research Law Librarians for Web Services (Ellen Augustiniak), Instructional Services (Lisa Junghahn) and Faculty Services (Christina Tsou). Woodside had already volunteered to be the library liaison to the clinic and pro bono programs that were being developed at the school. It

was only logical that she would select EL as her “plus.” It was clear that the administration planned to make EL one of the school’s major defining characteristics.

Woodside was not only naturally enthusiastic about the potential for introducing students to the research resources that lawyers depend on in practice; she was also eager to “get a seat at the table,” to use her words, with those who were planning and developing this focal program.

What a nifty way for the library to gain traction in law school curricular planning and programming!

The institution’s EL focus put a spotlight on service learning, right from the start. In the inaugural issue of the school’s law review, Dean Carrie Hempel, Associate Dean for Clinical Education and Service

Learning, defined experiential learning as “any activity, whether for academic credit or not, in which a law student performs legal tasks on behalf of a real client.” *Writing on a Blank Slate: Creating a Blueprint for Experiential Learning at the University of California, Irvine School of Law*, 1 UC IRVINE L. REV. 146 n.1 (2011). The article and a 16-page [publicity](#)

[brochure](#) both expand on the details of EL as it is practiced at UCI Law. There are currently seven core clinics and five electives, and Woodside has made it her mission to gain an understanding of what each clinic is doing in order to develop three library components for each one—a collection development plan; [LibGuides](#); and instruction.

Instructional sessions can range from a 15-minute general library orientation to 45 minutes for topical instruction in foreign and international research for the International Justice Clinic or even 90 minutes for immigration law. As she has created a LibGuide for each clinic, she teaches directly from those, much as one would teach from a PowerPoint. In this way, the

[A] spotlight on service learning, right from the start.



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## Great Ideas—Getting a Seat at the Table

students are made aware of the LibGuide and of its utility for that subject. As you can imagine, the students are blown away when they see those LibGuides and appreciate how much better their lives have just become!

So far, Woodside has taken sole responsibility for these activities. As you can imagine, she is stretching to her limits to manage all these responsibilities. She anticipates that, with the addition of another clinic

Of course, Woodside is constantly tinkering and tweaking.

specialty, criminal law, she may have to incorporate her colleagues into the bibliographic instruction schedule. To this end, she is developing instruction modules for the older specialties that the other librarians will be able to

deliver with a minimum of preparation. They have already pitched in during her two maternity leaves, so the experience will not be unfamiliar for them.

Of course, Woodside is constantly tinkering and tweaking—updating LibGuides and lectures, reaching out in new ways. In reworking the LibGuides, she takes advantage of the ability to hide certain tabs when different material is covered in subsequent semesters, with the option of revealing the hidden material when appropriate. Continued outreach is key to growing and improving service. For example, she has been targeting the Career Services office; she has offered her services as a clerkship advisor for interviewees and envisions that this could earn her a seat at the Clerkship Committee table.

On the other hand, careful balancing of priorities is also essential. For example, Woodside is reconsidering her work for the pro bono office, where the number of

projects has nearly doubled since its inception. In order to manage that work load, she has conferred with the director to identify five to ten of the projects that entail heavy research components and that would benefit from guides and from research support. However, the value of that work has to be weighed against her other efforts to avoid spreading herself too thin.

Indications of the value of having an EL librarian have been highly positive. The number of clinic reference questions is steadily rising. The director of the externship program has returned from site visits bringing rave reviews of the UCI students' research skills—don't we all wish we could say that about our students?!

The number of clinic reference questions is steadily rising.

