### **FCIL Newsletter**

Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section
American Association of Law Libraries

Volume 20 February 2006 Issue 2

#### From the Chair

Stephanie Burke Farne, Chair

As the days begin to get longer, winter (hopefully!) winds down and spring gets ever closer, I would like to remind everyone of some FCIL SIS-related reasons to feel brighter.

#### New FCIL 2006-2007 Officers

Congratulations to Jonathan Franklin, who was nominated as FCIL Vice Chair/Chair Elect for 2006-2007. FCIL's slate of 2006-2007 officers includes, in addition to Jonathan, Mary Rumsey as Chair and Dennis Sears as Treasurer. FCIL is extremely fortunate to have such a talented leadership team nominated. Thanks to the Nominations Committee members Julie Horst and Mabel Shaw, and especially the Committee Chair Jean Wenger, for putting this terrific group together.

#### AALL 2006 in St. Louis

Beyond the FCIL-SIS accepted programs (listed in the October 2005 Newsletter), FCIL-SIS has several more topical meetings on the calendar for St. Louis in July. In addition to the annual Executive Committee Presents, there will be an FCIL

IN THIS ISSUE			
From the Chair	Page 1	AALL Scholarship Committee	Page 10
From the Editor	Page 2	Libraries of Dublin	Page 11
Future of FCIL-SIS Programming	Page 3	Opportunities in The Hague	Page 14
Schaffer Grant	Page 6	IndLaw	Page 16
First Schaffer Grant Recipient	Page 8	FCIL Fun Facts	Page 21
FCIL Elections & Candidate Bio	Page 9	The Final Pics-Scenes from Dublin	Page 22

#### From the Chair (cont'd)

Hot Topic program and an FCIL Forum. With these three slots, FCIL will be able to bring more substantive topics of interest to the SIS membership. If you have suggestions or ideas for topics, speakers, or you are willing to volunteer to help make the most of these three presentations, please contact me.

Foreign, Comparative & International Law (FCIL-SIS) Schaffer Grant 2006 For 2006, Anne Burnett has graciously agreed to chair the Schaffer Grant Committee. As always, thanks to Mary Strouse and Ellen Schaffer for all of their hard work to keep this grant going. Not only does the Grant help a foreign law librarian to attend AALL's Annual Meeting, it also presents the unique opportunity for FCIL members, as well as all AALL members, to meet and learn from a law librarian who practices law librarianship in another country.

#### **New FCIL Newsletter Editor**

What a great job the new FCIL Newsletter Editor Amy Burchfield did with the October Newsletter! It takes a lot of coordination and attention to detail to bring together this publication. Amy was assisted by our dedicated copy editor, Carmen Valero.

#### **From the Editor**

Amy Burchfield, Editor

First I would like to apologize for the delay in publication of this issue of the Newsletter and I take full responsibility for it. Earlier this month, my father-in-law died of bone marrow cancer and I spent a good deal of time away from my normal activities. I greatly appreciate the understanding and support I've received from so many colleagues during this unhappy time.

A big thanks goes out to all of the authors who contributed great pieces for this winter issue. The articles are truly thoughtful, informative and practical. I love hearing about what's going on in the SIS, what educational opportunities and new products are out there, and what trips our colleagues have taken. I hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as I have.

Finally, another milestone is fast approaching. Did you realize that 2007 will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the FCIL Newsletter? That's certainly an impressive run for an SIS publication! I'd love to hear your ideas on putting together an anniversary issue. Please send your thoughts, ideas, and articles to me at aeb48@law.georgetown.edu.

## The Future of FCIL-SIS Programming in the Context of the Annual Meeting

by Dennis S. Sears

I have often heard the complaint from many AALL members that AALL does not meet their needs. This complaint is not unique to any particular type of law librarian, whether a public service or a technical service librarian, working in any particular type of law library, whether academic, government, or private. I have even known a number of law librarians that have chosen forums for professional development other than the annual meeting. Some have maintained their membership in AALL, others have totally withdrawn from the Association.

Having served as the co-chair of the FCIL-SIS Education Committee for a number of years with a number of excellent and very dedicated chair-elects, I understand the frustration expressed in the claim that AALL does not meet its members' needs. I have been frustrated when the Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC) failed to select proposed programs that were drafted to correlate with the location of a particular annual meeting, for example, Caribbean law/legal research programs submitted when the annual meeting was held in Orlando, Florida. I have been even more frustrated when proposed programs have not been selected that would have tapped local expertise, minimizing or even eliminating expenses associated with program speakers. This frustration reached a high point this Fall when the AMPC failed to select the third in a series of eight

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 distributed free to members of the FCIL-SIS. YOUR SUBMISSIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

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

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

Editor: Amy Burchfield, editor Georgetown University Law Center 111 G St. NW Washington, DC 20001 (202) 662-4264

**Copy Editor**: Carmen Valero Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps,

San Diego, CA

FAX (202) 662-9096 Deadline for next issue is April 15, 2006. aeb48@law.georgetown.edu

#### Programming (cont'd)

workshops, this one on international labor law. Although the purpose of the workshops is to provide an in-depth treatment of foreign and international topics to enhance the professional development of the rising generation of foreign and international law librarians and expand the horizons of more seasoned foreign and international law librarians, the AMPC decided against selecting the workshop. It is my understanding, that this decision was based, in part, on the narrowness of the topic, a concern as to whether members would have enough interest in the topic to carry the program from a cost perspective.

