

FCIL Newsletter

Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section
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From the Chair

Mirela Roznovschi

New York University School of Law Library

Summer in Boston can be very pleasant. Despite warnings about the hot and humid weather that brought piles of luggage packed with summer clothes, we had a nice cold week and shopped for winter sweaters and umbrellas.

Thanks mostly to Jean Wenger, FCIL-SIS past president, the hottest things in Boston during the Annual Meeting were actually the seven FCIL-sponsored programs. These included: *Islamic law, European Union at a Crossroads, and How to Find Foreign Law, Current Appraisal of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Legal Research, Research Training and Collections for Foreign-Trained Lawyers and International LLM Students, and Treaty—Making—Really.*

The first workshop in a series (I hope!) of eight, *Shopping in the Global Marketplace: Information Sources for International Trade* was successful. Mark Engsborg and Dan Wade did a great job organizing it and making it a reality. At the same time, Milagros Santos-Ong, the Director of Libraries at the Supreme Court of the Philippines and the 2004 Recipient of the Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant, graciously acknowledged her immense delight to be with us. We have to thank Ellen Schaffer personally as well as Nona K. Beisenherz, the Chair of Schaffer Grant Committee, for their hard work in making this event possible. I have to add our honor of hosting Senator The Hon. Professor Velma Newton, SCM, Law Librarian of the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, who presented a lecture on *Caribbean Legal Materials*.

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From the Chair (cont'd)

An informal discussion on the world of law librarianship - *Law Librarianship from Boston to Mumbai!* - sponsored by the FCIL SIS and the Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC), brought together four librarians from South Africa, New Zealand, Philippines, and England. It was a crowded meeting with many newcomers on the floor (there were not enough chairs in the meeting room)! Actually this was the case throughout the Annual Convention's FCIL SIS programs, meetings, round tables, and business meetings, except for those scheduled at 7AM.

With this promising backdrop, interest groups such as Teaching Foreign & International Legal Research co-chaired by Tricia Kasting and Lee Peoples, brought up an array of attractive issues in their meetings. Reports from these business meetings are available in this issue. As Lyonette Louis-Jacques said, and I quote: "We've got movers and shakers in the SIS..."

To continue along this line, the FCIL SIS submitted 11 programs to the AALL Annual Meeting Program Committee for next year's Annual Meeting in San Antonio, one FCIL co-sponsored program, and one workshop.

Such intense activity might make you wonder at the energy of a huge number of dedicated people of our SIS group, however the reality is a little different. Over the years we've discussed improving the level of our programs, ways of exchanging ideas, attracting colleagues from private law firms and larger institutions, and getting programs approved at the introductory, intermediate, and advanced levels. The latter, especially, would catch the attention of experienced FCIL librarians, who nowadays prefer to attend other conferences and providing substantive material for them. As the Vice Chair and Chair Elect I had been confronted with an unexpected reality.

There is a small group of enthusiastic foreign, comparative, and international law librarians interested in writing proposals, coordinating, moderating and speaking at programs. This group of dedicated people who know a lot about all issues is so small, that almost every year we see the same colleagues writing and submitting proposals, some times even more than one, and speaking at the FCIL SIS sponsored programs. It could be disappointment or fear of rejection that keeps many of our colleagues from writing proposals for the Annual Meetings. We know that every year almost more than half of the submitted programs are not approved and we cannot control this process. The Annual Meeting Program Committee selects every year whatever it considers important for the good of broader membership. But it is crucial for us to bring more people into this process, to get more colleagues involved in developing ideas and programs for annual conventions, if we want to succeed in all our educational strategies and objectives.

Speaking from my own experience, I believe that attending institutes, workshops, and special training is the first step in our profession as FCIL librarians. The second step is bringing what we have learned into practice. We do this at the reference desk, teaching, speaking and sharing our knowledge.

From the Chair (cont'd)

I extend my cordial invitation to those experienced colleagues who have not participated for a long time in the programming process, to take the next step as speakers and teachers of the new generation of FCIL librarians. We need their knowledge, and will greatly benefit from it. I also invite the new members of our profession to do the same. One learns a lot when preparing for a program that focuses on a particular topic. In the end everyone benefits. I hope that the full range of those interested in the SIS will be encouraged by my plea to be more involved, even if just a little, because "many hands make light work."

Another remark is related to the length of program proposals. In the past we have had too many long proposals. In my opinion we definitely need shorter proposals. This might improve the rate of acceptance of our proposals.

My special thanks go to the IG chairs, committee chairs, speakers, program coordinators, all those involved in the success of the Annual Convention, and to the colleagues who filled our conference and meeting rooms. Thanks also to those that showed their support for the FCIL SIS. I will try to do my best over the next year. As you know, it takes two to tango. In our case, more than two.

Finally, congratulations to our Vice Chair, Stephanie Burke, who just got married in September!



