MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Suzanne Thorpe
2006 - 2007 ALL-SIS Chair

Fall Greetings!

As the days turn cooler and we head into another academic year, memories of the AALL meetings begin to fade. I hope, though, that the ALL-SIS programs, roundtable discussions, and social events that you attended will continue to resonate with you during the coming months. For those of you who were unable to come to St. Louis, the reports in this newsletter provide highlights of these excellent programs. Also, don’t forget to check out the photos and podcasts of various events and the PowerPoint slides from our two alternative programs on the ALL-SIS Web site (www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/annualmeeting/2006/).

At our meetings in St. Louis, the ALL-SIS Executive Board decided to launch two new initiatives. First, we will explore programming that might be offered by ALL-SIS outside of the AALL Annual Meeting venue. A Continuing Education Task Force, chaired by Lee Peoples, has been appointed to investigate potential topics, partnerships with other SISs and Chapters, and ways of utilizing new technology such as streaming video and podcasting to deliver such programs. Our goal is to develop one or more proposals to submit to the AALL Continuing Education Grants Program for funding. If you recently attended a

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ALL-SIS Committee Members

Note: Charges for this year’s Committees are posted on the ALL-SIS Website, at www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/committees/charges/.

Awards

John Edwards, Chair
Mary Ann Nelson
Michael Slinger, Board Liaison

Bylaws

Jennifer Wagner, Chair
Deborah Norwood
Eric Young
Michael Slinger, Board Liaison

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AALL Program Reviews

Plenary I: Linda Greenhouse on Writing Justice Blackmun

Diane Murley, Reference/Web Services Librarian
Southern Illinois University School of Law

Linda Greenhouse spoke to a large crowd on Sunday afternoon. She spoke mostly about the research process that led to her three-article New York Times series. That series eventually led to her 2005 book, Becoming Justice Blackmun. As Ms. Greenhouse pointed out, the book was unusual for a biography of a contemporary person in that it was based almost completely on library research.

Harry Blackmun had specified that his papers should be made public five years after his death, an unusually short time. As the time approached for the release of his papers, the Blackmun family was concerned that initial consideration of his papers be methodically journalistic. They arranged for Linda Greenhouse to have access to them at the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress two months before their official release, with the condition that nothing was to be revealed until the official release date.

Ms. Greenhouse and her research assistant spent approximately six weeks at the Library of Congress conducting research in Justice Blackmun's papers. Her initial project was limited to the series of articles for the New York Times. The articles were to be focused on the Supreme Court during Justice Blackmun's tenure, and covered the abortion cases, the death penalty cases, and Justice Blackmun's relationship with Justice Burger.

Shortly after the articles were released, Ms. Greenhouse agreed to write a book about Justice Blackmun. It was to be the story of his life, as told by his papers. She returned to the Library of Congress to explore sections of the papers that she had not been able to review during her initial six weeks.

Even researching her book, Ms. Greenhouse could not review all of the 1,585 boxes of books that make up the Harry Blackmun collection. She began with promising areas of investigation, such as the Burger correspondence, cases about women’s rights, and the memos Blackmun prepared for himself for each oral argument. She spoke about the “serendipity of following threads that lead in unexpected directions” and provided a deeper understanding of Justice Blackmun's career and how he “became” Justice Blackmun.

Plenary Session II: The Great Hedgehog Speaks

Matt Braun, Reference/Intellectual Property Librarian
Jacob Burns Law Library, The George Washington University

It was late Wednesday morning. Another lively and eventful AALL Annual Meeting was coming to a close. Lavish parties had passed, the exhibit hall was now closed, and only a handful of programs remained on the schedule. Things, it seemed, were beginning to quiet down.

Then came Plenary Session II. And, for one all too short hour, a truly great individual of our profession lit up a large room with his humor, his sincerity, and his optimism for the future of law librarianship.

Robert Berring, Jr., the Walter Perry Johnson Professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, and director of the law library at Berkeley from 1982 to 2005, warmed his audience with accounts from his storied career in academic law librarianship, yet challenged them to navigate a constantly changing legal information industry by relying on the core values established by the founders of AALL 100 years ago.

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In his trademark animated fashion, Professor Berring began by reciting three quotations. The first, from Chairman Mao Tse Tung, holds that: “Everything under heaven is utter chaos; the situation is excellent.” The second, from Admiral James Stockdale, Vice Presidential candidate in 1992, asks: “Who am I? Why am I here?” The third, from the Greek poet Archilochus by way of writer Isaiah Berlin, states that: “The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one big thing.”

Focusing on the quote from Mao, Professor Berring emphasized that while law librarians might find their current situation somewhat chaotic, given the wide influence that tools such as Google and Wikipedia have had on information retrieval, the situation we are in is excellent because of our expertise. “A democracy of information does not translate to a democracy of authority,” Berring explained, urging law librarians to vigilantly work, as they always have, to preserve access to the very best information available.

Tying the Stockdale and Berlin quotes together, Professor Berring told the audience members who they were and why they were there: they were to be hedgehogs, to define and make available the one “big thing” that trumps the many things that the fox may know. While Wikipedia may be liked by many people and provide much information, Berring noted, the information is not necessarily relevant or even correct. It is up to law librarians, he stated, to ensure that authenticity matters, by being able to tell each patron: “This is the information you need, this is the information correctly presented, and it will be here for you a year from now.”

Looking back at the beginnings of AALL, Professor Berring reminded his listeners of the problems facing law librarians at the first Annual Meeting: gathering materials, organizing them, and, in the words of A.J. Small, the first AALL president, “guaranteeing high quality information to the people that need it.” Such “problems” are precisely the ones we deal with today, within the context of an organization that started small but, according to Berring, has truly grown up over 100 years and is recognized now as a key player in the development of information policy.

