Indianapolis is behind us but not forgotten, and I want to thank you all for the help and encouragement I received while taking on my new duties. I came away inspired by the high level of energy, interest, and dedication of our members, which I hope will be sustained over the years and imparted to new members joining us.

In the larger context, we continue our identity crisis as librarians. The discussion on the program Redefining the Law Librarian’s Profession led down many roads, but the conclusion was simply that we must try harder lest we be out of a job. It lacked the angry voice of Bob Berring to get us to put a price tag on what we are doing. In this time of change there is also a new vocabulary out there: renaissance, sea change, spectrum, waterfronts. It seems one could make a whole speech based on those words—which I will spare you. But isn’t it just possible that foreign and international law librarians are well placed to make a difference?

A few notes on the SIS committees and working groups. Their meetings are informal and open to anyone at the Annual Meeting. Most of the working groups have a well-defined charge and are led by members with expertise in their areas who pass on the baton as the situation warrants. Their various reports can be found in this issue of the newsletter. We had some orphans in Indianapolis, but helpful members stepped in to save the day. The Processing Issues Group and the International and Intergovernmental Organization Issues Group are in need of leadership and an agenda, and I would be happy to hear from anyone with ideas.

The Special Committee on Materials for Third-World Libraries has been discontinued, the work having been completed. A bibliography will appear in a future issue of the newsletter. The Special Committee on Curriculum for Librarians in Developing Countries has also been discontinued. Work in this area is conducted by the ABA. There is a current agenda for the Special Committee on Self-Instructional Materials with ideas being explored for language training for law librarians. Some committees with traditionally small membership meet concurrently, but the composition of those may be reconfigured for next year.

With regard to the irregular scheduling of meetings this year, and the last, I am happy to report that Headquarters has indicated that we should have no trouble getting back to our Sunday schedule for next year in Baltimore.

INSIDE
From the Editor ... p. 2
Minutes of the Business Meeting ... p. 3
Reports from Indianapolis ... p. 5
Summer Institute on Public International Law ... p. 11
People in the Profession ... p. 13
Albanian Law Librarian Visits Georgia ... p. 14
Tech Services SIS Does FCIL, Too ... p. 15
From the Editor

The October issue of the Newsletter traditionally contains reports of activities at the preceding Annual Meeting. While this year’s perverse schedule made it impossible for any one individual to participate in all the working groups, reports from the active groups allow you to catch up on the ones that you were unable to attend. In addition, Aaron Kuperman’s column for the Processing Issues Group focuses on FCIL issues discussed by the Technical Services SIS.

Special thanks go to those who reported on the working groups—Jonathan Franklin (who also provided minutes of the business meeting in the absence of the secretary/treasurer), Bill McCloy, Marylin Raisch, and especially to Dennis Sears, a relatively new FCIL member who was prevailed upon to provide reports for three working groups. (You can learn more about Dennis in Mila Rush’s column on people in the profession.)

Another new FCIL librarian is contributing to this issue. Anne Burnett reports on a visit to her library of a law librarian from Albania. You will find her account most fascinating. (You can also learn more about Anne in Mila’s column.)

Jean Davis provides a personal account of the AALL summer institute on public international law, the last in a series of five institutes under the title “Training the Next Generation.” Although not sponsored by FCIL, this series has drawn heavily on the expertise of our members.

You may notice the absence of an INT-LAW column in this issue. When the column began four years ago during Dan Wade’s editorship, INT-LAW was new and many of us were still not connected to the “information superhighway.” The column was a way to disseminate information from the list to our membership and to encourage colleagues to subscribe. Now, since most of us have access to INT-LAW, the need for a regular column has passed. However, we will publish tips from INT-LAW as fillers from time to time.

Janice Selberg has compiled the INT-LAW column since its inception. For four years she has faithfully monitored the list, chosen pertinent messages, and, above all, met deadlines, and I want to express publicly my sincerest appreciation for her work.

Finally, I owe a debt of gratitude to Carmen Valero, who has agreed to continue as copy editor and save me from my mistakes.

Law Center for Inter-American Free Trade on the Web

George Arden reports that the National Law Center for Inter-American Free Trade’s WWW site is now operational at http://www.natlaw.com. In addition to the InterAm database, which can be accessed by subscription only, this site contains the annual report, questions about the NLCIFT, and will expand to contain general information on NAFTA. There will be articles, Noticias (the monthly newsletter), as well as links to other sites.

NLCIFT plans to update the InterAm database daily and the rest of the site biweekly. For more information contact George Arden at 800-529-3463.
Minutes of the 1996 Business Meeting

Reported by Jonathan Franklin
University of Michigan Law Library

[At the Chair’s request, the minutes were recorded by Jonathan Franklin, substituting for Secretary/Treasurer Radu Popa, who was unable to attend the meeting.—Editor.]

The annual business meeting of the Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries was convened at 4:50 by incoming Chair Margareta Horiba of Tulane University Law Library. The outgoing Chair, Francisco Avalos, was unable to attend. Approximately fifty members were in attendance.

The minutes of the 1995 FCIL SIS business meeting as published in the Autumn 1995 FCIL Newsletter were adopted unanimously.

The Chair announced that the new Vice Chair/Chair-Elect would be Bill McClay of the University of Washington, based on the results of the recent election.

The Chair further announced the Treasurer’s Report based on figures provided by Radu Popa, the Secretary/Treasurer, who was unable to attend the Annual Meeting. Current balance was $2,689. The Treasurer’s Report was adopted unanimously. It was noted that half of all SIS dues go into the SIS’s account and the other half go to AALL general funds.

