

FCIL Newsletter

Volume 16

October 2001

Number 1

From the Chair

Tracy Thompson, Chair

NOTE: This report, like most of this newsletter, was written prior to the World Trade Center attacks. Throughout this newsletter you will see messages of support and comfort from librarians and scholars around the world. These messages were directed to the Mortenson Center for International Programs at UIUC, and we thank them for sharing these sentiments with us. We have also included a list of links to resources on terrorism.

Summer went by, as we all expected, entirely too quickly. Minneapolis seems like a distant memory as school buses rumble to life, footballs spiral through the air, and recipes for comfort food are reclaimed. Still, though fall surrounds us, settle back in your chair and let your memory return you to the 2001 Annual Meeting in steamy Minneapolis.

Thanks in large part to the efforts of Jean Davis, your past president and inexhaustible champion, the FCIL-SIS had a very successful week of programs, meetings and events. All told we sponsored seven education programs, seven interest group meetings, an additional substantive program outside of the traditional program schedule (John Furlong on the Irish legal system), as well as our regular laundry list of administrative meetings, including our business meeting, publications committee meeting, educational committee meeting, strategic planning committee meeting, and more (including the ever-popular alternative luncheon at Aquavit). FCIL-SIS members also figured prominently in several programs not sponsored by our SIS (Jonathan Franklin and Mary Strouse come to mind). The SIS did an outstanding job of utilizing the time and the facilities creatively to maximize the substantive content of the meeting. For example, the East European Law Interest Group hosted speaker Suzanne Thorpe, who discussed the Swedish legal system, and the African Law Interest Group learned about the plight of the witches of Gambaga.

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These are great examples of how we can use the time and space that is allotted to us at the Annual Meeting to get the most bang for the buck for our members. I hope you will all be thinking of creative ways to exploit our resources for next year's meeting in Orlando! See the reports of the various committee chairs included in this Newsletter for complete details on all of the 2001 activities.

The 2001 Annual Meeting also saw several firsts. We welcomed the first Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant recipient Sania Battalova, from the Kyrgyz Republic. Sania shared with us the challenges that her library faces and the successes that they have enjoyed as they grow. She was well-received at our reception for visitors from abroad on Monday evening. Please look for the article contributed by Sania in this Newsletter to get her perspective on the experience. And I must mention once again that Sania's visit would not have been possible without the generous help of three key people: Ellen Schaffer, Mary Strouse and Jean Davis. Thank you, good women! We also saw the first Spirit of the SIS Awards presented to FCIL-SIS members who have made some outstanding contribution to the work of the SIS. Congratulations to all of you who have worked tirelessly on behalf of our SIS!

Now, back to the present. I hope everyone is enjoying the ebb and flow of the season, in all of its incarnations. For some of you fall may mean mothballing your summer accoutrements and rekindling your relationship with wool. For others the coming of fall may mean gearing up to teach a fresh-faced batch of law students or first-year associates the wonders of some aspect of legal research. As you become busy with all of your preparations, please continue to play an active part in your FCIL-SIS.

I hope you have all made your voices heard by filling out and submitting the goal ranking form (<http://www.law.uga.edu/fcil/stratplansurvey.html>) for our Section's strategic planning initiative. The deadline is October 15, so you may still have time. WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU!! Please take the time to fill out the form. We will compile and distribute the results and ask for a vote at next year's meeting so that we can begin to implement the goals that you ranked highest. Is there one particular goal that you strongly support? Some need that you have always wished the SIS to fulfill? Volunteer to see it through to implementation. If you want the FCIL-SIS to be accountable for meeting the needs of its members, you, the membership, must take an active role. To that end, I would like to propose a year-long, "Each One Reach One" campaign.

Did you know there are over 400 members of FCIL-SIS? How many can you name? Here is our roster for 2001-02: http://aallhq.org/database/roster_current.asp?code=SIS_F. I challenge each one of you to reach out to just one person (preferably a stranger) on this list at some time during the coming year to ask for their help or advice, invite them to speak at a program or attend an interest group, recruit them for a project or committee. Make a point of telling them that you found them through the FCIL-SIS roster. We need to reach out if we want people to get involved with the work of the SIS.

Now, to the future. As you all know, next year's meeting is scheduled for Orlando in July. I have heard many grumblings from you birds-of-a-feather about the heat and humidity in Orlando in July. I have a number of responses to this. First, can it be any worse than it was in Minneapolis? Second, don't worry about it, the daily rain helps to keep things bearable. Third, EVERYTHING is air-conditioned. Fourth, Orlando is actually a very nice city, even if you have no interest in Disney/MGM/Sea World, etc. I urge all of you to just get over it, mark your calendars now and plan to flock together at what promises to be an eventful 2002 Annual Meeting. We need to maintain our numbers so that the Association knows that we value our SIS and the opportunity that the Annual Meeting provides for us to learn from each other!

We have submitted seven strong program proposals to the Annual Meeting Program Committee for next year and are awaiting their response. Our program proposal topics included government documents in non-US jurisdictions, the International Criminal Court, the intersection of international law and international relations, law and devolution in Scotland, Caribbean law, international organized crime and technology innovation in FCIL-SIS. We are confident that our proposals will be well-met by the committee. In addition to these opportunities at the Annual Meeting, there are many upcoming events of interest to FCIL-SIS members. What follows is a brief calendar of highlights. Of particular note are the Latin American Trade Law Workshop, tentatively scheduled to precede the ASIL Annual Meeting in March 2002 (developed by Marci Hoffman, Jean Davis and Malo Bernal) and the IALL meeting to be held in October of 2002 at the Yale Law School in New Haven.

