From the Chair

Dan Wade

Foreign Law Survey Needs Your Support

Ellen Schaffer has mailed out the foreign law survey questionnaires—you should have received your copy by now. If you haven’t, please contact Ellen. The completed questionnaire should be returned to Ellen at your earliest convenience, but no later than April 1, 1989—please identify your institution. Ellen’s address and phone number:

Georgetown University Law Library
600 New Jersey Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202-662-9159

The results of the survey will surely help us get a better understanding of what foreign law our respective libraries are collecting and should enhance our networking opportunities. Please complete the questionnaire as soon as possible. Your SIS thanks you for your support.

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The Swedish Collection at the University of Minnesota Law Library

Suzanne Thorpe, Reference Librarian/Scandinavian Bibliographer
University of Minnesota Law Library

Background

The University of Minnesota Law School Library historically has had a strong collection of Scandinavian legal materials. Since 1983, when the Law School initiated an annual exchange of faculty and students with Uppsala University, special emphasis has been placed on collecting current Swedish legal materials which will benefit visiting Swedish scholars.

Several members of the Law Library’s staff have visited law libraries in Sweden, sought advice, and built ties there. One result is the exchange of publications between the Law Library and the law schools in Lund and Uppsala. Also as a result of our contact, Professor Dag Helmers, a Swedish tax expert, recently donated his major collection of Swedish tax materials to the Library.

At present, the Law Library collects comprehensively, acquiring most current Swedish legal publications with the exception of manuscripts. Although publications acquired are generally in Swedish, the Library purchases English language translations whenever possible. All materials received since 1985 have been classified according to the Library of Congress Law of Europe schedule. Works received prior to 1985 are shelved with the Law Library’s other foreign language publications. Although unclassified Swedish primary sources are shelved together, the secondary sources are intershelved with other foreign language titles.

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see Swedish page 7
It's Time to Schedule SIS Working Groups

AALL Headquarters has asked that those who want to schedule meetings at the Annual Meeting in Reno this summer should notify them by March 1.

It now seems likely that our SIS business meeting will take place on Sunday afternoon with standing committee meetings immediately preceding. Since many of us will be in Reno on Saturday for the Civil Law Workshop, Sunday morning seems to be a good time for small working groups, e.g. Latin American Law Librarians. Other times for such meetings are also available throughout the week.

For my part, I intend to convene a sequel to last summer's Workshop on Latin American Law and Law-Related Reference Sources where representatives of the RLG Libraries can discuss progress made on their country assignments. (At the moment, this is purely my idea and not necessarily sanctioned by any RLG authority or member.) In addition, if I can find people to talk to me about collecting African law and Soviet law I shall be happy to convene "working groups" focusing on these jurisdictions. Perhaps we could just have breakfast together and share our current problems. If others would like to organize discussion groups on any topic related to foreign, comparative and international law, please notify me by February 24.

Committee to Review Harms' Proposal

Margaret A. Leary, President of AALL has asked the Foreign, Comparative and International Law SIS to review a proposal, submitted by Wiltrud Harms, Associate Specialist for International Documents at the University of California School of Law Library, and her husband, Volker, for "The International Law Guide to United Nations Documents: A Service to Facilitate Research With Current Documentation in the Field of International Law." I have formed a committee to be chaired by John Strzynski of Chicago-Kent College of Law Library and to include Kevin Jewel of Harvard Law School Library and Lyonette Louis-Jacques of the University of Minnesota Law Library. A fourth academic member may be added to the Committee, and I would greatly welcome a volunteer with some United Nations documents experience from the private sector, as I met with little success trying to recruit one.

President Leary addresses a number of personal concerns and questions to the reviewers. One of particular interest to all SIS members is: "If one assumes AALL has an extra $40,000 a year, is this project the most important one we might undertake to improve access to foreign and international law?" I am sure the committee would welcome your thoughts on how $40,000 could be spent to further foreign, comparative and international law librarianship; please send your ideas to the Committee Chairman. We will try to set aside some time at our business meeting in Reno to consider major project ideas.

Bits and Pieces

Janet Zagorin writes that Blanka Kudej, New York University Law Library, gave a "terrific" presentation at the Tuesday, January 17, 1989 meeting of LLAGNY (Law Librarians of Greater New York). Blanka spoke on the "Sources of International Law" and distributed a bibliography. Her remarks were very well received.

