

Volume 5
Number 3
May 1991

FCIL *Newsletter*

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

New Orleans Calendar

Activities at the 84th American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Annual Meeting that are of particular interest to the membership of the Foreign, Comparative and International Law (FCIL) Special Interest Section, regardless of sponsorship. Locations are unknown at this time.

Friday, July 19

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. W-1 Workshop on Training the Future Generation of International and Foreign Law Librarians: Planning Session

Sunday, July 21

9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Working Group Meeting

10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Latin American Law Librarians Meeting

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Soviet and East European Law Working Group Meeting

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. African Law Working Group Meeting

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. SIS-15 FCIL Business Meeting

Monday, July 22

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. C-2 The Historical Development of the Louisiana Legal System

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. C-6 Tapping the Wealth of International & Foreign Law-Related Materials in U.S. Databases: Ask Your Colleagues

Tuesday, July 23

1:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m. F-2 A Reference Smorgasbord

1:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m. F-3 Library of Congress Update

Wednesday, July 24

8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. H-1 Town Meeting on Training the Future Generation of International and Foreign Law Librarians

1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. I-3 International Investment in Developing Countries

Thursday, July 25

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. W-4 Workshop on New Laws for New Democracies

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The Impact of
Louisiana's Civil Law Heritage
on the
Loyola University Law Library Collection
by
Nancy L. Strohmeyer
and
Ed Edmonds

The Louisiana State Law Institute
by
Timothy Kearley

I encourage you to attend the educational programs and the Workshop on New Laws for New Democracies sponsored by the SIS at this year's Convention, and to participate in our Town Meeting on Training the Future Generation of International and Foreign Law Librarians to be held Wednesday, July 24.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Mila Rush for her extraordinary commitment to the SIS and for producing our terrific newsletter. She has been tireless in her efforts (including nagging me to do my column) and we all owe her a debt of gratitude.

I also want to thank Francisco Avalos, Chair, Dan Wade, and Telle Zoller for serving on the Nominating Committee. The ballot is elsewhere in this issue and I urge you to VOTE.

I look forward to seeing you at the Convention.

Janet Zagorin

From the Chair

As Convention time rapidly approaches, I hope you have all made plans to come to New Orleans and to attend our FCIL business meeting. The meeting will be held on Sunday, July 21 from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Our annual meeting is the one chance we all have to get together and discuss our SIS's business. At our meeting we will introduce our new officers and discuss the programs scheduled for the Convention.

The Education Committee will have met prior to the business meeting and we will have a report on their proposals for next year's educational programs.

Our incoming chair, Amber Smith will present her agenda for the coming year. Anyone who has topics of interest or items one wants discussed, should let either of us know so that they can be addressed at the business meeting.

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 the exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative and international law, and to represent its members' interests and concerns within the AALL."

The newsletter is sent free to members of the FCIL SIS. It is available for that "exchange of ideas and information."

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Deadline for next issue: September 15, 1991.

From the Editor

It is no coincidence that, if this issue were indexed, there would be numerous entries under 'New Orleans,' 'Louisiana,' and 'civil law.' In this issue which immediately precedes the AALL Annual Meeting in New Orleans, we are highlighting Louisiana and its unique legal system that makes it kind of "foreign" in the United States.

Our first feature article discusses how a Louisiana law collection is able to successfully reflect its civil law tradition in a common law country. I have met by phone (if there is such a thing) Loyola University's Law Librarian Ed Edmonds who amiably agreed to write this article; Nancy L. Strohmeier co-authored it.

We have tons of restatements, etc. from the American Law Institute; we also have lots of materials from the law reform commissions of the different Commonwealth jurisdictions. But how much do we know of the Louisiana Law Institute? Tim Kearley, in our second feature article, will see to it that we all can say, "Quite a bit."

Our February 1991 issue featured Taylor Fitchett's article "Human Rights Collection at the University of Cincinnati College of Law Library." Taylor writes to make the following addendum:

"Between 1979 and 1985, Steven Perkins, Interim Director of the John Marshall Law School Library, was the librarian/bibliographer for the Human Rights Collection. A bibliography originally prepared by him and augmented by Katherine Malmquist, Associate Law Librarian at Cleveland Marshall College of Law, served as the basis for the second funding round of the collection. The very comprehensive bibliographic work of both librarians laid the foundation for an outstanding resource that supports the work of both the Urban Morgan

Human Rights Institute and regional scholars."