The Chair started the subcommittee reports by calling on Marci Hoffman, co-chair of the Education Subcommittee, to report. Marci Hoffman reported that the FCIL SIS sponsored four programs and a three-part human rights program and that three of these programs were cosponsored. The four FCIL SIS programs were Doing Business in Africa, Solving Foreign and International Reference Questions (cosponsored with Reader Services SIS), Hong Kong 1997 (cosponsored with the Asian-American Law Librarians Caucus), and the Global Harmonization of Copyright Law (cosponsored with the Copyright Committee).

Marci Hoffman also requested program submissions for the 1997 program and mentioned the possibility of proposing workshops. Several topics were raised including Rape as a War Crime, Teaching Foreign and International Law, a Mock Trial, Civil Law—The Basics, and International Alternative Dispute Resolution. These were all to be discussed at the Education Subcommittee meeting on Wednesday morning.

Several of the working groups that had met by the time of the business meeting will report on their discussions in the FCIL Newsletter. These include the Electronic Issues Working Group, the African Law Working Group, the Asian Law Working Group, the CIS and Eastern European Law Working Group, and the Latin American Law Working Group.

The Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Working Group, represented at the business meeting by Lyonette Louis-Jacques, raised two related issues: first, whether the FCIL SIS as a whole was interested in creating pathfinders, and second, whether there was interest in putting them on a web site. As the discussion evolved, proposals were made that the pathfinders mirror the bibliographic presentations of the five institutes, the last of which had just ended. The specific proposals included getting the original authors to update their chapters and getting new authors to follow the same areas. Pathfinder creation was encouraged by Lyonette Louis-Jacques and Dan Wade. Others, including Ellen Schaffer, were concerned that this was a major undertaking that should not be started without an assessment of the number of people committed to the project. The discussion also addressed the inclusion of shorter, more narrow, pathfinders and creating links to existing pathfinders on FCIL topics already at other websites.

After an extensive discussion of the topic, Jonathan Pratter moved that the decision to officially support the creation of a clearinghouse for FCIL pathfinders be postponed until a formal proposal can be distributed to the members with the hope that the creation of a formal proposal will reflect the existence of a
committed core group of members willing to devote themselves to this project. The motion was seconded by Ellen Schaffer and passed with a significant number of abstentions. Dan agreed to work on a draft proposal and submit it to the membership at large.

The International Issues Working Group, represented by Jolande Goldberg, repositioned the group to focus on the task of discussing the arrangement and classification of the documentation produced by IGOs, a rather more narrow topic than the working group's title implies. This discussion led to a historical review of how the electronic, processing, and international issues working groups grew out of the need for groups other than the existing geographically specific working groups.

This in turn led to a discussion of meeting times and working group meeting attendance, an issue the Chair had placed later on the agenda. Dan Wade mentioned, and others agreed, that the traditional Sunday schedule better suited the members of the FCIL SIS due to the lack of conflicts between FCIL working groups scheduled at the same time, the conclusion of all working groups prior to the commencement of the business meeting, and the lack of conflicts with other important events at the Annual Meeting. Others hoped that the past two years were unusual scheduling flukes that would not set a precedent for the 1997 Annual Meeting.

The Chair reported that Ken Rudolf has agreed to publish the FCIL Newsletter for another year. This announcement was met with unanimous applause. Mila reinforced that the newsletter is a better way to reach the FCIL membership than the INT-LAW listserv due to the large number of INT-LAW subscribers who are not members of the FCIL SIS.

The Clearinghouse Committee, represented by Telle Zoller, reported that over two hundred Spanish letters had been sent to law libraries and law schools in Latin America. They had received eight responses so far and will be pursuing opportunities by publicizing the program at the IALL meeting in Vancouver.

The Special Ad Hoc Committee for Materials for Third-World Countries has ceased to exist, having met its original goals.

Larry Wenger of the University of Virginia, as representative of the IALL, discussed the organization and the upcoming course in International Law Librarianship in Vancouver. He also mentioned the 1997 course will be in Lund, Sweden, and the 1998 course will be hosted by UNIDROIT in Rome, Italy.

The meeting concluded with new business. Ellen Schaffer encouraged parties interested in an expanded International Legal Materials on CD-ROM to write to ASIL to show their support for the project.

Bill McCloy asked all first time FCIL SIS business meeting attendees to stand. Ten new members were given a warm welcome and other members were encouraged to introduce themselves at the reception following the meeting.

The Chair, Margareta Horiba, adjourned the meeting at 5:50 and a reception followed.

TS SIS Does FCIL, Too (cont. from p. 16) by law libraries with expertise in foreign law, the easier it will be for the LC law cataloging team to continue to resist pressures to engage in shortcuts that might undermine the quality (i.e., usability) of catalog records. The biggest challenge is in recruiting libraries with expertise in foreign law to participate in PCC, and perhaps in finding and recruiting non-U.S. libraries as well.

Closer cooperation between the TS and FCIL groups would benefit both. Catalogers are often most aware of what a library owns (we see every book coming in). Catalogers routinely look for data to use for “copy” cataloging and should share their expertise with public service librarians. The cataloger who discovers a large Italian law library with American style cataloging should share that information with the reference librarian, and vice versa. FCIL should encourage catalogers to participate in FCIL activities (and especially in the region-specific working groups).

This is not an official communication of the Library of Congress. The views are the author's.
WORKING GROUP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Subcommittee
by Marci Hoffman
University of Minnesota Law Library

The Education Subcommittee spent the weeks following the Annual Meeting reviewing, and in some cases writing, the proposals for next year's Annual Meeting. Eleven programs were submitted from various members. The committee recommended the following programs:

1. International Legal Regimes and Their Capture in Classes KZ-JZ: Shifting Boundaries, Changing Traditional Jurisdiction. (This is our SIS's designated slot.)
4. Legal Aspects of Returning Cultural Property to Its Original Owners.

We are cosponsoring the following programs:

1. Around the World in Eighty Minutes (OBS SIS).
2. WIPO, the WTO, and the New Berne Protocol: International Dispute Resolution (Copyright Committee).