OCTOBER 2001

25-27 – International Law Weekend – New York Bar Association– “International Law Odyssey 2001: Beyond the Limits” – <http://www.ambranch.org/2001Weekend.htm>

NOVEMBER 2001

9 - Regional ASIL meeting – Boston, New England School of Law – “Responding to Rogue Regimes: From Smart Bombs to Smart Sanctions”- e-mail Michael Scharf at mscharf@fac.nesl.edu for more information.

MARCH 2002

13 (tentative) – Latin American Trade Law Workshop – Law Library of Congress, Washington, DC – co-sponsored by the Law Library of Congress, the Professional Development Committee of AALL, LLSDC, and the FCIL-SIS.

13-16 – ASIL Annual Meeting – Washington, DC - "The Legalization of International Relations/The Internationalization of Legal Relations 20/02" - http://www.asil.org/annual_meeting/index.htm

OCTOBER 2002

Dates to be announced – International Association of Law Libraries Annual Conference – Yale Law School, New Haven, CT – <http://www.iall.org>

Special Message from the Chair

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Forever, for each of us, just the mention of that date will evoke memories of a moment that even still, in the harsh reality of history, seems unimaginable. It is even harder to imagine moving forward with our business without acknowledging the terror unleashed upon Manhattan and upon our nation on that Tuesday morning. Much has been lost: mothers and fathers, futures, sons and daughters, innocence, friends and colleagues, an abiding sense of security as the backdrop for our daily lives. Can we expect to 'come to an understanding' of these terrorist attacks, or 'make sense' of them? Those seem like unrealistic goals. But many of us may hope to come to terms with these events through research and study. We hope that we can make some small contribution to those efforts for you and your patrons by providing links to a handful of the myriad resources on terrorism now becoming available. Perhaps true peace can only be achieved through knowledge.

Articles

Terrorist Attacks On The World Trade Center And The Pentagon, by Frederic L. Kirgis (from *ASIL Insights*, September 13, 2001) <http://www.asil.org/insights/insigh77.htm>

Attack on America: An Islamic Perspective, by Professor Ali Khan, Washburn University School of Law (from *Jurist: The Legal Education Network*, September 17, 2001) <http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/forumnew29.htm>

Fighting Terrorism on a Global Front, by Kofi A. Annan (New York Times, September 21, 2001) –http://www.un.org/News/ossg/sg/stories/sg_terrorism.htm

International Terrorism: 39 Current World Leaders: International Issues (August 1996) <http://www.igc.org/intacad/cwl/toc.html> - august 1996

Cruise Missile Strikes in Afghanistan and Sudan, by Frederic L. Kirgis (from *ASIL Insights*, August 1998) <http://www.asil.org/insights/insigh24.htm>

Relevant international instruments

See links provided by the American Society of International Law, including many relevant conventions and several articles and other resources <http://www.asil.org/terrorind.htm>

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court <http://www.un.org/law/icc/statute/romefra.htm>

Domestic legislative response

New York Legislature Approves Sweeping Anti-Terrorism Package
<http://www.law.com/cgi-bin/nwlink.cgi?ACG=ZZZGDPEYQRC>

Other resources

UN Dag Hammarskjold Library Resource page: provides historical overview of the UN's role in combating terrorism, as well as links to many key documents.
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resources/terrorism/index.html>

Jurist: The Legal Education Network – Terrorism Law and Policy
<http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/terrorism.htm>

Findlaw: Links to news, primary and secondary materials, includes photos, videos and current case information. <http://news.findlaw.com/legalnews/us/terrorism/index.html>

Lexis has provided subscribers with preformatted searches on various topics related to terrorism at <http://www.lexisnexis.com/aoa/mainLexis.htm> as well as specific searching tips on these topics at http://www.lexis-nexis.com/academic/research_resources/terrorism/default.htm

LLRX: Links to current information regarding survivors, victims, missing persons, news, relief efforts, and much more. <http://www.llrx.com/newstand/wtc.htm>

Government information at FirstGov <http://www.firstgov.gov/featured/usgresponse.html>

We are very sorry to hear that our three fellow colleagues lost their lives during the terrorist attacks. On behalf of Chinese librarians, I want to extend our condolences and sympathy to the families and friends of all those who were effected.
- China

My dear friends, I am very sorry for what have happened in your country, it's just awful! You need to be strong and you'll overcome this situation. Please accept my sympathy (I am not sure this is the right word, I just want to say I am with you!)
-Moldova

I got terrible shock when I heard and saw news about attack on America. I have no words to express anger and emotions about it. I am worried for all of you.
-India

Just a note to convey our condolences with what had happened yesterday. We hope you are all okay. Although so far away, we are still shocked and are thinking of you.
-South Africa

We offer you sincere hart felt sorrow for the very unfortunate happenings in USA.
-Sri Lanka

FCIL Newsletter is published in October, February and May by the Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. The main goal of this Section is to “serve as a forum for exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative and international law, and to represent its members’ interests and concerns within AALL.”

FCIL Newsletter is sent free to members of the FCIL SIS. It is available for that “exchange of ideas and information”.

The newsletter can be read on the world wide web at:

<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html>.

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**Deadline for next issue is January
15, 2002.**

For more information about the FCIL
SIS, visit the Web site at:

<http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/fcil.html>

Annual Reports

Our Team’s Business Meeting

submitted by Jean Davis

Manager Davis presided over the FCIL-SIS Business Meeting on July 16, 2001. I adore the baseball plaque presented to me by Assistant Manager Thompson!