Earl Weisbaum of the University of Houston Law Library, has found an alternative source for microforms of the Mexican Diario Oficial. For further details, write Earl in Houston.
SIS Plans Pre-Convention Workshop: Civil Law Systems

Timothy Kearley, Co-Director
Workshop on Law and Legal Literature in Civil Law Countries

The SIS is sponsoring a workshop on law and legal literature in civil law countries from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, 1989, the day before the AALL Annual Meeting convenes. For the low registration fee of $50 (which includes lunch), the workshop registrant will get an overview of the most important institutions and legal materials of civil law countries.

The program will provide both the background knowledge (historical and theoretical) about civil law that is necessary for an accurate analysis of research problems and the nuts and bolts of, or practical tips on, where to find frequently requested information. The morning session will consist of a comparison of common law and civil law systems, a review of the nature and history of civil law codification, and an analysis of the differences among modern civil law systems. The afternoon session will focus on the specifics of doing research in French and German law and on finding English language information on civil law jurisdictions.

The outstanding faculty that has been assembled for this workshop consists of:
Thomas Carbonneau, Professor of Law and Deputy Director of the Eason-Weinmann Center for Comparative Law at the Tulane University School of Law, who has written widely on international and comparative law, and is a consultant for a French law firm; David Combe, Librarian and Professor of Law at Tulane, an expert on the French civil code who recently wrote (with Thomas Reynolds) the excellent introduction and overview in the Law Library Microform Consortium's Civil Law I - France; Marie-Louise Bernal, Legal Research Analyst in the European Law Division of the Library of Congress Law Library, who is co-author of many legal bibliographies published by the Library of Congress and has extensive practical knowledge of foreign legal literature based on her work.

Paris Beckons: IALL to Hold Workshop on European Courts

Paris is the locale for the International Association of Law Libraries' workshop on European Courts later this year. With Igor Kavass extending the invitation to the workshop and Claire Germaine outlining a battery of reasons (for you to present to your boss??!) to go to Paris, how can you "just say no?" Here are Igor Kavass...

The International Association of Law Libraries (IALL) cordially invites interested persons to attend its workshop on "Supranational and Constitutional Courts in Europe: Functions and Sources" to be held in conjunction with the International Federation of Libraries Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Congress. Attendance to the workshop is covered by the registration fee for the IFLA 1989 Congress. The IALL workshop will be held Thursday, August 24, 1989 at the famous Cujas Interuniversitaire Library in Paris, France. A distinguished panel of international scholars will speak on the constitutional courts and systems of European countries. For further information on, and registration forms for, the IALL Workshop and the IFLA Congress, contact:
Professor Igor I. Kavass
Program Coordinator, IALL Workshop
Law Library
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN 37240
U.S.A.

...and Claire Germaine on Places of Professional Interest to Visit in Paris.

Here are just a few ideas to get you started!

The IALL Workshop will be held in the Inter-University Cujas Library for Law and Economics, located in the Latin Quarter, Paris' student district since the Middle Ages. The staff promises an exhibit of some of their rare books. Nearby is the Inter-University Sainte Genevieve Library, well worth a look. These two libraries are well-known for the depth of their historical collections. As is often the case in French academic libraries, their law collections.
are parts of more general social sciences collections. They are both located right next to the Panthéon, France's national monument where famous men, such as Voltaire and Rousseau, are buried. In front of it is the Rue Soufflot, where you will find several legal publishing houses and bookstores, e.g., Dalloz, Duchemin, Pedone, Sirey (also in surrounding streets). Facing the Rue Soufflot are the gardens of Luxembourg, which include the Palais du Luxembourg, seat of the French Senate (Upper House). Together with the French National Assembly (Lower House) in the Palais Bourbon (directly facing the Place de la Concorde), they make up the French Parliament.

The Law Courts are located in the Palais de Justice, near the Seine River, part of a complex of buildings that include the Conciergerie (where Marie-Antoinette was imprisoned) and the Sainte-Chapelle. Inside the Palais de Justice, you may get a chance to observe a trial. To find other courts, you will have to cross the Seine over to the right bank. The Palais Royal is today the official seat of the Conseil d'État, which is the highest administrative court in France. The Conseil Constitutionnel is located on Rue Montpensier in the 1st arrondissement.