This year each SIS was allowed one designated slot. We worked closely with the Technical Services SIS and the Legal History SIS which enabled us to get three of our programs in three designated SIS spots. The International Legal Regimes program is a two-part program. We have put part one as our designated spot and Technical Services submitted part two as their designated slot. Legal History liked the Navigating the Law Through the Ages program so much that they offered to submit it as their designated spot. This allowed us more flexibility with our programs and assured us that these three programs will be part of next year's Annual Meeting.

The committee wishes to thank all of the people who worked so hard on program proposals especially in light of the time crunch. If your program was not chosen this time, we encourage you to submit it again next year.

Marci Hoffman, Co-Chair
Jolande Goldberg, Co-Chair

International and Intergovernmental Issues Group
by William B. McCloy
University of Washington Law Library

The International and Intergovernmental Issues Group met from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. on July 21, 1996, as part of the Indianapolis conference of AALL. Wiltrud Harms of the Boalt Hall Law Library served as coordinator of the session, and Jolande Goldberg of the Library of Congress presented information and led a discussion on the classification of United Nations materials with reference to the new JZ (International
Relations) and KZ (International Law) classifications being prepared by the Library of Congress. Eleven individuals representing nine libraries were present and participated in the discussion.

At the beginning of the session, pending Jolande's arrival, Wiltrud shared information about Boalt Hall's extensive collections of UN documents and materials about the UN, highlighting the traditional way in which these collections have been arranged. This was enlightening, since the organization of the new schedule is based in large part on Boalt Hall's arrangement of its collections. Upon her arrival, Jolande began by reporting on her visit to Boalt Hall where she analyzed these as well as other collections, and proceeded by presenting details of the classification numbers just approved at LC for UN documents.

With these new numbers, a library will have several options for processing UN documents. A range of numbers will be available in JZ for United Nations publications which will enable libraries to group publications together, essentially using the UN document number (or for some publications, the UN sales number) as one would use a cutter. A library would have the option of using these numbers whether it wished to fully catalog publications, to catalog them only by series or by using "collection level records" for categories of publications, or if it wished to use the numbers simply for arrangement on the shelves if it did not wish to prepare catalog records at all.

In addition, if a library preferred to classify these materials in KZ rather than JZ, a space has been left in the KZ schedule allowing the entire block of numbers to be applied in exactly the same way in KZ as in JZ. Further, it is expected that some institutions may wish to continue their practice of classing UN sales publications by subject rather than bringing them together according to UN sales category. These libraries could adopt the schedule for other UN materials but opt not to class UN sales publications together in a sales number arrangement.

The new classification schedule will include detailed listings for many classification numbers and an abundance of detailed notes and references which (for users of machine-readable versions of the schedule) will all be searchable in the online index through word searches. This should greatly facilitate access to the various document series and be a convenient guide to locate materials issued by specific UN bodies.

When LC prepares a cataloging record for a UN publication, they will provide both a JZ number and a K number, allowing other libraries to choose whether they wish to class the item by subject or by document number.

Electronic Issues Working Group
by Marylin J. Raisch
Columbia University School of Law Library

The AALL Annual Meeting is an opportunity each year for foreign and international law librarians to catch up on the rapid growth of information on the Internet in the world of the World Wide Web. This year's working group was well attended by several FCIL SIS members and some non-members, as well. The meeting was convened by Marylin Raisch, librarian of international and comparative law at Columbia University School of Law Library.

The suggested agenda included three basic items for discussion, with the group welcome to raise additional issues as well. First, what is the experience of the group with search engines and their search language; do people get good results? Second, what about the issues of reliability and provenance? Third, what means are being used to control information about the 'Net as librarians instruct students as well as locate many international documents found nowhere else?

With regard to search engines, Mirela Roznovschi of New York University Law Library offered a positive evaluation of her experience with Infoseek for Professionals, a product of the Infoseek Guide which is made available for a reasonable fee to interested subscribers. This raised the issue of value-added electronic information and the need for standards, which participants discussed at some length. Some find the wealth of information is enough; others felt the Web definitely lacks the
crucial information about its texts, such as frequency of updating, source of materials, etc. that would make it an even more valuable tool, and it was on this theme that the second issue was explored.

Finally, different libraries use different strategies to make both print and electronic information available. According to Associate Director Mark Bernstein, Duke University School of Law is checking all its holdings against materials indexed in Reynolds and Flores, *Foreign Law: Current Sources of Codes and Basic Legislation in Jurisdictions of the World*, 3 main vols. with 2 sub-vols., (Littleton, Colo.: Rothman and Co., 1993-). Sources of some of the foreign law material are now accessible via the Washlaw web (http://lawlib.wuacc.edu/washlaw/washlaw.html), Hieros Gamos (http://www.hg.org), and countless others.

The group resolved to meet next year at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore and update the success of strategies for managing web information, but there was some consensus that good search engines are indispensable as the list of URLs and official intergovernmental organization home pages grows and contains documents not readily available elsewhere or only on the web.

African Law Working Group

by Dennis S. Sears
Brigham Young University Law Library

The African Law Working Group met on Monday, July 22, 1996, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 145 of the Indiana Convention Center. Victor Essien (Fordham University Law Library) chaired the meeting.

The discussion of the group centered around two issues: 1) collection development, and 2) the African Law Initiative. Regarding collection development, Marylin Raisch (Columbia University Law School Library) commented that LL.M. students are often amazed the collection at Columbia has anything from this area. In response, Victor noted that such was no longer the case, but that not enough money is being spent to develop collections in this area. Marylin and Victor both agreed that the problem is not money, but availability, i.e., size (publication runs), postal services, transportation, etc. The Library of Congress has field offices which procure materials for its collection. Charles Mwiymo currently has that responsibility. People traveling in the area also serve as useful contacts and may help solve problems with unreliable jobbers. Publishers do not print large runs, in part, because of the instability of the governments which may bring about a new constitution, provisions for adoption, etc. And then there is the issue of whether the "new" law will be common law or civil law.