Professor Berring concluded his address by reiterating that while the foxes out there may claim to have the most stuff, we hedgehog librarians will continue to have the best stuff as long as we continue to adhere to a sense of ethics and to a sense of responsibility to our law library patrons. It was with these sincere words of wisdom that Plenary Session II came to a close, with appreciation and respect for the past joined by enthusiasm and dedication for the future.

Note: Professor Berring will be honored for his many contributions to the profession of law librarianship at a symposium entitled, “Legal Information and the Development of American Law: Further Thinking about the Thoughts of Bob Berring.” The symposium will be held on Saturday, October 21, 2006, at the University of California, Berkeley. Detailed information on the event is available at: www.law.berkeley.edu/library/conferences/berring06/.

Special ALL-SIS Grant Available to Support Attendance at Berring Symposium

The ALL-SIS Executive Board has approved a special grant to support an ALL-SIS member in attending the Berring symposium. The grant will
AALL Program Reviews

Might As Well Face It, You’re Addicted to Wexis - Teaching CALR to Law Students: What Do Students Really Need to Know When They Arrive at a Law Firm?

Tina Ching, Assistant Librarian, Ross-Blakely Law Library
Sandra Day O’Connor School of Law

Academic Law Librarians are increasingly training students on CALR in part to limit marketing from vendors. However, by doing so, we may be ignoring the research realities in law firm environments. For law librarians in academia who have not recently practiced or have not been in a firm environment, the world of billing for online research may be a foreign concept. The major online vendors keep information on costs for firms almost unobtainable. Instead, they insist on training law students on the many features and databases available to them as law students, but fail to mention real world limited access and charges. Luckily, firm librarians and academic librarians are not so far removed from each other to share information on electronic research and “real world” billing practices.

Teaching CALR to Law Students was coordinated by Sara Kelley from Georgetown University Law Library and moderated by Susan Herrick from the University of Maryland at Baltimore, Thurgood Marshall Law Library. On the afternoon of Monday, July 10, Jennifer Murray, Librarian at Greenberg Traurig in Phoenix, Arizona, and Terry Psarras, Manager of Library Services at Carlton Fields in Tampa, Florida, illuminated the audience with strategies, tips and resources to pass on to law students. The program aimed at helping academic law librarians educate their law students about legal research and billing practices at firms. Some of the major topics covered were: Learning about online resources in law school, billable and non billable research, and costs.

According to Psarras, the addiction to Wexis begins in Law School. He compared Wexis usage in law school to free crack samples from the vendors. Because preferences for particular resources begin in law school, vendors attempt to attract students to their product immediately. However, what vendors fail to mention to students are the potential real world costs of the searches they are conducting. Instead, students are showered with gifts and freebies in an attempt to get them hooked on their product. Attempts by those interested in learning about costs, such as those teaching legal research, are often thwarted as vendors are not willing to disclose their pricing structure.

The main reason why costs of legal research in firms are difficult for vendors to disclose is because the costs are different from firm to firm. Firms can also be on combinations of fixed rate, transactional and hourly plans depending on the resources used. Murray described the downsides of fixed rate resources as including limitations on access, restrictions on usage, and fluctuations in price.

Another factor into the real costs of legal research is billing time. Psarras used the equation: Total Cost of Doing Research = Attorney billable time + any research tool cost. Billing policies of each firm are also different. Murray explained that law firms are businesses looking to make profits. Not passing on costs to clients for online research is not profitable as the research would become lost revenue. Firms try to come out even for research costs, but often are not able to do so.

Murray enlightened the audience with the differences between billable and non billable online

(Continued on page 5)
Teaching CALR, cont’d

research and how that relates to using alternatives to Wexis. First, usage of Wexis depends on whether or not the client is willing to pay for Wexis. If a client is unwilling to pay for Wexis research, then alternate resources are used. Different types of research also determine whether the time is billable or not. Generally, research for clients is billable and research on business development is not. Another factor is time spent on research and where the researcher is at in the research process. If no more time can be spent on Wexis, then because of costs and time limitations, the researcher may be forced to utilize different resources. Some alternate resources mentioned by Murray included Loislaw, Versuslaw, Casemaker, BNA, and CCH which had flat fees. Free and low cost options for research include LexisOne, Findlaw, and Pacer. Finally, students should also be aware of internal firm options for utilizing Wexis searches that are not billable.

Even though addiction to Wexis can be debilitating to the research of law students and lawyers, just as with any addiction, early intervention and education through legal research courses in law school can help prevent negative consequences.

University of Oregon Team Pioneers Digital Collections

Susie Zappia, Technical Services Librarian
Phoenix School of Law

Those of us who took the opportunity to attend the presentation by Carol Hixson and the University of Oregon at AALL in St. Louis on digitizing collections on July 9 were quite energized. Entitled Transforming Technical Services Staff and Librarians into Digital Library Specialists:

The Continued Evolution of the University of Oregon’s Metadata and Digital Library Services, the presentation generated electric excitement in the room. Carol discussed her department’s journey from a traditional cataloging unit circa 2000 to what they boast today: a Metadata and Digital Library Services team staffed by 30 people. These folks are scanning and describing images for the University’s premiere digital library collections and take responsibility for PR and instruction about the collections.

Starting out in 2000, Carol had a dedicated staff but faced challenges presented by a budget deficit and lost and frozen positions. Because Carol began the journey guided by her mantras “cataloging must change” and “cataloging is a public service”, she found developments and events aligning with her mission and purpose. Carol and her staff began acquiring skill sets such as Dublin Core, XML and TGM, and new vocabularies such as FAST, while also mastering new standards including NISO Z39.87 and PREMIS. The University’s Preservation and Cataloging Departments merged in 2001 and digital collections work began in March of 2003. The Image Services Center joined the Department in July of 2004. Today the University of Oregon’s digital collections are an amazing cultural treasure chest to peruse on the web site. Carol stressed that their digital collections work is not MARC and is not AACR2.