In the general vicinity, don't forget to visit the Bibliothèque Nationale (58, Rue de Richelieu, 2d. arrondissement. Métro: Bourse, Opéra, Palais-Royal). A bit further, you will see the Centre Pompidou/Beaubourg, located between the Halles and the Marais. It is remarkable because of the architecture (glass and steel, wiring and plumbing through visible, huge colored ducts) and also because of its free-access public library that includes a law collection (Bibliothèque Publique d'Information (BPI) du Centre National d'Art et de Culture Georges-Pompidou. 75004 Paris. Métro: Hotel de Ville, Châtelet).

While in Paris, you may also want to see some of the international organizations headquartered in the city: the OECD (called OCDE), near the Bois de Boulogne, and the UNESCO, Place de Fontenoy (Métro: Ségur), where you can admire artwork by Picasso (inside), and A. Calder and H. Moore (outside).

Finally, if you are interested in French government documents, stop by the Documentation Française (29-31, Quai Voltaire, 75007 Paris. Métro: Bac, Tuileries).


For more information, consult one of the many tourist guides available. You may also want to write to: French Government Tourist Office, 610 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10020, or call: 212-757-1125, especially if you want information on special events commemorating the Bicentennial of the French Revolution. Other tourist offices are located in Chicago, Beverly Hills, San Francisco, and Dallas.

I hope to see you soon in the city where I grew up!

SIS from page 3 with LC's fine collection; Claire Germain, Assistant Law Librarian and Senior Lecturer in Comparative Law at the Duke University School of Law, a law graduate of the University of Paris and co-author (with Charles Szladits) of Guide to Foreign Legal Materials: French; John Pickron, Law Librarian and Associate Professor of Law at the University of Hawaii's Richardson School of Law, who has been Visiting Librarian and Acting Deputy Director of the Library at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and Private International Law in Hamburg, and is currently translating into English a legal bibliographic work by the Institute's Deputy Director; and Amber Lee Smith, Foreign and International Law Librarian at the University of Miami Law Library, who earned an LL.M. in international law from the National Law Center of George Washington University, and has written about and taught foreign legal bibliography.

Watch for registration materials in the AALL Newsletter. For additional information on the workshop, contact either of the co-directors: Francisco Avalos of the University of Arizona School of Law Library and Timothy Kearley of the University of Illinois College of Law Library.
What's AALL'S Financial Status?

Margaret A. Leary, President
American Association of Law Libraries

(Prepared for the President's column of the AALL Newsletter, reproduced here at the author's request)

It's a very rich association: it has a one million dollar investment fund that annually generates income worth about $30 for each of its 4,300 members; vendors contribute thousands of dollars to its scholarship funds and annual meetings; it publishes a newsletter, a journal, and an index to foreign legal periodicals; its annual income exceeds a million dollars, and its most recent annual meeting generated a $58,000 profit.

OR...

It's a very poor association: it expects to spend some $200,000 more than it will take in this year; at the November 5 Board meeting, nearly $70,000 worth of funding requests from groups and individuals were deferred indefinitely for lack of money; and the budget for the 1989 Reno meeting wouldn't generate income until we raised the registration fee to $150.

Which is the correct answer?

Both of the above statements are true. To solve the problems associated with the second set of statements, I asked the Financial Advisory Committee to make recommendations to the Board by March. Roger Jacobs, chair of that committee, has advised the Board that the recommendation will almost certainly include a dues increase, and that it probably won't include a recommendation to reduce the size of the investment fund. I want everyone to have as much information as is possible about this situation, so here is a sketch of what has happened:

Over the last several years, our dues remained constant; the amount of income from dues rose as our membership rose; other kinds of income have risen; but the total increase in income has not matched the increase in expenses, even though we raised the price of everything we sell to non-members by 50-100%: the mailing list, the publications, and advertising, as well as exhibit space at the annual meetings. Charts at pages 56-57 of the September AALL Newsletter show the trends clearly.