The discussion of collection development turned to the availability of electronic resources. At this time, only law reporters are available on the Internet and in some areas the Internet is limited to e-mail. The possibility existed that a legal CD-ROM product might have been developed for Ghana, but too little material was available. Currently, a ten-year gap exists in the law reports and a seven- to eight-year gap exists in the laws for Ghana. Ghana exemplifies the problems of procuring legal materials from Africa.

Although the African Law Initiative was undertaken by the American Bar Association, the group discussed the failure of the ABA to take a leadership role. The purpose of the initiative was to pair up law schools in the United States with law schools in Africa. From the perspective of the law library, the intent was 1) to evaluate the African law libraries, 2) to train the African law librarians there, and 3) to identify African legal materials. Nothing has happened to date except for a few visits.

Jessica Alexander (Texas Southern University Law Library) indicated that support of the Initiative was part of the law school mission statement at Texas Southern. This commitment is independent of any requirement to support the curriculum, which consists of only a general international law offering. This commitment is also independent of any requirement to support faculty with a specific interest in the area.

Marguerite Butler (Texas Southern University Law Library) added that the initiative was intended to support emerging democracies. She
reported on the status of the law school in Malawi, the African law school associated with the law school at Texas Southern University.

Asian Law Working Group
by Joan Liu
New York University Law School Library

The Asian Law Working Group held its annual meeting at 5:00 p.m. on July 22, 1996, at the Convention Center in Indianapolis. Bill McCloy (University of Washington, Gallagher Law Library) chaired the meeting. Other participants included Kai-yun Chiu (Baltimore Bar Library), Joan Liu (New York University Law Library), Wei Luo (Southern Illinois University Law Library), Grace Ooi (Columbia University Law Library), Mila Rush (University of Minnesota Law Library), and Nongji Zhang (Harvard University Law Library). Most attendants came to the meeting with both institutional and personal interests in Asian law.

During the two-hour long meeting, a variety of aspects and issues on Asian law collection were discussed. Bill McCloy reported the news and activities of the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) and the Committee on Research Materials for Southeast Asia (CORMOSEA). Some participants introduced briefly the new developments in the collection of Asian legal materials at their institutions. Columbia University has explored a new approach to a more effective acquisition of Chinese legal literature and materials. A former Chinese visiting scholar in the People’s Republic of China who is familiar with the policy and demands of collection development at Columbia is assigned as a representative to help purchase Chinese legal materials on a regular basis. Supported by a state grant, the University of Washington has begun the reclassification of its CJK collection into LC. During the process, and working with LC, four new LC subclass numbers were created by LC under KNN. After outsourcing the retrospective conversion of its Chinese legal collection, Duke Law is now planning to outsource its Japanese collection. New York University Law Library is actively working on the CJK collection and planning to outsource cataloging in order to match the pace of the law school’s Global Law School program.

People at the meeting also discussed some new Asian law resources in both electronic format and paper. For instance, there is a new CD-ROM product on Japanese law, Horitsu Hanrei Bunken Joho (Current legal information), which the faculty and students are really fond of at the University of Washington Law Library. Some fee-based Internet resources, such as World News Connection (http://wnc.fedworld.gov), have been accepted by many institutions for their fair price and good service. This database covers Asian media sources from

Join the Asian-American Law Librarians Caucus

- Visit our website at http://www.siu.edu/offices/lawlib/aallc/
- Attend the annual Asian meal with AALLC colleagues.
- Subscribe to the AALLC listserv (address: listserv@ftplaw.wuacc.edu; message: subscribe AALLC Firstname Lastname).
- Support production of the informative directory and quarterly newsletter.

The AALLC was organized at the 1987 AALL Annual Meeting in Chicago by Mon Yin Lung. The purposes of the Caucus are:
1. To enhance communication among Asian-American law librarians and other librarians, especially law librarians;
2. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among all librarians interested in Asian law; and
3. To address issues related to the status and professional development of Asian-American law librarians, and related concerns.

Although no contribution is needed for membership, a voluntary contribution of $10 for operating expenses would be appreciated. The check should be made payable to American Association of Law Libraries. It should mention AALLC in the comment space. Contributions should be sent to: Jonathan Franklin, Reference Librarian, University of Michigan Law Library, 801 Monroe Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1210
East Asia, the Near East, South Asia, and China, and includes major legal journals and legal documents from those regions and countries. Some other issues, such as Law-On-Line, the quality of databases, the new Windows version of RLIN CJK, etc., were brought into the discussion as well.

In the meeting, Mr. Wei Luo from Southern Illinois University School of Law Library was elected as the next chair of the Asian Law Working Group.

CIS/Eastern European Law Working Group  
by Jonathan Franklin  
University of Michigan Law Library

The CIS/Eastern European Law Working Group had a fruitful session in Indianapolis. With an attendance of nine, it covered a wide range of relevant issues. Aaron Kuperman of the Library of Congress discussed the move towards including Eastern Europe in GLIN (Global Legal Information Network at http://lcweb2.loc.gov:8081/glin/glin.html). He also touched on the politics of the LC schedule, mentioning that the Baltics had been shifted to the European schedule. This will become an issue for other CIS countries, Turkey and others who see a benefit to being in the European schedule. He also mentioned that one can find "in process" volumes in the MUMS file, http://lcweb.loc.gov/z3950/ (for MUMS search tips, see http://lcweb.loc.gov/z3950/mumstips.html).

Areta Halibey of the University of Chicago shared that the Ukraine has passed its constitution. Furthermore, Svod Zakonov, compilations of laws in force, are expected in the near future for Latvia and Lithuania. She commented that CEELI, the American Bar Association's Central and East European Law Initiative, had been useful in getting specific documents through personal contacts.

