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# ALL NEWSLETTER

Volume 7  
Number 3

Pat Harris  
Editor

Academic Law Libraries  
Special Interest Section

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## OFFICERS FOR 1986/87

Peter C. Schanck, Chair  
Director  
University of Kansas  
School of Law Library

Frank G. Houdek, Vice-Chair/  
Chair Elect  
Director  
Southern Illinois University  
School of Law Library

Ann Puckett  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Associate Director  
Northwestern University Law Library

LIBRARY  
PRINCEDALE, IL

## REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Academic SIS Members:

The easiest position to be in is to follow people who have initiated and developed a spate of useful and exciting projects and programs. This is precisely my situation. Our previous ALL chairs, including especially Sandie Coleman, have generated a number of ideas which should bear fruit over the next couple of years.

### 1986 Program

On the basis of the (perhaps polite) comments I heard afterward, I thought the program on "Marketing the Academic Library" in Washington seemed to be well received. Joe Grunewald gave a very exciting presentation on marketing principles, while Dennis Stone and Sherri Fuller provided much information and insight on the particulars of effectively marketing a library.

### 1986 Reception

Our annual reception following the program, given this year by the Georgetown University Law Library with the support of Innovative Interfaces (INNOVACQ), also seemed to me to be a smashing success. Despite the conflict with the Westlaw bash, attendance was high, the food was terrific and plentiful, and many enjoyed the opportunity to tour the Georgetown Law Library. Our thanks to Bob Oakley and his staff for their willingness to hold the reception and for all their work in seeing to its success.

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### Roundtables

The most important development could be the experiment in new organizational forms - the "roundtables" - envisioned in the outstanding report by the Task Force on Long Range Planning, chaired by Nancy Carol Carter. These roundtables would provide vehicles for people to around shared interests or job responsibilities. They would operate rather informally and can emerge, flower, fade or terminate according to the desires of their members. As of our business meeting this July, they are essentially discussion groups, but in the future they could take on additional activities. To get things rolling Sandie Coleman established three informal roundtables/discussion groups for the 1986 meeting. The subjects were those suggested in the Task Force report: collection development/resource sharing, directors and middle management. Each group had a leader who focused the discussion on one or two subjects of contemporary interest for the forty-five minutes available to the groups. Next year we envision having more time available for the roundtables, either as part of a longer period for our business meeting or in separately scheduled times for roundtable meetings.

The Executive Board has also decided to change the name and focus of the Directors' Roundtable to the Library Administration Roundtable to encompass associate or assistant directors and other top management positions. Nick Triffin of Pace has agreed to serve as coordinator of this roundtable for next year. Please contact Nick if you wish to participate in future Administration Roundtable activities. We also have coordinators for the other two roundtables during the next year. Myra Saunders of UCLA will be coordinating plans for the Middle Management Roundtable and Bob Buckwalter of Harvard will be doing the same for the Collection Development Roundtable. Please write or call Myra or Bob if you are interested in their roundtables.

### Bylaw Revision

Sandie Coleman, who has graciously agreed to head up an Academic Law Library SIS bylaw revision effort, will be looking into the incorporation of a general organizational framework for roundtables within our SIS. She will report on her bylaw revision plans in the Newsletter. I have suggested to her that a two-year term for our secretary/treasurer would provide better continuity in the position and in the Executive Board. The Board, including Ann Puckett, seems to agree with this proposal. Please write to Sandie with any of your suggestions for bylaw changes.

### AALL liaisons

We will be actively working on improving communications in and out of the Academic SIS per advice from the Task Force Report. Besides communicating better through the Academic Law Libraries Newsletter and the AALL Newsletter, we will be establishing liaisons with other SIS's and chapters and

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with such groups as the Council of Consortia. The purpose of these liaisons is to represent (as best the liaison can) Academic Law Libraries in that SIS, chapter or other organization and to report of our SIS on events and activities of interest o our members. If you are a member of a chapter, other SIS or other relevant organization and wish to serve as a liaison with that group for the ALL, please let me (Peter Schanck, University of Kansas) know of your interest.