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". For more information about the FCIL SIS, visit our website at: <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/fcil.html>

The newsletter can be read on the world wide web at:
<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html>.

For more information about the FCIL SIS, visit our website at:
<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/>

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Deadline for next issue is January 15, 2005.

FCIL-SIS Business Meeting (July 13, 2004)

Mary Rumsey, Secretary/Treasurer

Jean Wenger, of the Cook County Law Library and outgoing chair of the FCIL-SIS, called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees.

Approval of minutes: The minutes from the 2003 FCIL-SIS Business meeting, held in Seattle, were published in the October 2003 FCIL Newsletter and were unanimously approved without corrections.

Treasurer's report: Mary Rumsey presented the Treasurer's Report. As of April 30, 2004, the current balance in the FCIL-SIS account was \$11,907.70. That figure includes \$1500 in publisher donations for the 2004 Schaffer grant recipient, and a \$2000 donation from Thomson Legal and Regulatory in sponsorship of the Reception for Attendees from Abroad. Thus, a more realistic figure for the balance is \$8407.70. Steve Ligda, AALL's accountant, has agreed to begin sending statements for the Schaffer Grant Fund to the FCIL Secretary/Treasurer.

Approval of election results: Jean Wenger announced that Stephanie Burke, Boston University Law Library, was elected as Chair/Chair-Elect for the 2004-2005 term. Jean thanked the Nominating Committee (Bill Ryan, Louise Tsang, and Tracy Thompson) for its work.

Committee and Interest Group Reports

Education Committee: Dennis Sears reported for the Education Committee. The Committee had eight program proposals as of the Business Meeting, and encouraged attendees to send proposals to him and to Stephanie Burke by August 5.

Schaffer Grant Committee: Nona K. Beisenherz reported that the Committee had advertised the Grant more extensively this year. From twelve applicants, the Committee selected Milagros Santos-Ong, Director of Libraries of the Supreme Court of the Philippines. Because of problems with grant recipients obtaining visas soon enough, the Committee may set an earlier application deadline.

Publications/Website: Jean Wenger reported on the redesign of the FCIL-SIS website. Ann T. Davey, a student member, has worked hard on this. The site, with updated content, has also been migrated to AALLNET, although Anne Burnett is maintaining a link to the new site from the old site at the University of Georgia. Watch for an announcement of the completed redesign.

Clearinghouse for Internships & International Personnel Exchanges: David McFadden reported that the Annual Meeting Program Committee rejected a proposal on foreign personnel exchanges for the 2004 meeting, but David may resubmit it. David asked members to update information for their institutions willing to participate in internships and exchanges.

Business Meeting (cont'd)

Mentoring/ Information for AALL Annual Meeting Attendees from Abroad: Jean Wenger reported that Tracy Thompson updated the information for this year's foreign visitors.

African Law Interest Group: Dan Wade reported that he and Victor Essien presented information about intra-African trade arrangements at the Interest Group meeting on July 13.

Asian Law Interest Group: Bill McCoy announced that the Interest Group had not yet met, and encouraged members to attend the July 14th meeting.

CIS and Eastern European Law Interest Group: Mary Strouse reported that the Interest Group's meeting had several new attendees. Mary added that the SIS chair should issue a call for nominations for a new chair of the Interest Group. To allow the new chair to plan for speakers or guests at the annual meeting, it would be better to send out the call in the fall, rather than wait until April as contemplated in the bylaws. Mary also noted that some law librarians, led by Larissa Sullivant of Ave Maria Law School, are interested in forming a Central Eurasia law caucus. This caucus would not be within the FCIL-SIS, but would not want to conflict with it. The librarians organizing this caucus might ask for a message from Mirela Roznovschi, current FCIL-SIS chair, stating that the FCIL-SIS does not oppose its formation.

Electronic Issues Interest Group: Marilyn Raisch reported that the Group's meeting, held on Saturday before the official start of the Annual Meeting, was not well-attended. The attendees at the Interest Group meeting discussed creating a clearinghouse for database evaluations, but were unsure whether the NELLCO evaluations already address the need for such a clearinghouse. Marilyn added that she plans to evaluate the TIARA database and submit a written analysis to the FCIL Newsletter.

Teaching Foreign & International Legal Research Interest Group: Lee Peoples, who is co-chairing this group along with Tricia Kasting, reported that over 25 people attended the Interest Group's meeting. At the meeting, Lee and Tricia handed out a list of course materials already available on the website, and solicited additional contributions. Lee and Tricia plan to set up an electronic discussion list for this interest group.