To all of you who were generous with your talents, expertise, and time and contributed to this newsletter these last three years: A very sincere THANK YOU!

M. Rush

SIS Volunteers Sought To Influence the "Next Generation"

Amber Lee Smith
Incoming Chair

The annual request form for volunteers to serve on SIS committees appears in this issue. I think that the SIS has a central role to play in finding answers to the questions about recruiting and training the next generation of foreign and international law librarians, so this should be a particularly exciting year to be actively involved in the work of the SIS. Please volunteer if you can. We need both experienced committee members and new committee members.

The committees of the SIS are as follows:

- o Committee on International Placements. - Works with the Center on International Placements to locate host institutions for librarians who wish to work for a specified amount of time in a foreign country.
- o Education/Program Committee. - Responsible for developing the programs, grants, workshops and institutes which the SIS sponsors during the AALL Annual Meeting, and for coordinating all educational activities of the SIS.
- o Publications Committee. - Responsible for all SIS publications, including the *FCIL Newsletter*, our column in the *AALL Newsletter*, the SIS brochure, our surveys, and any other publications we decide to produce.

o Finance Committee. - Responsible for all the financial concerns of the SIS. The Treasurer is an ex officio member. Helps to develop policy and administer matters regarding our dues, income from the workshops and institutes, fund raising activities, and expenditure of our SIS funds.

The SIS committees will be meeting in New Orleans on Sunday, July 21 before the SIS business meeting. The exact times and places are being worked out and they will be announced later.

I look forward to hearing from all of you and hope to see you in New Orleans.

SIS Working Groups To Meet in New Orleans

Dan Wade
Yale Law Library

SIS Will Launch Working Group on Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research in New Orleans ...

This year the Foreign, Comparative and International Law SIS will be launching a new working group devoted to teaching foreign and international legal research at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, July 21st (the room will be announced in the final program). The inaugural session will be a short talk by Professor Morris Cohen, co-author of *How to Find the Law* and Director of the Yale Law Library, on his "Reflections on Teaching Research Methods in International Law." Virginia Wise, Lecturer in Law, Harvard Law School, who is currently teaching a course in international legal research at Harvard, will respond to his comments; an open discussion will follow.

Space is limited; there is room for only

twenty-five. Admission will be by ticket which may be obtained with a promise to bring copies of a course description, a syllabus, a reading list of a course you are teaching in this area, a pertinent pathfinder, guide, etc. you have used in bibliographic instruction or, if you are a library school student or a novice librarian, a short paper you may have prepared in foreign, comparative, or international law.

If you cannot, or care not, to join us, but have taught a course in foreign and international legal research in the past few years, we would very much like to know about it.

Tickets, with instructions on how many copies of handouts to bring, will be mailed after June 15th, but apply early with the form on page 16 to ensure admission.

... While the Three Current Groups Will Continue Their Work

The foreign law working groups will meet on Sunday morning, July 21st, 1991 in New Orleans. Reports will be made by the Library of Congress and by Amber Smith of the Los Angeles County Law Library. Reports are also being solicited from the RLG law libraries with Latin American primary collection responsibilities. In order not to steal the thunder from the Thursday workshop, discussion will be limited to Soviet law in the Soviet and East European Law Working Group meeting.

The following is a schedule of the Foreign Law Working Groups (the room locations will be announced in the final program):

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Latin American | 10:00 a.m. |
| Soviet and East European | 11:00 a.m. |
| African | 12:00 p.m. |

If you have agenda items for the working group meetings, please contact: Dan Wade, Yale Law Library, Box 401A, Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520.

AALL Submits Six Recommendations to 1991 WHCLIS

Members of the American Association of Law Libraries have prepared, under the direction of the Government Relations Committee, six recommendations to the Second White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCLIS) that will be convened July 9-13, 1991 at the Washington Convention Center. To dramatize its support for the goals of the 1991 WHCLIS, AALL has joined other library associations in developing the Conference's agenda. The AALL recommendations reflect its interests in the Conference's three major themes which are democracy, literacy, and productivity.