#### Other Activities and News

1. I am pleased to announce that Sandie has been elected Chair of the SIS Council for 1986-87. Her leadership of that umbrella group should be beneficial to our Academic SIS as well as to all SIS members. She will be reporting on the 1986 SIS Council meeting in the Newsletter.
2. Our Executive Board has decided to poll the ALL SIS membership on taking our Faculty Status statement to the AALL membership for approval as an Association resolution. The text of the statement and an explanation of the issue appears elsewhere in the Newsletter.
3. Ann Puckett's report on the first year of her mentor project will appear in a future issue of the Newsletter.
4. Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect ~~Frank Houdek~~ will be working on our program for next year. Please send any suggestions for possible topics to him at Southern Illinois University.
5. Other projects which should be completed this year are the publication of a collection of tenure documents (compiled by Mickie Byrnes, U.S. Supreme Court) and the updating of the list of libraries retaining the superseded pocket parts for state codes (compiled by Ted Potter, University of Toledo).
6. Pat Harris, Case Western Reserve, has generously agreed to continue the major task of editing our newsletter and is planning to publish four issues during the next year, assuming sufficient material.

The goal of the present Board is to establish an Academic SIS which will be as central to the associational lives of academic law librarians as the PLL is to law firm librarians and the SCC is to its members. This can be achieved only by developing projects and programs which fill the professional needs of academics. We hope the activities discussed in this letter will take us a long way toward the realization of this goal. I will be reporting on their progress in this column during the year.

Peter Schanck  
Chair, 1986-87

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Chair Sandra S. Coleman Called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on July 6, 1986. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's Report was read. Ms. Coleman then called on Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Peter C. Schanck to describe the 1986 SIS program, "Marketing the Academic Law Library" scheduled for July 7, 1986, at 4:00 p.m. The Chair reminded those present that a wine and cheese reception would be held at Georgetown University Law Library immediately following the SIS program. Innovative Interfaces paid the costs for the reception. Ms. Coleman also announced that the SIS's one-day workshop on fundraising, scheduled for Thursday, July 10, had drawn more than 40 registrants.

Penny Hazelton, AALL Executive Board Liaison to the SIS, was called upon for her comments. She reported on a few issues before the Board that she thought may be of particular interest to the Academic Law Libraries SIS. Among them:

- 1) The Executive Board is investigating contracts with ABANET and ALANET for provision of electronic mail.
- 2) Laura N. Gasaway, 1986-87 AALL President, has appointed several special committees for the coming year: to study the committee structure of AALL; to report on the possible addition of a permanent full-time Education Director to Headquarters staff; to study the desirability of moving AALL headquarters to Washington, D.C.; to continue studying the need for a national law library; to investigate the status of minorities in AALL; and to make recommendations on AALL statistics.
- 3) Institute topics for the next two years have been approved. Two basic institutes, on acquisitions and reference, are designed to attract newer librarians. Other institute topics for 1987 are communications and creating and maintaining in-house databases.
- 4) Eligibility for membership in AALL is expected to be a major topic in the next few years. Some of the issues will be status of free-lance law librarians; student and retiree membership; and the differences between associate and full membership. Martha Byrnes chairs the committee to study membership issues.
- 5) All SIS members are invited to suggest nominees for AALL offices.

Ms. Coleman thanked the Nominating Committee (Ellen Gibson, Rita Reusch and Sarah Wiant) and then announced the results of this year's election: Frank Houdek, Southern Illinois University, is Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. Ann Puckett, Northwestern University, was re-elected Secretary/Treasurer. Mr. Houdek will be in charge of the 1987 SIS program. The theme for the Annual

Meeting is "We the People," and Mr. Houdek invites SIS members to submit program suggestions based on that theme.

Reports of SIS projects and activities followed. Patricia Harris, editor of the Section newsletter, mailed two issues during the past year. She made some format changes to improve the appearance of the newsletter. In the coming year she hopes to put out three or four issues and to include some substantive articles that are of interest to the membership but are too brief to publish in other sources. SIS members are invited to submit articles of three to four pages in length.

Shelley Dowling, Chair of the SIS Council, announced that the SIS Handbook is now a reality and may be purchased for \$5.00. All the SIS's were encouraged to publish brochures this year for distribution at the SIS Council booth in the Exhibit Hall. The ALLSIS brochure was available at the booth and will also be mailed to all ALLSIS members.