General Good and Welfare: Thanks to our team managers: FCIL-SIS Executive Committee members Christine Corcos, Katherine Topulos and Tracy Thompson.

Congratulations to our Section’s newly elected All Stars: Tracy Thompson, Chair; Ken Rudolf, Vice-Chair/Chair Elect; and Mirela Roznovschi, Secretary/Treasurer.

I also wish to recognize 1) our Committee and Interest Group chairs: Anne Burnett, Victor Essien, Joan Liu, Marta Kiszely, David McFadden, Dennis Sears, Marilyn Raisch, Edgardo Rotman, Ken Rudolf, and Maria Smolka-Day and 2) the coordinators, speakers and moderators who crafted seven outstanding programs for this conference.

I greatly appreciate the support of LexisNexis for our Section’s “Teaching” Interest Group activities and the support of Thomson Legal & Regulatory and West Group for our Section’s Reception.

At the FCIL-SIS Reception, Manager Thompson and I were proud to honor our first “Spirit of the SIS” award winners: Anne Burnett, Michael

McCarthy, Mary Rumsey, Dennis Sears, Mary Strouse, Victoria Szymczak, and Stefanie Weigmann. We greatly enjoyed presenting an award to Ellen Schaffer, the powerhouse who created the foreign librarian's grant to attend the AALL Annual Meeting.

Announcement: Please support incoming editor of the FCIL-SIS Newsletter, Stephanie Burke (sjburke@bu.edu), even though she is a Bo Sox fan. Anne Burnett was a star editor during the past five years!

Minutes: Secretary/Treasurer Thompson moved that the minutes of the July 2000 FCIL-SIS Business Meeting be approved as published in the October 2000 FCIL-SIS Newsletter, and as corrected in the February 2001 FCIL-SIS Newsletter. (The one corrected sentence under "Announcements": "The AALL executive board would like to add foreign members to the association.")

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/Treasurer Thompson provided a treasury report in which she stated that our Section's ending balance on May 31, 2001 was \$5,168.15. There were no questions about the report.

Executive Committee Report: Welcome, Sania Battalova, first recipient of the new Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant. Creating the Schaffer Grant was a superb team effort. Generous Section leader Ellen Schaffer and the AALL Executive Board established the Schaffer Grant. Our Executive Committee wrote the grant application, publicized this new opportunity and worked to obtain supplemental funds. Thomson Legal & Regulatory, International Sales & Marketing became the inaugural

corporate sponsor of the Schaffer Grant. Mary Strouse became the first FCIL-SIS supporter of this grant. Piloted by Ms. Thompson, the Schaffer Grant Committee (Daniel Boyer, David McFadden, Mary Rumsey and Jeanne Wenger) selected the recipient. Now, LET'S "GROW THE GRANT"!

Griffey may be iffy, but Ms. Burnett and the Executive Committee have posted our current goals on the Web site <http://www.law.uga.edu/fcil/statplansurvey.html>. (The result of our October 2000 strategic planning meeting with facilitator Karen Corbett.) The Section's goals and methods of implementation are available for all members' ranking and comment. Knowing what is most important to members will help our officers to establish an agenda.

Ken Rudolf and Dennis Sears are powering our Section's 2002 educational planning. Like El Duque, who crossed the Caribbean to spark the pitching staff of the Bombers, Heather Worledge-Andrew hopes to cross the Atlantic in 2002 to boost our knowledge of Scotland's devolution.

Many new recruits are leading Section activities. Candidates for "Rookies of the Year" include: Michael McCarthy (supervisor of the project to revise the list of Foreign and International Law Librarians Willing to Help Non-Experts); Dana Neacsu (Blue Helmet Research Team member who discussed UN sources for asylum law research at a roundtable on Wednesday, July 18, 2001); Mary Rumsey (program coordinator of "Prometheus UNBound: Firing Up United Nations Legal Researchers" and member of the Schaffer Grant Committee); and Bea

Tice (who will be the new member representative on an expanded FCIL-SIS Education Committee).

Pinstripe heroes Michael McCarthy and Grace Lee have created a revised list of Foreign & International Law Librarians Willing to Help Non-Experts at <http://www.nyls.edu/library/FCIL.html>.

AALL membership is not a requirement. Mr. McCarthy welcomes submissions from all librarians. ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST!

With the expert assistance of coach Maya Norris, AALL's Director of Publications, Ms. Burnett and I updated our Section's brochure.

This year, our team submitted presentation binders titled "Marketing the FCIL-SIS at the AALL Annual Meeting" for the Excellence in Marketing award. Although we did not win, we were finalists in the competition. AALL's Public Relations Committee invited us to display our entry in the PR Showcase.

After carefully considering all responses to Ms. Burnett's FCIL-SIS Newsletter survey at an April meeting, the Executive Committee and Ms. Burnett decided to produce a "primarily electronic" FCIL-SIS Newsletter. Beginning with the October 2000 issue, the FCIL-SIS Newsletter is now available in HTML and PDF formats at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html>.

New Business: Because many FCIL-SIS bodies discussed issues in committee and interest group meetings (see other reports in this Newsletter), no one presented additional proposals to the assembly.

Clearinghouse for Internships and International Personnel Exchanges submitted by David McFadden

Attendees: Sania Battalova, Malo Bernal, Jean Davis, Edward Hart, David McFadden, and Mary Strouse.