Librarians were introduced to the process of how to analyze and describe the content of an image. The University now has a digital project librarian for the first time, and she is reviewing the collections and enhancing public interface. Carol recapped the Department’s successes: an 114% increase in traditional cataloging productivity in the past three years; seven digital collections

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AALL Program Reviews

ALL-SIS Middle Managers’ Breakfast Meeting

Wei Luo, Director of Technical Services
Washington University School of Law Library

The 2006 ALL-SIS Middle Managers’ Breakfast Meeting was held according to the plan between 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. on July 11 in St. Louis Renaissance Grand Hotel - Landmark Room 4. Approximately 120 people attended this meeting. Two people paid cash at the door (remember to register for the ALL-SIS Middle Managers’ Breakfast Meeting when filling up the annual meeting’s registration form next year).

Our topic this year was Stay as Middle Manager and Be Happy and the panelists of the meeting were: Michael Slinger, Director of Cleveland State University School of Law Library; Filippa Marullo Anzalone, Director of Boston College Law Library; and Joyce Janto, Deputy Director of University of Richmond School of Law Library. After Elizabeth Adelman, the meeting moderator and the Head of Collection Management of the University at Buffalo Law Library, introduced the topic and the panelists, the panelists discussed their experiences, policies, and insights to energize their library’s professional staff to be interested and happy in their jobs. First, Ms. Anzalone shared her policy of letting her staff develop teaching and writing interests in legal subjects, not just traditional library and information science. Then, Ms. Janto shared her experiences of participating in AALL and its local chapters as well as other volunteer opportunities to be self-fulfilled. Finally, Mr. Slinger shared his insights about how to communicate with library directors. The panelists also answered questions from the audience.

The ALL-SIS Middle Managers’ Breakfast Meeting has become a very popular forum for middle managers of academic law libraries to discuss common issues that we are interested in. I highly encourage middle-manager or would-be middle-manager librarians to attend this event annually.

CONALL at Wash U: Skittletes and a Library Tour

Paul Moorman, Law Librarian - Research Services
University of Southern California Law Library

An enthusiastic group of newer librarians attended the sixth annual Conference of Newer Academic Law Librarians (CONALL) at Washington University School of Law’s beautiful Anheuser Busch Hall on Tuesday, July 11, 2006. Since its introduction at the annual meeting in Philadelphia in the year 2000, CONALL has provided an opportunity for newer academic law librarians to meet other newer librarians and learn a little about academic law librarianship in a fun, light-hearted (Continued on page 7)
manner. The event plays a key role in ALL-SIS’ outreach and mentoring to the newer members of our profession.

This year’s event began with a bus ride down Lindell Boulevard, one of St. Louis’ historic streets, past St. Louis University, and through the Central West End and Forest Park, site of the famous 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair. Once on campus, the attendees were warmly greeted by members of the law library staff and led to a classroom where the event took place. Everyone was first asked to introduce themselves and describe a passion in their life. We apparently have a group of budding rock stars in this year’s cohort, because music was frequently cited as a passion by many of the attendees. Maybe we should encourage some of them to form a band and compete on the next season of Rock Star: Supernova?

After the introductions, as a way to facilitate further discussion, the Committee Members performed a series of short skits (we called them “skitlettes”) representing difficult situations that occur in academic law librarianship. The first skit was a difficult reference interview between a reference librarian and a demanding pro se patron asking for legal advice. The second one was a conversation between a professor and an acquisitions librarian with the professor demanding that his donation of “very valuable” books be appraised by the library for tax purposes. The skits were humorously introduced by our Master of Ceremonies, Larry Abraham, and performed by members of the Committee, Ed Beltz, Stefanie Pearlman, Patricia Kidd, and Paul Moorman, with the assistance of Katie Thompson. After each skit a lively discussion ensued among the attendees about how best to handle the difficult situation. Following the skits, the attendees had a chance to take part in a tour of the library. And finally, to top off the evening after the tour, the attendees were able to join the Reception in the courtyard and mingle with their new friends, have a drink, and enjoy some tasty treats (Budweiser and toasted ravioli, of course!).

When asked about the event for this article, first time Annual Meeting and CONALL attendee, Tom Kimbrough, recent graduate of the University of Washington’s Information School and a new reference librarian at Southern Methodist University School of Law, said that it was great to meet other new and experienced librarians and that he especially enjoyed the skits with difficult patrons. Tom’s comments are indicative of the role CONALL plays in mentoring our newer members of the profession by giving them a chance to meet each other and learn a little about academic law librarianship in the process.

The Committee wants to thank everyone who attended and helped with the planning of CONALL, including Julia Jaet for her efforts at publicizing the event, Phil Berwick for hosting, Mark Kloempken for being our tour guide for the evening, and all of the members of the ALL-SIS Board, especially Chair Michael Slinger, for their assistance and support.

And yes, the rumors you may have heard are true, changes are afoot regarding the name and time of future CONALLs. First, the name for CONALL is going to be changed to help avoid confusion with the pre-conference CONELL (Conference of Newer Law Librarians). The new Co-Chairs of the Committee, Patricia Kidd and Katie Thompson, with the assistance of the Board, are currently working on coming up with a catchy new name. (Continued on page 11)
Tech Services Program, cont’d

publicly available with 16,000+ items added since 2003; abundant cross-training opportunities created; and greater collaboration within departments established.

Additional kudos to Carol as she assumes the role of University Librarian at the University of Regina in Saskatchewan on September 25. The University of Oregon will certainly miss her vision and leadership! The link to her presentation is at: https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/dspace/handle/1794/3020.

Collection Development Committee

Jennifer Lentz, Reference Librarian & Head of Collection Development, UCLA School of Law

The topics of discussion at this year’s Collection Development Roundtable were many and varied. A variety of librarians representing numerous institutions offered their viewpoints on everything from cancellations to consortia. All acknowledged the seemingly universal problem of maintaining strong and diverse law library collections in the face of ever-shrinking budgets.