AALL is in the unfortunate position of having to be all things to all law librarians. The AMPC is cognizant of "the important role that SISs have in the education of members." As they review program proposals they consider a number factors, including "well-written descriptions and learning objectives; expertise of speakers; level of program; program length; cost of program; SIS ranking; balance between number of speakers and program length; and competency addressed." The competencies referred to here by Jean Wenger in her article, entitled "AMPC Uncovered," are the core competencies and the specialized competencies of library management; reference, research, and client services; information technology; collection care and management; and teaching.

Not only does the FCIL-SIS compete with other SISs for program slots, it also competes with chapters, caucuses, committees, and individuals<sup>4</sup> submitting program proposals, as well as AMPC's commitment to provide programming in the specialized competencies. The net result, given the number of program proposals submitted, is that only about 40% of all program proposals have been accepted over the last couple of annual meetings.

Under these circumstances, other options range from going elsewhere for professional development to giving up on submitting program proposals. Neither of these two extremes are really viable for most members of the FCIL-SIS. Given the constraints of our travel budgets, most FCIL-SIS members still look to AALL for most of their professional development opportunities.

The truth is that the FCIL-SIS, like AALL, is member-dependent for educational programming. The quality of the programming we receive at the annual meeting is dependent upon us and the effort we are willing to expend. However, unlike other SISs, the FCIL-SIS has a number of geographical and topical interest groups (IG) within the SIS, which could give us a tremendous advantage over the other SISs. One option we have is to more heavily tap into the expertise and

#### Programming (cont'd)

interests of the IGs as sources for programs, based on current events, recent developments, etc.

Another option we have that may increase our success, as difficult as it may be, is to emphasize some of the specialized competencies beyond reference and teaching, which is where most of our program proposals fall. For example, emphasize library management in terms of managing budgets for foreign and international materials and training library personnel in the use of those materials, emphasize information technology in terms of available foreign and international materials online and their use, or emphasize foreign and international collection care and management. Many of our program proposals have had elements of the above-mentioned specialized competencies. However, I think we need to be more aggressive in emphasizing those elements in our program proposals.

Because of my own day-to-day professional responsibilities, like most of you, I am involved in a chapter and several other SISs. Yet, I know no other group of law librarians that are as visionary, as dedicated, as hard-working, and as cohesive as FCIL-SIS members. I think we need to work smarter in drafting our program proposals, perhaps even having two or three individuals work on each proposal, tapping their interests and expertise, so that our program proposals are drafted to appeal to a wider audience and, most important, to catch the attention of the AMPC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Jean Wenger, "AMPC Uncovered," Members' Briefing, 9 *AALL Spectrum* 2 (July 2005).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Am. Ass'n of Law Libraries, *Competencies of Law Librarianship*, at http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/competencies.asp (Mar. 2001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Wenger, *supra* note 1.

### New Names, New Plans: Foreign, Comparative & International Law (FCIL-SIS) Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians

by Ellen Schaffer International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Hamburg, Germany

In 2000, when I proposed creating a matching grant to provide a stipend that would enable foreign law librarians to attend our annual meetings, I hoped that the program would become an important feature of our professional conference. I had no way of knowing what countries applicants would come from, nor that the recipients would play such an active role at the conference, by presenting information on their own legal systems and, later, by contributing to the FCIL newsletter. I know that many of you have enjoyed meeting our grant recipients and have benefited, as I have, from the experience. A short note from our first recipient, Sania Battalova, from the Kyrgyz Republic, regarding her experience at AALL in 2001 is included in this issue of the FCIL newsletter.

A lot has happened since the early days of establishing the Grant. For example, we could not have foreseen how difficult it would become for some recipients to obtain a visa to the United States. We learned that in 2002 when our second recipient, Ms. Yemisi Dina, Librarian of the College of the Bahamas Law Library in Nassau, was denied a visa, too late for us to offer the grant to someone else. We have since moved the application and selection process to earlier in the year.

We also had no way of knowing that rising oil prices would have such an impact on the cost of air tickets worldwide, making the expense of attending our conference almost insurmountable for some applicants. My original plan had been that the investments would generate enough income each year for the FCIL-SIS to offer a minimum \$1,500 stipend to the lucky recipient. That was a time of high stock market values, but it did not take long before reality set in.