Woodside's advice to colleagues who are considering emulating her EL model:

- Imagine broadly all of the elements you would like to incorporate but proceed incrementally, starting with a manageable range of activities and adding more in stages as feasible.
- Avoid the practice of embedding a librarian in the clinic in favor of dropping in at strategic times in the project workflow.
- “Curb your enthusiasm” for saying yes, common in rookie librarians, in favor of the “let me think about that/let me take that back to the team” approach to avoid over-commitment, burnout and major flops.
- But *don't* curb your enthusiasm for engagement with students and faculty and for sharing the wonders of legal research in the practice environment.
- Keep looking for ever new ways to get a seat at the table. 🍷

*What great ideas have you tried or are you thinking about? How are they working out? They can be about anything in the library—public access, materials processing, acquisitions decisions, student and faculty services, technology, food policies, whatever. Please contact Ruth Levor at [rlevor@sandiego.edu](mailto:rlevor@sandiego.edu) or by phone at (619) 260-4604—can we talk??*

## Law Libraries as Publishers Counting Things, with Altmetrics

Benjamin J. Keele, Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law

In the last *Law Libraries as Publishers* column, we looked at measuring the use of scholarly works using citations and download counts. Here we will consider other measures of scholarly impact, most of which fall under the umbrella of altmetrics (shortened from alternative metrics). Mark Popielarski has a useful *AALL Spectrum* article on altmetrics I recommend (<http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Publications/spectrum/Archives/Vol-19/No-2/altmetrics.pdf>).

What does and does not count as altmetrics depends on who you ask, but I mean any measure of scholarly use other than citations. Altmetrics also implies an emphasis on social media, both popular (such as Facebook and Twitter) and for academic specialists (such as Mendeley and ResearchGate). Altmetrics has some interesting applications in legal scholarship. Many legal academics are active bloggers, and I regularly see law review articles and remarks about them appearing in my Twitter

feed. Academics in many fields also use social media and bookmarking sites to collect and share articles. Altmetrics captures this use of and discussion about a scholarly work.

Suppose a professor writes an article, posts it to SSRN, and publishes it in a law journal. If nothing else was done, the professor would look to the SSRN download count and citations in various research services to document how the article was used. However, suppose further that the professor announced the article on Twitter and wrote a blog post about it. Altmetrics tools may note re-tweets or mentions on Twitter, social media likes (thumbs-up, hearts, stars, whatnot) and bookmarking site saves

(like Mendeley or CiteULike). These types of activity tend to happen more closely to the article's publication than citations in formal literature, and they show attention that may be valuable, though less so than citations. Altmetrics counts things that bibliometric tools could not notice up to this point.

One should wonder how valuable altmetrics counts are. Just as knowing an article was downloaded 500 times does not, on its own, mean it was read by 500 people, or that the article is important or meritorious, knowing an article received 100 Facebook likes does not mean 100 people read it or agree with the article's main point. I see two main values of altmetrics: providing quantifiable evidence of influence for works that are not covered by legal citation tools, and documenting attention paid outside academe.

Blog posts, popular media writings, white papers, and the like can be important works, but are unlikely to be cited in formal literature. Altmetrics counts indicators of influence for works that otherwise would have no countable impact. Use by audiences outside academe (journalists and think tanks, for example), may not show up in citation tools, but mentions in blog posts or social media would be counted by altmetrics tools.

I am not making a very strong argument for altmetrics here. I need answers to many questions, such as how heavily did the author promote her article online, or what is the average number of retweets for this field, before I can decide what altmetric counts mean in legal scholarship. Citations and journal rankings alone, though, do not adequately express the contribution an article makes, and I think altmetrics is moving in a positive direction.

Altmetrics counts things that bibliometric tools could not notice up to this point.

One should wonder how valuable altmetrics counts are.

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## Law Libraries as Publishers—Counting

How can a library use altmetrics in their publishing work? Identifying and counting likes and mentions is performed by altmetrics vendors, whose programs use URLs and standard identifiers to flag when a work gets some kind of attention. I know of three main vendors in this space: Altmetric, Plum Analytics and ImpactStory.