Marylin Raisch of Columbia described her institution's focus on the materials of the Russian Federation, Ukraine, and Belarus. She mentioned Kent McKeever's continuing ties with Kazakhstan. She also alerted us to a useful source with the nondescript title Information Bulletin published by the Center for Parliamentary Activities of the CIS. In the context of a discussion of the full text of translated Russian legislation on Lexis (Library: INTLAW, File: RUSLEG), we learned that the vernacular text is available from Garant for $7 per page.

Maria Smolka-Day reported that all drafts of the Polish Constitution and other Polish legislation are on the web at http://web.mit.edu:80/stngiam2/www/lCl/lpl index.html or http://www.law.cornell.edu:80/law/pl__index.html. She also reported that on her most recent trip to Poland, book prices had soared, so we must expect to pay more for Polish law books.

Significant contributions to the discussion were also made by Mirela Roznovschi, Jane Williams, Dennis Sears, and Margareta Horiba.

Latin American Law Working Group  
by Dennis S. Sears  
Brigham Young University Law Library

The Latin American Law Working Group met on Monday, July 22, 1996 at 5:15 p.m. in the Indiana Convention Center. Edgardo Rotman (University of Miami School of Law Library) chaired the meeting.

The group addressed the availability of electronic sources for legal information for Latin America. However, some of the group reject much of what is available electronically for Latin America because it is unreliable. Some materials for Mexico are available. The web page for Mexico was judged to be fair. It is linked to Diario Oficial. In addition, INFOJUS from Mexico's Institute for Legal Research (Instituto de Investigaciones Juridicas) at the National Autonomous University of Mexico has databases. Also, LEXIS has extensive databases. Global Legal Information Network (GLIN) provides a database of the laws of various countries. GLIN is now accessible through the WWW server of the Library of Congress.

Maria Otero (University of Puerto Rico Law Library) updated the group on the status of legal materials in Puerto Rico. Nothing exists in the area of legal bibliography. Regulations are being polished and will appear as a pamphlet in looseleaf format. They will also be online by
subscription. Lexis and Westlaw both have statutes, but they have not been updated since 1992. In addition, the decisions of U.S. District Court cases originating in Puerto Rico are online, but not Commonwealth decisions. Finally, Compuclerk produces a CD-ROM containing the laws, decisions, and regulations of Puerto Rico. Michie has also released a similar CD-ROM product.

Jonathan Pratter (University of Texas at Austin) raised the issue of how to answer questions that have implications of which a law librarian is aware but of which the patron is unaware. Do we go beyond a basic answer, imparting a basic knowledge? Do we need to help the patron understand any constraints such as answers imbedded in a context?

The discussion turned to NAFTA, a familiarity with which the group considered critical. Although, the flow of literature is slowing since the crash in Mexico.

Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Working Group
by Dennis S. Sears
Brigham Young University Law Library

The Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Working Group met on Monday, July 22, 1996, at 7:00 a.m. in the Indiana Convention Center. Lyonette Louis-Jacques (D’Angelo Law Library, University of Chicago Law School) chaired the meeting.

The first topic of discussion was developing pathfinders for the area of FCIL. The bibliographies developed in conjunction with each of the five institutes were suggested as a starting point. Three related groups of people were identified as possible authors of pathfinders: 1) graduates of the institutes, 2) attendees of the institutes, and 3) presenters at the institutes (reworking/updating their bibliographies). New pathfinders could be produced by developing topical lists based on each of the institutes, e.g., environmental law, etc.

Regarding the quality of these pathfinders, the group suggested that the SIS could act as a clearinghouse for them. The structure of Article 38 (ICJ) was also suggested as a guideline.

Making these pathfinders available was also considered. Mark Folmsbee (Washburn University of Topeka School of Law Library) might allow the SIS to load them on to his site. In addition, Steven C. Perkins (Rutgers University Law School Library) has also offered to place them on his homepage. His offer is attractive because of the technical support available.

The group expressed concern with the proliferation of homepages and urged that new homepages not just link to other sources; rather those who create homepages should focus on the strength of their institution/collection. The University of Minnesota Human Rights Library, managed by Marci Hoffman, was cited as an example of a unique homepage.

Five suggestions arose out of the discussion of new ideas/issues in teaching FCIL:

a. Define your audience, e.g., journal students, undergraduates, etc.

b. Based on the time and resource constraints, teach the basics and a few important titles to which you have access, e.g., Reynolds and Flores, Martindale-Hubbell, etc. Also, teach what you do not have, if necessary.

c. Teach basic concepts, i.e., foreign law versus international law, public law versus private law, civil law versus common law, etc.; Treaties in Force, Bowman and Harris, Multilateral Treaties: Index and Current Status, etc.; International Legal Materials; evaluating a web site; etc.

d. Identify people to contact.

e. Jolande Goldberg (Library of Congress) briefly discussed the completion of the classification system, both online and in print. She suggested that teaching an overview of the system and the law may be helpful.

Finally, several members of the group expressed interest in bringing and sharing the exercises they use in connection with their teaching of FCIL. Also, members expressed a willingness to bring sample syllabi and to revive the previous syllabi project, not brought to fruition.
Or so it seemed to one participant in the July 17–19, 1996, AALL Summer Institute, "The Contemporary Practice of Public International Law," held at Indiana University in Bloomington. Homemade ice cream shops beckoned one short block from campus entrance gates, and free (or dirt cheap) evening musical performances abounded. Surprises unfolded on every level of the imposing Gothic facility which housed many institute registrants and faculty members. The coffee shop tempted those on their way to morning lecture sessions with freshly-baked banana bread (only forty cents a slice!), and the nighttime jazz trios jammed in the bowels of the building as part of IU’s orientation program for entering students. Thank you, Ralph Gaebler and the Indiana University Law School Library staff, for providing your colleagues with a wonderful setting in which to study and share ideas!