We have been fortunate in the past to have received donations from the William S. Hein & Co., Martinus Nijhoff Publishers (formerly Kluwer Law International), and Oceana Publications, Inc. With their support, plus the contribution of a full registration package from the Association, and additional support from the SIS, we have been able to offer recipients enough of a stipend to make it possible for them to attend the meeting. In each case, the recipient has raised additional funds to make their trip and participation possible.

2003 brought Mr. Emmanuel Darkey from Ghana. In 2004, we were joined by Mrs. Milagros Santos-Ong, Librarian at the Supreme Court of the Philippines, and last year we made the acquaintance of Ms. Irma Aladashvili, Library and Information Center Director for the Georgian Young Lawyer's Association from the Georgian Republic.

#### Schaffer Grant, (cont'd)

It has, however, become increasingly obvious that we need to establish a better system if we are to ensure the future viability of the Grant. At last year's meeting in San Antonio, the FCIL-SIS Executive Board met with some SIS members who have been involved in the Grant process. The purpose was to address the issues described above and to devise some fundraising solutions for the Grant.

As part of the discussion, I indicated that I wanted to change the name of the Grant to reflect the increased involvement that others have had in the past years. It was agreed that the grant would become the Foreign, Comparative & International Law (FCIL-SIS) Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians.

AALL is working towards adding the Foreign, Comparative & International Law (FCIL-SIS) Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians to the list of giving opportunities available on AALLNET

(<a href="http://www.aallnet.org/about/giving">http://www.aallnet.org/about/giving</a> opportunities.pdf). Since AALL is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, these contributions may be tax-deductible. Donations can be sent either to the FCIL-SIS Treasurer \* or to Headquarters, and should clearly indicate that they are contributions for the Foreign, Comparative & International Law (FCIL-SIS) Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians. An online donation option is also available. The intention is to include all contributions received prior to the annual meeting in the stipend for that year's recipient.

We are preparing to advertise this year's Foreign, Comparative & International Law (FCIL-SIS) Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians and hope, once again, to be able to offer the recipient a minimum of \$1,500 as a stipend. With your help, we will succeed and in July, the Association will welcome the 2006 Grant recipient at our special Centennial celebration meeting in St. Louis.

#### Online donations:

See <a href="http://www.aallnet.org/about/giving\_opportunities.asp">http://www.aallnet.org/about/giving\_opportunities.asp</a>
Scroll to the bottom of the page for contribution information.

Donations by mail can be sent to:

Mr. Dennis S. Sears FCIL-SIS Secretary Brigham Young University Howard W. Hunter Law Library 274C JRCB Provo, UT 84602

#### First Recipient of the Schaffer Grant

by Sania Battalova Library Director, American University of Central Asia

Thanks to the Schaffer Grant I had the great opportunity of attending the 2001 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in Minneapolis (Minnesota). It was not only my success, but also my country's and that of the Law Library community of newly developed Central Asia countries. I am very happy that I was the first recipient of the Ellen Schaffer grant in 2001, and proud that the first winner was from my country.

It was my first visit to the United States and my first experience meeting with foreign librarians at such an important event in my social and professional life. One of the oldest American Associations – AALL – has a great tradition of professional activity, communication, information and knowledge sharing. I met representatives of many law libraries, learned how they are working, learned about innovative methods in the sphere of law information provision, in organization, resource sharing, and interlibrary communications. I had a great chance to introduce my country's law libraries to American colleagues.

We have tried to implement many of these ideas in my country. In 2001, there were only two law library and information centers in Kyrgyzstan. But in 2002-2003, three additional centers were opened in other regions of the Kyrgyz Republic. They started to work as a network and became a very active library community. Starting in 2003, there is an annual meeting of Kyrgyz law libraries. It is a great success for us and we hope to develop knowledge and methods of information sharing, and of supplying free law information to our community.

I would like to express my appreciation for AALL's help to librarians from many countries in developing their activity and professionalism.

#### Past Winners of the Schaffer Grant

Irma Aladashvili, Georgia - 2005 Milagros Santos-Ong, Philippines - 2004 Emmanuel Mensah Darkey, Ghana - 2003 Sania Battalova, Kyrgyz Republic - 2001

#### **FCIL-SIS Elections & Candidate Bio**

The FCIL-SIS will conduct its 2006 elections online! Watch your email for a link to the ballot. Voting will take place March 1 through March 31, 2006.



Jonathan Franklin, Candidate for Vice-Chair/Chair Elect

#### **Candidate Bio**

In 1999, Jonathan Franklin joined the Gallagher Law Library as Assistant Librarian for Library Services and was promoted to Associate Law Librarian in 2001. In addition to managing the library administration and circulation departments and sharing in reference duties, he is now responsible for database selection, licensing, and instructional technology planning for the law school. Jonathan also has written articles on information licensing and international law issues as well as having taught courses at the law school on Preservation of Indigenous Cultural Heritage, Video Game Law, and Intellectual Property and the First Amendment.