The discussion started out with a brief introduction to the new ABA Standards relating to law library accreditation. Because the new language of Standard 606 was just recently adopted, it is unknown what its effect on academic law libraries and the need to maintain core collections will be. Also discussed was the problem of volume count and electronic resources.

Another topic of discussion was the WorldCat Collection Analysis tool. Many law libraries are just beginning to explore this service. Of the libraries represented, several indicated it was of limited value at this point. It was agreed that more libraries were needed to successfully evaluate the utility of this product.

An additional topic of interest to many was librarians’ experiences with West’s Library Maintenance Agreement. Some libraries were happy with the ability to freeze the cost of West publications over a period of time and the simplified invoicing. Others were unhappy about the inability to get title lists from West and the fact that the program had only been offered to selected institutions.

A final highlight was Bob Oakley’s discussion of the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA). The purpose of LIPA is to ensure the preservation of print and digital materials and to ensure that no library accidentally discards the last copy of a particular title. More information about the organization can be found on the LIPA website, www.aallnet.org/committee/lipa/.

This year’s roundtable touched on many issues facing those responsible for collection development in law libraries. Although these issues won’t be resolved any time soon, it is hoped that through sharing experiences with colleagues, we take away information that will help with the tough decisions we all face.

Faculty Services Committee

Margaret A. Schilt, University of Chicago
Marianne Alcorn, Arizona State University, Co-Chairs

The ALL-SIS Faculty Services Committee hosted a stimulating and informative roundtable on the second day of the AALL Annual Meeting in St. Louis. Coordinated by the 2005/2006 co-chairs, Michele Kristakis and Sara Sampson, the roundtable featured short presentations by Margaret Schilt on current awareness, James Wirrell on research assistance, and Leslie Pardo and Liz Goldberg on new faculty orientation.

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The group of approximately 50 attendees then broke up into three groups, discussing best practices and news to share at the end with the larger group.

Current awareness ideas and initiatives include bloglists for faculty services webpages, new means of filtering the flood of information to faculty, and using a blog to deliver current awareness materials to adjunct faculty.

The research assistance group reported good success with hiring research assistants after their first year in law school for a two-year commitment; recruiting the dean to promote the research assistance program, and advised against hiring law review staff as research assistants, because they are too pressured by their commitment to the journal.

The new faculty orientation group suggested a webpage devoted specifically to new faculty as well as luncheon meetings with new faculty. Some libraries are able to have librarians on faculty development committees, giving the librarian the opportunity to promote the library even before a new faculty member arrives on campus.

A complete report of the ideas generated at the roundtable will be posted soon on the ALL-SIS faculty services committee website.

The Faculty Services Committee plans a busy year of adding new content to the committee website, as well as continuing our popular and informative listserv discussions. We will have two this year, one on copyright permissions issues and another on setting boundaries. Look for further information by email.
ALL-SIS Roundtables

Legal Research, cont’d

**Instructional technology in teaching legal research:**
The discussion touched upon the pros and cons and the effective uses of Power Point (you’ll have to check the Web site to find out the true identity of the “Jimi Hendrix of Power Points”); CALI Lessons; instructional tools such as tutorials produced with software such as Captivate or Camtasia; non-linear approaches such as games or collaborations; using vignettes from television programs as teaching vehicles; and working with instructional technology specialists and with law faculty to encourage use of classroom technology.

**Advanced/Specialized Legal Research:**
Among the topics discussed were whether “advanced” legal research courses are really advanced or just a reiteration of what students should have learned in first year courses but didn’t (does this depend on who teaches the first year research?); how to fight the idea that ALR courses were “too much work”; where to get good ideas for research problems; teaching about blogs and newsfeeds; and how to prepare students to conduct research in the employment setting.

**Introductory Legal Research:**
Participants discussed issues including timing of introductory legal research instruction (first or second semester); cooperation/integration of intro legal research courses with first year writing courses and interactions with writing faculty; effective types of assignments and course materials (final exams, exercises, pathfinders, etc.); issues associated with grading (letter grades or pass/fail); librarian compensation for teaching; and of course the enduring issue of whether and how to integrate print and electronic resources (the trend appears to be that print citators are definitely out, while print digests are still pretty much in.)

**Teaching Legal Research to Foreign/LLM students:**
Participants noted some challenges to effective teaching of legal research including students’ use of English as a second language; cultural differences contributing to a lack of understanding of proper citation practices in Western scholarship; and reluctance to admit ignorance or to request help. Roundtable participants suggested several strategies to help ameliorate these difficulties, including offering support such as language specialists through the writing center; conducting presentations elucidating proper source citation practices and avoidance of plagiarism; and offering individualized sessions with research instructors.

All in all, everyone who turned out seemed to really enjoy the opportunity to engage in a freewheeling discussion of topics both new and old related to the teaching of legal research. Many thanks again to all who participated. We hope to see you at next year’s Roundtable in New Orleans!
ALL-SIS Presents Frederick Charles Hicks Award to Roger Jacobs

Ed Edmonds, Chair, ALL-SIS Awards Committee

The Academic Law Libraries SIS presented the 2006 Frederick Charles Hicks Award to Roger F. Jacobs at the annual section reception on Tuesday, July 11, 2006, at the Washington University School of Law.

Dean Jacobs retired on July 1, 2006, after more than 20 years of service as Associate Dean and Director of the Kresge Law Library at the Notre Dame Law School. From 1978 - 1985, Professor Jacobs served as Librarian of the Supreme Court of the United States. He was also the founding law librarian at the University of Windsor and the Southern Illinois University.