As the public international law program unfolded, it became clear that codirectors Ellen Schaffer and Randy Snyder had added a blazing jewel to the crown of this five-institute series. Many substantive law speakers and accompanying bibliographic/collection development speakers successfully integrated their presentations. A sparkling example was the synergy between Professor Jennifer Moore and Associate Information Officer Elisa Mason (UNHCR) when they spoke on international refugee law.

The first day’s speakers provided a thorough overview of the contemporary practice of public international law, and diplomatic and consular law. They also explained the concepts of foreign state immunity and state succession. The second day’s speakers focused on international criminal law, international litigation, and international refugee law. The final day’s speakers concentrated on customary law, international human rights law, and useful electronic resources concerning the aforementioned institute topics.

The following are some of the discoveries made during this final, memorable conference.

1. The World Court Project (an NGO), the World Health Organization, and the United Nations General Assembly all had roles in bringing the matter of the potential use of nuclear weapons before the International Court of Justice. The July 8, 1996, ICJ advisory opinion regarding nuclear weapons is significant because of the sources that the ICJ relied upon. This opinion contains an interesting discussion about how “opinio juris” is formed in the modern ICJ. Ellen, Randy, and Ralph: institute participants greatly appreciated your lightning-fast provision of the full-text opinion!

2. The American Society of International Law might not publish the eagerly-awaited International Legal Materials Extended (ILMX) CD-ROM product! This CD-ROM product would have included hundreds of hard-to-find treaties, judicial decisions, national laws and international organization documents that could not be printed in International Legal Materials due to space limitations. Those interested in expressing support for the publication of this CD-ROM product should write to: Marilou Righini, Editor, International Legal Materials, American Society of International Law, 2223 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008, and Charlotte Ku, Executive Director, American Society of International Law (same address as above).

3. "Soft law" political agreements are important. Such agreements can be a first step in controlling a new type of technology. Even today, the United States sometimes enters into binding oral agreements (President Clinton and President of Country X) on sensitive subjects. The United States Constitution requires the reporting of all executive agreements to Congress.

4. Diplomatic relations exist between states, not between governments, and diplomatic immunity is a privilege of the sending state, not
of the individual diplomat. Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations contains the Diplomatic Abuse Regulations. The United States can have a “protecting power” in a country where the United States does not have formal diplomatic relations. For example, Switzerland is the United States’s protecting power in Cuba. The United States relied on the concept of diplomatic inviolability to permit its embassy personnel to hold non-Muslim religious services within the United States embassy in Saudi Arabia, despite the existence of a local law prohibiting such services.

5. Wee Willie’s, a diner with no signs and drawn blinds sandwiched between railroad tracks and a muffler repair shop, serves great home-brewed root beer, in the opinion of the author and fellow Bloomington explorers Catherine Krieps, John Nann, Silke Sahl, and Stephen Wiles.

6. Domestic law cannot excuse a violation of international law. There is no statute of limitations or immunity (unless a governing treaty exists) for violations of international criminal law. Watch for news of a 1997 conference to discuss the rules of procedure, evidence, and substantive law (what are the laws and customs of war?) that a permanent international criminal court could apply.

7. When assisting a fledgling international law researcher, explain that there may be a customary international element in the research problem. Jordan J. Paust’s text, International Law as Law of the United States (Carolina Academic Press, 1996), would help a researcher to understand the incorporation of customary international law into United States law.


10. The top-gun triumvirate of Marci Hoffman, Elisa Mason, and Paul Zarins identified their “top ten” Web sites concerning foreign and international law: REFWORLD (UNHCR); University of Minnesota Human Rights Library; Organization of American States; UN Treaty Database; Law Library of Congress—Global Legal Information Network; Cornell Law School Legal Information Institute; University of Tromso—International Trade Law; United Nations Scholars’ Workstation at Yale University; University of Michigan Documents Center; and EUROPA—European Union.

11. Downing mango “Lhasa Smoothies” at a Tibetan restaurant with Jeanne Rehberg and Ken Rudolf was a great way to cool off on a searingly hot July night. Watching Ken react to his first view of flickering fireflies at the Carrie Newcomer folk concert in Third Street Park was an added bonus!

Although this invaluable series of international-law related AALL Summer Institutes has concluded, FCIL section members were encouraged to attend a free International Law Weekend ’96, sponsored by the American Branch of the International Law Association in New York between Oct. 31 and Nov. 2, 1996. FCIL section members also can accept the “Dan Wade Challenge” to meet and share ideas and international law-related research papers on the Saturday preceding the 1997 AALL Annual Meeting in Baltimore.

ICJ OPINIONS ON CORNELL WEB

Official decisions of the International Court of Justice are available on the Cornell Law School's web page (http://www.law.cornell.edu/icj/). Currently, decisions are available from 1996, but a complete archive from the inception of the Court in 1946 is planned.—INT-LAW
People in the Profession
by Mila Rush
University of Minnesota Law Library

In this issue we introduce two colleagues: Dennis Sears of Brigham Young University Law Library and Anne Burnett of University of Georgia Law Library. Both had international exposure before assuming their positions as FCIL law librarians, and both are presently with the law schools they graduated from.

A year after he entered BYU as a college freshman, Dennis Sears went to Germany, where he spent two years. He came back to BYU, completed a baccalaureate in German, and went on to earn an M.A. in Modern European History in 1981; his thesis was on post-WWII German politics. He completed his law degree in 1985, also from BYU.

Upon graduation Dennis held a judicial clerkship in the Fourth Judicial District Court of Utah for a year and a half. After his clerkship, he worked for the Salt Lake County Tax Administration for a year. In 1988 Dennis was offered a faculty position at the BYU Law Library, where he has been since, holding various positions including being Head of Circulation, Head of Reference, Projects Librarian, etc. While at BYU Law Library, he was also attending library school. Dennis completed his M.L.I.S. in 1993.