Prior to the University of Washington, he spent five years as a reference librarian and foreign law selector at the University of Michigan Law Library. During that time, he was an active member of the FCIL-SIS, including serving as the FCIL-SIS Secretary/Treasurer from 1997 to 1999.

He earned his A.B., A.M. Anthropology and J.D. degrees from Stanford University and M.Libr., with a Certificate in Law Librarianship from the University of Washington. In law school, he was a Senior Editor of the Stanford Environmental Law Journal and a Note Editor for the Stanford Law Review.

He is a member of the American Association of Law Libraries.

#### **AALL Scholarship Committee Announcement**

The AALL Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the availability of three scholarships to assist individuals in achieving their goal of becoming a law librarian. **Applications** scholarship available for each are at http://www.aallnet.org/services/scholarships.asp. scholarships These are designed to assist individuals studying to become law librarians with their educational expenses. Application deadline is April 1st, 2006. A brief description of each category available is listed below.

#### Library Degree for Law School Graduates

Awarded to a law school graduate working towards a degree in an accredited library school with the intention of having a career as a law librarian.

#### Library School Graduates Attending Law School

Awarded to a library school graduate working toward a degree in an accredited law school with the intention of having a career as a law librarian.

#### Library Degree for Non-Law School Graduates

Awarded to a college graduate with meaningful law library experience who is a degree candidate in an accredited library school with the intention of having a career as a law librarian.

#### Library School Graduates Seeking A Non-Law Degree

Awarded to library school graduates who are degree candidates in an area, other than law, which will be beneficial to the development of a professional career in law librarianship and who intend to have a career as a law librarian.

#### Law Librarians in Continuing Education Courses

Awarded to law librarians with a degree from an accredited library or law school who are registrants in continuing education courses related to law librarianship.

### **AALL & Thomson West - George A. Strait Minority Scholarship Endowment**

The George A. Strait Minority Scholarship is awarded to college graduates with law library experience who are members of a minority group as defined by current U.S. government guidelines and are degree candidates in accredited library or law schools and who intend to have a career in law librarianship.

#### Scholarship Committee, (cont'd)

### James F. Connolly LexisNexis(tm) Academic & Library Solutions Scholarship

The James F. Connolly LexisNexis(tm) Academic & Library Solutions Scholarship is awarded to library school graduates with law library experience who are presently attending an accredited law school with the intention of having a career as a law librarian.

For further information, please go to the website above or contact me at jenny.kanji@lexisnexis.com.

Jenny Kanji, Chair AALL Scholarship Committee

#### **Libraries of Dublin**

by Julienne Grant Reference Librarian, Loyola University School of Law Library

Editor's note: To see pictures from Julienne's trip, check out The Final Pics at the end of the newsletter.

Last August, I spent five days in and around Dublin, Ireland. Dublin offers a variety of cultural attractions, many of which are particularly appealing to bibliophiles. In addition to an abundance of bookstores, and sites dedicated to the life of writer James Joyce, Dublin is home to an array of beautiful and fascinating libraries. The following is a descriptive list of four of Dublin's major libraries, three of which I was able to visit. These descriptions, where applicable, include information on legal resources.

#### **NATIONAL LIBRARY OF IRELAND**

http://www.nli.ie/

The National Library was originally established in 1877 to house the collection of the Royal Dublin Society, an organization dedicated to advancing the sciences, arts, industry, and agriculture in Ireland. Today, the National Library is a depository library for all works published in Ireland, and its print book collection totals almost one million titles. Highlights of the Library's collection include Gaelic manuscripts, early editions of works by Jonathan Swift, James Joyce manuscripts, and the personal library of William Butler Yeats. Irish newspapers, magazines, prints, sheet music, photographs, drawings, and government/official documents are also emphasized. The Library's "Official Publications" collection includes Parliamentary Debates, Acts, Bills, Statutory Instruments, Reports,

#### Libraries of Dublin, (cont'd)

and Statistical Data. A complete list of "Official Publications" held at the National Library is available at <a href="http://www.nli.ie/new\_coll.htm">http://www.nli.ie/new\_coll.htm</a>.

The National Library does not lend its materials, and patrons must utilize the Library's three Reading Rooms to conduct research. The main Reading Room, with its dramatic domed ceiling, is well worth a visit. James Joyce, among others, frequented this spectacular Room, and used it as a setting in his book, Ulysses. Visitors who wish to consult Library materials generally must apply for a short term (valid up to 7 days), or full Reader's Ticket. It is possible, however, for interested visitors to view the Reading Room for a brief time without a Reader's Ticket. I was able to leave my belongings with a clerk on the first floor, and then spend a few minutes admiring the Reading Room with a temporary Visitor's Pass. Visitors with Irish ancestry may also be interested in the National Library's "Genealogy Advisory Service," which provides one-on-one genealogy consultation with experienced genealogists and library staff.

#### TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY

http://www.tcd.ie/Library/

Trinity College Library is the largest library in Ireland, and dates back to 1591 when the College was founded. The Library, which encompasses several individual facilities, collectively holds over four million volumes, including manuscripts, maps, and music. The Library's most famous item is the Book of Kells, which is a lavishly illustrated 9<sup>th</sup> century Celtic manuscript that depicts the Four Gospels. The Book of Kells is on public display in the College's "Old Library" building, which also includes the "Long Room," a beautiful chamber that houses about 200,000 volumes of Trinity's oldest books.

The Trinity College Library supports the curriculum of Trinity's School of Law, which is the oldest law school in Ireland. The Library's legal collection is housed in the Berkeley Library, which I was able to enter upon explaining that I was a law librarian from the U.S. Berkeley has a wide array of UK, Northern Irish, EU, and Irish legal materials, including law reports, legislative materials, and official government publications. I was also interested to see the Library's holdings on U.S. law, which include various reporters, law reviews, treatises, and casebooks. Interestingly, Trinity uses the Dewey system, so the legal materials are found together in the 340 range.

#### <u>Libraries of Dublin, (cont'd)</u>

The Trinity Library also offers its law students and faculty access to a variety of online legal databases. Some are specific to Ireland, such as *Irish Property Law, Irish Reports & Digests, FirstLaw,* and *Westlaw IE.* Others, like *Westlaw UK,* offer a broader range of materials from the U.K., U.S., and Europe. Trinity law students and faculty also have access to databases familiar to U.S. law librarians, such as *HeinOnline, Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals*, and *LegalTrac*.

#### CHESTER BEATTY LIBRARY

http://www.cbl.ie/

Irish-American mining engineer and entrepreneur, Alfred Chester Beatty (b. 1875 in New York), used much of his wealth to acquire a vast international collection of items, ranging from Japanese woodcuts, to illuminated copies of the Qur'an. He moved most of his collection from the U.S. to Ireland in the 1950s, and housed the items in a small space in Ballsbridge, outside of Dublin. In accordance with his will, the collection became the property of a public charitable trust upon his death in 1968. Today, his collection is housed in the spectacular Chester Beatty Library, which opened to the public in 2000.

The Library, which is actually both an art museum and library, is worth a visit. Admission is free, and I spent several hours admiring the many beautiful items on display. The Library has an outstanding collection of Islamic manuscripts, including an exquisite 11<sup>th</sup> century Qur'an, and copies of works by renowned Persian poets. Early texts of the Bible, and other Christian manuscripts, are also on display. In addition to its permanent display galleries, the Library houses a 12,000-item Reference Library, which emphasizes topics related to the Beatty collection. The Reference Library, which is open to visitors by appointment, has a searchable online catalogue.

#### MARSH'S LIBRARY

http://www.marshlibrary.ie/

Marsh's Library was unfortunately closed during my visit last August, but it has subsequently reopened. The Library is located behind St. Patrick's Cathedral, and it was the first public library in Ireland. Built in 1701, the Library is named after its founder, Narcissus Marsh (b. 1638 in Wiltshire, England), who served as Provost of Trinity College, and also Archbishop of Dublin. The interior of Marsh's Library remains virtually unchanged since it opened; the caged alcoves where scholars were originally locked in with rare books are still intact.

#### <u>Libraries of Dublin, (cont'd)</u>

The collection itself consists of about 25,000 books relating to the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The emphasis of the collection is on religious works, although medicine, law, science, travel, navigation, mathematics, music, surveying, and classical literature are also represented. The Library has an online catalog that is searchable via its website, and a keyword search with "law" yields many interesting titles. There is a small fee for admission, although researchers who have previously petitioned for entrance are admitted without charge.

NOTE: A list of Irish libraries on the WWW is available at <a href="http://lists.webjunction.org/libweb/Ireland.html">http://lists.webjunction.org/libweb/Ireland.html</a>.

#### References

Chester Beatty Library, <a href="http://www.cbl.ie/">http://www.cbl.ie/</a> (last visited Jan. 12, 2006). Marsh's Library, <a href="http://www.marshlibrary.ie/">http://www.marshlibrary.ie/</a> (last visited Jan. 12, 2006).

Michael Ryan, et al., The Chester Beatty Library (London: Scala, 2001).

National Library of Ireland, <a href="http://www.nli.ie/">http://www.nli.ie/</a> (last visited Jan. 12, 2006).