Altmetric and Plum Analytics (recently acquired by EBSCO) seem to have focused on publishers and institutions, while ImpactStory directs itself toward individual researchers. Once your institution has a



subscription with a vendor, you provide identifiers (mostly URLs, but also ISBNs, DOIs and other forms) for the works you want to track. Altmetrics depends on consistent identifiers for each work, so if copies of an article exist in five different places (SSRN, journal site, institutional repository, author's personal site, law school site), then use all five URLs to capture the most complete metrics possible. The vendor will collect the metrics and present it in a centralized dashboard and make a profile for each work.

These metrics can be represented on a page for the article in a variety of ways. This provides the same

gratification authors and readers get from seeing a download count on the article page. For some examples, see —

- the University of Pittsburgh Law Review (<http://dx.doi.org/10.5195/lawreview.2012.190>),
- Legal Reference Services Quarterly (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0270319X.2015.1038143>),
- PLoS ONE (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0047523>), and
- Nature (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/482027a>).

It is important to understand what data sources each vendor is using to compile article metrics. See these links for Altmetric (<http://www.altmetric.com/whatwedo.php#score>), Plum Analytics (<http://plumanalytics.com/learn/about-metrics/>), and ImpactStory (<http://feedback.impactstory.org/knowledgebase/articles/367139-what-data-do-you-include-on-profiles>) to compare their scopes. Knowing how your vendor works will help you advise authors on what venues to use in promoting their work and can help you explain why their colleague at another school is getting different counts from another vendor.

Altmetric and Plum Analytics offer free trials, and ImpactStory is very affordable for individuals and has a no-questions fee waiver for individuals that cannot afford a subscription. I think all three are worth exploring to see what metrics can be compiled for yourself or one of your faculty. Citations, download counts, and altmetrics each capture different aspects of scholarly influence. Libraries should collect and display these metrics with the perspective born of critically evaluating information sources.

If you have any thoughts on altmetrics or law library publishing (suggestions for future topics are most welcome, too), please write to me at [bkeele@indiana.edu](mailto:bkeele@indiana.edu). 📧

It is important to understand what data sources each vendor is using to compile article metrics.

## The Collaborative Law Librarian

### Who are the People in Your Neighborhood? Networking to Teach Future In-House Counsel

Thomas Sneed, Emory University School of Law Library

**I**n the neighborhood where I used to live, three of the four houses around us were occupied by at least one attorney. They were all graduates of the same law school, and each of them had spent their entire legal career outside the traditional law firm world. One worked for a Fortune 500 company; another was general counsel for an elected official; and the third had spent her career with a governmental agency. The three attorneys had a combined total of approximately 50 years of experience, yet not a single day in private practice with a law firm. They had each chosen to be an in-house counsel for their respective organizations.

While I have long moved from my attorney-filled neighborhood, the question of working with non-law firm attorneys has remained relevant from a library perspective. We consistently see students head directly into similar roles after graduation. Should the library be helping such students prepare for these types of positions in any different ways?

**Are there different resources we should be introducing to students?** The easy answer is no, as we all do a great job of introducing students to a wide array of research tools during their time in law school. But the more granular answer is yes, and we need to take every opportunity to introduce students to our highly specialized and often lesser used resources. Back to my former neighbors. The attorney working with the Fortune 500 company worked in the tax

Should the library be helping such students prepare for these types of positions in any different ways?

department. He did a significant amount of legal research but never used Westlaw or Lexis. With his focus on tax, his primary research database was Thompson Reuters Checkpoint. This is an example of one of the many

specialized databases found in most academic libraries which don't see as much activity. As librarians, we should remember to spend a few extra minutes become

more familiar with and using our specialized resources and passing this knowledge on to our students.

**Do you know any government or corporate librarians?** Living in a large city, I have had the opportunity to meet librarians working in many different areas, including the government and the corporate world. We have brought in non-law librarians to be guest speakers in some of our for-credit classes and they provide amazing insights regarding the different databases available and the unique research needs of their patrons. If you have the chance at your local level, or as small talk at a conference, reach out to corporate librarians and find out more about their physical and electronic collections, research questions and primary users. It will give you greater insight into the research world of the non-law firm attorney, perspectives you can apply in your collection as well as instruction and reference when working with students who may be aiming for this type of career.