Our investment fund--also referred to as our "endowment" although that is not technically correct--was set up a couple of years ago to ensure the highest rate of return for money we had previously kept in more liquid form. The accumulation of excess funds in the first place was the result of great prudence on the part of the officers, and the income generated by the fund has delayed the need to raise dues. The Board has the power to spend all of the investment fund, and if we did so, it would be gone in about five years at the present rate of spending $200,000 more than we take in each year. We would, of course, then lose the income it had generated, and would need a substantially larger dues increase.

Another tack to avoid a dues increase would be to cut expenses. That's a real option, although it would completely reverse the direction in which members have decided previously that the Association should head. For example, we could scale back the newsletter, and have a quarterly, typed, photocopied one as we did in 1981, instead of a monthly, printed, 32-page newsletter like September's, which included The CRIV Sheet from the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors. We could have a directory like that of the 1970's, listing members completely only under their library's name and about 150 pages long, instead of one like the 1988-89 edition, over 500 pages long with an alphabetical member list, law library locator, geographical listing, and expanded handbook. The directory <in its present format> is possible because of computer equipment at Headquarters and a programmer consultant--both of those cost money.

Those who belong to other associations will realize our dues are relatively low: I just paid my State Bar dues of $150 exclusive of a PAC contribution; and my ALA dues, including a couple of divisions, for $192. My AALL membership, including all 12 SIS's, was just $125. Most members don't join all SIS's, and I'd...
On Information Sources

- UNINET. I reported in the last issue (3:1) that the database United Nations Information Network (UNINET) was trying to reach more users. That was based on the June 6, 1988 memo and flyer from Andreas Eckert, Database Manager. Since then I received reports that the service was being terminated. I contacted Mr. Eckert, who regretfully confirmed that because of budget cuts, this electronic "link to the U.N. and its information sources" was no longer available outside of the U.N. system as of November 1988.


This 339-page book deals with intergovernmental organizations, with special emphasis on the United Nations and the European Communities, and their publications and documents (in paper and microform), and their computerized information systems. The ten chapters are written by an impressive array of contributors on a range of topics in international librarianship, from the organizational background, to the organizations' publishing activities, to collection development, to collection management and bibliographic control, to the needs of the end-user.


Have you wondered what happened to this commercially-produced index to the publications and documents of the European Communities? Well, here's the story from the former Managing Editor and former Senior Index Editor, respectively, of the EC Index.


A ready source of names and addresses of government printers for some 150 to 200 countries arranged alphabetically from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe.

From Jonathan Pratter, International Law Librarian, Tarlton Law Library, University of Texas at Austin:

- Jon shares with us "a little trade secret" which he says should be interesting for anyone working with attorneys doing international litigation.

The Office of Citizens Consular Services (OCCS) of the U.S. State Department gives information to private litigants concerning the local practice for the service of process in foreign jurisdictions. This can be particularly useful when the foreign jurisdiction is not a party to the Hague Service of Process Convention.

OCCS has geographic divisions; phone numbers are from the current Federal Yellow Book:
202-647-3444 Africa
202-647-3675 East Asia & Pacific
202-647-3444 Europe & Canada
202-647-3712 Inter-American
202-647-3926 Near East & South Asia

For more information, see I B. Ristau, International Judicial Assistance: Civil and Commercial 67 (1984).


These are the papers presented at an international colloquium on legal information and computer law held in March 1986 at the University of Seville. There are several papers on computer-assisted legal research and bibliographic databases that cover developments in Spain, Italy and Mexico, as well as papers on computer law and data protection.

This is a facsimile of the original edition (1961). It is in four volumes, with a fifth volume of studies. It is available from Miguel Angel Porrua, S.A., Amargura 4, San Angel, México 01000, D.F., México, for $600,000 (M.N.), price subject to change. Recommended for libraries with an interest in Spanish colonial law and Latin American history.