Dean Jacobs is past-president of both the American Association of Law Libraries (1981 - 1982) and the Canadian Association of Law Libraries (1971 - 1973) as well as the founding president of the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries (1974 - 1976). Roger was a member of over 25 American Bar Association site evaluation teams, and he served as a consultant to more than 10 law schools. Roger was an extremely active member of AALL for more than 40 years, and he has been a frequent speaker on a wide range of law library issues.

The award was presented to Roger by Ed Edmonds, the new Associate Dean for Library and Information Technology at Notre Dame and the chair of this year’s awards committee. Michael Slinger, the ALL-SIS chair for 2005 - 2006 and a former Notre Dame colleague, also participated in the awards presentation. The ceremony was held in Washington University’s stunning moot court room. A podcast of the award ceremony is available at http://all-sis.classcaster.org/blog/resource/podcasts/download/2006allsis-awards.mp3; the portion dealing with the Hicks Award begins approximately 23 minutes into the podcast.

The Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship recognizes an individual or group which has made outstanding contributions to academic law librarianship through continued efforts to improve law librarianship. The award is named in honor of Frederick Charles Hicks, the first great American law librarian/scholar who was also the first academic law librarian to serve as president of AALL. Past recipients include Penny Hazelton, Frank Houdek, Dick Danner, Bob Berring, Tim Coggins, and Barbara Bintliff.

CONALL, cont’d

name that reflects its nature and avoids any confusion with CONELL. Second, in addition to the new name, the ALL-SIS Reception and Awards Ceremony and CONALL will take place on Sunday night during the Annual Meeting, instead of being held on its traditional Tuesday night. So next year, as they say in New Orleans, we’ll laissez le bon temps rouler on Sunday, July 15, 2007 at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. Please encourage newer academic law librarians to attend.

Buffet line at the 2006 ALL-SIS Reception, Washington University
The ALL-SIS Archives: Often Forgotten But Always Important

Mark W. Podvia, Associate Law Librarian, Legal Research Professor & Archivist, The Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University

Archives. The word brings to mind images of dimly-lit rooms packed with row upon row of acid free boxes, quiet as the tomb save for the almost constant hum produced by the climate-control equipment. Within each dusty grey or tan box are well-preserved but long-forgotten papers, the final resting place for dead records.

Does an organization such as ALL-SIS really need an archives? The answer is that we do not. We do not, that is, until someone needs an old report that deals with a still-current topic, or a hard copy of an e-mail that has long since sailed off into cyberspace, or a biographical statement of a former officer, or an old issue of a newsletter, or any one of a hundred other items.

The fact is that an organizational archives is an important resource that must be maintained. Unfortunately, our SIS has not been particularly good over the years in sending our records to the AALL Archives at the University of Illinois for preservation.

During the 2004 - 2005 academic year the ALL-SIS Archives Committee was directed to formulate an Archives Policy Statement for the SIS. The following policy was adopted by the Committee:

The Archives of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (ALL-SIS) includes material which illuminates much of the Section's history. These non-current records, papers and publications are preserved because they contain information of administrative, legal, fiscal or research value. In order to perpetuate and augment our archival holdings, a policy must be established for collection of records from SIS officers and members. To this end, the following policies and guidelines are suggested:

1. All documentary materials, regardless of format or characteristics, which are received, created, or maintained by ALL-SIS officers, whether elected or appointed, in conducting business for the SIS are considered SIS records.

2. All material of enduring value, when no longer in current use by the officer to which it pertains, shall be transferred to the SIS archival collection. The SIS officers shall be the judge of which records are in sufficient current use to be retained, and will judge what, if any, restrictions should be placed on access to these records once the records are retired to the Archives.

3. The kinds of records which should be preserved in the Archives include, though this list should not be taken as all-inclusive:

   a. SIS meeting minutes, all documents produced by the SIS and its members in the course of conducting its/their business, including but not limited to committee and task force reports and the like;

   b. all publications of the SIS;

   c. policy statements or statistical reports of any office;

   d. correspondence relating to policy making;

   e. letters of noted persons received in pursuit of SIS business;

   f. member and officer biographies and related documents;

   g. photographs and other memorabilia.

4. Because it is sometimes difficult for individuals to judge the value of records in their custody,
no SIS records that appear to meet these requirements should be disposed of or destroyed.

5. Records in electronic format shall be transferred to print or microfilmed for preservation purposes.

6. Proper archival practice requires that records should be kept in the order in which those records were originated. To this end, groups of records should be retired periodically to the Archives, and individuals in the SIS should make an effort not to send individual items to the Archives in a piecemeal fashion if those individual items were actually part of a larger collection of materials.

7. The person in charge of the Archives will take suitable measures to preserve, arrange and describe the records of the SIS and shall provide information about them, copies of them, and/or the documents themselves as required for the business of the SIS or for research purposes. Preservation of records can include placing records in acid-free file folders and boxes, and taking any other necessary steps to prevent deterioration of the records over time.

The ALL-SIS Archives Committee was less active during the 2005 - 2006 academic year. However, the Committee did contact a number of individuals in the SIS to encourage that they send material to the Archives in accordance with this policy.

Table 1 shows who has served on the Archive Committee during the past two years. During the 2006 - 2007 academic year the Archives Committee will be chaired by James P. Kelly, Jr., of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Law Library (jpkelly@law.uiuc.edu). Joining him on the Committee will be Leanne Hillery of Regent University Law Library (lhillery@regent.edu). They would be happy to answer any questions that you might have regarding placing materials in the ALL-SIS Archives.

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_Why Do You Belong to AALL? Write it Down and Win!_

Our profession and its Association have changed greatly in the last 100 years, but have the reasons for joining and retaining our memberships in AALL changed all that much?

The AALL Membership and Retention Committee is sponsoring a 500-word writing contest to find out why membership in AALL is important to you. We want to know what you’ve gained and what you value from your membership, including illustrative examples or anecdotes. As an added incentive, three winners will receive free full registrations to the New Orleans Meeting next summer. Judging criteria will be based on originality, creativity, and quality and clarity of writing.