The AALL recommendations are:

1. "That the Depository Library Program be strengthened to specifically include information in electronic formats; that federal agencies observe their legal commitment to provide government information published in-house or by commercial printers to the Government Printing Office for distribution to depository libraries; and that federal agencies, elected representatives, and libraries vigorously promote the Depository Library Program as a primary source for free public access to government information."
2. "That libraries become public reception points for electronic law-related government information and public access channels to government entities."
3. "That Congress should encourage and direct the Law Library of Congress to provide access to its vast collections and to shoulder a leadership role in coordinating universal access to the literature of the law."
4. "That Congress enact legislation creating an infrastructure and providing initial funding for a National Research and Education Network, to be coordinated and developed

under the general guidance of the National Science Foundation."

5. "That legal publications receive a high priority in national preservation programs and that government, information professionals, and the private sector work together to establish and implement standards for the preservation and accessibility of electronic information."

6. "That the general library community establish ties with law librarians and law library associations to promote development of programs for public access to commercial legal databases and to implement legal research training programs for general librarians."

"That all depository libraries promote the availability of Supreme Court opinions via the project Hermes *Bulletin Board* and urge the Government Printing Office to maintain and improve that program, while expanding the availability of other legal information through electronic means."

An issue for recommendation item 3 and, of the greatest significance to foreign and international law librarians, is to what extent the Library of Congress should improve access to its collection of legal materials, considered the largest collection in the world covering virtually every government and jurisdiction. One of the suggested solutions is that "the Library of Congress should serve as the nation's reference specialist for foreign legal materials and assume a leadership role in training specialists to work with these materials."

The full text of each recommendation consists of approximately two-and-a-half pages detailing the issue, the background, questions for discussion, suggested solutions, the recommendation, justification, implementing strategies, and impact on the themes of the Conference. AALL Executive Director Judy

Genesen wants to emphasize that anybody who wants a copy of any of the recommendations should call or write AALL Headquarters, 53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604, phone (312) 939-4764.

Fast Forward: New Electronic Group Mail Targets Foreign, International Law Librarianship

A new means of communication is now available to foreign, comparative and international law librarians: INT-LAW went up April 31. INT-LAW is an electronic discussion group among librarians and others who are interested in exchanging information on and talking about issues relevant to foreign and international law librarianship. It was set up with the intention of providing a way to communicate among ourselves quickly and informally, to sound out ideas with others in the profession, and to get immediate responses from the field.

Examples of topics/questions that could be covered:

1. "Rumors" on new databases or additions to existing ones. E.g. "Are GATT documents really going up on WESTLAW?"
2. Help in deciding on the acquisition of new titles or new formats, e.g. experience with and opinion on treaty CD-ROM products.
3. "Who do you use to obtain library materials from" such and such a country?
4. Specific and immediate questions on applying new LC classification numbers, e.g. KJCxxxx.
5. Sharing decisions on how certain titles

are cataloged, e.g. *Archiv für Rechts- und Sozialphilosophie*.

6. Difficult reference questions like locating texts of new resolutions, treaties, laws, etc. or English translations of foreign statutes. E.g. "How do you find U.N. Security Council Resolution 688?"

7. News of conferences, workshops, institutes, etc.

INT-LAW is on BITNET and is based at the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The messages will be moderated, but will not be edited. Therefore, only those messages and replies which you want all the subscribers to INT-LAW to see should be sent.

Below are some basic instructions:

1. To subscribe,
 - a. send the subscription request to `LISTSERV@UMINN1`,
 - b. leave the subject field blank,
 - c. key in 'Subscribe INT-LAW firstname secondname' on the first message line, using no punctuations except that which is in the group name INT-LAW.

Example:

Send to: `LISTSERV@UMINN1`
 Subject:
 Subscribe INT-LAW John Doe

If the transaction is successful, you will receive an electronic acknowledgment that you have been accepted as a subscriber. Save this

acknowledgment - it has instructions on how to leave the list, how to retrieve a document from the INT-LAW archival file, etc.

2. To send a message (after you become a subscriber, of course), address the message to INT-LAW@UMINN1.
3. To leave the mailing list, refer to the instructions given you by LISTSERV when you were accepted as a subscriber.
4. When sending messages/replies, please provide enough information such that you can be contacted personally/individually if desired/needed. Give at least your name, e-mail address, and phone and/or fax number(s).

INT-LAW will be moderated by Mila Rush (M-RUSH@UMINN1.BITNET, phone (612) 625-0793) and Lyonette Louis-Jacques (L-LOUI@UMINN1.BITNET, phone (612) 625-5086 or (612) 626-7702). Both are at the University of Minnesota Law Library, fax number (612) 625-3478. Please contact the moderators if you want further information.

