

# FCIL Newsletter

*Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section*

## Ufuoma's Report on AALL

Ufuoma Lamikanra

### Visit to Yale

The numerous benefits I derived from being the 2010 recipient of the FCIL-SIS Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians, started well before the July 2010 AALL meeting in Denver, Colorado. Ms Teresa Miguel invited me to visit her library, the Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School, when she learnt that I was visiting Boston in June 2010. My two-day visit to Yale was partially sponsored by the library in the form of a first class train ticket from New Haven to Boston and in the provision of some of my meals. Teresa, a most gracious hostess, opened her beautiful home to me where I spent two nights. Trips to New Haven 'Hills' and Ashley's Ice Cream Shop remain memorable events of the visit.

The visit to Yale afforded me an opportunity to attend and contribute to a Library Staff meeting where the Strategic Plan 2010 – 2015 was extensively discussed. The rest of the day was spent on a tour of the various Library departments, where I observed the workings of a modern law



Ufuoma with her new AALL Colleagues

library. I spent Friday, June 4, 2010, the last day of the visit, at the annual program of the New England Library Instruction Group (NELIG). The one day program, "Meeting Digital Natives Where They Are: New Standards for the New Student" explored "ways that librarians are rethinking information literacy instruction in light of today's student expectations, behaviors, and emerging technologies." It was a peep into the future of what to expect shortly on the Nigerian information literacy instruction scene.

### Annual Meeting

After getting acquainted

with the Yale law librarians, I was looking forward to meeting some of them at the AALL annual meeting in Denver; which I did. In addition to the Yale librarians, I was fortunate to meet a number of other friendly librarians who made my attendance at the annual meeting an unforgettable event. Marilyn Raisch, then the FCIL-SIS Chair, a very kind hostess, graciously shared her hotel room with me, a complete stranger, ensuring that I was very comfortable. Lucie Olejnikova and Trinie Thai-Parker were very friendly, took me out for a buffet lunch. I unfortunately

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February 2011

### Upcoming Meetings:

- ALA Annual Meeting, June 23-28, 2011 in New Orleans, LA.
- AALL Annual Meeting, July 23-26, 2011 in Philadelphia, PA.
- IFLA Annual Meeting, "Libraries Beyond Libraries: Integration, Innovation and Information for All," August 13-18, 2011 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- IALL Annual Course, "The Dynamics of Malaysian Law in the Global World," December 4-8, 2011 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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May 2010

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## From the Chair

Jeanne Rehberg

### Ready, Set, Annual Meeting!

Early Bird registration for the AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, July 23-26, is open now through June 1 at <http://www.aallnet.org/events/>. As you begin to make your travel plans, I want to highlight the array of FCIL-SIS programs and events.

Right on the Registration page is a link to sign up by the June 17 deadline for the FCIL-SIS workshop **W4: Researching and Understanding European Union Law**, Saturday, July 23, 12:30-5:00 PM. At just \$90 for AALL members and \$135 for non-members, this update on EU research post-Lisbon Treaty is a very attractive reason to get to Philadelphia one day early.



### FCIL Programs

The "My Conference Planner" button lists our other programs, interest group, committee meetings and events. Please come out and support the FCIL-SIS members who are coordinating and speaking at our four exciting AMPC-selected education programs:

- ◇ **E6: Teaching Advocacy in International Commercial Arbitration Research is Essential** Monday, July 25, 10:00-10:30 AM
- ◇ **G5: The Responsibility to Protect: An Emerging Norm in International Humanitarian Law?** Monday, July 25, 2:15-3:30 PM

- ◇ **H5: Libricide as a War Crime: From the Lieber Code to Personal Liability** Tuesday, July 26, 9:00-10:30 AM
- ◇ **I6: Challenges Posed by Transnational Litigation: Latin America and the Civil Law Tradition** Tuesday, July 26, 10:45-11:30 AM

### Interest Group Roundup

As a follow-up to the very popular talk by Professor Glenn T. Morris last year in Denver, the meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Law Interest Group on Monday, July 25, 10:45-11:45 AM, will feature a program on research sources. The Asian Law Interest Group is planning a program for its meeting on Sunday, July 24, 2:30-3:30 PM.