Old Business

Jean Wenger reported that although the SIS had no committee to review its Strategic Plan this year, the Executive Committee had the Plan in mind during the year. Jean highlighted the SIS accomplishments for the year:

1. She thanked Mark Engsborg for coordinating the International Trade Workshop held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting.
2. The SIS offered additional FCIL-related events outside of the regular AALL programming schedule (programs on foreign law librarianship and Caribbean Legal Materials).
3. The SIS moderated a professional development listserv. Jean thanked FCIL-SIS members who helped her moderate the electronic discussion: Anne Burnett, Lyonette Louis-Jacques, Mary Rumsey, Beatrice Tice, and Katherine Topulos.

Business Meeting (cont'd)

4. The SIS migrated its webpages to AALLNET, at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/>
5. The SIS contacted all foreign attendees before the annual meeting.

New Business:

Kathy Price alerted attendees to a scheduling issue raised at the AALL Past Presidents' Tea. Private law librarians object to missing so many work days for the annual meeting, and are urging AALL to use both Saturday and Sunday as program days. They also want half a day, or a full day, devoted to programs for private law librarians.

Jean Wenger thanked the members she worked with throughout her year as Chair. She also presented "Spirit of the SIS" awards to Malo Bernal and Herb Somers, for their work on the Law Library of Congress workshops held before the American Society of International Law annual meetings.

Jean then asked the attendees from abroad to introduce themselves.

Next, Jean turned the proceedings over to Mirela Roznovschi, incoming SIS chair. Mirela thanked Jean for all her work during the past year, and presented her with a token of the SIS's appreciation. Mirela praised Jean for her exemplary work; for her leadership, great efficiency, creativity, and imagination. Jean proved to be an outstanding Chair. She showed an acute perception of FCIL SIS needs and a fervent desire to serve FCIL SIS. Mirela says she feels privileged to work for the FCIL SIS together with Stephanie Burke, the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Mary Rumsey, the Secretary Treasurer, and Jean Wenger, Immediate Past Chair.

Mirela noted several issues:

1. SIS dues will increase from \$12 to \$15.
2. The 2006 AALL meeting is the AALL Centennial. Members should think about proposals that fit with this theme.
3. AALL would like to make its elections (including SIS elections) electronic. This would require changes to the bylaws and the resolution of certain technical problems.
4. Valuable Invited Participants. Originally a chapter program under which AALL pays the registration for non-law librarian attendees (e.g., state court judges), this VIP program has now been extended to the Special Interest Sections.
5. Mirela emphasized the importance of submitting education proposals. She reminded members of the deadlines for doing so and that Dennis Sears and Stephanie Burke are co-Chairs of the FCIL SIS Education Committee. All program proposals for 2005 AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio were to go through them. The draft proposals have to be sent to the FCIL SIS Education Committee by August 5th. The deadline for submitting them to AALL is August 15th. She asked members to look at the online Program Planner handbook, a very useful source for drafting programs.

Mirela then adjourned the meeting, and the SIS, with IALL, hosted a reception for visitors from abroad.

Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Interest Group

By Tricia Kasting and Lee Peoples

There was excellent attendance at the meeting of this FCIL Interest Group; and the meeting was called to order by the co-chairs Lee Peoples and Tricia Kasting. Lee reported that the course materials project is moving forward and additional materials to share should be sent to him (see his article in this newsletter). The meeting was opened for discussion; the emerging common themes were: what are others teaching, and how are they teaching it? Several related proposals were made, and ideas were suggested for further discussion over the coming year.

One project is to formulate the basic elements of an international legal research course. Attendees wanted to see a list that went beyond the standard definition found in Article 38 of the ICJ Statute. Suggestions for basic elements include explaining the differences between foreign, comparative & international law, and the distinction between private and public international law. The basic elements may also be determined by listing the 10 top concepts a student should know about foreign law, 10 top concepts about international law, and 10 top concepts about comparative law. These are ideas regarding how to determine the basic elements, and we need further discussion and input from the FCIL membership to actually develop a list.

A related proposal – and sort of prequel – asks: what basic legal research skills do the students need before even discussing FCIL research? Several present said that they integrated some basic U.S. research into their early discussions of FCIL research, since it cannot be taken for granted that the students have the skills required. What are the basic research processes that will assist students to move into FCIL research?

Once the basic elements of legal and FCIL research are established, it was suggested that a bibliography on each element be created. People would suggest their favorite sources – books, databases, web, etc. – and provide a brief statement on why the source is a favorite. Everyone present seemed to think it would be interesting to find out what others are using and why. The bibliography of the basics of international law and the list of favorite sources can also be separate works.

After determining what to teach, the issue became how to teach it. How do others present different research topics? How do they organize the materials? What is the method of presentation? What texts are they using? What would we like to see in the ideal FCIL research text? Part of the answer is the course materials project, part is creating more CALI exercises, and part is having a lot more discussion on the topic.

There was also interest in developing a standard of information literacy in international legal research. This was recognized as a long-term project, but one well worth undertaking. Discussion on who develops such standards and the process for development may not occur this year, but the idea is on the table, and all present were strongly in favor of pursuing such standards as a long-term FCIL goal.