The Clearinghouse Page on the FCIL-SIS web site has brought expanded visibility to the Clearinghouse. There was an increase in submissions to the Clearinghouse. The results of three new questionnaires were added. One existing library submitted updated information. There were at least two queries to the chair. It is unclear if others used the information from the Clearinghouse without notifying the chair or someone else on the committee. It is known that two libraries on the Clearinghouse list recently engaged in a visit.

It was decided to post notices about the Clearinghouse on various listservs including the law library directors' and intlaw listservs at least twice a year. Malo Bernal will help get the posting on the law library directors' listserv.

Malo Bernal suggested that there should be an article or other submission about the Clearinghouse in the IALL International Journal of Legal Information.

There was a discussion of grant and fellowship opportunities. One new idea that was discussed was to collect information about grants and fellowships that are available for visits and exchanges. Often librarians and libraries are willing but do not have the financial resources. The results could be posted on the Clearinghouse page.

There should be a posting on listservs about the recent special issue of Legal Reference Services Quarterly and the reprint Law Librarians Abroad which featured articles about foreign law library visits and exchanges. It also had an article specifically about the Clearinghouse. A posting would not only promote the publication but also the Clearinghouse.

“Teaching” Interest Group
submitted by Jean Davis

At Brooklyn Law School, we are still coping with disruptions in services caused by the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Also, we are helping many attorneys who temporarily have no offices. Thus, this is a brief report on the July 2001 FCIL-SIS Teaching International and Foreign Law Research Interest Group meeting.

The “Teaching” Interest Group meeting offered a further opportunity for dynamic AALL program speakers Peter Clinch, Irene Good, John Nan, Victoria Szymczak and Steven Whittle to discuss IFL and immigration law teaching techniques and sources.

Peter Clinch, text of slide presentation, AALL Educational Program and Handout Materials, July 17, 2001, pp. 67-71 and Foreign Law Guide Project (FLAG)
<http://ials.sas.ac.uk/library/flag/flag.htm>

Irene Good, Immigration Law Guided Research Seminar
<http://www2.bc.edu/~goodi/>

John Nann & Victoria Szymczak, Mastering the Matrix: Teaching (Law) with Technology
<http://brkl.brooklaw.edu/screens/matrix.html>

Steven Whittle, “Pathfinding and Prospecting: Discovering Law on the Web with the Social Science Information Gateway,” AALL Educational Program Handout Materials, July 17, 2001, pp. 72-79 and SOSIG: Site Map
http://www.sosig.ac.uk/about_us/sistema.p.html.

The turnout for the “Teaching” IG meeting was extraordinary—in addition to many beloved Section members, participants included: Sania Battalova, Schaffer Grant recipient; Priscilla Leung, Director, Isinolaw Research Centre, Hong Kong; Caron Rollins, Associate Law Librarian, Priestly Law Library, University of Victoria; Steve Young, RIPS section leader; and Jules Winterton, Librarian and Deputy Director, University of London, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. Dr. Leung inspired us by discussing her fund raising and development efforts regarding <http://www.isinolaw.com>. FCIL-SIS’s Secretary, Mirela Roznovschi, highlighted new material available through <http://www.law.nyu.edu/library/foreignintl/> and <http://www.llrx.com>. Ms. Roznovschi also explained that her new book, *Toward a Cyberlegal Culture* (Transnational Publishers, 2001), includes modules for teaching online legal research and contains a catalog of high quality international and foreign law databases.

FCIL-SIS Education Committee Co-Chair Dennis Sears noted that *Legal Reference Services Quarterly*, v. 19, No. 3/4 2001, focuses on teaching legal research and providing access to electronic sources. Ms. Szymczak stated that she is adding links to law librarians' legal research course pages and teaching materials at <http://brkl.brooklaw.edu/screens/fcilsis.html>. If you wish to share your materials through the FCIL-SIS Teaching Resources page, please contact Ms. Szymczak: vszymc@brooklaw.edu

FCIL SIS greatly appreciates the support for this "Teaching" IG meeting provided by Thomas Daniel, Raul Lopez, Gayle Lynn-Nelson and all at LexisNexis™. Thank you, LexisNexis™ Librarian Relations Group, for assisting your TRIALL and TRIPLL veterans!

Note: If you wish to view Davis & Szymczak, International and Foreign Law Research (Fall 2001 course home page): access <http://webcourses.lexisnexis.com>. Then, click: Login, Browse Course Catalog, LexisNexis, Enroll, Preview. In the COURSE SEARCH box, type: international and foreign law research, then select Preview. Remember, this page is a work in progress.

Education Committee Report
submitted by Kenneth E. Rudolf
and Dennis S. Sears

The Education Committee of the Foreign, Comparative, and International Law (FCIL-SIS) Special Interest Section (SIS) met in the Exhibit Hall of the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota at 1:45 p.m. on Monday, July 16, 2001. A number of

FCIL-SIS members attended. Also in attendance was Anna Delgado, the AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC) member assigned to the FCIL-SIS. As a result of this meeting, the FCIL-SIS sponsored seven programs:

Breaking Connections: The Struggle against International Organized Crime
(Coordinator: Edgardo Rotman)

Connecting the World through Government Documents
(Coordinator: Mirela Roznovschi)
Co-Sponsored by the FCIL-SIS,
Submitted by the Government Documents SIS

Connecting with the Region: The Caribbean and its Legal Systems
(Coordinator: Stefanie Weigmann)

Connecting with the Worldwide Effort to Combat Crimes against Humanity: The Creation of the International Criminal Court
(Coordinator: A. Hays Butler)

Devolution in the United Kingdom: A Revolution in Online Legal Research
(Coordinator: Heather Worlledge-Andrew)

The International Law/International Relations Connection—Internationalizing Law Library Collections
(Coordinator: Lyonette Louis-Jacques)

Technology Innovation in Foreign, Comparative, and International Law: Women's Human Rights Resources
(Coordinator: Marylin Raisch)

The Education Committee sincerely appreciates the interest, support, and

effort of all those involved in developing program ideas and preparing program proposals.