IALL To Discuss Impact of Changes in Europe on Legal Information Sources

This year the International Association of Law Libraries (IALL) is holding its conference at the Max-Planck-House in Heidelberg, Germany, September 8-11, 1991. IALL's 11th Course on International Law Librarianship is entitled "Legal Information Sources and Changing Times in Europe."

This course will deal with emerging problems that law librarians face in dealing with recent political and legal changes in Europe. Topics to be discussed include: Law Data Banks Today and Tomorrow; New Challenges for Law Librarians in Germany; Legal Changes

and Their Sources in East and Central Europe. The following experts have already committed to speak on relevant subjects: Kathie Price, Katalin Balázs-Veredy, Blanka Kudej, Frank Chapman, Andrzej Gwizdz, Igor Kavass, Christian Kohler, Ralph Lansky, Thomas Reynolds, Ivan Sipkov, Raimund-Ekkehard Walter, and others.

The registration fee for participants is US \$100.00 or DM 150.00, and US \$70.00 or DM 100.00 for accompanying persons. The fee covers conference materials, two lunches, one dinner, and transportation for a full-day excursion. The fee should be paid before July 1, 1991. Participants living outside Europe can send their registration fee to Dr. Ivan Sipkov, P.O. Box 5709, Washington D.C. 20016-1309, USA. Those who are living in Europe can send theirs (in DM) to Mr. Joachim Schwietzke, Account No. 25.3323.18, Heidelberger Volksbank, Bankleitzahl 672 900 00 Germany.

Participants should make their own hotel arrangements and should do so as soon as possible since hotels on these dates are heavily booked. Registration form and further information can be obtained from Adolf Sprudz of the University of Chicago Law Library, phone (312) 702-9599.

On Information Sources

o *The International Directory of Government.* London, Europa Publications Limited, 1990. 697 p.

This title "aims to provide a comprehensive guide to government ministries, departments, agencies and corporations for every country in the world."

Each chapter, covering a country or a territory, starts with two boxes. One box includes notes on executive power, the office of head of state, and the incumbents. The other box discusses

the legislative counterpart. A listing of the ministries and government departments follows.

The rest of the chapter deals with government organizations and affiliated groups. These organizations/groups are arranged by such subjects as agriculture, business and economy (further broken down into banking, insurance, etc.), defence, development and planning, energy, legal and judiciary, media, mining and energy, tourism, transport, welfare. Each entry includes the names of principal officials, full address, telephone, telex and fax numbers and an outline of the organization's activities.

Dan Wade (Yale) sent in the following:

- o Recently the Philippine Supreme Court sent to us a photocopy of the "Index of Philippine Environmental Laws" prepared by the Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center. It is broken down by broad subjects, e.g. energy, fisheries, flood control and natural calamities, etc., and then by form of legislation, e.g., acts, presidential decrees, executive orders, etc. If you would like a copy of this index, please contact the Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center at Room 106, PSSC Building, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines.
- o Much more useful, however, may be the selective compilation of environmental laws currently in effect, which would include the index and which was due to be published in April, 1991 by the Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center. The price is unknown, but copies may be obtained from the Center at the above address.

International Law SIG Operates Within MALL

The International Law Special Interest Group

(IL SIG) is just the second such group to form within the organization of the Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL) - the first is the Technical Services Special Interest Group which organized in October 1986. The IL SIG met for the first time in December 1990.

The main purpose of this special interest group is to network and share knowledge about international legal resources available in Minnesota and nation-wide. The increased awareness, interest, and activities of international import in the state, not to mention nationally, translates to an increase in reference questions, pertaining to laws of foreign countries and to international organizations, asked of the MALL membership.

The group hopes to accomplish this sharing through exchanging information on international holdings, on acquisition of international materials, on good contacts, on new research tools, on special collections, on general approaches to answering reference questions, on hard reference questions, on publishers.

The group intends to meet every three months, or more frequently if needed, and talk about current hot topics in foreign and international law and how these topics affect each library's collection development policies. It intends to devote some of these meetings to visiting each other's libraries and seeing for themselves the different foreign and international law collections. It plans to circulate among themselves union lists or library catalogs of pertinent materials. It intends to sponsor vendor presentations. It is currently considering doing a MALL program on international legal research and on more specific international topics, like EEC materials.