So, rise to the challenge! As we embark on AALL’s second 100 years, we invite you to tell us the reasons why you belong to AALL. This is also your opportunity for fame (winning entries will be (Continued on page 20)
In January 2006, the Association of American Law Schools held its annual meeting in Washington, D.C. The theme for that meeting, “Empirical Scholarship: What Should We Study and How Should We Study It?”1 is an indicator that things are changing in the realm of academic legal research.

Traditionally and historically, the great weight of legal scholarship has been based on doctrine and theory.2 Proponents of legal empirical research, which is based on observation and experience, claim that traditional methods are enhanced by the employment of a solid base of up-to-date empirical information,3 and that empirical research has the ability to help legal scholars determine “whether a particular law or process is actually achieving its stated objectives.”4

In addition to traditional resources, there are several notable resources for researchers interested in the field of empirical legal research. There is the newly published Journal of Empirical Legal Studies5 and the Empirical Legal Studies blog.6 In addition, the First Annual Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, jointly organized by Cornell Law School, NYU School of Law, and the University of Texas Law School, is to be held in October 2006.7 Papers for the conferences are available on SSRN.8


4 Hines, supra note 1.


great workshop with presenters that you think ALL-SIS should consider tapping, please share this information with Lee (lpeoples@okcu.edu). Our second initiative will be to take a close look at the existing ALL-SIS Strategic Plan. The new Strategic Directions Task Force, chaired by Michelle Wu, will examine what has been accomplished since the plan was approved in 2002 and identify new goals for the ALL-SIS that embody the three goals and targeted objectives identified in the AALL Strategic Directions document. These goals will be presented to ALL-SIS members for approval at the Business Meeting in New Orleans.

Speaking of New Orleans, our Program Committee, chaired by April Schwartz, has been hard at work these past few weeks, reviewing and ranking 20 programs that ALL-SIS was asked to sponsor or co-sponsor. This committee has submitted its decisions to the AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee. Since ALL-SIS members typically develop great proposals, we are hopeful that our programs will be successful in the next phase of the competition. In addition to learning a lot in New Orleans, we can all look forward to our annual bash, the ALL-SIS Reception, which will be hosted by Michael Whipple and his staff at the Loyola University College of Law Library.

Other ALL-SIS committees are also gearing up and we will see many new articles, directories, toolkits, etc. contributed by our members again this year. Pay close attention to our Web site, as Diane Murley and her Web site committee unleash their creative abilities. You can keep informed of Web site additions and changes by subscribing to the RSS feed she recently made available. Stay tuned also for announcements of grants and awards. The newest grant is for attendance at the Berring Symposium. For details, see the article in this issue or www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/news/berring-grant.asp.

I hope that you all will have enriching and productive months ahead as academic law librarians. As you go about your work, I urge you to think about new ways that a professional organization such as ALL-SIS can assist you. You don’t have to wait for another survey to share your ideas. Just send them to me (s-thor@umn.edu) or to any other member of the ALL-SIS Executive Board (www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/directories/).

Best wishes,
Suzanne
ALL-SIS Committee Members & Charges, cont'd

CALI

Patricia Fox, Chair
Beth Adelman
Kristina L. Niedringhaus
Lee Peoples
Rachael A. Smith
Ron Wheeler
Linda Ryan, Board Liaison

Collection Development

Melanie Dunshee & Jennifer Lentz, Co-Chairs
James G. Durham
Shaun Esposito
Edward T. Hart
Jan Novak
Karen Nuckolls
Sarah Pomerantz
Courtney Selby
Merle Slyhoff
Michelle Wu, Board Liaison

CONALL/Mentoring

Patricia Kidd & Katie Thompson, Co-Chairs
Kathleen Carrick
Joy Hanson
Patricia Scott
Kasia Solon
Michelle Wu, Board Liaison

Continuing Status/Tenure

Margie Axtmann, Chair
Beth Adelman
James Gernert
Elizabeth Outler
Carol Bredemeyer, Board Liaison

Directors’ Breakfast

Julia Wentz, Chair
Michael Slinger, Board Liaison

Faculty Services

Marianne Alcorn & Margaret Schilt, Co-Chairs
Barbara L. Kallaskey
Mary K. Marzolla
Lynn Murray
Leslie Pardo
Adeen Postar
Wendy Scott
Colleen Williams
James Wirrell
Carol Bredemeyer, Board Liaison

Legal Research

Judith Anspach & Laura Cadra, Co-Chairs
Maureen Anderson
Ed Beltz
Jill Fukunaga
Sarah Gotschall
Deborah Hackerson
Leslediana Jones
Barbara Traub
Jessica Wimer
Lynn Wishhart
Linda Ryan, Board Liaison

Liaisons

To be decided

Local Arrangements

Mike Whipple, Chair
Suzanne Thorpe, Board Liaison

Membership

Kristina Niedringhaus & Tawnya Plumb, Co-Chairs
Phll W. Johnson
Mila Rush
Laureen Urquiaga
Sally Wambold
Michael Slinger, Board Liaison

Middle Managers’ Breakfast

Scott Childs, Chair
Frances Brillantine
Carole Bredemeyer, Board Liaison

Newsletter

Leah Sandwell-Weiss, Chair & Newsletter Editor
Matt Braun
Tina Ching
Sue Kelleher
Jennifer L. Lunt
Paul Moorman
Susan Zappia
Suzanne Thorpe, Board Liaison

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ALL-SIS Committee Members & Charges, cont’d

**Nominations**

Richard Humphrey, Chair  
Michelle Finerty  
Phyllis Marion  
Matt Morrison  
Linda Ryan, Board Liaison

**Programs**

April Schwartz, Chair  
Simon Canick  
Cindie Leigh  
Ruth Levor  
Lee Peoples  
Sara Sampson  
Paddy Satzer  
Kira Zaporski  
Suzanne Thorpe, Board Liaison