**Beef up those networking skills.** Networking is a necessity in any field but it is of high importance in the business world. But how does this relate to librarians and what we can teach to our current student? I recently attended a legal technology CLE event and the first topic of the day focused on in-house counsel and technology. Surprisingly, technology was not the main point of the discussion. It was networking. The in-house counsel presenters talked at length about the importance of connections and how crucial it was to build rapport and trust with the outside attorneys with whom they did business. The connection you make today will produce benefits, even if it is years in the future. For many, networking is not a favorite thing to do. However, if we can help instill in our students the need for learning this skill, it will be a huge plus for their careers.

I no longer live in a neighborhood populated by a diverse group of attorneys but there are still numerous ways to network and engage with our librarian colleagues outside the traditional legal world. We all have access to a wide range of professional associations which can put us in touch with other types of

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## Collaborative Law Librarian—In-House Counsel

librarians, and there may even be others in your community who work in the corporate world who can provide a unique perspective which you can in turn pass on to your students. It may surprise you how valuable your neighbors can be! ☺

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## Member News

**Ronald E. Wheeler**, previously Director of the Law Library & Information Resources & Associate Professor of Legal Research at Suffolk University Law School, has been named the Director of the Fineman and Pappas Law Libraries and Boston University School of Law beginning January 1, 2016. Ron has previously held law librarian positions at Georgia State University and the University of New Mexico; was director of the Dorraine Zief Law Library at the University of San Francisco from 2010 to 2014; and is president-elect of AALL.

Law Library  
Directors

Effective July 1, 2015, **Gail A. Partin** was appointed Director of the H. Laddie Montague, Jr. Law Library at Penn State's Dickinson Law, one of two Penn State law schools and the traditional home of the Dickinson School of Law.



Gail Partin

Have something to share with your fellow ALL-SIS members? Send your news along to Marlene ([mharmon@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:mharmon@law.berkeley.edu)) or Nina ([nes78@cornell.edu](mailto:nes78@cornell.edu)) at anytime.



## Picks of the Month

Here are AALL's Continuing Professional Education Picks of the Month since the last issue of the *Newsletter*.

### September

In the webinar [Surveys: When to Use Them and Why](#), Debbie Ginsburg, educational technology librarian at Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago-Kent College of Law, shares insights and best practices regarding creating and distributing surveys. She proposes the following steps for seeing a survey through from its creation to its distribution and review: plan, draft, test edit, distribute, analyze, and report. Also helpful is her evaluation of three popular survey tools: Qualtrics, Survey Monkey, and Google Forms.

### October

#### [Advancing CI at Your Midsize Firm: You've Got the Theory - Now What?](#)

This competitive intelligence (CI) presentation from the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting & Conference is full of practical information. The speakers include Chief Business Development & Marketing Officer Iris Jones, Director of Information Resources Kate Pettegrew, and Research Librarian Amy Noll of McNees, Wallace & Nurick. Using their firm as a case study, the speakers provide examples, forms, and advice to improve your firm's competitive intelligence program. In addition to covering specific deliverables such as newsletters, reports, and intranet pages, the speakers share advice about collaborating with marketing and attorney teams and refining the deliverables over time.

### November

#### [Using Succession Planning and Knowledge Transfer to Connect the Generations](#)

As baby boomers retire, law libraries across the nation are experiencing a "changing of the guard." As these workplace shifts occur, there is a risk of significant loss of organizational knowledge. Effective succession planning and facilitation of knowledge

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## AALL2go Picks of the Month

transfer can help to alleviate problems resulting from generational transitions.

This program, from the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting, provides a chance to consider the need for succession planning in your own library. Consider listening with others in your library thinking about the opportunities you may have for institutional knowledge management.