From Charles Mwalimu, Senior Legal Specialist, Library of Congress:


Address specific inquiries and requests for copies to:
The Law Librarian
Library of Congress
First and Independence Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20540


A limited number of reprints is available for sale at $5.00 each plus postage and handling (domestic=$0.85; foreign=$1.70). Address inquiries for reprints to:
Charles Mwalimu
2164 Georgian Woods Place
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phones: 202-707-9846 daytime
301-933-4040 evenings

From Larry Meranus, Kluwer Law & Taxation representative:

Notice to subscribers of Competition Law in Western Europe and the USA. As of November 1988, two Kluwer publications previously distributed by West Publishing Co. will now be handled solely by Kluwer. These titles are: Competition Law in Western Europe and the USA (12 vols.) and Legal Aspects of Doing Business in ... (7 different geographical areas are covered). In order to assure prompt and efficient transfer of all standing orders for supplementation in Swedish from page 1 by main entry. We will soon begin a project to classify the numerous unclassified Swedish texts in the Library. Bringing them together under KKV will highlight the depth and breadth of the collection and enhance its use.

Primary Sources

The collection is strong in its holdings of general statutory materials. Included is a complete set of Svensk Författningssamling, the official chronological series of statutes, decrees, and treaties, from 1825 to date. Every other year the Library purchases Sveriges Rikes Lag, a topically arranged code of Swedish laws. Some early collections of laws from the 17th and 18th centuries including Collin and Schlyer's Corpus Iuris Sueo-gotorum Antiqui are available as well as Backman's Ny Lagsamling and Lilienberg's Svensk Lagsamling. In addition, the Library has Svenska Landskapslagar, a series of local laws from the various provinces dating from 1933 to 1946.

Besides the comprehensive collections, the library also holds subject compilations of laws. Two official publications, Socialstyrelsens Författningssamling, a chronological publication of social legislation from 1976 to date, and Medicinalförfattningar, a chronological publication of medical legislation from 1935 to 1978 are available.

The Law Library collects legislative history in the form of official reports of royal legislative commissions, Statiens Offentliga Utredningar. Although the collection of these reports is complete for 1954 to 1974, the Library's holdings are incomplete from 1923 to 1954. We currently collect them selectively, only in areas related to law. The Library recently acquired a complete set of royal commission reports on taxation which cover the history of Swedish income taxation from 1860 to 1984. The Law Library does not collect the Swedish parliamentary papers, Riksdagens Protokoll, because these are already available at the main university library. Nytt Juridiskt Arkiv, a quarterly periodical from 1874 to date which publishes reports of new statutes and some legislative proposals, permits researchers to track current parliamentary developments. A set of Sveriges
Överenskommelser med Främmande Makter, Swedish treaties from 1912 to present, is also available.

In addition to statutory law, case law is also well represented. The Law Library collects reports of the majority of Sweden's national courts. The complete reports of the Supreme Court, Högsta Domstolen, appear in the periodical Nytt Juridiskt Arkiv, from 1874. The Library also holds reports from the Courts of Appeals, Rättsfall från Hovrätterna from 1980 to 1985, as well as from the Chamber Court, Rättsfall från Kammarrätt (previously published in Kammarrättens Årsbok) from 1925 to 1950 and from 1977 to 1984. Decisions of the Labor Court are available from 1982 to date in Arbetsdomstolens Domar. In addition, decisions of the Supreme Administrative Court are available in Regeringsrättens Årsbok from 1909 to 1986. Summaries of court decisions also appear in the periodical Svensk Juristtidning, 1916 to date.

Miscellaneous administrative reports exist as well. They include Justieombudsmans Åmbetsberättelse, reports of the Parliamentary Ombudsman for the Judiciary and Civil Administration, 1834 to 1985, and Militieombudsmans Åmbetsberättelse, reports of the Parliamentary Ombudsman for Military Affairs, 1918 to 1950.

Secondary Materials

The Law Library currently collects most scholarly legal monographs published in Sweden. The Library receives all the publications of the law faculties in Lund, Stockholm, and Uppsala. In addition, the Library continues to add to a nearly complete set of the Institutet for Rättvetenskaplig Forskning works which represents important privately funded legal scholarship. Many festschriften also exist. The Library currently purchases all major commentaries to the Swedish codes or to recent legislation, in particular, two series published by Norstedt, Gula Bibliotek and Blå Bibliotek.

Recently, the Library committed a budget of $3,000 toward the purchase of new Swedish imprints. Federal grants have also been received for the purchase of Swedish texts. This past year, a blanket order, patterned on the selections made at the Law Library at the University of Uppsala, was instituted with a book dealer in Sweden. This should insure that the Library receives nearly all Swedish legal publications of academic interest on an automatic basis.