**Public Relations**

Mary Hood & Eric Gilson, Co-Chairs  
Julia Jaet  
Linda Ryan, Board Liaison

**Relations with Online Vendors**

Monica Sharum & Marjorie E. Crawford, Co-Chairs  
Stephanie Davidson  
Janet R. Hirt  
Beth Mobley  
Marilyn K. Nicely  
Michelle Wu, Board Liaison

**Sourcebook for Teaching Legal Research**

Sara Kelley, Chair  
Gary Hill  
Isa Lang  
Todd Melnick  
Michael Roffer  
Etheldra Seoggin  
Linda Ryan, Board Liaison

**Statistics**

Kory Staheli & Jonathan Franklin, Co-Chairs  
Margaret Christiansen  
Darin Fox  
Lorna Y. Tang  
Linda Ryan, Board Liaison

**Strategic Directions Task Force**

Michelle M. Wu, Chair  
Carol Bredemeyer  
Mark Folmsbee  
Paul Healey  
Richard Jost  
Suzanne Thorpe, Board Liaison

**Website**

Diane Murley, Chair & Web Administrator  
Sara Kelley  
Leah Sandwell-Weiss  
Suzanne Thorpe, Board Liaison

**Continuing Education Task Force Formed**

The ALL-SIS board recently formed a Continuing Education Task Force. The goal of the Task Force is to put together some programming that could reach academic law librarians beyond the AALL Annual Meeting. We hope to package it as streaming video and make it available from the ALL-SIS website or somewhere on AALLNET. With the approval of the ALL-SIS Board, the Task Force will present a grant proposal to the AALL Continuing Education Grants Program to fund this project.

We are in the early stages of identifying programming ideas. We have reviewed the recently conducted ALL-SIS Member Survey and have been brainstorming. We also plan to monitor regional and chapter programming to identify excellent programs that could be captured and disseminated to the membership via streaming video.

We want to hear from you. What types of continuing education programming would you like to see? Our ideas thus far include the following:

- Faculty Services - specifically in the area of electronic publishing and repositories. Perhaps a

(Continued on page 18)
Continuing Education Task Force, cont’d

program on how the law library can play an integral role in a law schools faculty repository and how to go about creating one.

• Using virtual reference methods to serve patrons who aren’t coming into the library.

• Management/Professional Development - conducting empirical research.

• A program on digital preservation efforts in law libraries featuring the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA).

• The changing ABA Standards for Law Libraries and counting electronic titles.

• Training on particular software/how to podcast.

Please send your ideas to a Task Force member listed below:

• Lee Peoples, Task Force Chair, lpeoples@okcu.edu

• Merle Slyhoff, Task Force Member, mslyhoff@law.upenn.edu

• Mary L. Wells, Task Force Member, mlwells@stthomas.edu

Grant, cont’d

reimburse one ALL-SIS member for travel costs and housing for one night (up to $750) for attendance. The grant recipient will be required to submit receipts to the ALL-SIS Secretary/Treasurer for reimbursement.

Eligible candidates:

Any ALL-SIS member* who will commit to writing an essay for the January 17th issue of the ALL-SIS Newsletter on the impact of Bob Berring’s work on academic law libraries.

* Excluding Berring symposium presenters/organizers, ALL-SIS Executive Board members, and ALL-SIS Awards Committee members.

Preference will be given to ALL-SIS members who have been active contributors to ALL-SIS programs and products.

Applicants who are able to attend regardless of receiving this ALL-SIS grant are encouraged to register for the symposium as soon as possible. For applicants who are unable to attend the symposium without this grant, it is not necessary to register for the symposium at this time (a place will be held for the grant recipient).

Application Procedure:

Each applicant should submit at least one paragraph explaining how attendance at the symposium will benefit his/her work as an academic law librarian.

Each applicant should provide a record of his/her ALL-SIS participation, including ALL-SIS offices held, ALL-SIS committee/task force service, contributions to the ALL-SIS Newsletter, contributions as moderator/presenter for ALL-SIS programs held at the AALL Annual Meetings.

Submit the information above as an email attachment to John Edwards, Chair, ALL-SIS Awards Committee, john.edwards@drake.edu.

Deadline for Applications:

September 15, 2006

Announcement of Grant Award:

September 25, 2006
**Member News**

**Accomplishments, Awards, and Elections**

Patricia A. Cervenka is the Chair-Elect for the Law and Sports Section for the American Association of Law Schools (AALS).

**New Positions and Promotions**

Barry University School of Law Library is very pleased to announce that Ray Lytle joined their staff on August 28. Ray is the new Reference Librarian. After over twenty years of working in New Orleans, Ray comes to Orlando with excellent experience and knowledge. They feel very fortunate to add someone with Ray’s skills to their library. Unfortunately, just as they were hiring Ray, another Reference Librarian resigned. They are sorry to announce that Warren McEwen is leaving Barry at the end of August. Warren began working for the library when it was the University of Orlando, before it became a part of Barry University. They will certainly miss his presence and his institutional knowledge. They wish Warren well, and welcome Ray.

Stacey Bowers is the new Access Services Librarian at the Westminster Law Library, University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Stacey is a recent MLIS graduate of the University of Denver and also received her JD there in 1992. In addition to her job duties, Stacey is starting a PhD program in Curriculum & Instruction at the College of Education.

Christopher C. Dykes has joined the University of Houston Law Center’s O’Quinn Law Library as a reference/research librarian. Chris is a Tennessee native, and has his undergraduate degree and library science degree from the University of Tennessee. He also has a law degree from the University of Baltimore, and a Master of Law in Tax Law from Villanova University.

Christine Hepler has assumed new duties at the Garbrecht Law Library, University of Maine School of Law. She now serves as the Associate Director of the Library.