Sunday, July 24, will be "Foreign Law Day," with the meetings of our four regional law interest groups, African, Asian, CIS & Eastern European, and Latin American, capped off from 5:00-6:00 by the Foreign Law Selectors Interest Group.

### FCIL Schaffer Grant

A highlight of the Annual Meeting, "The FCIL-SIS Executive Committee Presents the Recipient of the FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians" is scheduled for Monday, July 25, 12:00 noon. You can read about Ufuoma Lamikanra, the 2010 recipient and previous recipients, as well as make a donation to help make the grant self-sustaining at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/index.html>. Our continued appreciation goes to Ellen Schaffer for her generosity and support in establishing and maintaining the grant, and to the Schaffer Grant Selection Committee (Teresa Miguel, Lucie Olejnikova, and Roy Sturgeon)



Jeanne Rehberg

and the Fundraising Committee (Lucie Olejnikova, Laura Cadra and Amy Emerson).

Why is our annual joint International Association of Law Libraries and FCIL-SIS reception for attendees from abroad not listed when you sort the Conference Planner by "FCIL"? I am very glad to report that AALL has joined IALL and the FCIL-SIS to co-host the reception this year. We appreciate the support of both organizations and also are extremely grateful to the sponsors of the event, BNA, LexisNexis, William H. Hein & Co., and Wolters Kluwer Law & Business. The party will take place at 6:30 on Monday, July 25, immediately after our 5:30 Business Meeting, and it is listed in the Conference Planner as "International Attendees Joint Reception (AALL/IALL/FCIL)."

Do you know about the FCIL-SIS Host Program? On the AALL Annual Meeting page, the tab "Information for Attendees from Abroad" provides

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## El Escorial Library in Madrid

*Julienne Grant*

I spent my junior year in college (I won't reveal the year) in Madrid, Spain. It was truly a wonderful experience—not only the education part of it, but also the opportunity to explore Madrid and its environs inside and out. Last May, I decided to revisit part of my experience and return to some of my favorite haunts in and around Spain's spectacular capital city. It was truly a nostalgic journey to find the building where I had lived, eat in my favorite restaurant (the name had changed, but the food was still divine), and view my favorite paintings at the Prado and Sorolla Museums. During my time in Spain last year, I also took time to venture back to the Royal Monastery of El Escorial (now a UNESCO World Heritage Site), which is about an hour's drive northwest of Madrid.

### Building Background

A project of King Philip II (1527-1598), the Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo de El Escorial was constructed between 1563 and 1584 in honor of St. Lawrence. Designed by Spanish architects Juan Bautista de Toledo and Juan de Herrera, the El Escorial complex encompasses 11 acres and contains some 2,600 windows, 1,200 doors, and 86 staircases. Constructed in light-colored stone, it is an imposing and austere structure which includes royal apartments, several pantheons, a stunning basilica, priceless artwork, and a library. The library is tucked away behind El Escorial's main façade, at the top of a rather dark stairway, and I frankly admit that I don't remember seeing it during my first visit.

Although the concept of a royal library was not included in the original plans for El Escorial, architect Juan de Herrera changed the initial design to



**Julienne Grant at El Escorial Library**

incorporate Philip II's vision of a great Renaissance library. Between 1565 and 1569, the king sent books to El Escorial from his personal collection, which included items that he had inherited and acquired, for inclusion in the nearly completed library. These books, some which dated back to the 13th century, were primarily in Greek, Latin, and Spanish, and included liturgical codices and subject-specific volumes (theology, philosophy, mathematics, astrology, medicine, law, history, and grammar).

### Royal Collection Development

About 1570, Philip II, who was an avid bibliophile, began an aggressive pur-

chasing program for the library that preferred manuscripts over printed books, and codices in Greek, Latin, and Spanish, in that order. The ambitious purchasing program also included the search for manuscripts in Arabic and Hebrew. By 1585, the library was finished, and a Royal Librarian (Benito Arias Montano) was named to catalogue the books and manuscripts. Some of the materials were actually loaned out to scholars; the El Escorial library is indeed often considered to be the first public library in Spain. At the time of King Philip II's death in 1598, the library contained almost 3,000 manuscripts (1,870 in Arabic) and 1,700 printed books.