Teaching, (cont'd)

A lot of suggestions were made at the meeting, and follow-up discussion is needed. It is the proposal of the co-chairs (Lee & Tricia) that this discussion take place on the FCIL list-serv. A specific proposal on one of the above items would be submitted to the FCIL list-serve for comments, critiques and general discussion from the membership. It is our hope that over the next year some of these items can be pushed along, so that next July at our meeting we can actually formulate our list of the basic elements of international legal research. Keep your eyes open!

Announcements

Francisco A. Avalos, Foreign and International Law Librarian, College of Law Library, University of Arizona, Tucson has retired from his position as Foreign and International Law Librarian. He will continue on a part-time basis, and will be around to help anyone that might need assistance. "I have greatly enjoyed my 24 year career."



Webpage of Advanced Legal Research FCIL Syllabi and Course Materials Unveiled

**by Lee Peoples, Co-chair,
Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Interest Group**

The Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Interest Group is pleased to unveil the recently updated and expanded webpage of Advanced Legal Research FCIL Syllabi and Course Materials. The page is accessible at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/syllabi.html> or by clicking "Syllabi and Course Materials" from the navigation bar on the left side of the new homepage of the FCIL-SIS website. The page features the syllabi and course materials of twenty three FCIL-SIS members who teach some variation of an advanced legal research class focusing on FCIL.

Materials accessible from the webpage include syllabi, assignments, quizzes, final examinations, handouts, bibliographies, class lecture notes and of course PowerPoint presentations. The webpage provides access to materials in two ways. The first is alphabetically by author's last name. Alternatively, by clicking the link at the top of the page you may view materials by subject. So for example assignments on Canadian legal research could be viewed by selecting the category "Foreign & Comparative" under the heading "Assignments, Quizzes & Final Examinations by Subject."

This webpage was made possible through the generosity of the authors of the materials. Thank you for agreeing to share your work. Your shared intellectual capital will collectively improve the teaching of advanced legal research FCIL around the country and world. Comments and submissions of new materials are always welcome at <mailto:lpeoples@okcu.edu>

**FCIL Clearinghouse for Internships
and International Personnel Exchanges Committee**

David McFadden

Attendees: Tina Dumas, Carole Hinchcliff, David McFadden, Amy Osborne, and Arundhati Satkalmi.

1. There were no requests or new surveys added in 2003/2004.
2. Carole Hinchcliff will edit and distribute the Guidelines for Visits by 31 July.
3. There was a discussion about the FCIL Clearinghouse page. Lee Peoples will send content for an updated Additional Resources page by 31 July.
4. Our Boston program proposal – International Exchanges and Visits: Travel the World or Have the World Come to You -- was not accepted. It was learned later that there were too many speakers for the 30-minute slot that we eventually requested. It was decided to re-submit the Clearinghouse program for San Antonio. Carole Hinchcliff will continue to work on this.
5. David McFadden will continue on as chair for another year.
6. By 1 November, committee members will check the existing Results of Surveys on Exchanges and Visits in Foreign and U.S. Law Libraries. At minimum, each existing entry should be checked and updated as needed. Additional entries from the "Libraries Responding to Prior Surveys" page or elsewhere can be added.
7. Assignments for updating the survey results:
 - Australia - Carole Hinchcliff
 - Europe - Arundhati Satkalmi
 - Latin America - Tina Dumas
 - United States - Amy Osborne

NEW WEBSITE!



Check out our newly re-designed FCIL SIS Web site at its new home on the AALLNET server !

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

Publications Committee Report

By Anne Burnett

Members: Anne Burnett (Chair), Stephanie Burke, Mark Engsborg, Lyonette Louis-Jacques, and Victoria Szymczak.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Publications Committee opted to meet via email after the Annual Meeting. The most exciting news the committee has to report is the completion of the redesigned FCIL SIS web site. In addition, we are pleased to announce the migration of the site from the University of Georgia Law Library's server to its new residence on the AALLNET server at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/>. Major kudos and thanks go to Jean Wenger for overseeing and driving these projects during her tenure as section Chair. In addition, a great big "huzza" goes to Ann T. Davey for re-designing the entire site under Jean's guidance. Ann Davey is currently pursuing both her J.D. and M.L.S. at the SUNY Buffalo Law School and SUNY Buffalo School of Informatics, and we were fortunate to tap into her expertise, talent and enthusiasm for this upgrade.

Visitors to the new home page will notice improved aesthetics along with better accessibility to the materials contained within the site. The home page features a "News" section to inform members and other site visitors of activities and events of interest. We invite assistance from members who would like to help us update and expand the site. We are currently drafting policies and procedures to guide future updates and to facilitate sharing the tasks involved in continuously updating the site.