Trinity College Library Dublin, <a href="http://www.tcd.ie/Library/">http://www.tcd.ie/Library/</a> (last visited Jan. 12, 2006).

#### **Educational and Networking Opportunities in The Hague**

by Kelly Vinopal, Director of Library and Information Services
American Society of International Law

Early in 2005 plans were well underway for the 7th Hague Joint Conference on Contemporary Issues of International Law, "International Institutional Reform" June 30-July 2, 2005. This event is sponsored by our organization, the American Society of International Law (ASIL) and the Nederlandse Vereniging voor Internationaal Recht (NVIR), the Dutch branch of the International Law Association. ASIL's Executive Director, Charlotte Ku asked me if I would be available to participate in a preconference program for information professionals. After responding I would be available, it was only later that I realized this meant my actually going to The Hague! What an ideal destination for an international law librarian.

**Pre-Conference**. The preconference program, <u>Information Sources in an Electronic Age</u> was held at the <u>Koninklijke Bibliotheek</u>, the National Library of the Netherlands. Among the electronic resources highlighted were the KB e-Depot,

#### The Hague, (cont'd)

ASIL Electronic Resources, the Peace Palace Library's <u>Plinklet</u> link resolver, <u>The Hague Justice Legal Portal</u>, and Legal Intelligence. Attendees were from international court libraries, academic institutions, and publishing houses. The program presentations and the informal exchanges among everyone present provided an opportunity to meet new colleagues, ask further questions, and learn of new perspectives in making electronic information resources available to worldwide audiences.

**Conference**. The Opening Reception of the Joint Conference was in the Peace Palace "to welcome participants and honor the Centennial of the American Society of International Law (1906-2006)." The Peace Palace is constructed and furnished with a variety of gifts from other nations: the clock in the bell tower is from Switzerland, a fountain is a gift from Denmark, and the tile work in one room is from Delft. The reception was an elegant beginning to the 3-day conference.

The focus of the panel sessions was on the role of international organizations in various settings including regional human rights courts, arbitration tribunals, and post conflict societies. Other panels focused on institutional reform issues in various organizations. Attendees to the Conference came from around the world including The Netherlands, the UK, the Russian Federation, and the U.S. Students and faculty from nearby universities of Leiden, Maasricht, and Utrecht were well-represented. I spoke with several students who scheduled time to observe the Milosevic trial at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. In preparation for a presentation I would be giving to summer associates in July on ASIL Information Sources for International Law Research, I also attended a session on ICSID. One of the speakers at this session referred to the Internet as "a great equalizer" in providing access to necessary information and resources.

Library Visits. I also made visits to the libraries at the International Criminal Court and The Peace Palace. Upon my arrival to the ICC, there was a delay to enter the building due to an "emergency" (not unlike the occasional building closures in Washington, DC). The growing physical collection was on several floors. Currently the library is open to the ICC judges and staff but in the anticipated new building it is hoped the resources will be open to the public. Students and faculty of The Hague Academy of International Law are among the users of The Peace Palace Library. The new building of the Peace Palace Library is anticipated and historically important resources of international law: a newer

#### The Haque, (cont'd)

developing library to be open later in 2006. In retrospect, the two libraries visited reflect different library and a long established one. Unfortunately, my library touring ended earlier than I hoped and I could not visit the <u>International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia</u> which is located very close to the Peace Palace.

After the panel sessions on the last day of the conference, I took a short tram ride to Delft, a city of canals. Fortunately, The Netherlands is a very easy-to-be-in European city and easy to navigate. Information from International Travel News directed me to reliable sites during my visit. Another useful resource discovered early on is The Hague Legal Capital, a site which includes a centralized listing of organizations and institutions related to international law in The Hague.

Like the educational and networking opportunities offered through professional librarian organizations, my visit to The Hague was an enriching experience. The formal informational presentations and the informal conversations with information professionals serve as a continuing educational opportunity and resource for professional development. The conference sessions provided closer awareness to leading topics of international law and also increased familiarity with leading scholars and practitioners in the field. This exposure provides an important perspective to the day-to-day and planning work performed at Tillar House.

I also look forward to seeing colleagues at the <u>ASIL Annual Meeting</u> on March 29<sup>th</sup> – April 1st. Please visit our website for further information and also visit the timeline of The Society's history, <u>ASIL's 100 Years of International Law</u>. In continuing the tradition of librarians gathering on the Friday during the Meeting, a program is being planned for Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. More complete information on this event will be posted to the FCIL-SIS listserv.