Martha Byrnes was unable to attend the meeting, but she sent a report that she has had 16 requests for the tenure documents that the SIS compiled several years ago. She is working with the AAUP to update them and hopes to publish them as part of the Occasional Papers series.

Ted Potter is updating the superseded state codes project begun several years ago.

Ms. Coleman reported that there was no action this year on the faculty status resolution. The AALL Executive Board did not act on it when it was submitted to them by the SIS. Ms. Coleman said Penny Hazelton had indicated that the Board believes that it is not the most appropriate forum for the resolution.

Ann Puckett reported that there were 42 responses to the Mentor Project announcements printed in the ALL Newsletter and the AALL Newsletter. 25 experienced law librarians volunteered to be Mentors; 17 newer law librarians requested Mentors. The Mentor Project received many favorable comments, and Ms. Puckett recommends its continuation.

Ms. Coleman indicated that we need to continue to communicate notice of our section activities to the entire Association via the AALL Newsletter. During the past year, the December and June issues had paragraphs about section activities.

The Chair then opened the floor for discussion of the Report of the Task Force on Long Range Planning. She thanked Task Force Chair Nancy Carol Carter and the members of the Task Force (Barbara Bintliff, Martha C. Byrnes, Randall T. Peterson and Theodore A. Potter) for their excellent work. Task Force member Ted Potter explained that their purpose was to provide direction and focus for the SIS in its future activities. Ms. Coleman asked for comments on the Task Force recommendations.

On Recommendations 1 and 2: Jane Strable expressed concern that the SIS Chair would be over-burdened by having more direct responsibility for the ALL Newsletter. Pat Harris, Newsletter Editor, explained that the Chair has access to more information than the editor does, and that it is crucial to give the Chair responsibility for communicating that information to the editor. Peter Schanck suggested that the word "production" may be misleading, in that it confuses the roles of Chair and Editor. Ted Potter said, and Fannie Fishlyn concurred, that the Task Force's purpose was to make the Chair the conduit for information about the SIS. Virginia Wise suggested that it would be helpful to regularize the newsletter publication schedule. Pat Harris agreed, but pointed out that she can only publish a newsletter if she has some content for it. Dick Danner said that we need to pinpoint the kinds of information the Chair and the other officers should be sending to the editor.

On Recommendations 3 and 4: Virginia Kelso volunteered to report on AALS meetings. Charles Dyer suggested that the SIS send a representative to the law library consortia which meet each year. Barbara Bintliff volunteered to be the SIS's liaison with SWALL; Charles Dyer will be liaison to MAALL. Arturo Torres asked whether the Task Force regarded external or internal communication as most important. Ted Potter said they made no distinction because the two are so intertwined.

On Recommendations 6 through 9: Jane Strable thinks roundtables are a good idea because they are flexible and allow for small group interests within the SIS. Frank Liu especially likes the idea of a directors' roundtable because it supplements the January AALS directors' meetings. Charles Dyer expressed a concern that roundtables may be divisive, citing the experience of the Technical Services SIS, whose committees and discussion groups have generated some new and separate SIS's. Peter Schanck said that the State, Court and County Law Libraries SIS and the Private Law Libraries SIS have similar roundtable organizations and have not experienced any divisiveness. Mr. Schanck believes those are more analogous to our SIS because they are also based on type of library rather than subject interests. Sandra Coleman likes the roundtable idea because it is a good way to involve more members. Charles Dyer suggested that we try out the idea this year and vote on permanent By-Laws changes next year. Ms. Coleman agreed, adding that any changes authorized by the membership at the business meeting next year can be submitted to the AALL Executive Board at their 1988 winter meeting.

Ms. Coleman then asked Peter Schanck, incoming Chair, to outline his plans for the coming year. Mr. Schanck indicated that he plans to carry forward the SIS's on-going projects such as the tenure documents project and the Mentor Project. He also wants to continue the tradition of having a wine and cheese reception after the SIS program, and inquired whether Northwestern University Law Library could host the 1987 reception. Ann Puckett indicated qualified consent, subject to approval by the Local Arrangements Committee, which had been

considering some other activities to be held at Northwestern. Mr. Schanck also would like to go forward with the resolution on faculty status, which passed the SIS membership two years ago. Fannie Fishlyn agreed to write a statement to be submitted to the AALL Executive Board if that is the course decided upon by the SIS Executive Board.