Many thanks to Lee Peoples, co-chair of the Teaching International Legal Research Interest Group, for soliciting and compiling updated resources for the site's Syllabi & Course Materials pages at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/syllabi.html> (see related story elsewhere in this issue). Lee has generously volunteered to continue updating this important portion of the site.

The committee brainstormed ideas for publicizing the new site, which we aim to make useful beyond the confines of AALL membership rolls. In addition to publicizing the new site within our section and within AALL, we will post announcements to selected current awareness email services, various relevant listservs, and publications of international law associations.

An additional responsibility of the Publications Committee is to ensure that the SIS has an adequate supply of current brochures about the section. Given the change in the web site information, and a dwindling supply of brochures, a new brochure is definitely needed. We will work with AALL's designer to produce a new brochure in advance of the 2005 Annual Meeting. We would also like to produce a .pdf version of the brochure for inclusion on the section's web site.

Again, we encourage all interested members to contribute ideas for the web site and other section publications (contact Anne Burnett at aburnett@uga.edu or (706) 542-5298).

Collecting Foreign Law: Preparing the *Jeopardy!* Game

By Lyonette Louis-Jacques

This is the story of how an idea became a reality. Last year, I drafted a proposal for a program on collecting foreign law and was playing around with different titles. As I am wont to do, I ran my idea by the nearest person to me. Our Faculty Services Librarian, Margaret Schilt, happened to be in her office while I was brainstorming and was the lucky audience... She quickly came up with the catchy title, "Parlez-vous le droit?," and I ran with it. Several iterations later, Margaret also came up with the idea of presenting the program as a *Jeopardy!* game - did I mention that Margaret's office is right next to mine? She also gave me a PowerPoint *Jeopardy!* game template to use. How enabling is that?! Well, now I had to do the program as a *Jeopardy!* game - no obstacles...

Well, I submitted the program proposal and, much to my surprise, it was accepted! Cringe! Now I had to figure out how to put on a program on collecting legal materials in foreign languages as a *Jeopardy!* game for real. And I couldn't fail or there'd never be another program presented as a *Jeopardy!* game again. Cringe, encore!

Okay, well, I knew *Jeopardy!* needs a host and three contestants. Then I needed to come up with five categories each for the "Single" *Jeopardy!* and Double *Jeopardy!* game grids and a category for Final *Jeopardy!* So I started by trying to recruit the "speakers" I had listed in my program proposal as "contestants". I immediately ran into my first obstacle - not all the speakers I listed were available. But, once I hooked up with Margie Axtmann, and she agreed to be a contestant, things started rolling. Her leads enabled me to recruit Pamela Bluh as a contestant and I had Jon Pratter, so my three contestants were in place. I originally had Dan Wade as my "Alex Trebek," but it all evolved wonderfully into having Ken Rudolf host the game show and Dan Wade be the Announcer (and he did it in his own inimitable way - I never know what Dan's going to come up with, but it's always fun, beautiful and spiritually uplifting).

Now I had to fill out the grid. I brainstormed categories with the staff here at the University of Chicago and FCIL SIS colleagues. Finally, after several permutations, I came up with categories that represent challenges and/or solutions to problems of collecting foreign law. The categories were: Currencies; Famous People; Approval Plans; Foreign Law Vendors; *Sprechen Sie Deutsch?*; Cooperative Initiatives; The Fourth Dimension (Time); Foreign Law Collections; Foreign Law Specialists; "Old Languages and Laws". Pat Sayre-McCoy and Bill Schwesig here at the U of C thought the Final *Jeopardy!* category should have something to do with Mumbai since the theme for the AALL 2004 Annual Meeting was "From Boston to Mumbai: The World of Legal Information." After much consultation, we decided on Languages as the category for Final *Jeopardy!*

I solicited Answers and Questions to fill out the categories on the FCIL-SIS, LAW-ACQ, INT-LAW, TS-SIS, and LAW-LIB lists. Thanks to everyone who helped and particularly to Katherine Topulos who submitted the answers/clues and questions for an entire category that became "Old Languages and Laws."

Jeopardy! Cont'd

With everyone's help, I finally filled out all the categories. The Q&A for the Final *Jeopardy!* round remained unfinished until almost the last minute (I decided to wait to find out about Mumbai until I was done filling out the Single and Double *Jeopardy!* grids). In the process, I learned a lot about languages spoken in India thanks to Bronwen Bledsoe here at U of C's South Asian Library, Aru Satkalmi at St. John's, and Kersi Shroff at the Law Library of Congress. They were great! (Any mistakes in the Final *Jeopardy!* Q&A are my own.)