The group meets informally over brown bags, with rotating hosts, and claims to "have a good time."

Eighth in a series

The Impact of Louisiana's Civil Law Heritage on the Loyola University Law Library Collection

Nancy L. Strohmeyer
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Loyola University Law Library
New Orleans, Louisiana

Ed Edmonds
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New Orleans, Louisiana

Louisiana's Civil Law Heritage

Because Louisiana was governed by the Spanish and French prior to the Louisiana Purchase, Louisiana's legal heritage sprang primarily from aspects of Spanish civil law and the Napoleonic Code. Although Louisiana would not have been able to function within the United States if it had maintained a purely civil law system, its civil law tradition is evident throughout Louisiana's statutes and codes.

The first official Louisiana legal document is the *Digest of the Civil Laws in Force in the Territory of Orleans* (1808). It was based upon the Napoleonic Code (1804), but it also was a reflection of the Spanish laws which had been the basis of the legal system in the colony since 1769. This document was not a complete code, like the ones used today, but was instead a brief reporting or description which culled the laws still being enforced from the out-of-date laws which had never been repealed. In 1825 and again in 1870, Louisiana made major revisions of its civil code. Louisiana legislatures since 1870 have amended or revised nearly all articles of the 1870 Civil Code, but most articles still trace the history of their text back to that Code. The legislature has relied upon the Louisiana State Law Institute to offer

recommended revisions to the Code. During the past twenty-five years, the Law Institute has completed the revision of numerous individual titles and chapters of the Code.

There are several sources which discuss the development of early Louisiana legal history for anyone who wishes to read about it in more detail. Some recommended sources are: Batiza, "The Louisiana Civil Code of 1808: Its Actual Sources and Present Relevance," 46 *Tul. L. Rev.* 4 (1971); Pascal, "Sources of the Digest of 1808: A Reply to Professor Batiza," 46 *Tul. L. Rev.* 603 (1972); Batiza, "Sources of the Civil Code of 1808, Facts and Speculation: A Rejoinder," 46 *Tul. L. Rev.* 628 (1972); Dargo, *Jefferson's Louisiana: Politics and the Clash of Legal Traditions* (1975); Barham, "Methodology of the Civil Law in Louisiana," 50 *Tul. L. Rev.* 474 (1976); and Kilbourne, *A History of the Louisiana Civil Code: The Formative Years, 1803-1839* (1987).

The Civil Law Curriculum

Loyola's civil law curriculum is based upon the organization and subject content of the Civil Code of Louisiana. The core civil law curriculum includes such courses as the Civil Law of Persons (domicile, creation and dissolution of marriage, the legal status of children, and interdiction), Civil Law Property (the law of things, movables and immovables, ownership, accession, usufruct, boundaries, servitudes, and prescriptions), Conventional Obligations (the formation, effect, and extinction of legal agreements), Successions, Donations, Sales and Leases, Community Property, Security Rights and Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure.

Collection Development Policy

The focus of nearly all collection development policies is to support the curriculum and the research needs of the faculty. The Loyola Law Library has always tried to maintain a collection of historical and current civil law

materials from all civil law countries in the world. Our strongest emphasis has been the selection of materials which are distinctly civilian with a particular interest in materials from France, Spain and Quebec. The collections for these jurisdictions are broader and more complete than most of our other foreign collections. We do, however, purchase general civil codes for other countries, such as Scotland, Switzerland and Italy.

Special Collections

The result of our collection development policy regarding materials from France, Spain, and Quebec has been a fairly strong assortment of primary and secondary sources. For example, we own the *Statutes of Quebec* from 1867 to the present and various case reporters from the middle 1800's, including *Les Rapports Judiciaires Officiels de Quebec* beginning in 1892. The library holds the *Colección Legislativa de España*, as well as Dalloz's *Jurisprudence Générale* and many parts of the *Juris Classeur*. Another source, Aubry and Rau's *Civil Law Translations*, is used often by students and faculty to trace the history of sections of the Louisiana Civil Code. All of these materials are located in the library's open collection and are accessible to any library user.

Loyola has also developed a rare book collection of nineteenth century materials relating to the development of the civil codes of France and Spain. Some of these materials, we have been told, are difficult to find in other collections. Use of these materials is closely monitored so that they are not damaged in any way. Some materials we have been unable to purchase in hard copy form are included in the Law Library Microform Consortium's *Civil Law I: France* microfiche collection. The library bought this collection and has recently ordered the *Civil Law II* collection which provides materials from Spain, Portugal, Italy

and the Low Countries.