### Stunning Beauty

The library itself is certainly one of the most beautiful in the world. It contains five rooms and covers two floors. The largest chamber, known as "The Print Room," is 177 x 30 x 33 feet, and the bookcases reach halfway to the ceiling. In this magnificent space, there is a gray marble floor, elegant inlaid wood, and a spectacular vaulted ceiling. The ceiling, frescoed by the Italian painter Peregrino Tibaldi (1527-1596), is truly The Print Room's most prominent feature. Divided into sections—each dedi-

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**Photo from WikiCommons**

## *Ufuoma article continued from page 1*

had very little time to sample the rich dishes.

I was impressed by the very large number of conference attendees and unlike back at home, many came with their partners and children. The programme itself was quite extensive and I found it very difficult to choose from the many interesting (parallel) sessions. The following are some of the sessions that I found interesting and informative

- ◇ **Navigating Your Way to the Classroom: Law Librarians Teaching New Law.** By Margaret (Meg) Butler, Amy A. Emerson and Tom Kimbrough . This session has ignited in me the desire to design a legal research programme, which will help convince my Institute management that Librarians are capable of doing much more than conducting Library Tours.
- ◇ **After Hotel Rwanda and Welcome to Sarajevo: Preserving Trial Evidence and Documentation in a Multi-Media Age.** By Ayodeji Fadugba, Claire M. Germain, Thomas W. Mills and Kelly Vinopal. There are vast amounts of valuable materials out there that need to be preserved but the funds are not available. What can be done? I will suggest collaboration among all stakeholders to preserve documents which may otherwise be lost to future generations.
- ◇ **Destination....TREATY!** By Arundhati Satkalmi. During this session, I gained some insight into the difficulties I had previously encountered while researching

bilateral treaties. Unless bilateral treaties are registered with the United Nations or published by the Contracting Parties, it is almost impossible to locate them. Is there any other way of locating these hard to find bilaterals?

### **Networking**

Attendance at the conference opened up a lot of opportunities for me and my library. Trinie recently linked me up with Kathleen Richman of Law Library Microform Consortium (LLMC). Tracy L. Thompson-Przylucki, the Executive Director of NELLCO, introduced me to Libraries Without Borders. Daniel Wade initiated the beginning of a partnership between my library and William S. Hein & Co., Inc., which will make Nigerian and possibly other African legal materials more accessible to legal scholars. Jeanne Rehberg, the current FCIL-SIS Chair, sent us a list of materials which her library is discarding. We have selected some and are now trying to find a cheap mode of transportation to Lagos. The big headache we have is how to get the large number of books weeded from US law libraries to fill the gaps in our collection and those of other law libraries.

I appreciate the generosity of Ellen G. Schaffer and the chance given to me by the FCIL to attend the AALL Annual Meeting, and to meet with people who have made and will continue to make positive impacts on my career and on the development of my library. I hope that many more law librarians will be able to take advantage of this great opportunity in the future.

My attendance at the AALL Annual Meeting opened up a lot of networking opportunities for me and my library. By working closely with the contacts that I

have made at this conference, we are making plans to preserve Nigerian legal materials, through the offers of free digitalization. Plans are on, and in the not too distant future, Nigerian legal materials and possibly some African legal materials will become more easily accessible to legal researchers on electronic legal databases.

### **Future Goals**

That American law librarians combine teaching legal research skills to law students with information delivery services has shown me how librarians in Nigeria can improve their image by becoming teachers of legal information skills. I have to convince my Institute management that Librarians are capable of doing much more than conducting Library Tours.

I have been thinking and I hope that the problem of collection development in Nigerian libraries can be partly overcome if one can find a cheap means of transporting weeded books from the US libraries back home.