I went through several dry runs of *Jeopardy!* with staff here to work out the logistics of running the game and iron out any kinks. From these run-throughs and staff suggestions, I learned that we needed a Timekeeper, a Scorekeeper, and some sort of timing mechanism. I also learned that noise was fun! We had a great time trying the game out. We had signaling devices (a homemade buzzer system). And, from discussions with the *Jeopardy!* game crew/team, we decided to have three Scorekeepers to make it easier to keep score for each contestant. I also e-mailed Pam Reisinger at AALL HQ about the game show logistics. Early on, I also contacted the great folks at A/V HQ who helped me with questions about sounds, images and PowerPoint generally, who noted typos in the PowerPoint presentation that I had missed, who really became engaged, involved, and intrigued by the whole *Jeopardy!* game idea. The folks at A/V HQ were wonderful!

To make sure nothing went awry at the meeting, I borrowed an alternate buzzer system from the U of C Law School Trivia Contest folks, I asked the contestants to bring back-up noisemakers that would hopefully make different sounds when they "buzzed" in, and I brought a bike horn as a backup also. When I got to Boston, I was still worried about noisemakers, so I went looking for alternate ones around the Convention Center. Hence the "duck-quacking" score-keepers (for those who couldn't attend the program, the three score-keepers "quacked" in unison every time a contestant got an answer wrong...

For the actual *Jeopardy!* game, er, program, Dan suggested we begin with songs from the *Cabaret* CD. That worked really well. Here's how the "Parlez-vous le droit?" program went in a nutshell. I was the Sound Engineer for the PowerPoint presentation (I couldn't imbed sounds into the presentation somehow, so we did the sounds that went with the game separately).

We played "Willkommen! Bienvenue! Welcome! Come to the *Cabaret*..." as program participants walked into the room, then started the show. Ken was wonderful as Alex Trebek and Dan a terrific Announcer. Margie, Pam, and Jon were great contestants. Sarah Devotion Garner, Pedro Padilla-Rosa, and Judy Flader were hilarious as the Scorekeepers. Margaret Schilt ran the PowerPoint beautifully as the Navigator. And I really don't remember who won (remember, the journey is more important...



Jeopardy! Cont'd

Thanks to Steve Roses and Thomson Legal and Regulatory, we had "international" prizes for all the contestants (picked out by the incomparable Jean Davis). Everyone had a great, fun, and educational time!

So that's how a program idea became a reality. With help from a lot of people, (too many to mention them all!) And we all lived happily ever after. Many thanks! Vielen Dank! Merci beaucoup! ¡Muchas gracias!

To see what the *Jeopardy!* game looks like, visit:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/~llou/> (and make sure to look at the Notes section of the PowerPoint.)

The handouts for the program are at:

H-2: "Parlez-vous le droit?: Collecting Legal Materials in Foreign Languages
Key Print Resources for Selecting and Acquiring Foreign Legal Materials (Louis-Jacques)
http://aall.omnibooksonline.com/2004/papers%5C51_H-2_-_Louis-Jacques.pdf

(Addendum: Jonathan Pratter, "Pratter's Preferred List Vendors of Foreign Legal Materials," in *Noter-Up 5* (Tobe Liebert ed.; Buffalo, NY: William S. Hein & Co., Aug. 2002)).

Key Foreign Law Selection Tools on the Internet (Silke Sahl)
http://aall.omnibooksonline.com/2004/papers%5C52_H-2_-_Sahl.pdf

(Addendum 1: *Developing Foreign, Comparative and International Law Collections* (Lee Peoples)
[http://www.okcu.edu/law/library/Developing Foreign, Comparative and International Law Collections.ppt](http://www.okcu.edu/law/library/Developing_Foreign,_Comparative_and_International_Law_Collections.ppt)

Presentation Handout
http://www.okcu.edu/law/library/MAALL_Presentation_handout.pdf

Summary
<http://www.okcu.edu/law/library/MAALL%20FCIL%20Collections%20Summary.pdf>

(Addendum 2:
Foreign Law Collections in U.S. Law Schools (Linda Tashbook))
<http://www.law.pitt.edu/library/International/foreigncollections.php>

Caribbean Law Librarian *Par Excellence* Addresses Members in Boston

By Jean M. Wenger, Cook County Law Library

The FCIL SIS Executive Committee was very pleased to present Senator The Hon. Professor Velma Newton, SCM, Law Librarian of the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, who took a group of law librarians on an intellectual excursion into the world of Commonwealth Caribbean legal resources. Senator Newton introduced her talk by defining the jurisdictional boundaries of the Commonwealth Caribbean and highlighting the types of legal literature available. Her talk addressed the institutions that house sizable collections of these materials, including the University of the West Indies Faculty of Law Library, Harvard, several universities in Florida and the New York Public Library.

The Faculty of Law Library, University of the West Indies has the largest and most complete collection of Commonwealth Caribbean primary materials in the region. The Library holds the most recently published revised editions of Commonwealth Caribbean legislation. Unfortunately, many of these editions are in looseleaf format and are not updated due to funding problems in those jurisdictions. The Library also collects and binds all slip laws into annual volumes. Velma highlighted the several jurisdictions that provide legislation via the Internet or on CD-ROM. For many countries in the region, the Office of the Attorneys-General is the source for revised editions of laws and the government printing office is the source for subscriptions to the official gazettes, providing session laws as supplements.