Sandra Coleman explained that the remainder of the business meeting would be devoted to three roundtable discussions. Peter Schanck led the Directors' Roundtable; Ann Puckett led the Middle Management Roundtable; and Sandra Coleman led the Collection Development Roundtable.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Puckett, Secretary/Treasurer

## MENTOR PROJECT

From a mentor . . .

Though I had some initial doubts when Bob Murphy, attending his first AALL Convention, warned me that his role in our relationship would be more that of a "tor-mentor" than a mentee, the Mentor Project sponsored by the Academic SIS at the 1986 Annual Meeting in Washington was a resounding success from my point of view. Serving as Bob's mentor made the meeting more exciting for me, reexperiencing through his eyes the beginnings of my own relationship with the Association that plays such a significant role in my professional life. And along the way, I may have even passed on some ideas to Bob which made the convention more meaningful for him. I certainly tried.

Far from being a burden, playing the role of mentor filled my schedule with interesting conversations and chances to "show off" my limited supply of "convention smarts." It also gave me the opportunity to repay, in a small way, all the people who have served as unofficial mentors to me through the years. It is nice to be on the other side for a change.

There was no script to follow so Bob and I devised our own--exchanging written materials beforehand, meeting early in the convention for lunch and a "compatibility check," attending committee meetings and programs in which I was involved, offering introductions to people in the halls, and, finally, spending time together at social activities. Things were not perfect--in particular, we missed out on sharing a table at the Final Banquet--but for the most part our experiences was a success. We both approached the situation with enthusiasm and our mutual efforts at communication enabled us to achieve the positive results we had anticipated.

I strongly urge the continuation and expansion of the Mentor Project. I know I will be happy to serve for as long as someone

can be found to listen.

Frank Houdek  
Southern Illinois University  
Law Library

From a "tor-mentor" . . .

I had no doubts that attending my first A.A.L.L. Convention would be crucial. As a recent M.S.L.S. graduate, it was important for me to get through the week without any major faux pas. Likewise, I already had many questions and assumed more would surface while in D.C. Thus, who better to ask than someone who had previously stood in my shoes? Frank Houdek fit the bill (track shoes included).

We indeed created our own script. Prior contact was important and made compatibility one less question to be answered while in D.C. Daily communication, in some form, was likewise important. Frank's suggestion about attending meetings, programs, social events and networking were very wise. His enthusiasm for our profession and colleagues was clearly evident. His blend of professional service (Publications Committee) and personal fun (winning a race) show me that variety and balance was achievable.

I would hope all pairs could meet together at the commencement and end of each Convention. It would be an ideal forum to communicate shared feelings and experiences. Clearly, this project would be of benefit to the entire A.A.L.L.

One final thought: Frank mentioned his volunteer service was a way to repay all the people who had served as his unofficial mentors in prior years. In the same way, I too will "pass it on"...

Bob Murphy

**PUBLIC SERVICES CLEARINGHOUSE**

Last month's newsletter suggested that the SIS establish a clearinghouse for pathfinders, research checklists, bibliographies and exhibits. To launch the clearinghouse, Case Western Reserve University is donating its bibliography series and Computer Lab Manual, which together won the in-house publication award at the recent AALL meeting. In addition, we are contributing to the clearinghouse various exhibits--e.g. Humor and the Law, Ohio Courts, Censorship, Beware the Ides of March, etc. We hope that others will follow suit and send us materials prepared in their law libraries. CWRU will undertake the task of duplicating the materials (with the source indicated) or of making them available in an ASCII file formatted for an IBM PC or clone. Materials will be provided at cost. Those interested in obtaining lists of the bibliographies and exhibits available should contact Eve Greene or Pat Harris of the CWRU Law Library.



## PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON FACULTY STATUS OF ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIANS

This is to bring Academic SIS members up to date on the continuing saga of the proposed Faculty Status statement. When we last left the beleaguered statement it had been returned to our section by Kathie Price, representing the AALL Executive Board. Among other things, Kathie wrote that "the Board believes that action on your proposal is not now timely. While the Board sympathized with the aspirations of your members, it questioned the practical feasibility of the proposal in view of the longstalled clinicians' job security standard pending before the ABA." (In the meantime, the ABA has adopted precatory, rather than mandatory, language relating to job security for clinicians and other legal skills teachers.)

At the 1985 Academic SIS Executive Board meeting held immediately before the general business meeting, it was decided, with some strong reservations on the part of Board liaison Penny Hazelton and others, to resubmit the statement to the Executive Board, along with some explanatory information and documentation in its support. This was not, in fact, done, and the matter was taken up again by the Academic SIS Executive Board this July after further consultation with Penny.

Penny convinced us that the AALL Executive Board, as a matter of policy, does not adopt resolutions, or otherwise take positions, on issues not having to do with the AALL organizationally. Thus the only way we could receive Association approval of our statement on faculty status would be to submit it to the AALL membership to be adopted as a resolution at an annual meeting.

Proposing the statement to the membership as a resolution, however, is an action not devoid of risk. There are several factors which could combine to cause its defeat. First, many members may oppose any resolution which supports the special interests of one segment of the membership. Second, a number of academic law librarians, as well as non-academics, oppose faculty status in principle. Third, it may be impossible to obtain a majority of support for one version of the resolution, even if there is strong support in principle for faculty status. Fourth, there may be some non-academics who are envious of our position in either the Association or in the academic world or both and who would thus not wish to help improve our status.

In any case, if the proposal were to fail, our cause could be severely damaged. The impression might be created that the AALL as a whole opposes faculty status for law librarians in principle.

Although not unmindful of these concerns the ALL SIS Executive Board believes the Association membership will support this resolution, especially if we campaign actively among them for its adoption. If adopted by our national association, it could be used beneficially by law librarians in their efforts to

obtain faculty status or other faculty privileges. We would also then consider seeking its inclusion as an ABA or AALS standard for law school accreditation.

We hope you will fill out the tear-off sheet below indicating whether you wish us to propose the faculty status statement as a resolution at the AALL Annual Meeting in Chicago next summer. Please return the sheet by November 1, 1986 so the A.L.L. Executive Board can consider the issue at the January AALS meeting in L.A. If there is sufficient support for that course of action, we will work on behalf of its adoption by writing to the AALL, chapter and SIS newsletters and by appearing in person at chapter meetings. We will then move its formal adoption in the Chicago business meeting. As part of that process we will incorporate formal resolution language ("whereases" and "be it resolved") in the statement, making it clear that this is a resolution of the AALL in support of Faculty Status for Academic Law Librarians. Former chair Fannie Fishlyn has agreed to head up our efforts to provide documentation in support of its adoption and to campaign for its passage. Barbara Bintliff, the principal architect of the statement, has agreed to assist with this project. The text of the statement appears below:

STATEMENT ON FACULTY STATUS OF ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIANS

The character and quality of a law school is shaped in large measure by the nature of its library holdings and the care and imagination with which those resources are made accessible to members of the law school community. Law librarians make a unique and important contribution to American legal education. They bear central responsibility for developing the law school's collection, for extending bibliographical control over the collection, for instructing students (both formally in the classroom and informally in the library), and advising faculty and scholars in the use of the collection. They provide a variety of information services to the law school and university communities, ranging from answers to specific questions to the compilation of extensive bibliographies. They provide library and information services to the community at large, including federal, state, and local government agencies, law firms, business firms and other organizations, and private citizens. Through their own research into the information process and through bibliographical and other studies, they add to the sum of knowledge in the fields of library practice, law, and information science. Through membership and participation in library, legal and scholarly organizations, they work to improve the practice of law librarianship, law, legal bibliography, and information services.