*Editor's note: You can listen to Ufuoma's presentation at <http://pace.law.library.podcasts.classcaster.org/blog/>*

## **Support the FCIL Schaffer Grant**

Ufuoma's attendance at AALL was a wonderful opportunity to exchange ideas. Help continue this fantastic program by contributing to the FCIL Schaffer Grant at [https://secure.aallnet.org/giving\\_online.asp](https://secure.aallnet.org/giving_online.asp). Thanks for your support!

## Roman Law Interest Group Report from AALL

Lucia Diamond

### Standing Room Only

Now, in what is for most of us a winter of harsh weather, is it not pleasant to remember the warm days of last summer and our meeting in Denver? The Roman Law Interest Group drew a standing-room-only group that overflowed into the hall (and apparently drew the attention of the fire marshal – thank you to those who calmed him down and got him to leave us be). The audience, which included librarians from all types of libraries, was riveted by the presentation of Professor Timothy Kearley, Director of the Law Library, University of Wyoming College of Law. With images that enhanced his talk, he essentially traced the construction of the texts and printing history of Justinian's codification of Roman law from Byzantium to recent times.

We also spoke about the website created by Prof. Kearley on the translation of Justinian by a Wyoming Supreme Court Justice, Fred H. Blume, the "Annotated Justinian Code" available at <http://uwacadweb.uwyo.edu/>



Banner from Professor Kearley's website which translates the Justinian Code

[blume%26justinian/](http://blume%26justinian/). As background, many in the audience had read **Roman law, an Historical Introduction**, by Hans Julius Wolff (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press [1951]), which had been reviewed by Justice Blume in 1952 (5 Okla. L. Rev. 264, 265). This book is still considered a worthwhile synopsis of the history of Roman law.

### Modern Scholarship

Lucia Diamond, librarian for The Robbins Collection at the University of California, Berkeley, highlighted modern scholarship on Roman law in the U.S., including the influx of German scholars to our universities and law schools, some of whose students in turn became scholars publishing on Roman law in German and other Euro-

pean journals. She also pointed out that often our basic principles of justice could be traced back to Roman law roots, citing, for example, Justice Stevens' reference to Roman law as the authority for our principle of *res judicata*. (See footnote 17 in *San Remo Hotel v. County of San Francisco*, 545 U.S. 323, 338 (2005)).

### Reading Suggestions

We've not yet chosen a reading for our July 2011 meeting in Philadelphia. If anyone has any suggestions for our group please contact Lucia Diamond at [BerkeleyLaw \(ldiamond@law.berkeley.edu\)](mailto:ldiamond@law.berkeley.edu) or Dan Wade at Yale Law School ([daniel.wade@yale.edu](mailto:daniel.wade@yale.edu))

## From the Chair continued from page 2

essential information and offers to match foreign attendees with an FCIL member host who can help to answer a visitor's questions. David McFadden, Chair of our Internships and International Exchanges Committee, has kindly agreed to be the contact person for foreign attendees seeking a host. If you would like to be on the roster of hosts, please let David know at

[dmcfadden@swlaw.edu](mailto:dmcfadden@swlaw.edu).

### Eyes to the Future

As we focus on this July, we are also looking ahead to a new Executive Committee for 2011-2012. Thank you to the Nominations Committee, Chair Anne Burnett and members Jonathan Pratter and Mary Sexton, who at this writing are putting together a slate for

our March election of Secretary/Treasurer and Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. And before you leave Philadelphia, bring your program ideas for the 2012 Annual Meeting to the meeting of the Education Committee on Tuesday July 26, 11:45 AM-12:45 PM.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Philadelphia, July 23-26.