In the past, the purchase of secondary materials has been more limited. Although many treatises and commentaries from the first half of this century exist in the collection, the Library acquired most Swedish monographs after the 1950's. However, recent donations have resulted in a collection of retrospective tax treatises which is quite comprehensive.

In addition to treatises and commentaries, the Library also acquires reference tools including legal dictionaries, research guides, bibliographies and indexes. These are shelved in a special foreign reference collection.

The Law Library's collection of Swedish legal periodicals consists of back runs and current subscriptions to the major titles which are general in scope, including Advokaten, Svensk Jurist Tidning, and Författningsrättslig Tidskrift. The Library also holds the two major Swedish tax periodicals: Svensk Skattetidning and Skattenytt. Scandinavian Studies in Law, an English-language periodical containing scholarly articles, including ones on Swedish law, is also available. The Library also holds Tidskrift för Lagstiftning, Lagskifning och Författnings periodical published from 1864 to 1888 which covered legislative and administrative developments in Sweden.

In Conclusion

The Law Library welcomes inquiries from around the country, as well as donations to fill in our gaps. Many of the secondary materials are available for interlibrary loan. Reference assistance may also be requested. For further information about the Swedish law collection, please contact Suzanne Thorpe at (612) 625-4309.
Roman Law, Anyone? LC's KJA

Fred Mansfield, Law Bibliographer at the Law Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, reports that "in 1987 our Law Library classified our Roman law collection, using the tentative draft of the KJA table from the Library of Congress." He wonders "whether there are enough other law libraries with Roman law collections to form a working group." If you are interested, please contact Mr. Mansfield directly; the phone number of the Law Library is 217-333-2913.

Mr. Mansfield recommends care in applying the KJA schedule prepared in 1986. He cites the table on page 25 as an example. This table "has been revised to avoid triple cutting. The current table reads: A3-39 Individual works. By title. The original draft reads: A3A-Z Individual works. By title."

He continues: "The Library of Congress sold the April 1986 version of the working draft of the tables for Law of Europe through the summer of 1988, with no changes. As of the summer of 1988, LC prepares an 'on demand' photocopy of the tables actually used by the LC classifiers, showing all changes to the date of the photocopying. The photoduplication section of LC uses a 'master' copy of the tables whenever they receive an order for a photocopy. When we placed such an order in August, LC forgot to include the Roman numeral table I-XIII; people ordering such a photocopy should specify that they want the Roman numeral tables also."

The Law Library at the University of Minnesota has had a first hand experience with the pitfalls of using the 1986 draft of the Law of Europe (KJ-KKZ) schedule. We started applying it in 1986 as soon as we received our copy of the draft. We found it necessary to communicate with Mary K. D. Pietris, Chief of the Subject Cataloging Division of the Library of Congress, who promptly sent us revised pages of the tables about which we requested some clarification. To quote from her response dated December 17, 1986, "You have hit on a problem one encounters when a draft unedited scheme is made available to others while we are refining it... We are pleased to hear of problem areas like this before..."

Committee Reports

Clearinghouse for International Placements, Progress Report, January 5, 1989
Jonathan Pratter, Coordinator

Responses to the first batch of 30 questionnaires to foreign law libraries have begun to come in. Ten responses have been received, six of them favorable. Favorable responses came from law libraries in Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. Most of these responses indicated a willingness to host a U.S. law librarian during a short or medium-length visit, rather than a desire to participate in a formal job exchange. In addition, all of the favorable responses so far have indicated that there is no money available to help fund a visit, either in the form of a salary or otherwise. The names of institutions responding favorably will be included in a forthcoming SIS column in the AALL Newsletter. In early 1989, another batch of approximately 30 questionnaires will go out to selected foreign law libraries in the continuing effort to maintain a current file. After that, it will be necessary to update the listing of U.S. law libraries for the benefit of librarians from other countries who wish to participate in an international placement in the U.S.

During 1988 CIP announcements appeared in the SIS column of five issues (February, March, May, October, and November) of the AALL Newsletter. The plan for 1989 is to increase the number.

Several inquiries came in to CIP during 1988, though the number is lower than in previous years. Each inquiry received individual attention and as full a response as possible.