Kreig Kitts has joined the Georgia State University College of Law Library as Reference Librarian. Kreig was formerly Research Librarian at Troutman Sanders LLP in the firm’s Atlanta office.

Michele Kristakis has changed positions and is now the Research and Educational Services Librarian at the Barco Law Library at the University of Pittsburgh. In addition, they have hired Valerie Weis to serve in the position of Faculty Services Librarian.

Lolly Gasaway, former Director of the Law Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has moved to the Law School at UNC to serve as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Lolly served over 21 years as Director at the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library at UNC. Anne Klimefelter, Associate Director of the UNC Law Library, is now also Acting Director, and a search is underway for the permanent Director. Steve Melamut, Information Technology Services Librarian at the University of North Carolina Law Library is wearing two hats, adding the role of Acting Assistant Dean for Information Technology for the UNC School of Law to his library responsibilities.

Paula Seeger joined the law library staff as Circulation Librarian at the University of Minnesota on August 14.

Two new lawyer-librarians, together with a new Tarlton Fellow, will be joining the Tarlton Law Library at the University of Texas this September. Melissa Bernstein obtained her law degree from Harvard, and a master’s degree from Pratt. Melissa is a member of the New York Bar and practiced corporate law in New York and New Jersey (at, among other firms, Chadbourne and Parke). Melissa also interned at the law library at New York University. Casey Duncan’s law degree (cum laude, Dean’s List) from the University of Minnesota (where he was executive editor of the Minnesota Journal of Global Trade), and his master’s from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Casey researched constitutional law issues as a research assistant to Professor Michael Paulson at the University of Minnesota. He is a member of the Nebraska Bar. Leslie Ashbrook is the Library’s newest Tarlton Fellow. Leslie’s undergraduate degree is from the College of William & Mary and her law degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She begins her studies at the University of Texas School of Information this fall, and will be interning in the Library’s public services department.

The Law Library, Rogers College of Law, The University of Arizona, has three new library fellows starting this year: Jane Larrington, a University of Michigan Law School graduate, and Michael Bird, a graduate from the Rogers College of Law, start their studies this fall at The University of Arizona’s School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS). Sean Crane, an alumni of the University of Colorado’s School of Law, practiced in the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribal courts while employed with DNA-People’s Legal Services, Inc., before starting his studies at SIRLS last year. Last year’s fellows, Brandon Baker and Phillip Gragg, have left for law library positions at California Western School of Law and LSU’s Paul M. Herbert Law Center. In addition, Lisa Wagenheim, the library’s Electronic Services

(Continued on page 20)
Librarian, has left the law library world to take a position in the general counsel’s office of First Magnus Financial Corporation, Tucson, Arizona.

Ron Wheeler has accepted the position of Associate Director for Public Services at the Georgia State University College of Law Library. He began working at GSU on August 2nd. Ron was formerly the associate director for faculty, research, & instructional services at the University of New Mexico School of Law Library in Albuquerque. Ron was recently featured on the Law Librarian Blog’s Spotlight on Law Librarians. See that article at http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/law_librarian_blog/2006/08/spotlight_on_la.html.

There have been several staff changes at the University of Wisconsin Law Library:

- Sue Center, Assistant Director of Public Services, is retiring after 35 years of service;
- Bill Ebbott has become Assistant Director of Public Services;
- Bonnie Shucha has moved into the Head of Reference position;
- Cheryl O’Connor has shifted into a new Faculty Services Librarian position;
- Jenny Zook has taken on a new specialty to become Reference & Instructional Services Librarian.

For more information please visit their blog (www.law.wisc.edu/blogs/wisblawg/2006/05/staff_changes_at_the_uw_law_li.html).

**Presentations**

Sergio Stone presented a paper at the Asian Law Institute Annual Conference in Shanghai, China on May 25, 2006. The paper was called “Pixel Pluralism: Online Images of Law & Justice in East Asia.” Sergio is the Foreign, Comparative & International Law Librarian at the Westminster Law Library, University of Denver Sturm College of Law.

Why Do You Belong to AALL?, cont’d

published in Spectrum) and fortune (winners will receive free full registrations for the 2007 Annual Meeting). Read on for more details.

**Contest Guidelines**

- Contest participants must be current AALL members.
- Entries will be divided into three groups based on years as a law librarian: 1 - 5 years, 5 - 10 years, and 10+ years.
- One winner will be selected from each group. Be sure to indicate your group on your entry.
- The three winning entries (500-words) will be published in the June 2007 issue of AALL Spectrum, and each winner will receive a free full registration to AALL’s 2007 Annual Meeting in New Orleans.
- Deadline for receipt of entries is Friday, December 15, 2006. Entries should be sent to: Claudia Jalowka, Law Librarian, Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries, 90 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06106; e-mail claudia.beth.jalowka@jud.ct.gov; fax 860/706-5086; or phone 860/706-5151.
- Submitted entries become property of AALL.

Incoming chair Suzanne Thorpe announces that the 2007 ALL-SIS reception & awards ceremony will be held Sunday, July 15, at Loyola New Orleans.
ALL-SIS was established in 1979 to promote interest in and to address issues of common concern to those employed in academic law libraries. The SIS serves as the umbrella organization for all interests—administration, collection development, consortia, directors, fees for service, interlibrary loan, public services, technical services, middle management, etc.

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

ALL-SIS on the Web

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

Newsletter Information & Deadlines for 2006 - 2007 Academic Year

Please submit all articles and announcements to the ALL-SIS Newsletter Editor. Are you working on any interesting special projects? Have you attended a meeting and learned something you want to share with colleagues? Do you just want to rant and rave about some problems related to academic law librarianship? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please send your thoughts. Any format, printed, faxed, or e-mailed will do, but it would be easiest for Newsletter production if the article is sent either as an attached text or word processing file or as the body of an e-mail. The deadlines for this year’s remaining issues are January 17, March 1, and May 16, 2007. Thank you for your contributions and for your consideration.