Without law librarians, the quality of teaching, research, and public service in our law schools would deteriorate seriously and programs in some areas could no longer be offered. Their contribution is academic in nature and is the product of considerable formal education, including professional training at the graduate level. Therefore, academic law librarians should be recognized as partners in the educational enterprise; and they should be extended the rights and privileges which are not only commensurate with their contributions, but are necessary if they are to carry out their responsibilities. By granting faculty status to law librarians, either through the law faculty, a law library faculty, or the general university faculty, the university recognizes them as professional, academic employees.

Faculty status entails for law librarians the same right and responsibilities as for other members of the faculty. They should have corresponding entitle to promotion, compensation, leaves, and travel and research funds. They should be offered a program leading to tenure or a form of security of position reasonably similar to tenure. They should go through the same process of evaluation and meet appropriate standards for appointment, promotion, and the grant of related benefits. Evaluative criteria should reflect the unique responsibilities of law librarians in the academic mission of the law school.

Details of each plan and procedures for extending faculty status to law librarians will vary among the universities and their law schools because of institutional differences. It is necessary, however, that fair and impartial standards for promotion in rank and status be developed with cooperation among the law librarians, the law school, and the university's administration. As in the case of any academic position, these standards should then be approved by the appropriate governing body before submission to the university's president and governing board for approval.

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\_\_\_\_\_ I am in favor of proposing the Statement on Faculty Status of Academic Librarians at the AALL business meeting in Chicago as a resolution to be adopted by the AALL membership.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am opposed to proposing the statement as a resolution.

Comments or advice if any:

Please send your replies by November 1, 1986 to:

Professor Peter Schanck  
University of Kansas Law Library  
Green Hall  
Lawrence, KS 66045

## HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries, usually referred to as Academic SIS, was organized in 1979. Approval was granted by the AALL Executive Board at its meeting following the San Francisco conference.

The purposes of the Section are to give AALL members a forum within the organization for the exchange of ideas and information on issues of interest to academic law libraries and to represent the interests and concerns of academic law librarians within the Association.

Academic SIS accomplishes these objectives through sponsoring programs, workshops, publications and projects, and by holding formal and informal meetings, discussions, library tours and receptions. Participation in Academic SIS provides valuable opportunities, not only to examine topics on academic law librarianship, but also to develop close professional and personal ties with colleagues. You are encouraged to become involved in the Academic SIS.

## NEWSLETTER

The *ALL Newsletter*, published since 1979, goes to all dues-paying section members. Editor Patricia Harris seeks news and commentary on issues of interest and concern to members and their libraries as well as to the profession at large. Issued quarterly in 1986, the Newsletter contains a new series of articles highlighting individual law schools' activities and projects and includes evaluative reviews of new products of interest to other academic law libraries.

## PROGRAMS, WORKSHOPS

The Academic SIS sponsors programs for all conference registrants at the AALL Annual Meeting. Both AALL members and speakers from other disciplines contribute their expertise. Recent topics reflect the diversity of members' interests:

1983 -- The What, Where, Why, When and How of Getting Published;

1984 -- The Impact of Proposed Changes on ABA and AALS Library Standards;

1985 -- Legal Education and the Practice of Law: Today's Challenges/Tomorrow's Needs;

1986 -- Marketing the Academic Law Library.

Academic SIS sponsored its first post-conference workshop in 1986 -- a one-day workshop on Fund Raising for Law Librarians.

## MEETINGS, TOURS, RECEPTIONS

Annual business meetings of the Academic SIS are held during the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries.

A law school library in the convention city hosts a reception for present and prospective members of Academic SIS and offers tours of its library. Scheduled to follow the Academic SIS conference program, this newest activity provides members another opportunity to get together during the Annual Meeting.

## PROJECTS

Members of the Academic SIS support several continuing projects:

- A list of persons teaching legal bibliography who are willing to exchange problems and examinations;

- A survey of law libraries retaining superseded pocket parts for the codes of various states;

- A study of promotion and tenure of law school librarians (now being edited for publication);

- An investigation of faculty status for law school librarians (a supporting statement has been recommended to the Executive Board);

- An Annual Meeting Mentor Project, initiated in 1986, to match new members and other first-time conference attendees with more experienced colleagues.