Publications Committee
submitted by Anne Burnett

Attendees: Stephanie Burke, Anne Burnett, Jean Davis, Victoria Szymczak, Tracy Thompson, Katherine Topulos

The Committee welcomed and congratulated new FCIL-SIS Newsletter editor Stephanie Burke.

At an earlier meeting, the Electronic Issues Interest Group discussed whether the Section needs a “bibliography of bibliographies” that would serve as a list of best guides to foreign and international research. If so, the bibliography could be posted on the Section’s Web site.

We can also create annotated links to members’ guides from the Section’s “Teaching Resources” page at <http://brkl.brooklaw.edu/screens/fcilsis.html> (maintained by Victoria Szymczak).

We discussed adding FCIL-SIS collection development links to the Section’s Web site. At the Electronic Issues IG meeting, Lyonette Louis-Jacques, along with Marilyn Raisch and Dan Wade, offered to begin an "Identification of Useful Collection Development Tools" project.

Anne Burnett reported that the University of Georgia School of Law has changed its domain name, which means that the Section’s Web site has also changed domain names. The old site <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/fcil.html> will auto-redirect to the new site

<http://www.law.uga.edu/fcil/fcil.html> through July, 2002. Notification of the change will take place through the newsletter, listserv, and on the Web site itself. Any remaining Section brochures will be stamped with the new URL.

The new Section brochures have received many compliments. Jean Davis is commended for her hard work and creativity, and we also thank Maya Norris at AALL HQ for facilitating the new design and printing.

The Web site needs to be re-designed and re-organized. As a first step, Anne Burnett will remove links to outdated pages, although copies of those pages will remain on the server (example: the Section’s statement of July 17, 1998 re: “FCIL-SIS Programming and Scheduling at the Annual Conference: Concerns for 1999 and Beyond”).

Suggestions regarding the Web site organization and content are welcome. Please submit them to Anne Burnett at aburnett@arches.uga.edu.

Asian Law Working Group
submitted by Wei Lou for Joan Liu

Attendees: Wei Luo, Fred Chan, Dan Wade, Yan Hong, Arundhati Satkalmi, Liying Yu, Dorothy Li, Priscilla Leung,

Wei Luo chaired for Joan Liu of New York University Law Library.

This year, fewer people attended the meeting. However, we had two attendees from Asia: Liying Yu, Associate Law Librarian from Tsinghua University Law School Library, in Beijing, and Dr. Priscilla Leung from Hong Kong City University Law School and Isinolaw

Limited. Ms. Liying Yu came to the United States as a visiting scholar at New York University Law School, while Dr. Priscilla Leung came to AALL as an exhibitor for Isinolaw.com, an Internet Chinese law service provider.

First, the participants took turns introducing themselves. Second, Priscilla Leung, the Executive Director of Isinolaw Limited discussed Isinolaw. One of the Chinese services that Isinolaw provides, but is not available elsewhere, is the English translation of the judicial interpretations promulgated by the Supreme People's Court of the People's Republic of China. The annual subscription fee for Isinolaw is \$3,000 for one user. For more information, see <http://www.isinolaw.com>. Dorothy Li proposed forming a consortium among American law school libraries to subscribe to Isinolaw.com.

Third, we reported that after using <http://www.chinalawinfo.com> for a year, the faculty and students at Washington U. Law School are satisfied with the services. Chinalawinfo.com provides the most comprehensive legal research to primary and secondary Chinese legal information. The annual subscription costs to both the Chinese and English language websites is only US\$750.

Electronic Issues Interest Group
submitted by Marylin Raisch

Attendees: Marylin Raisch, Daniel Boyer, Edgardo Rotman, Tica Stanton, Sania Battalova, John Wilson, Pedro Padilla, Dan Wade, Jean Davis, and Lyonette Louis-Jacques.

In keeping with the practice of this

group from year to year, no formal agenda was announced but several topics were suggested: availability of secondary sources on the web, electronic reference, and the role of FCIL-SIS in electronic information. (Last year, this was one of the FCIL-SIS suggested "goals" contributed by this group to the SIS, and it has indeed emerged formally as goal 1: "Explore and promote ways to disseminate and to effectively use electronic information in the areas of foreign, comparative and international law.")

Most of those in attendance seemed to favor some discussion of FCIL-SIS and its role in providing electronic information generally as well as to the association. To what extent should our membership be creating pathfinders and guides, our own content, to build the FCIL-SIS web site, or should the web site aim to provide mainly links to other sites? What if some of the non-academic portals and webzines, such as FindLaw and LLRX, become fee-based? These were some of the questions asked in an effort to discern a role for the FCIL-SIS web site. One suggestion was to make sure that members' guides were linked to the page to increase the richness of its content.

Another ongoing project is the electronic list of FCIL-SIS librarians willing to answer questions in certain topic areas, which Michael McCarthy of New York Law School's library just updated for the section, and which is hosted by Oceana. All agreed that these are initiatives we should build on to maintain free and open space for contributions of high quality in the FCIL-SIS area on the web.