#### **IndLaw**

by Arundhati Satkalmi, Reference and Documents Research Librarian St. John's University – Rittenberg Law Library



The recent advances in communication and information exchange technology have manifested themselves in globalization. This phenomenon has encouraged many businesses from the United States to take advantage of the skilled workforce and low costs of doing business in other parts of the world. India is

one such country, where businesses are either shifting part of their operations or starting new operations. However, before deciding to outsource, prudence demands a thorough analysis of political and legal structure of that part of the world. Even after making the decision to outsource, continuous monitoring of the events in India becomes imperative to ensure survival and success of the endeavor. IndLaw, which started in 1997, is a unique resource for this purpose as it integrates case law, legislation, regulations, and news in a single product. Accessible at <u>www.indlaw.com</u>, IndLaw prides itself on providing up-to-date information about legal and political events and their repercussions as reflected through the media. Just a click on the URL takes users to a screen where *IndLaw Updates* occupy the center of the screen and provide updates about Judgments; Acts and Rules; Notifications, Circulars and Trade Notices; and Reports. Features such as *IndLaw Modules*, which facilitates searching by legal topics; Search by Category, which facilitates searching by type of the document; IndLaw Resources, Industry Updates, Policy Updates, and login and password appear in peripheral positions. This brief article, therefore, will describe the heading and categories at the center of the screen first, then continue by describing the heading at the 2 o'clock position, and then proceed clockwise along the periphery and describe other prominent aspects of this unique tool.

#### **INDLAW UPDATES**

This heading at the center of the screen is divided into four categories. *Judgments,* which is the first category, offers information about a couple of recent decisions of the courts and tribunals along with an option to retrieve more decisions simply by clicking on "more". The decisions are listed in reverse chronological sequence. Within the reverse chronological sequence, decisions of the Supreme Court of India, if available, top the list and are followed by the decisions of High Courts and tribunals. Besides the names of the parties, and dates of the decisions, the information includes name of the court, legal issue, and applicable law. Subscribers can access full text while non subscribers have an option to purchase the decision(s) of their interest. The full text of a decision contains — among other elements — comparative citations (parallel cites), cases referred to with hyperlinks to the full texts of the decisions, cases followed up (recent cases referring to the retrieved case), case numbers, names of the lawyers, and names of the judges. Judges' names are hyperlinked, which brings biographical information on the judges within easy reach of researchers.

The *Acts and Rules* category shows a combined list of approximately four recent legislations or rules. The list begins with the most recent Act or Rule. The reverse chronological sequence of the listed items becomes apparent after clicking on "more" as the list displays additional acts or rules and dates. Full

texts of these items appear to be accessible to non subscribers as well. Similarly, *Notifications, Circulars & Trade Notices* display four most recent items. Each item displays a line or two of description and relevant documentation numbers, along with the date on which the document was issued. A click on "more" brings up a list of additional documents, and enhances the utility of the information by dividing it into categories such as Income Tax, Corporate Law, Customs, Excise, Sales Tax, Environment, RBI (Reserve Bank of India), FEMA, SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India), Director General of Foreign Trade, Service Tax, and Consumer. Non subscribers can also retrieve these documents in their entirety.

Reports, which is the last of the four categories, lists the titles and dates of a couple of recent reports. And as was the case in the preceding categories, "more" reports are just a click away. At the time of writing this article, Consultation Paper on Issues pertaining to Next Generation Networks and Consultation Paper on Differential Tariffs for On-Network Calls were the two reports listed and both were published in January of 2006. Full texts of these reports were accessible to non subscribers also.

All four categories of IndLaw Updates provide a hyperlink at the bottom of the list retrieved by requesting "more" documents and facilitate searching within the relevant category. The basic searching template offers Boolean and phrase searching capability and an option to perform an advance search is available.

#### **INDLAW MODULES**

This heading appears just above the IndLaw Updates heading and offers the capability to research more than 15 topics of law such as *Arbitration, Articles & Reviews, Banking Law, Company Law Online, Consumer Protection, Crimes, Employment Law, Human Rights, Income Tax, India Laws, Indirect Tax, Intellectual Property, SC* (Supreme Court) *Judgments, Sales Tax,* and *Trade Law Online.* These categories follow a general pattern and provide recent news, judgments, acts and rules, notifications, and reports in the stated sequence. However, some deviation from this pattern is observed. For example, the *Consumer Law* topic provides an additional category of Practice Directions and Forms while the *Human Rights* topic enables searching for reports relating to a few prominent human rights treaties. Other deviations from this general pattern are the absence of updates on Acts and Rules under the topic of *SC Judgments* and the absence of updates about Judgments under the topic of *India Law*.