## LONG-RANGE PLANNING

At the 1986 Annual Meeting, SIS members will consider recommendations from a special Task Force on Long-Range Planning to increase communications within the SIS and between the SIS and AALL, and to increase professional development activities through the establishment of topical roundtables within the SIS. This is the first step in planning the activities and objectives of the Academic Law Libraries SIS for the next three to five years.

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## MEMBERSHIP

The Academic Law Libraries SIS has grown to over 300 members. Members hold positions at all levels in academic law libraries and come from libraries of all sizes. Academic SIS members are also active on AALL committees and in other sections of AALL, and have been elected to serve on the AALL Executive Board.

Any individual active member or designated institutional member of AALL may join the Academic SIS upon payment of \$5.00 SIS dues. Members are invited from all segments of the legal community.

## OFFICERS

The chairperson, vice chairperson/chairperson-elect, secretary-treasurer and immediate past chairperson serve as the Executive Committee of the Academic SIS. The chairperson serves as a member of the SIS Council. A member of the AALL Executive Board is appointed to serve as the Academic SIS Liaison to the Board. These officers plan and direct Academic SIS activities.

The members of the 1985-1986 Executive Committee are Sandra S. Coleman, Harvard Law School, Chairperson; Peter Schanck, University of Kansas, Vice Chairperson/Chairperson-Elect; Ann Puckett, Northwestern University, Secretary-Treasurer; Barbara Gontrum, University of Maryland, Immediate Past Chairperson; Penny A. Hazelton, University of Washington, Executive Board Liaison.

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# ACADEMIC LAW LIBRARIES



American Association of Law Libraries

Academic Law Libraries SIS  
American Association of Law Libraries  
West Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604

11/21/86  
TO: Potential Members of the Library Administration Roundtable  
FROM: Nick Triffin

At the SIS meeting in Washington this year, the SIS approved the concept of roundtables. A roundtable is supposed to spring into existence as the need arises and die quietly when interest in the subject wanes. Each roundtable is supposed to have a reporter who will serve as a contact person, and submit information to the SIS newsletter.

To help get the process started, the Executive Committee designated three individuals as initial "contact persons" for three roundtables. Having evinced an interest in working with the SIS, I was asked to help organize the Library administration Roundtable, a modified version of the "Director's roundtable" originally recommended by the SIS Task Force on Long Range Planning.

As I understand it, our Roundtable can address any topic of interest not only to Directors but also to Associate Directors and others whose job functions include the supervision of the Law Library as a whole (a separate "Middle Management Roundtable" is supposed to address the concerns of heads of departments and other administrators with less than whole library supervision duties). Some topics that the roundtable could address include:

1. How to manage librarian sabbaticals;
2. Dealing with the new accreditation standards;
3. The administrative pros and cons of professorial status and duties;
4. Budgeting;
5. Personnel problems;
6. Library marketing, faculty services, deans, etc.

I am hereby asking all potential members of the roundtable (elect yourselves!) to express interest in one or more of these areas and to let me know what you would like to do so that I can arrange to get a room in Chicago and set up a format or structure for a program or discussion.

In addition, the Long Range Planning Task Force recommended that the Roundtable give greater "continuity in planning the AALS Directors and Deans Conference." I have checked with Al Brecht who is chairing the AALS committee that sets up the conference and have found that it is a function the AALS generally runs on its own, although they are quite willing to get suggestions from us and could make some use of volunteers to run small group discussions and workshops. This year's program will be along the following tentative lines:

1. Pros and cons of AALS involvement in Law School accreditation.
2. Contrast between ABA book requirements and AALS provisions for cooperative arrangements.
3. Small groups discussing quality vs. quantity standards.
4. Copyrights and machine readable information.
5. Alternatives to pagination of legal databases.
6. Small group discussions on 4 and 5.
7. Plenary session on: "fragile" law schools, alternative housing of collections, problem deans and students.

As you can see, this year's program is already fully sketched out and major speakers are already pretty well lined up. However, if you would like to try to get involved in leading small groups or in facilitating some aspect of the plenary session discussion, please call me at (914) 681-4275 and I will pass your interest on to Al Brecht.

I would also like to try to get as many potential members together briefly in Los Angeles to chart the future course of the roundtable. Anyone who wishes to help get the roundtable going should call me to volunteer. Others should watch for an announcement when they get there.