Distance learning and electronic

reference are new initiatives that require evaluation. At least one librarian commented on a side-benefit of e-reference: when patrons, especially in international and foreign law, write down their questions, this forces them to spend time analyzing and clarifying the issues for themselves and for the librarian.

Electronic aids to collection development were discussed as well. Lyo agreed to help gather a list of publishers who send out titles for selection electronically so that we all know what collection aids might be available to which one can subscribe and submit a profile.

On a note of activism, the fragility of some of our electronic sources was brought home to us again as we reviewed the removal of the French database of legal materials from the Lexis service. With European materials well within their publishing umbrella, it would seem quite possible for a similar database to be brought into Lexis again. It was suggested that the FCIL-SIS leadership write formally to Lexis to suggest this, and another letter could come from this committee. Several letters from FCIL-SIS members and perhaps the larger AALL constituency would not be amiss either as a way to generate a wave of requests and gain more notice. It is worth noting that no single information provider, even within France, seems to have a product that is at once as convenient and accessible as was the Lexis database.

The Electronic Issues Interest Group thanks all who attended at the very early hour of 7 a.m., and our thanks to Jean Davis, past Chair, for her support and

the coffee and bagels, which were the practical eye openers for our otherwise enlightening discussion. We invite all interested section members and others to join us next year at the annual meeting.

Dear friends, I'm shocked hearing these terrible news of today. It's been like a film - just it is the bloody truth, I could never imagine that something like that could happen. I can only hope that you've had nobody in those places, your beloved are with you.

-Hungary

I shocked about terror in America. I just can't express my emotions. Just would like to say, in this hard time, please know in Kazakhstan you have friends who support you. We are right behind you.

-Kazakhstan

All the Swiss librarians send to you their friendship to support this terrible tragedy who touch you after this dark day for New York, the US and all the civilized world. We are behind you. From Europe in the first time we can't imagine that it was real, it' look like a movie, it was terrible. We hope that you are all safe and sound.

-Switzerland

I want to say that we are with you at this hard time for your country. We all are in shock and we feel very sorry for all these people who suffered and their families as well... Hope everything is OK with you and your families... Say my personal surport to everybody whom I know... It is really a great tragedy...

-Russia, Belgorod

First recipient of the new Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant attends AALL Annual Meeting
submitted by Sania Battalova, first recipient of the Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant

It is a real honor for me as the representative of the Library Centre for Legal Information (LCLI) from the Kyrgyz Republic to attend the 2001 Annual Convention of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). AALL has almost a century of history and plays an important role in the area of democracy and development of law librarianship. The history of democracy in my country dates back only 10 years and the LCLI at this moment celebrates its five year jubilee. We are only beginning our path to democracy and we must make many changes to succeed. The knowledge I will obtain at this conference will help us.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to the people who helped me to attend this conference. I want to express my thanks to Ellen Schaffer and to the Foreign Librarian's Grant Committee for selecting my application from a large number of candidates. This is a real honor for me, for my library and for my country. I want to address special thanks to Ms. Tracy Thompson and to Ms. Jean Davis for their care and wonderful friendship. Their support and friendly advice helped me get here, overcoming many difficulties. And I must thank Ms. Mirela Roznovski, my best teacher, who helped me learn about the Ellen Shaffer Grant. I also want to express my gratitude to the Organizational Committee and to all members of the AALL and FCIL-SIS for their support.

Now, I would like to say a few words about my workplace. The LCLI where I work opened in 1996. This important project was implemented as a result of a joint activity of the Association of Lawyers of the Kyrgyz Republic and the National Library of the Kyrgyz Republic, with active assistance from the American Bar Association (ABA)'s Central and East European Law Initiative (CEELI).

We express special gratitude to ABA's CEELI Coordinator, Mrs. Terri Rogers. The establishment of the first public Library Centre of Legal Information is a reality mainly because of the enthusiasm and professionalism of Mrs. Rogers. We are also very thankful to Mrs. Mary Strauss, the American librarian, for her input in the process of our Centre's establishment. She worked with us during the most difficult and crucial time, the period of formation, opening and first activity. It is very difficult to estimate the practical experience obtained with her assistance.

Other organizations that contributed to our Centre's establishment and its further development include the following: the UNHCR Administration, Democratic Commission of the US Embassy, the Miller and Chevalier Foundation and the Soros Foundation.

From the first, the LCLI founders and organizers strictly defined the Centre's mission as a depository of new information. At LCLI, technologies and resources are open to all categories of users. We have a strong demand for legal information, legal documents, and primary and secondary sources in our country. Every year our Centre is visited by more than 30,000 people who receive

more than 150,000 copies of information sources. We work seven days per week, from 8:00AM until 6:00PM. The average number of users reaches 150 to 200 per day.

The Centre's information potential is constantly improving. At present our collection includes 14,000 volumes. We subscribe to more than fifty periodicals and serials. The Centre also has six informational and legal databases, including the texts of 200,000 legal and normative documents of the Kyrgyz Republic and CIS countries. We are increasingly using Internet resources in our everyday work. We are also constantly establishing and maintaining contacts with comparable centers and legal libraries in other countries. We keep business contact with legal centres and libraries in Uzbekistan, Byelorussia, Russia and Kazakhstan.

Our Centre is highly efficient. A similar Library Centre of Legal Information opened in Osh in 1998. We maintain close contact with our colleagues, sharing work experience, providing assistance in the area of book fund augmentation, acquisition of electronic information media and solving common operational problems. This year, with the assistance of the ABA's CEELI, we are planning to establish and open additional legal libraries in three regions of our country.