Conclusion

The civil law heritage of Louisiana has certainly affected the collection development of all Louisiana law libraries. The academic libraries in particular have striven to provide the type of historical depth which is necessary in researching civil law issues. The Loyola Law Library continues this effort by purchasing new materials and updating already owned titles. The reference librarians, while not educated in civil law, have all learned to use the resources available here, including Loyola's many civil law professors who are specialists in their fields. Please call with any questions you may have and we will do all we can to provide you with answers.



The future of our profession is at stake!

Workshop on Training the Future Generation
of International and Foreign Law Librarians
Friday, July 19, 1991
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Come and give your input to this important
meeting. Your voice will be heard and your
ideas welcomed.

Please use the registration form on page 33 of
the 1991 AALL Meeting *Preliminary
Conference Program and Registration
Information*. The deadline was April 15, but
you can still register if space is available.

Claire Germain

The Louisiana State Law Institute

Timothy Kearley
Director, Law Center Library
Louisiana State University

The Louisiana State Law Institute is an unusual entity. It is a law reform body modeled on the American Law Institute (A.L.I.), but it is also an official law revision commission with a statutory charge and a unique civil law orientation.

Professor James Barclay Smith of the Louisiana State University's (LSU) law school proposed the idea of such an institute in 1933, with the A.L.I. model in mind. Poor economic conditions prevented immediate action on his proposal. However, LSU law school dean John Tucker, Jr. (a Louisiana legend known locally as Colonel Tucker) pursued the plan, and any object pursued by Colonel Tucker was as good as obtained. Hence, the Louisiana State Law Institute came into being in 1938 with none other than Colonel Tucker as its first President.

Colonel Tucker, a great Francophile and devotee of the Civil Code, made it clear that the Law Institute would channel much of its effort into perfecting Louisiana's Civil Code. In an address to the Law Institute's first annual meeting in 1940, he said, "The great jurists who drafted our Civil Code of 1825 appreciated the imperfections of their own work and realized that time would demonstrate its errors and inadequacies." He went on to explain that the drafters had proposed a system by which judges and the legislature would cooperate in solving problems with the Civil Code as they arose, but that this method for constant revision had never been established. Thus, said Colonel Tucker, "that unity of design [in the Civil Code] so earnestly sought by its drafters has been seriously affected by hastily passed legislation without proper preparation."

He indicated that the Law Institute would try to compensate for the gaps and inadequacies that had arisen in the Civil Code, in part, by fostering scholarly discourse on the problems. He said that the Louisiana State Law Institute would "seek to organize the work of the law faculties, and of the bench and bar to the end that we shall some day have our own Louisiana doctrine contained in commentaries comparable to those of the French." While Colonel Tucker emphasized the Law Institute's scholarly and Code-related functions, its work comprehends more than that.

The legislative charter of the Law Institute explains that the Institute's purposes are "to promote and encourage the clarification and simplification of the law of Louisiana and its better adaption to present social needs, to secure the better administration of justice and to carry on scholarly research and scientific legal work." Among its (*La.Rev.Stat.Ann.* 24:201-205) specific charges are the following (emphasis added):

1. "to consider needed improvements in both substantive and adjective law and **make recommendations concerning the same to the legislature;**"
2. "to examine ... the civil law of Louisiana and the Louisiana jurisprudence and statutes ... with a view of ... **recommending needed reforms;**"
3. "to cooperate with the American Law Institute ... and other learned societies;"
4. "to **recommend changes in the law** as it deems necessary to ... bring the law of the state ... into harmony with modern conditions;"
5. "to render biennial reports to the legislature, and ... to **accompany its reports with proposed bills** to carry out any of its recommendations;"

6. "to make available translations of civil law materials and commentaries and to provide, by studies and other doctrinal writings, materials for the better understanding of the civil law of Louisiana and the philosophy upon which it is based;"

7. "to **recommend repeal** of obsolete articles in the Civil Code and Code of Practice."