About two years ago, Dennis assumed responsibility for foreign, comparative, and international law. He continues to work general reference and teach both basic legal research and various topics in advanced legal research.

Although Dennis has been a member of AALL since 1988, he has been a member of FCIL SIS for only two years. He feels fortunate to have been able to attend the last two FCIL institutes. In Indianapolis, Dennis had the fortune (or misfortune) to be drafted to take notes during the meetings of three working groups: Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research, Latin American Law, and African Law. Without realizing it, he is now in the thick of FCIL activities.

Dennis says he has been extremely impressed by the professionalism and dedication exhibited by members of the FCIL community. This, he says, makes working in the area both enjoyable and exciting.

Anne Burnett is not only the new Foreign and International Law Librarian at University of Georgia Law Library, but is also the first to hold the position. From this view, she seems to have prepared for it. Here is what she says:

“One of the main reasons I chose UGA for law school was the strength of its international and foreign programs. As a student, I was able to participate in an internship with a London law firm, take a seminar on EU law in Brussels, and serve as editor-in-chief of the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law. I also enjoyed meeting and studying with many of the 25-35 foreign lawyers who work towards LL.M. degrees each year at UGA.”

Armed with an M.L.I.S. from the University of Texas/Austin and, of course, her J.D., Anne’s first job was as a reference librarian at the University of Arkansas/Fayetteville Law Library. She enjoyed that very much, but still hoped to get back into the international and foreign arena. Fortunately for her, UGA decided that the library’s collections and the law school’s programs warranted a reference position with an international and foreign focus. She is very pleased to be back in Athens (along with her fiancé and their two dogs and two cats).

In addition to participating in the regular reference schedule, Anne is responsible for organizing and maintaining the UN and EU document collections, assisting acquisitions with collection development, assisting the foreign LL.M. students and the editors of the international journal with their special research needs, preparing research guides for use with their foreign, comparative and international materials, maintaining the foreign and international Web pages, and editing the library’s newsletter. She says she is “always getting new ideas from INT-LAW, AALL meetings, and this newsletter for additional ways to keep extremely busy!”
Albanian Librarian Visits Georgia
by Anne Burnett
University of Georgia Law Library

In June of 1996, I had the pleasure of hosting the Law Librarian for Albania’s Court of Cassation. Elda Hoxha came to Georgia for almost two weeks of training in law librarianship as part of the American Bar Association’s Central and East Europe Law Initiative (CEELI). Although we packed Elda’s days with training sessions, I believe that we learned at least as much from her as she did from us. As more opportunities for exchanges of this nature arise, I thought it might be helpful for me to share some of my experiences as a host/trainer.

Because Elda’s visit had been rescheduled from two dates earlier in the year, much of the preliminary planning had already been done by UGA Computer Services Librarian Carol Watson before I even started my job in Athens (meaning I got to do the fun stuff). Like most of the world’s population, I knew very little about Albania, which had been isolated for years under a communist dictatorship. I asked the folks in the CEELI office to send me as much information about Albania as possible, and I trekked over to the Main Library on the UGA campus for additional resources on Albania. With these materials I was able to create summaries about Albania and its culture for the rest of the library staff. I wanted everyone in the library to be involved in the visit, and providing information about our visitor and her country served well to increase everyone’s anticipation.

This background information also helped me to plan Elda’s “free” time while in Athens. For example, several sources commented that Albanians do not have the same expectations of privacy that we do, and they are not often alone. Knowing this, several members of the library staff volunteered to have Elda over for dinner and to plan evening and weekend activities with her, thereby lessening the amount of time she would have to spend alone in her hotel room. In addition to visiting several staff members’ homes, Elda went shopping (several times at her own request!), saw a softball game, went to the movies, toured botanical gardens, visited the local public library, a school library, ate at numerous restaurants, and tried tacos for the first time.

Before Elda arrived, I asked the CEELI liaison in Albania to provide a list of goals for the training. This helped me to plan training sessions suitable for her needs. One of Elda’s priorities was to evaluate software for online catalogs. The small size of her collection (approximately 3000 volumes) meant that software suitable for our large academic law library was not practical for her purposes, but a posting to LAW-LIB produced numerous helpful suggestions. Elda was then able to observe two of these programs in use (many thanks to Linda Dekle at Troutman Sanders and Martha Lappe at the Georgia State Law Library in Atlanta for their invaluable assistance).

Elda arrived in Athens with an additional $2000 earmarked for supplies and materials. Although we were able to help her find library supplies (which CEELI subsequently shipped to Albania for us), we had to explain that it was not feasible to purchase $1900 worth of foreign law library materials at the UGA Bookstore! We did, however, provide her with a list of major legal publishers in Europe. In addition, she spent several hours with our acquisitions librarians, who discussed collection development issues and acquisitions procedures.

Elda arrived with good computer skills, and she was able to build upon these during numerous hands-on sessions with our computer services librarian, Carol Watson. She was particularly interested in the World Wide Web and the camaraderie, professional courtesy, and practical assistance shown on LAW-LIB and INT-LAW. I showed her printouts of the replies I had received to my LAW-LIB query about software suitable for a small law library’s online catalog, enabling her to see the very practical value of the listservs. She will soon have e-mail
access herself, so do not be surprised if you see a posting by Elda Hoxha some time soon!

Perhaps the most valuable lesson I learned from Elda’s visit was to build in “break” time throughout the visitor’s day. Although her English is quite good, anyone who has spent time communicating in a foreign language knows how wearying that can be. I believe I was a little too ambitious in my scheduling efforts; therefore, if presented with a similar opportunity in the future I will not pack the visitor’s schedule so tightly.