Specialists from the ministries and authorities, public and international organizations are the regular clients of our Centre. In particular, the Ministry of Justice, the Constitutional Court, and the President's Administration, as well as the Parliament, public and private law firms, students and lecturers from

institutions of higher education all utilize our Centre. We also have priority users to whom we offer some incentives and advantages when using our services. They include the members of the Association of Lawyers of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Judges Association of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In 1996, the top-priority of the Centre included the collection of information in the area of human rights protection and international legal cooperation. Later, we received a lot of requests for literature in the areas of business and international contract law.

Consequently, we have developed and successfully introduced a project to establish a business law section within our Centre. This project has been financed by the Eurasia Foundation and the Democratic Commission of the US Embassy.

The LCLI widely propagates legal knowledge. It organizes exhibitions, conducts seminars and organizes special "Days of Information" for interested organizations. Every academic year we also provide special training lectures on database operation and searching for information to the legal departments of higher educational institutions at our Centre. Together with the ABA, we have conducted a number of seminars on small business and entrepreneurship, and training courses for lawyers on searching for information on the Internet. Special meetings of lawyers and discussions of draft laws are regularly organized at the LCLI.

The LCLI plans to continue its work in the area of readers' information services. We are also continuing our work in the

development of new directions of our activity and expanding horizons of cooperation with international organizations working in the area of legal information.

I am very excited to meet you and learn from you. Finally, I want to express one more time my gratitude for being here with you!

We are shocked deeply by barbarous terroristic act in the USA. With all our hearts we sympathize the American people in their grief caused by the tragedy. We hope that the American government and the the world community in cooperation will be able to overcome terrorism. The staff of the Donetsk regional library is sharing your feelings and mourn with you.

- Ukraine

It was frightful to see the scene that the World Trade Center tower collapsed while we were watching the soccer game between Vietnam and Malaysia. Hope that there are LESS people killed.

- Vietnam

This is the tragedy not only for the American folks, but also for the whole humanity. I grieve and share your pain deeply.

- Russia, Republic of Karelia

Dear friends! We are shocked with the events connected to acts of terrorism in USA. Your pain and indignation are close to us. The terrorism is a common trouble. We express the condolences to all citizens of USA. We are with you. Tula regional universal library (Russia).

- Russia, Tula

New Research Guide

submitted by Susan Van Syckel, Foreign & International Law Librarian, UOP McGeorge School of Law

The Gordon D. Schaber Law Library at UOP McGeorge School of Law will be publishing a new research guide, "Strategies for Identifying Sources of Foreign Law: An Integrated Approach" at its Web Page the first week in October. The Guide was originally published in the fall 2000 issue of The Transnational Lawyer (one of the school's law journals). The text of the print version is currently available on Westlaw & Lexis in the journals databases at 13 Transnat'l Law. 289. The Web version has been revised and updated through September 2001 by its author, Librarian Susan Van Syckel.

It's a modest guide, intended for "law students and practitioners with little experience in researching foreign law...." It emphasizes "starting points" and "strategies"--the basic research skills needed to locate these sources in various formats. It is not a compendium of sources of foreign law, but a guide to locating (among other sources) the excellent print compendiums and Internet portal sites already compiled.

I just wanted to write any say how distressed we were to hear about the terrible events in New York yesterday. I have no idea how you all must feel. It is somehow incomprehensible to us that such acts can take place in today's world. Our thoughts are definitely with all of you in the US, and we certainly hope that you and your family and friends are all safe and well.

- UK

**A Teach-In Retrospective -- Tenth
Anniversary Celebration!!
Call For Contributions**

Submitted by Kristin B. Gerdy
and Gail A. Partin

The Tenth Annual National Legal Research Teach-In will soon be upon us and we need YOUR contribution to make our Tenth Anniversary a special one. It is amazing, and nearly overwhelming, to see how dramatically legal research has changed over the past ten years. Yet our profession has remained at the forefront despite the confusion, often leading others along the path to innovation and change. If you are one of those "pathway guides" -- even if only for one small part -- consider sharing your solutions with law librarians around the country by contributing to the Teach-in Kit.

Sponsored by RIPS-SIS, the Teach-In gives law librarians the opportunity to share materials and ideas for legal research instruction. Each year the Teach-In committee creates a set of materials that can be used to design and advertise programs and events for our institutions. These materials are distributed several weeks prior to National Library Week (April 14-20, 2002) to anyone interested in legal research instruction.

Over the past ten years Teach-In materials have been distributed to an increasing number of interested people in diverse institutions all over the world. In 1993, for the first Teach-In, resource kits were distributed to 315 locations and promotional items (posters & bookmarks) went to about 200 people. A new record has been set each year, culminating in 2001 when resource kits

were sent to over 700 people and over 20,000 notepads were used for promotional purposes! From these brief figures it is easy to see that the Teach-In has become an integral part of the law librarian landscape.

Teach-in 2002 will focus on integrated legal research, as opposed to media-centered training (i.e. electronic v. print). It is time to revisit classic areas of legal research, this time using an integrated approach. If you have created instructional resources that have taken a new or unusual approach to the complex issues involved in choosing appropriate information sources, your colleagues would be eager to see what you have done and how you have done it! For suggestions of classic legal topics that could be revisited, see the RIPS Teach-In web page at http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/teach_in.htm.