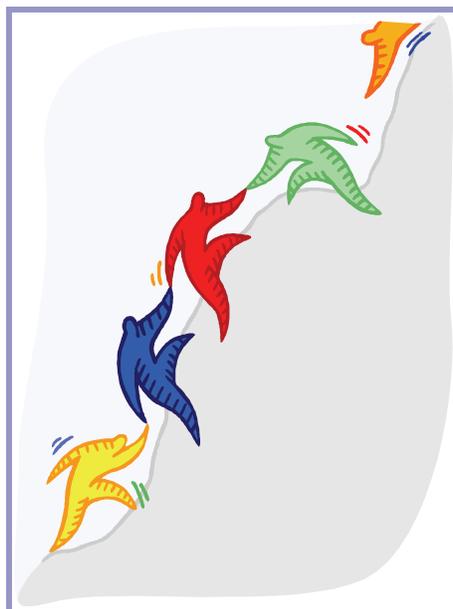
## Consider Contributing to an Important Legacy

*Amy Emerson*

The FCIL Schaffer Grant was founded in 2000 with matching contributions from Ellen G. Schaffer and the AALL. Ellen, a long-time member of AALL and past Chair of the FCIL-SIS, envisioned and believed in the value of this international exchange and has remained a persistent supporter of this unique opportunity. The grant provides financial assistance to one foreign law librarian each year for purposes of attending the AALL Annual Meeting.

### From Around the World

It has brought law librarians to the meeting from all over the world, including the Kyrgyz Republic, Ghana, the Philippines, Georgia, Egypt, China, Australia, Afghanistan, and most recently, Nigeria. As a result, we have had the opportunity to learn firsthand from foreign law librarians about their country's laws, legal systems, librarianship, and much more. At the same time, these visiting librarians have had the occasion to experience American law librarianship, learn the American legal system, and to net-



work with fellow professionals to create life-lasting personal and professional connections.

### Generous Donations

It is in part through the generous contributions of kind individuals that the FCIL Schaffer Grant is able to ensure the continued presence and participation of a foreign law librarian at the AALL Annual Meeting. Please consider mak-

ing a donation to this important cause. Contributions may be made securely through the AALL website where you may specifically allocate your gift to the FCIL Schaffer Grant: [https://secure.aallnet.org/giving\\_online.asp](https://secure.aallnet.org/giving_online.asp). If you prefer to make your donation by check, please make your check payable to "AALL" or "American Association of Law Libraries," and write "FCIL Schaffer Grant Fund" in the "For"/"Note" portion of the check. Checks may be mailed to: AALL, 53 W. Jackson, Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604. Please mail the AALL Giving Form (also available on the website) with your contribution. AALL is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, and these contributions may be tax-deductible.

### Thank You for Your Support!

Your support is sincerely appreciated, and I hope that you will have an opportunity to meet this year's recipient of the FCIL Schaffer Grant at the AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Please visit the FCIL-SIS website at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/grants.html> to see the past winners and their testimonials.

## FCIL Profile

The Foreign, Comparative and International Law SIS began in 1985, but has been in existence since 1947, albeit under varying names. Our primary objective is to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative and international law. The SIS also represents members' interests and concerns within AALL.

FCIL sponsors a rapidly expanding schedule of educational opportunities through programs, institutes, and workshops each year. The members share expertise among themselves and with other librarians. They write, speak, consult and otherwise provide assistance to others through active discussions and information sharing on INT-LAW and the FCIL.

## New ASIL Interest Group

Amy Emerson

The International Legal Research Interest Group (ILRIG) of the American Society of International Law (ASIL) is a new group designed specifically for researchers of foreign, comparative and international law. ILRIG provides a forum for legal information professionals and other interested parties to engage in dialogue pertaining to legal research practices, participate in professional development activities, and assemble as a group at the ASIL Annual Meeting. Since its inception in the summer of 2010, ILRIG has established a vibrant presence in the ASIL community and continues to welcome researchers into the folds of its rapidly growing membership of more than 165 individuals.

At this year's 2011 ASIL Annual Meeting, ILRIG presented a substantive program entitled "Greater Than the Sum of its

Parts: Global Cooperation in Making the World's Laws Accessible." This panel discussion focused on the need for global cooperation in promoting access to the laws of the nations of the world, while providing specific examples of pioneering efforts to resolve this important issue. Members of the panel included Roberta Schaffer, Law Librarian of Congress, Hongxia Liu, Executive Director of the World Justice Project, Marylin Raisch, Associate Law Librarian and Adjunct Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Library, and Thomas R. Bruce, Co-Founder and Director of the Legal Information Institute at Cornell Law School.