The bold-faced passages above serve to emphasize the Louisiana State Law Institute's role as an active adjunct to the legislature. Although the Law Institute is an advisory body, it regularly proposes bills that become law. Its legislative achievements are many: the Criminal Code of 1942, the Code of Civil Procedure of 1960, the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1966, the Mineral Code of 1974, the 1988 Code of Evidence, and many other less extensive laws. Perhaps the greatest gift of the Law Institute to lawyers and law librarians was its 1950 revision of the Louisiana statutes. Louisiana's statutes had not been revised since 1870, making Louisiana statutory research a frustrating and tedious process. The Law Institute now operates a permanent revision program to prevent such a situation from ever again occurring.

While the Law Institute has been legislatively active in many fields recently, its focus since 1975 has been on its Civil Code Revision Project, for which special legislative funding was obtained. Nine revision committees, each with its own reporter, are working through the entire Civil Code under the general supervision of a Coordinating Committee. Many titles and articles of the Civil Code already have been revised and put into law. The most recent initiative in this process is the effort to create a new section for conflicts of law, which is currently dealt with in summary fashion in the Code's Preliminary Title. .

One reason for the Louisiana State Law

Institute's effectiveness is its composition. It is made up of a mix of law faculty, judges, state government officials, and practitioners. Its governing body, the Council, includes both appointed and elected members. Appointed to the Council are a number of judges from every level of the state court system, judges from federal courts sitting in the state, members of the Louisiana legislature and executive branch, and members of the practicing bar. Elected members include three from each law school in the state and nineteen practicing Louisiana attorneys. The Law Institute's general membership consists of ex officio and elected members. The former category includes all state judges and federal judges sitting in Louisiana, as well as all Louisiana law school faculty. The general membership consists of up to 225 practicing attorneys. This broad participation in the Law Institute's activities gives it credibility and helps ensure support for its recommendations. Members of the state's legal profession consider it a great honor to be involved in the efforts of the Law Institute, and committee reporters are typically law professors.

The scholarly activities of the Law Institute are probably unique and certainly bear mentioning here. As noted in item number 6 above, the Institute is charged with making translations of civil law materials and providing other doctrinal writings to enhance understanding of the civil law of Louisiana. One of the primary vehicles for fulfilling this obligation has been the creation, with West Publishing, of West's Civil Law Translation Series. The Louisiana State Law Institute has provided the series with translations of: Aubry and Rau's *Droit Civil Français*, Baudry-Lacontinerie and Tissier's *Traite Théoretique et Pratique de Droit Civil*, Geny's *Méthode d'Interprétation et Sources en Droit Privé Positif*, 2nd ed., and Planiol's *Traite Élémentaire de Droit Civil*. The Law Institute has sponsored original works as well: *The Civil Code of Louisiana*, J. Dainow, ed., 2nd ed. (West, 1962) and *Civil Law in the Modern World*, A. Yiannopolis, ed. (LSU Press, 1965).

In short, the Louisiana State Law Institute has played important roles in shaping the state's unique legal system and in helping make that system intelligible to the rest of the country.

(The information for this summary comes from *Louisiana State Law Institute: Handbook* (The Institute, 1977), and biennial reports of the Institute to the Louisiana legislature.)

Offers

Freebies and suggestions for freebies are being extended from Duke, Yale, and Wisconsin. If you are interested in any of these, please contact the respective parties directly.

I. From **Claire Germain, Duke University Law Library**: We are offering the 1980-1987 volumes of *Karlsruher juristische Bibliographie*. This is a very good legal bibliography of books and articles in German, English, French, and other languages. Please write or call Claire Germain, Duke University Law Library, Durham, NC 27706 or telephone (919) 684-6182 or fax (919) 684-8770, before July 1, 1991.

II. From **Dan Wade, Yale Law Library**: We at Yale recently obtained two unique guides to the vast body of European law. Both guides, unknown to us before now, are from Sweet & Maxwell.

The first is entitled *EEC Law Finder*. This guide, more of a finding aid in a grid format, lists forty-six specific areas of law and then leads the reader to the appropriate Sweet & Maxwell reporter(s) or other publications covering each area.

Periodicals/Loose-leafs Updating Checklist, the other extremely useful and time-saving guide, lists a total of eighty-nine different

periodicals, loose-leafs and major works published by Sweet & Maxwell. This guide supplies complete detailed updating information for each of the titles, as to frequency of publication, etc.

Both guides are available free by writing or calling Larry Meranus (D/B/A Professional Publications & Services) representing Sweet & Maxwell in the U.S.: 570 Seventh Avenue, Room 500, New York, NY 100018, tel: (212) 869-4545, fax: (212) 227-8288.