The Faculty of Law Library also publishes the series *West Indian Legislation Indexing Project (WILIP)*. This extremely useful finding tool contains a consolidated index of statutes and subsidiary legislation for jurisdictions in the Commonwealth Caribbean. The indexes are planned to be an annual publication. However, the difficulty of acquiring and checking the primary resources can slow their publication. For example, the Jamaican Index has not been updated since 2001, so Velma will need to personally go to Jamaica to update the Index.

Law reporting has a long but sometimes disrupted history in the region. Jamaica has the longest history dating back to the eighteenth century but during the 1970's and 1980's, Barbados and the Cayman Islands were the only governments to finance law reporting. Since the early 1950's, the Cayman Islands supplies full case reporting; an important initiative, due to the prevalence of international offshore companies located on the Islands. Informal law reporting is also another reality in the region, with reports found in official gazettes and some periodicals. Regionally, the *West Indian Reports* has been the only reporter published on a regular basis. Several governments including Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) have begun publishing cases on the web. The Commonwealth Caribbean has no legal encyclopedias or digests. Researchers rely on UK publications such as the *Digest*, *Halsbury's Laws*, and periodicals like *Modern Law Review* and *Law Quarterly Review*.

Caribbean (cont'd)

Velma is the supervisor of CariLaw - Caribbean Law Online (<http://carilaw.cavehill.uwi.edu/>), an electronic publishing initiative with the objective of digitizing the nearly 20,000 cases found in the Faculty of Law Library's collection. Begun in 2001, CariLaw currently contains over 14,000 cases covering 1955-2000, 70 treaties, and 15 items of legislation. The *WILIP Indexes* are planned as a future addition to the database. One of the greatest challenges in maintaining the CariLaw database is finding qualified and skilled editors to do the case digesting. In fact, Velma does much of the editing herself.

The early to mid-twentieth century brought a number of changes to the constitutional landscape in the Commonwealth Caribbean, and produced a number of books on constitutional history for the region. Landmark publications included the Moyne Commission Report (1945) and *Law in the West Indies: Some Recent Trends*, published by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law in 1966. An important bibliographic resource is *A Bibliographical Guide to Law in the Commonwealth Caribbean* by Keith Patchett and Valerie Jenkins. Among Velma's many publications is *Commonwealth Caribbean Legal Literature: A Bibliography of All Primary Sources to date and Secondary Sources for 1971-85, 2nd edition* with a separately published *Supplement 1986-95*.

The West Indian system of legal education was established in 1970. Students obtained the LL.B. at the Faculty of Law, University of the West Indies and continued on to the professional stage (legal education certificate) at law schools in Trinidad and Jamaica. Increasingly, Faculty of Law teaching staff is publishing more Caribbean legal texts. The University of the West Indies Press, Cavendish and Caribbean Law Publishers are the main publishers of Caribbean texts and casebooks. Velma also addressed the current state of the Commonwealth Caribbean bar. The Jamaican Bar conducts professional continuing legal education that is considered among the best in the Caribbean.

Velma presented an enlightening and interesting view of her wide ranging responsibilities in managing the Faculty of Law Library, personally traveling to countries to obtain laws, regulations and case reports, and developing the valuable network of contacts for acquiring and maintaining the outstanding collection of Commonwealth Caribbean at the Faculty of Law Library and for developing the exciting CariLaw database.



Did you know?

When naming any file, whether a Word document or Powerpoint or webpage, it is best not to leave any empty spaces in the filename. Eventually your document may be used on the web. Web browsers, pdf conversions and many other applications will not work properly if there are spaces in the url, so it is best to use the underscore if you wish to leave spaces in your document file name. File naming conventions are a good policy to for every institution to have!

From the Editor
by Annette Demers

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue of the newsletter. Thanks to all of your contributions, my first issue of the newsletter was a breeze to pull together!

I am pleased to announce that the final numbers are in from the Make Way! Book Drive 2004 sponsored by the Social Responsibilities SIS. This year's book drive raised a total of 562 books and \$1721 in monetary donations - nearly triple the previous year's donations, and an incredible gift to this year's recipient - Read Boston. Thanks to everyone who contributed their time, money and efforts towards this great cause!

I also wanted to give a brief account of my favorite program at this year's conference - "Training and Collections for Foreign-Trained Lawyers and International LLM Students". The program was of real interest to those of us working with foreign born practitioners and students. I was particularly impressed with the summaries of research provided by Cynthia Flamm of the Boston University's Center for English Language and Orientation Programs. Her discussion of the differences in communication and writing styles among various cultural groups was fascinating and has become a point of discussion for our graduate program administrators at Harvard.