### December

#### [Mastering the Art of Budgeting: A Librarian's Approach](#)

In charge of your library's budget, but not sure where to start? *Mastering the Art of Budgeting: A*

*Librarian's Approach* provides information about best practices in law firm library budgeting. This 2014 webinar features Monice Kaczorowski, President, AGOG Consulting LLC, and Scott Matucha, Director of Finance, at Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP, as well as Susan Seibert, Vice President of Professionals Library Service, Inc. The speakers discuss a variety of valuable topics, including the importance of budgeting and issues to consider when you are starting out, how to use your budget as a monitoring and forecasting tool, how to work with your law firm's financing department and communicate with management, and common problems that arise with law firm library budgeting.

Find more free continuing professional education programs and webinars on [AALL2go](#). 

## Go for It!

### Two ALL-SIS Grant Opportunities—Deadlines Approaching!

from the ALL-SIS Message Board

#### ALL-SIS Grant for the 2016 AALL Leadership Academy—Apply by January 15, 2016

The ALL-SIS Executive Board has approved the awarding of three grants for the 2016 AALL Leadership Academy. There will be two grants for \$1000 and one grant for \$500. Criteria for the grants can be found on the ALL-SIS website, under Awards, at [Criteria for Awards](#).

A direct link to the grant application can be found at [www.aallnet.org](http://www.aallnet.org) as a [Word](#) (.docx) or [PDF](#) downloadable form.

If you will be attending the Leadership Academy, please consider applying for these grants. If a member of your staff will be attending, please encourage them to apply. Deadline for applications is **January 15, 2016**.

#### ALL-SIS Grant for Research & Scholarship—Apply by February 8, 2016

Do you have a great idea for a research project, but need funding to help you get it completed? ALL-SIS can help! Grants are available for amounts of \$250 to up to \$2000 to fund intellectually significant research. If there is more than one accepted grantee, the maximum yearly grant of \$2000 will be split among the recipients. If you are a member of ALL-SIS, submit your proposal **BY FEBRUARY 8, 2016**. The submission criteria and the grant application are available [here](#).

Proposals should be sent to Ashley Krenelka Chase at [akrenelk@law.stetson.edu](mailto:akrenelk@law.stetson.edu). This is a terrific opportunity to get some needed help and contribute to our ongoing scholarly discussions.

See the original Message Board postings (login required) at [ALL-SIS Grants for 2016 AALL Leadership Academy & ALL-SIS Grant Available for Research and Scholarship - Apply by February 8, 2016](#). —Ed. 

## 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 approximately 1,200 members and is the 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 is used for official ALL-SIS announcements, news from AALL, and discussion of topics of interest to our members. To read or post to the discussion group go [here](#). (You will have to log in to AALLNET).

You can then choose the ALL-SIS Group from the list of eGroups. For more information consult the AALL My Communities Quick Start Users' Guide, available at <http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Communities/discuss/mycommunities-qsguide.pdf>.

### Deadlines for the 2015-2016 Academic Year

Your contributions are what keep the *ALL-SIS Newsletter* going.

Are you working on an interesting special project at your library? Have you recently attended a meeting and learned something new to share? Are you just itching to speak up about an issue relating to academic law librarianship?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please contribute. Electronic formats (attached file or email text) are the most helpful for Newsletter production. Please submit articles and announcements to the *ALL-SIS Newsletter* Editor.

The submission deadlines for the remainder of the academic year's issues are: February 8, 2016 and May 20, 2016. Thank you for your contributions and for your consideration.

### ALL-SIS on the Web

Visit the ALL-SIS Home Page at <http://www.aallnet.org/sections/all> for other vital information about the special interest section and its activities and resources.

Electronic versions (PDFs) of archived issues the *ALL-SIS Newsletter*, along with an index, are available on the website, under the Popular Resources menu. The *Newsletter* is also available to subscribers via Hein Online.

### Up next ...

In March, look for the special Election issue and the newly introduced, regular Spring issue of the *ALL-SIS Newsletter*.