III. From **Telle Zoller, University of Wisconsin Law Library**: We are offering the following (in cataloging form) Latin American titles. Please call Telle Zoller at (608) 262-7761.

Argentina

Curso de derecho penal : dictado en la facultad en derecho de la Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires / por Juan P. Ramos. -- Buenos Aires : Biblioteca Jurídica Argentina.
Holdings: v. 1 (1942)-v.6 (1944).

Derecho administrativo / Rafael Bielsa. -- Buenos Aires : La Ley.
Holdings: v. 1 (1964)-v. 5 (1966).
OCLC 8463097.

Derecho penal argentino / por Sebastian Soler. -- Buenos Aires : Editorial La Ley.
Holdings: v. 1-5 (1964-46).
OCLC 15044120.

Digesto jurídico : jurisprudencia, bibliografía. -- Buenos Aires : La Ley.
Holdings: v. 1-9 (1965-71).
OCLC 6967213.

Revista jurídica argentina "La Ley". -- Buenos Aires : La Ley <etc.>.
Holdings: 1959-1970.
OCLC 2703471.

Tratado de derecho civil argentino /
Raymundo M. Salvat. -- Buenos Aires :
Editorial La Ley.
Holdings: v.3-11 (1944-46).
OCLC 17623929.

Colombia

*Leyes expedidas por el Congreso Nacional :
en su legislatura del año de --* Bogotá :
Imprenta Nacional.
Holdings: 1920-1928, 1931, 1934-1936,
1949-1956, 1958-1964.
OCLC 13528439.

México

*Diario de jurisprudencia del distrito y
territorios federales. --* Mexico : Tio de "El
Imparcial".
Holdings: v.1 (1904)-v.32 (1914).
OCLC 6243547.

Venezuela

Gaceta legal Ramírez & Garay. -- Caracas :
Ramírez & Garay.
Holdings: no. 1 (15 enero 1959)-no. 528
(1980) & Apendice (1958).
OCLC 5049078.

Jurisprudencia. -- Caracas : Ramírez &
Garay.
Holdings: v. 1 (1960)-103 (1988).
OCLC 12701603, 18028670.

Continuing Education, 1991

May 12 to 15 - Canadian Association of Law
Libraries Conference, "A Capital
Experience," Skyline Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario.
Topics include: Law Library Networking,
Feminist Law, Intellectual Property Law, and
Human Rights. Pre-Conference: Automation
in Law Libraries. Contact: Marjorie Bull,
Department of External Affairs Library, 125

Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A
0G2. Telephone: (613) 992-6150. Fax: (613)
952-1013.

July 19 - AALL National Legal Resources
Committee Workshop, "Training the Future
Generation of International and Foreign Law
Librarians: Planning Session," New Orleans.
Complete description and registration form can
be found in the 1991 AALL Meeting *Preliminary
Conference Program*. Registration deadline
has passed, but late registration accepted if
space available.

July 20 to 25 - AALL 84th Annual Meeting,
New Orleans. Contact: AALL, 53 West
Jackson Blvd., Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604.

August 18 to 24 - International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
Annual Conference, Moscow. Contact: IFLA,
POB 95 312, 2509 CH, The Hague,
Netherlands. Telephone: 31703140884. Fax:
3170383827. Telex: 34402.

September 1 to 5 - 4th Asian-Pacific Special &
Law Librarians Conference with 9th Biennial
Health Librarians Conference, Canberra,
Australia. Contact: Capital Conferences Pty
Ltd., P.O. Box E345, Queen Victoria Terrace
ACT 2600, Australia. Telephone: (06) 285
2048. Fax: (06) 285 2334.

September 8 to 11 - 11th IALL Course on
International Law Librarianship, "Legal
Information Sources and Changing Times in
Europe," Heidelberg. See page 7 for more
information.

October 6 to 11 - Fifteenth Conference on the
Rule of Law in the World, Barcelona, Spain.
For further information contact: The World
Jurists Association of the World Peace
Through Law Centre, Barcelona Conference
Coordination Office, Suite 202, 1000
Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC
20036. Telephone: (202) 466-5428. Fax:
(202) 452-8540.

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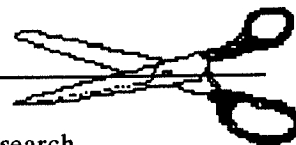
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