She spoke in particular about the research of Edward T. Hall, author of *The Silent Language*, *Beyond Culture*, *The Dance of Time*, *The Hidden Dimension*, and *Understanding Cultural Differences*. This research shows that there are powerful forces which determine how different cultures experience time, space and communication.

According to this research, the majority of the world's cultures are 'high context' cultures which value shared experience, group membership, nonverbal and subtle communication, with an emphasis on creating and maintaining relationships. There is less of an emphasis on words and explicit communication in these cultures.

By contrast, english-speaking, Germanic and Scandinavian cultures tend to be 'low-context cultures' which are task-oriented with explicit, direct word-based communication and lots of background information necessary. Communication can be confrontational, and tends to be linear, with an emphasis on schedules. Business relationships tend to be impersonal and there is a compartmentalization of professional and personal lives.

She also mentioned research by Robert B. Kaplan which outlined graphically the difference between rhetorical styles for various cultures. An interesting point that this research raised is that, in contrast to American writing style, some cultures prefer non-explicit writing, where the reader is expected to draw their own conclusions.

In general, this presentation made me realize that there is a whole body of research available for us to draw upon in this area. In particular, we don't have to re-invent the wheel - but we do need to be cognizant of the different needs that we may encounter when interacting with and preparing services for this culturally diverse group of professionals.

The Travels of Liz Goldberg – Consulting in Azerbaijan **By Liz Goldberg**

In late May and early June of this year, I spent three weeks in Baku, Azerbaijan as a consultant for the ABA-CEELI's (the American Bar Association's Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative) Legal Education Reform Program. The stated goal of the program, which is funded by a grant from USAID, is "to equip the next generation of Azeri attorneys with an enhanced understanding of substantive law and practical lawyering skills." I was one of three specialists brought in to make recommendations. The other two were both American law professors: one proposed a new curriculum for the two law schools involved in the program (Khazar University and Western University), while the other led a series of workshops on teaching methodology for both schools' faculty members.

My task was to meet with librarians, administrators, and faculty at both law schools and, with the librarians and administrators at the National Economic Court, and then to determine how the portion of the grant earmarked for these libraries should be spent. The collections housed in the three libraries were shockingly scant by American standards; in fact, the Economic Court's library consisted of only a few copies of the Azeri Criminal Code (which I found odd, considering that the Court does not handle criminal cases) and two shelves' worth of books that were donated by a German non-profit organization. The two universities' libraries were larger, although the value of some of the items held in them was questionable. For example, Khazar owns 13,000 American textbooks (on general high school or college topics, not legal topics) that were donated by the Sabre Foundation. (An interesting fact: while the books were donated for free, Khazar had to pay the Sabre Foundation \$10,000 to have them shipped from the U.S.) The books are all older editions, which explains why they were donated, and while that characteristic alone does not render them entirely useless, the fact that they are all written in English does guarantee that they will not be heavily used.

Thanks to an earlier experience working with Indiana University's sister law school in Kazakhstan (Adilet), I knew that using the grant money to purchase English-language law books would not be a good idea. My colleagues at IU and I had spent months compiling lists of English-language books to buy for Adilet, only to find that they didn't really want them, as nobody there reads English well enough to use them; we bought them an electronic catalog program, instead. So I asked the professors, librarians, and administrators in Baku how *they* would like to see the grant money spent. It turned out that they would like many current legal books in the Azeri language, some in Russian, and a few in English. In addition, the librarians at Western would like an electronic catalog program, plus a newer computer capable of running it. I did some investigating and found an inexpensive catalog program produced in Russia that can handle all three languages (Azeri, Russian, and English). I also recommended the purchase for each library of a subscription to an online database of Azeri laws. This particular database is produced locally, kept current, and written in both Azeri and Russian.

Everywhere I went, the people I met were very friendly and made me feel warmly welcomed. The Azeri people are lovely, and so is the city of Baku.

Azerbaijan (cont'd)

It was built on hills overlooking the Caspian Sea, and---thanks to an oil boom that took place during the late 19th Century---the architecture is much more interesting than the huge, faceless, concrete block style found elsewhere in the former USSR. I also had the opportunity to spend one day in the mountainous countryside, which was picturesque and largely undeveloped. And I am pleased to report that everywhere I went, the food was delicious. Azeri cuisine is nearly identical to Persian food (the two cultures are so similar that Azeris refer to Iran as "Southern Azerbaijan") and features many dishes made with rice, onions, exotic spices (the most common one is called "sumac"), fresh herbs, pomegranates, and nuts.

The ABA-CEELI administrators would like me to return twice over the next two years to evaluate the progress of the library improvements. Because I am expecting a baby towards the end of this year, I do not plan to take such a big trip in 2005. But I look forward to returning in 2006!

Wade's Last Word



It's a tough job - but somebody has to do it!