ILRIG further contributed to this year's Annual Meeting by providing pre-conference and on-site research liaison services to ASIL officers, speakers, panelists and guests. The Research Liaison



Program focused within the parameters of conference program topics, and ILRIG fielded pre-conference questions regarding microstates and related issues of citizenship and state recognition.

For more information about ILRIG, or to join, please visit ILRIG's page on the ASIL website. Here you will find contact information for ILRIG officers, together with a link to ILRIG's inaugural newsletter: <http://www.asil.org/interest-groups-view.cfm?groupid=62>

## Library of El Escorial continued from page 3

cated to one of the liberal arts--the ceiling offers a compendium of the seven areas of knowledge considered most important in the 16th century: Grammar, Rhetoric, Dialectics, Arithmetic, Music, Geometry, and Astronomy. Also included in the frescoes are portraits of various scholars and authors, including Socrates, Pliny the Elder, Virgil, Homer, Ptolemy, and Euclid.

Today, the library contains 45,000 print volumes, and a rich collection of 5,000 manuscripts—all included in a searchable online catalog. Although most of these works were not part of Philip II's collection (a catastrophic fire in 1671 destroyed many of the library's original volumes), the library still retains the grandeur and aura of the original space. As Philip II initially commanded, the book bindings are turned inward to pro-

tect them from outside light, and the titles are written on the outward-facing edges. The library also houses several magnificent globes from the 16th century, as well as some splendid examples of furniture from the period. Truly a remarkable example of a Renaissance library, as well as a splendid remnant of Spain's Golden Age, the El Escorial library is worth the extra effort to see it.

### References

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Leapman, Michael. *Eyewitness Travel: Madrid*. London: Dorling Kindersley, 2010.

Patrimonio Nacional, Real Biblioteca del Monasterio de San Lorenzo de El Escorial, <http://rbme.patrimonionacional.es/> (last visited February 8, 2011).

Rincón Álvarez, Manuel. *La Bóveda de la Biblioteca Real*, Real Monasterio San Lorenzo del Escorial: Ediciones Escurialenses, 2010.

Sánchez-Molero, José Luis Gonzalo. "La Real Biblioteca de El Escorial: The 'Noah's Ark' of Spanish Renaissance Bibliophilism," in Yeves, Juan Antonio, *Bibliofilias*. Madrid: Fundación Lázaro Galdiano, 2008.

Photos of the The Print Room and frescoes are available at:

<http://rbme.patrimonionacional.es/home/Galeria-Fotografica/Salon-principal.aspx>

Search the [online catalog](#) at the library of El Escorial

## New Member Profiles

Mary Rumsey

### Welcome Saskia

Saskia Mehlhorn brings several strengths to her job as the Visiting Foreign & International Law Librarian at the University of Houston Law Center. A native of Germany, she is fluent in German and English, and has “a fairly good knowledge of Russian, Norwegian, and Latin.” Moreover, she practiced law in Germany and later as a foreign legal consultant in the US, giving her a deep understanding of civil law systems.

In 2006, Saskia began an L.L.M. degree, and became aware of law librarianship as a career option. She completed her degree while working part time as a contract librarian for Mayer Brown, Jones Day, and Thompson & Knight law firms, before taking a position as a reference librarian with Fulbright & Jaworski. In August 2009 she began work at the University of Houston.

### Varied Responsibilities

Like many of us, Saskia works the “regular” reference desk. She also answers international and foreign reference questions, and works closely with the Houston Journal of International Law, as well as with faculty members teaching international subjects. She prepares research guides and presentations on international legal research. In addition, she helps attorneys and law librarians in the Houston area with foreign and international legal research questions.

Saskia also responds to requests from public patrons, like one “who wanted to know if his marriage in Columbia will be honored in the U.S., or if he



Saskia in **Braunschweig**, Germany

should have gotten a divorce from his first wife from Peru first (honestly, that was a question).”