Education Committee
Francisco Avalos, Chair

The Education Committee met in Atlanta during the annual AALL Convention. Plans for future workshops were discussed, but none were finalized. Among the ideas discussed were: international franchising, international securities matters, international banking problems, the U.S.-Canadian Free Trade
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the Foreign, Comparative, and International Law SIS held in Atlanta, June 26, 1988

Maria Smolka-Day, Secretary

The Chairman, Ellen Schaffer, called the meeting to order. We dispensed with the reading of the minutes of last year's business meeting because they were printed in the Newsletter (v.2:2). The minutes were approved by acclamation.

Maria Smolka-Day gave the Treasurer's report. As of May 31, 1988, we had a balance of $1464.05. Since there were two outstanding bills, totaling $269.44--for printing and distributing the 3d issue of the Newsletter and for mailing the ballots--our balance as of June 26, 1988 was $1194.61.

In the absence of Jonathan Pratter, Ellen Schaffer gave a report on the activities of the Clearinghouse on International Placements (CIP). The major CIP activity during the past year was to publicize opportunities for the international placement of law librarians through the SIS column in the AALL Newsletter. Jon also reported that the number of requests for information from the U.S. and abroad was down somewhat from previous years. In the future CIP hopes to place the file of opportunities on computer diskette for easier updating.

Claire Germain, Chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the results of the election of next year's officers. The Committee on Elections, consisting of Kathy Coon and Maria Smolka-Day, counted votes in a meeting on June 16, 1988. Out of 227 ballots mailed, 108 were returned. Timothy Kearley was elected Vice-Chair/Chair-elect and Francisco Avalos, Secretary-Treasurer.

Kurt Adamson reported that during the last year our SIS column appeared in all issues, but one, of the AALL Newsletter. He will continue to prepare the column for the coming year. He appealed for contributions on SIS matters which might be of interest to the general AALL membership. Contributions should be mailed to him by Tuesday before the first Monday of each month. He will also accept information over the phone.

Dan Wade thanked all the contributors to the FCIL SIS Newsletter over the last few years when he was Editor. He stressed the technical and financial difficulties in producing the Newsletter. He raised the possibility of creating a paid subscription in the future. He announced that Mila Rush will be the new Editor.

Ellen Schaffer presented information on this year's SIS programs which are:
2) "Resources in Soviet Law"
3) "Workshop on Latin American Law and Law-Related Reference Sources"

Ellen also informed us that our SIS has 227 members, a rather high number considering the fact that the Section was only recently formed.

Dan Wade reported on the resolution concerning better access to the Hispanic legislation database of the Library of Congress. The resolution was unanimously approved by the AALL Executive Board and will be distributed at the AALL business meeting. The Library of Congress seems to favor broader public access, but more organized pressure is needed to accomplish this goal. Jose Fernandez of Baker & McKenzie promised to push a similar resolution through the ABA channels. Dan thanked Jacqueline Rice for her efforts in this matter. Jacqueline shared her knowledge of the technical aspects of this project.

Ellen Schaffer read last year's FCIL SIS resolution on taking "necessary steps to formalize specific recommendations to the AALL to deal with the problem of the decreasing number of qualified candidates to fill vacancies for foreign and international law librarians." She noticed that SIS-sponsored programs and workshops at this and previous conventions have addressed this problem. She solicited further proposals and expressions of opinion which should be directed in the future to the SIS Education and Program Committees.
Amber Smith and Ellen Schaffer volunteered to be in charge of the SIS booth for the hour assigned to the Foreign, Comparative and International Law SIS.

Ellen Schaffer informed us about an effort to put International Legal Materials online by the producers of LEXIS and WESTLAW. The coverage would start from 1980. Because talks are in progress right now, Ellen encouraged members to support this project in their letters to the producers. Dan Wade raised the possibility of passing a resolution by the SIS, but Tom Reynolds suggested that individual letters representing many libraries would carry more financial clout.

Dan Wade, incoming Chairman of the Section, introduced the new committees working on the different areas of SIS activity. They were announced in the current issue of the Newsletter and they met just before this business meeting. During the Publications Committee meeting, a proposal was made to create a new Membership Committee which will monitor our membership list and make sure that members are not lost merely because they forgot to pay their dues on time. It will also try to solicit new members, to inform them about the SIS, and to collect biographical data on people working in the field.