I also learned just how helpful the legal community in Atlanta is. Elda spent three days in Atlanta where she was most graciously hosted by the Honorable Dorothy Thoth Beasley, Chief Judge of the Georgia Court of Appeals. Along with bringing Elda into her home, Judge Beasley arranged for Elda to meet and spend a fun day in Atlanta with the envoy to the Albanian Olympic team and a former Peace Corps volunteer in Albania. In addition, Elda spent time with the law firm of Troutman Sanders, several court libraries, and the staff of Georgia State University’s Law Library (special thanks to Nancy Deel for coordinating that portion of the visit).

The possibility of participating in events such as Elda Hoxha’s visit is one of the many things that attracted me to the “international” side of law librarianship, and I am very fortunate to have been able to take part in such an exchange at this point in my career. I also learned how to make an ĕndeshme (tasty) dish of fierëze (lentils) the Shqipëtar (Albanian) way—let me know if you want the recipe!

**Technical Services SIS Does FCIL, Too!**

*by Aaron Wolfe Kuperman*  
*Library of Congress*

At the AALL conference, most discussion of how foreign and international law is cataloged took place at meetings of the Technical Services SIS, rather than the FCIL SIS. The only major exception was the discussion of the new JZ/KZ schedules for public international law. With a few exceptions (most importantly, Jolande Goldberg), those who catalog foreign materials are not active in FCIL; FCIL members tend to be users rather than creators of cataloging data. This article discusses some of the things the TS SIS did that affect FCIL (at least those using LCSH and LC classification, though in the age of international access to OPACs, that includes virtually everyone).

Changes in classification and subject cataloging are routinely discussed. Whereas changes to descriptive cataloging require a multinational consensus, the Library of Congress can change subject cataloging and classification policies on its own, and in areas that affect primarily law cataloging, the support or opposition of the law catalogers within AALL carry tremendous weight.

One change affects the subject heading treatment of constitutions. For users, the most important change may be the encouragement of subject headings based on the actual title of the constitution in the original language. For non-English speaking countries this will increase access when a user knows the name of the document, but not necessarily that it is the constitution. In the past, LCSH had tried in some cases to make an artificial author-title heading using the English word “constitution” rather than the original language term (in addition to topical subject headings, which are always in English).

Another change discussed would have made the subject subdivision “law and legislation” into a free-floating subdivision. The change was favored by LC’s law catalogers (who have to manually add it to LCSH each time it is needed for a new subject), as well as many non-law catalogers outside of LC. The idea horrified the catalogers assembled in Indianapolis, who are concerned that non-law catalogers don’t fully understand what constitutes an “inherently” legal heading and would use it inappropriately (which, among other things, compromises the quality of the records used as a basis for copy cataloging). Anyone working with foreign law
is especially nervous about copying someone else’s record unless it is someone known to have adequate subject and language expertise (ever try explaining the difference between a statutory order, a statute, and a regulation to someone used to working exclusively with U.S. materials).

Led by Jolande Goldberg, an attempt is being made to simplify the “form subdivision” tables used in the LC classification tables. The tables are used to subarrange books that are classified under a given number, e.g. to keep the statutes together, rather than interfiled with cases and treatises. Each LC schedule has distinct form tables distinguished by slight but annoying differences. While this has only a minor impact on someone working almost exclusively with American law, someone working with non-U.S. law has to deal with several dozen different tables. This is a nuisance for catalogers (nuisance means lower productivity). The impact on public services is growing since the large LC data base and large multi-library data bases are increasingly used for reference searching. Automating the LC classification schedules has created an incentive to simplify and standardize the tables (as if inefficiency for catalogers and unfriendliness for users wasn’t enough incentive).

So far this hasn’t gone as well as it might. Ideally, LC should have used one table for all countries, but too many substantial changes would result in some numbers being recycled in ways that result in unrelated forms (e.g., conference proceedings and case reports) being put in the same number. The consensus among the catalogers was that LC should make as many changes as possible as long as it doesn’t combine unlike types of materials. This does leave room for minor shifts and cosmetic changes, and combining some tables, but not for the adoption of a single uniform table.

The LC classification schedules are finally going online. Two vendors were displaying prototypes of online classification schedules (but a lot of work still needs to be done). Once the schedules are online, the LC classification system will be an increasingly powerful tool for retrieval. It will be highly advantageous and technically possible to customize the schedules to reflect the terminology of individual countries, and undo some of the mischief created when LC was forced to develop one master schedule for use for all non-common law countries in Europe, Africa, and Asia (except for France and Germany). However, adding online connections from (as an example) the Italian or Japanese term for torts to the appropriate place in the schedule would require some sort of cooperation between LC and “the rest of the world,” and the basis of a new cooperative project was laid in Indianapolis whereby non-LC librarians will help revise and supplement the terminology of the classification schedules. Unlike existing cooperative cataloging projects, this will create something of great value to our profession that would be impossible if we relied on LC (which lacks the staff and in many cases the expertise).

Various catalogers, not just LC employees, were “pitching” participation in the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, by which the Library of Congress gets other libraries to contribute records to LC’s catalog, and through LC to the de facto national (world?) bibliographic data base. This helps LC tremendously (after all, LC is getting someone else to do work for them) and enriches the LC database, since it thereby includes reliable records for works not owned by LC. Incentives for libraries to cooperate with LC vary. By including a name or subject authority in the “national” database, one is certain that no one else will use the heading in an incompatible way. Participation in the PCC is seen by many as a certification of a library’s competence and as proof of one’s professional responsibility. Building up the national database helps all libraries. So far, law library participation in the PCC has not been overwhelming.

The foreign law specialists are potentially the biggest beneficiaries as more law libraries get involved in PCC activities. The more books cataloged for LC, the more time LC has to catalog books that no one else in the United States has copies of, and such books are disproportionately likely to be “our” (foreign law) books. Also the greater the participation in PCC