It is never too early to plan for success! Now is the time for YOU to become involved in the creation of these materials! Please take a few minutes to consider if you have research instruction materials (including teaching techniques, training scripts, lecture notes, outlines, handouts, exercises, lesson plans, user guides, pathfinders, research guides, or descriptions of past training events) that you could contribute. If you do, or if you have comments or suggestions, please contact Kristin Gerdy (gerdyk@lawgate.byu.edu or (801) 378-9022) or Gail Partin (gap6@psu.edu or (717) 240-5294) as soon as possible (no later than December 31, 2001). Thanks for making our 10th anniversary Teach-In the best one yet!

Job Opening

The University of Iowa has an opening for an FCIL-SIS Librarian. Please see <http://www.uiowa.edu/~lawlib/FCIL.htm> for the complete posting.

Our Thoughts Are With You

Ross Shimmon, Secretary General
International Federation of Library
Associations and Institutions

The President and Governing Board of IFLA and the staff at IFLA HQ, wish to express our deepest sorrow to our members and friends in the United States for the lives lost in the terrible tragedies in New York, Pittsburgh and Washington. We have all been watching and reading about the events with horror and anxiety for your welfare. We are unable to find adequate words to express our sadness, but we wish you to be assured that our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with you all. That we were with you so recently, experiencing your wonderful hospitality, makes it all the more poignant.

Events such as this serve to test our resolve, as library and information professionals, to cling to our ideals of freedom of information and commitment to cultural diversity. May we find the strength to do so.

I have been shocked and could not believe that was true what I watched on TV news yesterday. I could not imagine your situation, how we can help you or support you? I hope this terrorist attack helps to joint all democratic country leaders with their world's powers together to make one barrier against any other terrorist actions.

- Czech Republic

IALL Conference 2001 Held in Switzerland

submitted by Silke Sahl, International,
Comparative and Foreign Law Librarian,
Arthur W. Diamond Law Library,
Columbia University and Member of the
IALL Board of Directors

The International Association of Law Libraries' 20th Annual Course on International Law Librarianship was held in Lausanne, Switzerland from the 23rd to 26th of September, 2001. The course theme, "Comparative and International Law in a Multilingual Environment: Current Issues and Information Resources" was particularly interesting considering the multiple languages used in both Switzerland and the European Union. Talks such as "Comparative Law: Current Issues and Challenges" focused on the difficulties of comparative law research. The impact of foreign law on domestic legislation was demonstrated in speeches such as "The Influence of Swiss Private International Law on the Italian Codification" and "Foreign and International Law Influences in the New Swiss Constitution". Special attention was also paid to the European Union and the complexity of translation in the speech "Translation and the Law".

The conference included tours of the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law, the Swiss Supreme Court and the United Nations in Geneva. Demonstrations by vendors and publisher exhibits allowed participants to learn about new and useful resources. Finally, the opportunity to meet with and learn from law librarians from all over the world was especially valuable. Papers presented will be published in an upcoming issue of the "International Journal of Legal

Information."

Next year's Annual Course on International Law Librarianship promises to be equally informative. It will be held at Yale Law School in New Haven in October, 2002. More information will soon be available on the IALL website at <http://www.iall.org> or email Silke Sahl at ssahl@law.columbia.edu with questions.

I am so sorry to hear about terrible attacks to the U.S.A. and I hope everything is fine with your family, relatives and friends.

- Turkmenistan

Incredible! I express my great sadness for what has happened. Last night the youth of Tirana lighted the candles to pay homage to the victims of this terrible terrorist attack. I wish you and your family and your relatives to be well. I stand with you all. All the Albanians are with you.

- Albania

When things like that happen we feel there is no way out. A lot of people here in Colombia is very upset for that irrational attack in which thousands of innocents suffered the consequences of war and hate. But I am sure everything will be well soon. When violent facts happen in our country, we know hope is the only way out. All of you have to continue looking forward and be strong. That's the best answer to those who love death.

- Colombia

Legal Information Management: New Name for The Law Librarian

Press Release

British And Irish Association Of Law Librarians

Information provision in the legal world has changed dramatically since the formation of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL) in 1969. Now the Association, which is the primary professional organisation for the provision of information on law in the United Kingdom and Ireland, wants to disseminate its own message to reflect the changing face of the profession. Their journal has undergone a complete overhaul. Not only has it been renamed *Legal Information Management*, but its look has been updated with a new cover and format. The aim is to encompass the needs of all those involved in providing legal information.

In today's legal world, professional support lawyers, knowledge managers and information officers are employed in both the academic and the commercial world and the traditional role of the law librarian is disappearing. To reflect this, there is a move away from themed issues of the journal towards a greater focus on current topics, with management issues discussed on a regular basis. Favourites like the current awareness section and the reviews are still included and there will be a new regular IT column. A sample of the new journal can be seen at <http://www.biall.org.uk>.

BIALL Chair Valerie Stevenson comments "Keeping up to date with developments in legal information is extremely important to information managers, legal practitioners and academics as well as law librarians.

Legal Information Management aims to provide high quality articles on a wide range of topics which will appeal to all sectors of the profession. The first issue in the new format provides valuable guides to information on human rights and devolution, and future issues will cover the latest developments in IT and information management.”

Subscriptions rates for Legal Information Management are £82 for institutional members available from Sweet & Maxwell Ltd, The Hatchery, Hall Bank Lane, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, W Yorks, HX7 5HQ. For further information about the journal contact Jonathan Gordon-Till, Aon Consulting, 21 Peterborough Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 2AJ. Tel: 020 8970 4448, e-mail jonathan.gordon-till@aonconsulting.co.uk.

FCIL Newsletter

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