Ellen said that the issue of a membership list is not limited to our SIS and it will be raised at the SIS Council meeting. Hopefully, some changes will be made. She also proposed to place a reminder about dues in the AALL Newsletter (SIS column).

Reports of the committees started with Kurt Adamson of the Publications Committee. The Committee issued an appeal for more contributions to both newsletters. Information on local developments connected with foreign, comparative and international law would be particularly important. Both editors would welcome volunteers from the local chapters to report on their pertinent activities. There was also an appeal for sharing information (including papers) obtained at other conferences attended by SIS members. A suggestion was made to find a volunteer who would serve as a clearinghouse for available papers. The costs of duplication and copyright problems involved were raised by Ellen Schaffer, Dan Wade and Igor Kavass, but everyone agreed that this is a useful idea which should be worked out in the future. Ellen volunteered to take part in the preparation of an initial proposal which should be published in the Newsletter to encourage further discussion.

Tim Kearley, Chairman of the Education Committee, presented a proposal for next year's workshop on civil law systems. It should be a pre- rather than a post-convention workshop. The program should start with a general comparison of civil and common law systems, followed by a discussion of the history of civil law codification, and a session devoted to differentiating among contemporary civil law systems. The afternoon session would be devoted to German and French legal systems, and to English language sources.

Margaret Axtmann, Chair of the Program Committee, presented proposals for the Reno convention. The Committee selected Japan as a jurisdictional program and international commercial arbitration as an international program. If time and resources are available, a third possible program would be on GATT. The Committee welcomes other suggestions as well as volunteers to help in coordinating and preparing the programs. The suggestions for future years included a workshop on international financial law and shorter programs on the Hague conventions, UK law, and the laws of Scandinavian countries. Janet Zagorin explained the reasons behind the Committee's selections. It was followed by a discussion which concentrated on the difficulties of covering subjects in programs lasting only 1 to 2 hours. Igor Kavass proposed to limit the Japanese program to foreign trade law. Some other subjects were thought to be more appropriate as workshops or even institutes. Amber Smith noted that the latter require much longer preparation and that we should start now to plan for an Institute in 1991. There were also additional proposals for the future to prepare programs on the US-Canada trade agreement and international securities. The Committee should keep a permanent file of such proposals from members and select topics from it.
Amber Smith, who is working on the collection development policy for her library, asked other members to share with her their experiences and to send her texts of policies of their libraries.

Ellen Schaffer informed us that work on the questionnaire for the SIS survey of library holdings in foreign law is quite advanced and should be ready for mailing during the coming Fall.

Igor Kavass, on behalf of the International Association of Law Libraries, announced the workshop on the role of constitutional courts in today's societies, with particular emphasis on Western Europe. The workshop will be held in Paris on August 24, 1989 in conjunction with the Congress of IFLA. Igor is coordinating this workshop and invites everyone to participate.

There was no other new business, and the meeting was adjourned.

**Program Committee**
Margie Axtmann, Chair

The FCIL Program Committee (Margie Axtmann, Ellen Schaffer, and Janet Zagorin) has been inactive since coming up with program proposals for the Reno meeting. Two programs proposals were successful, as has been reported elsewhere. Two proposals remain as possible topics for the 1990 meeting: Scandinavian law (for our jurisdictional program) and GATT (for our topical program).

The Committee's other charge is to work on a long-range plan for convention programming for the SIS. The Committee will be discussing this during the Spring and will present a report at the SIS business meeting in Reno.

It appears virtually certain that we need a dues increase; it seems wise to keep an investment fund of some size to minimize the dues increase needed. The Board will make decisions, based on the Financial Advisory Committee's recommendations, in March. Any dues increase needs membership approval. I invite your comments and suggestions.

**Information from page 7**
the future, subscribers are requested to write:
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or, call 212-869-4545

That was two years ago. Meanwhile, the publication of the KJ-KKZ classification schedule had been planned for 1987. A call, however, to the Library of Congress Cataloging Distribution Service in December 1988 received this response: "it is not yet out...don't know when."

**Uncle SIS NEEDS YOU**
to complete your Foreign Law Survey questionnaire as soon as possible!