Asked what she likes most about her job, Saskia responds, “I enjoy that at the beginning of the day I don’t know in detail what it will bring but I can be sure that I will have a variety of requests, some of them challenging and mind-boggling while others encourage me to go back to the roots of my legal training.” A sign of her serene temperament is that Saskia has not yet found anything to like least about the work.

### Cool Interests

She has a strong interest in European Union Law, especially environmental and energy law, international/domestic agriculture law and commercial arbitration law. Favorite books include “anything sci-fi related and thrillers, especially Scandinavian ones.” She also loves being outside

and working in the garden (she’d love to live in the country), as well as knitting and scrapbooking.

It is probably safe to say that Saskia is the only FCIL librarian who dreams of having a small cattle operation, breeding cattle and perhaps showing heifers.

Saskia reports that the accompanying photo shows “a picture from my recent trip to Braunschweig. I am standing in front of the entrance to the backroom of the Cathedral in Braunschweig, where the lion who belonged to Henry the Lion supposedly left scratch marks trying to get to his dead master.”

Saskia has already been a helpful voice on the INT-LAW and FCIL-SIS discussion lists, but it’s not too late for an official “Willkommen, Saskia!”

### Welcome Kristina Alayan

Our second new member for this newsletter issue is Kristina Alayan, Foreign & International Law Reference Librarian at Duke’s Goodson Law Library. Kristina was raised in Portland, Oregon: “I was the first person born in the U.S. on both sides of my family. My mother is originally from Waldfishbach in Germany (a tiny town you will rarely – if ever – find on a map) and my father is from Tehran, Iran.”

Kristina brings some interesting experiences along with her to Duke. She says, “I have done everything from helping to manage a holistic private medical practice to working at a veterinary clinic. I worked in libraries for nearly eight years before starting at Duke.”

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## New Member Profiles Continued from page 8

A graduate of the University of Washington's law librarianship program, Kristina notes that she "was fortunate enough to complete my Directed Fieldwork with Silke Sahl at Columbia.



**Kristina Alayan**

I learned a great deal from Silke, but I am very aware of how much more I have to learn."

### Hybrid Reference

Her current position, like those that most of us hold, is not exclusively FCIL: "I think of it as a hybrid of FCIL and more traditional Reference. I spend approximately 6-9 hours a week at the reference desk (depending on the time of year and course load), and I help co-teach legal research to first year law students and international LL.M students. In the spring, I teach a one credit course called *Research Methods in International, Foreign and Comparative Law*, and I will be the primary selector for our foreign and international collec-

tion. Finally, I am the liaison to faculty members whose research interests tend to be FCIL in nature, the Duke Journal of Comparative and International Law, as well as our Guantanamo Clinic."

### Highs & Lows

Asked what she likes best about her job, Kristina singled out human interaction as the key. "I think that as much as I love the unique challenges this field presents, it's really the people I appreciate most. Whether it's working via email with law librarians from around the world to locate and scan the most recent copy of Haiti's Civil and Penal Code, working with two of the reference librarians at Duke to find a French case from 1925, or getting sincere gratitude from a student or faculty member for finding the unfindable, I don't think my job would be nearly as rewarding without the opportunity to work with engaging, creative and genuinely inquisitive people."

Kristina identifies the management of collection development information as her least favorite part of the job. She also acknowledges the challenge of FCIL work: "I imagine most librarians find it challenging to maintain and be familiar with a collection for one country, let alone over 190. Trying to find a balance between the law library's resources, what is available, and making sure that patron needs are met is no small feat."

Aiding Kristina in her efforts is her mastery of written and spoken German and French; she can also read and understand Spanish, but claims that "[her] speaking leaves something

to be desired." She is interested in human rights, access to justice, and the intersection of domestic and international law.