#### **SEARCH BY CATEGORY**

This heading appears in a column with a grey background on the right-hand side of IndLaw Updates and IndLaw Modules. It facilitates searching by offering close to 20 types of documents: Case Law, Legislations, Rules, Bills & Ordinances, Notifications, Circulars, Trade Notices, Press Notes, Treaties, Practice Directions, Forms, Reports & Policies, IndLaw Articles, Press Releases, News, Citation, Industry/Sector, Law, and State. As a librarian working in the United States, I found searching three types of documents particularly useful. First, Forms, which provides the capability to search, retrieve, and download various kinds of forms. For example, one can search for court forms, tax form, and license forms and download the results in PDF format with ease. Secondly, Treaties, which provides the ability to search treaties between India and other nations where the United States may not be a party. Non subscribers can search and retrieve titles of the treaties while the subscribers can access the texts of these treaties. Lastly, *Practice Directions*, offers helpful guidelines for legal professionals and acquaints them with the proper rules and procedures. Moreover, *IndLaw* offers *Combination Search* capability which allows the searcher to combine any of the aforementioned types of documents searches.

#### **INDLAW RESOURCES**

This heading appears in a column with a pinkish background on the left side of IndLaw Updates and IndLaw Modules. FAQs on Law is a good resource for anyone who is unfamiliar with Indian law. It is divided into two categories: Business and General. The category of Business informs about various company issues, Foreign Direct Investment, Intellectual Property Laws, and Trade Laws. Information about Criminal Law, Family Law, and other miscellaneous laws is available under the General category. This category also offers a good overview of the Indian legal landscape under the subcategory of The Legal System. It educates the user about the qualifications, duties, and responsibilities of an Advocate as well as the place of the 18 High Courts within the constitutional system of the country. This subcategory also talks about the availability and criteria for receiving legal aid. Furthermore, it provides information about the composition and functioning of the Ministry of Law and Justice and also about the Public Interest Litigation. In addition, it provides a good overview of the sources of Indian law and presents an informative portrait of the history and workings of the Supreme Court.

IndLaw Resources also provides links to valuable resources such as the *Court Calendar*, and *Court Lists* of the Supreme Court as well as High Courts. The information can be viewed for any specific day or week or can be accessed by case number, court, name of the judge or lawyer, or by the name of either party. Links to other resources such as the *Budget of the Nation* for the current and a few previous years; *Foreign Trade Policy of India*; *Economic Survey* for approximately five recent years; the recent *Export Import Policy*, and *Monetary Policy* play a valuable role in presenting a well-rounded and comprehensive product. In addition, IndLaw allows the subscribers as well as non subscribers to request a free electronic copy of their *Newsletter* which provides valuable updates. You can customize the delivery of the *Newsletter* on daily, weekly, or monthly basis and the contents can be tailored to incorporate your area(s) of interest.

#### **INDUSTRY UPDATES**

This heading, which appears just below IndLaw Resources, offers a solution for accessing information relevant to a particular industry. Potential outsourcers can assess the legal, political, and business environment for their line of operation. Information available through IndLaw can be divided into more than 45 lines of business. The retrieved information follows the usual pattern of news, Judgments, Act and Rules, Notifications and Circulars, and reports. However, all categories may not be present in each industry type. Of course, the capability to perform basic and advanced searches is available within each industry.

#### **POLICY UPDATES**

More than 20 policy groups are recognized under this heading which appears just below the Industry Updates heading. Again, the information follows the same basic pattern of information described previously and, as in any other category, customized searches can be conducted within each policy group.

The Subscriber Login window is located in the top left hand corner. However, a guest login is sufficient to navigate and understand IndLaw. If you find a document that you want to purchase, it is possible to do so without subscription by paying a reasonable per document charge. For those who want to experiment with the "real product", IndLaw offers a trial password.

I obtained a trial password through NELLCO (New England Law Library Consortium) for the purpose of writing this article. IndLaw offers several affordable subscription plans and the website can provide pertinent details. It will definitely make a good addition to your foreign law resources.

#### FCIL Fun Facts

#### This Month in FCIL Law

Feb. 7, 1824

England's Court of Common Pleas decided *Robertson v. Clarke*, a case concerning the urgent sale of the ship, the *Neptune*, which was damaged beyond repair on its return voyage from Mauritius to London.

Feb. 7, 1970

The international convention concerning the carriage of passengers and luggage by rail was concluded.

Feb. 24, 1982

The ICJ decided the Continental Shelf case (Tunisia/Libya).

#### Sachsenspiegel

The *Sachsenspiegel* or "Saxon Mirror" was a set of German legal customs that were first written down in book form by Eike von Repgow between 1225 and 1235. The *Sachsenspiegel* addressed such far-reaching issues as:

- boundary disputes between two villages
- damage done by a person's dog
- the obligation to attend ecclesiastical and secular courts
- what to do if your hops grow over the fence.

Source: Maria Dobozy, tr., *The Saxon Mirror: A* Sachsenspiegel *of the Fourteenth Century* (Univ. of Pennsylvania Press: Philadelphia, 1999).



# The Final Pics: Scenes from Dublin submitted by Julienne Grant



Photo of Chester Beatty Library

Outside the "Old Library" building at Trinity College



### Final Pics, (cont'd)



Scene at Trinity College



Doors of Dublin



Storefront in Dublin