### Leisure Activities

Kristina enjoys outdoor activities such as camping and hiking; she also finds time for that great indoor activity, reading. She adds, "It's probably cliché in this field, but I have always loved traveling and studying languages. Whether studying abroad in Berlin for six months or taking part in an exchange program in Japan, I have made every effort to expose myself to different parts of the world. On one occasion, I saved my minimum wage earnings working after high school so I could work with biologists and local experts on conservation efforts for Leatherback sea turtles in Costa Rica. It was worth every penny!" On the critical librarianship question of cats vs. dogs, Kristina votes "Yes"—she has one dog and two cats.

Kristina would like to attend this year's AALL conference in Philadelphia. If you spot her there, she'd love to meet you. Welcome, Kristina!

## Wanted: New Members

Please submit your new member profile!

We would like to get to know you and welcome you to our SIS. Just tell us a bit about yourself. We look forward to working with you in the future.

**Your next opportunity will be  
in the May issue.**

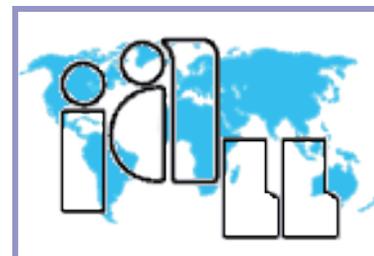
## The Back Page News

- ◇ **Roy Sturgeon** is now Foreign, Comparative, & International Law Librarian/Reference Librarian at Tulane University Law Library in New Orleans. He is enjoying the mild winters as compared to New York. Roy was previously at Touro College Library.
- ◇ **RIPS Teach-In Kit:** The AALL Research Instruction and Patron Services Special Interest Section (RIPS-SIS) is proud to announce the release of the [19th Annual National Legal Research Teach-In Kit](#). Each year in conjunction with National Library Week, RIPS creates a Teach-In Kit containing fresh materials for use in your institution's promotional and instructional activities. This year's kit includes PowerPoint presentations, research assignments, lesson plans, syllabi, and more on a variety of topics including health law, animal law, and Google Scholar.



- ◇ **Unleash Your Inner Leader:** New law librarians in the early stages of their career—achieve your leadership potential by attending the [2011 AALL Leadership Academy](#), October 28-29 in the Chicago area. Designed as an intensive learning experience aimed at growing and developing leadership skills, the academy program will help you discover how to maximize your personal leadership style while connecting with other legal information professionals. The application period starts April 1, and **applications are due by June 30**.

- ◇ **Financial Support to attend IALL:** The International Association of Law Libraries each year makes available financial assistance to enable law librarians who are normally unable to benefit from Association activities to attend IALL's Annual Course in International Law Librarianship that forms the annual conference of the Association. This year's course will be in Malaysia in December 2011. There are three bursaries comprising the following benefits: conference registration fee is waived, a grant of up to US \$1,500 to assist with accommodation and travel costs, and a free one year personal membership in IALL including a subscription to the *International Journal of Legal Information*. For more information, contact Barbara Garavaglia at [bvaccaro@umich.edu](mailto:bvaccaro@umich.edu).



- ◇ **Fun Philly Facts:** In late 1810, bound for Spain and owned by Americans, the Schooner Exchange was seized and converted into a French warship. On or about July 22, 1811, under the name of the Balaou or vessel No. 5, the ship entered the port of Philadelphia for repairs, and on August 24, was seized, arrested and detained in the process of a libel action by the original owners. The Circuit Court for the district of Pennsylvania reversed the U.S. District Court and ordered the ship returned to the libellants. Relying on general principles, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed the Circuit Court and affirmed the dismissal of the libel, noting "that national ships of war, entering the port of a friendly power open for their reception, are to be considered as exempted by the consent of that power from its jurisdiction." *Schooner Exchange v. M'Faddon*, 11 U.S. (7 Cranch) 116, 145-46 (1812). See also Wolff Heintschel von Heinegg, "Warships," in R. Wolfrum (Ed.), *The Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law*, Oxford University Press, 2008, online edition [[www.mpepil.com](http://www.mpepil.com)], visited on Feb. 14, 2010.

## Next Issue

**Our next issue will be in May 2011. The deadline for article submissions will be at the end of April. Please email Mabel at [shawm@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:shawm@law.georgetown.edu) for more information.**

**All submissions are welcome!**