

Minutes of the
Foreign Law Selectors Meeting
San Antonio, July 13, 2014, 5:30p.m.

After Dan Wade's welcome, Irene Kraft, Associate Library Officer of the International Criminal Court Library in The Hague, spoke briefly about the library and its collection. The Court and the Library are now about ten years. Over this time the Library has been able to build an extensive collection of comparative and domestic and international law in all languages. (Employees in the Court speak about one hundred languages.) There are about 30,000 items in total. In addition to criminal law, the ICC Law Library collects humanitarian law, military law, materials about genocide, and the holocaust. There are four staff members, and the Library maintains LC cataloging standards. In a subsequent email Irene offered here assistance to FCIL-SIS members (Irene.kraft@icc-cpi.int) and said she would welcome visits from them. (A good contact to have!)

Marci Hoffman, Berkeley, next spoke about developments of IFLP and the Foreign Law Guide. On the Hein platform subject searching will be available in French, German, Spanish and English. A number of Asian titles both in the vernacular and in English will be added to the database. There are 43,000 full text articles. There are currently five upgrades a year. Marci emphasized that this is an AALL product and the organization makes money from it. More enhancements are being added to the Foreign Law Guide: such as authoritative signals (repeals, modified by, etc.), adding primary and secondary sources in the vernacular, more information and links to online sources in the records, and improved searching. A sample record from Austria is below. Forthcoming updates include Austria, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Singapore, and the UK. It is on the Brill platform.

Secondary Sources

Koen Verhoest et al., *Government Agencies: Practices and Lessons From 30 Countries* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).

Describes how government agencies are formed and governed in 30 jurisdictions, including Austria.

Giacinto della Cananea, "Administrative Law in Europe: A Historical and Comparative Perspective," *Italian Journal of Public Law* 2 (2009). www.ijpl.eu/assets/files/pdf/2009_volume_2/Cananea_Administrative_Law_Europe.pdf.

Provides historical perspective on the development of administrative law in each of several European jurisdictions, including Austria.

Heinz Schäffer, "Administrative Procedure in Austria: 80 Years of Codified Procedural Law," *Revue Européenne de Droit Public* 17 (2005): 871.

Primary Sources

- [General Administrative Procedure Act] *Allgemeines Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetz (AVG)*, BGBl. Nr. 51/1991. www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=10005768. Compiled statutory text. German.

Translated:

www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/ErV/ERV_1991_51/ERV_1991_51.pdf. English.

- [Administrative Court Act] *Verwaltungsgerichtshofgesetz (VwGG)*, BGBl. Nr. 10/1985. www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=10000795. Compiled statutory text. German.

Translated:

www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/ErV/ERV_1985_10/ERV_1985_10.pdf. English.

Elizabeth Moore spoke about events at the Library of Congress. There has been a certain amount of restructuring, and two vacant positions in Collection Services have been filled. Beginning in 2005, the Library has been classing old law materials into K. Most of the Islamic law monographs have been classified, and two contract catalogers are currently classifying romance-language monographs.. About 48% of the older monographs are yet to be done. Two contract catalogers have been working on Islamic law. A gazette inventory is underway and variations in title and format are being noted. This year's budget is the same as last. Special collections are being put in a secure storage facility.

Elizabeth then introduced Janice Hyde who reported on the status of GLIN. After lengthy negotiations to transfer GLIN Central operations from the Law Library of Congress to the Ministry of Justice of Qatar, the Ministry rescinded its decision to assume responsibility for GLIN. The GLIN Executive Council voted in July 2013 to transfer GLIN to the Chamber of Deputies of the Dominican Republic. In May 2014,

the Dominican Chamber of Deputies informed GLIN members that it has made progress installing GLIN in its environment, but will require additional time to complete the task. No date has been given for when it might be available. In the meantime, the Law Library of Congress is working to make the archived data available through its website. The goal is to complete this work before the end of September, 2014. Institutions that have been providing a link to the GLIN transitional message may delete this link. The Law Library will publicize the availability of the GLIN archived as well as any future restoration of GLIN by the Dominican Republic.” (The essence of Janice’s report is found in the above email message of Elizabeth Moore sent in response to an INT-law query.)

Neel Agrawal next reported on his work in at the LA County Law Library. He answers four or five reference questions a day and is heavily engaged in continuing legal education. His attached handout (Appendix A) highlights a number of these activities. The collection is about 400,000 volumes and the budget is about \$700,000. Dan thanked him and especially his library director who paid for the mailing of all the materials to San Antonio for the Global Resources Fair held earlier in the day.

Stephen Wiles, Assistant Director for Content Development, reported on developments at the LLMC-Digital. They are beta testing a new landing page. They have added over 1,000 titles to the Haiti collection. They are working on building a Cuba collection and are about one-third of the way finished. With their partnership with CRL, they will continue to add content for Latin American, Africa, and Eastern Europe. They are also building British African content working with LA County Law Library materials. They are also planning to turn to South Asia, especially Myanmar. They are adding 70-100 titles a month and are applying for grants for some major projects.

Gabriela Femenia reported the meetings of the Northeast Foreign Law Librarians Cooperative Group that transpired this year. The fall meeting was held at NYU on November 1, and the spring meeting on June 2 at Columbia. As usual these meetings combined informative presentations on FCIL tools, information sharing

about vendor developments, updates on cancelations and budgets, and internal administrative matters. A few of the highlights from the meetings include—

- Ongoing discussions about and some reshuffling of VCR's as each institution's staffing and collection priorities shift
- Ebooks—some libraries are more aggressively acquiring ebooks than others, but all are moving toward more acquisition of e-formats
- Several members are coordinating information gathering on collection strengths, e.g. Evelyn Ma at Yale's project on IFLP Asian journals holdings, and Alison Shea at Fordham's project on African journals
- There is continued interest from JSTOR in receiving FCIL Librarian's advice on where they should focus their efforts with respect to foreign law titles

The next meeting is planned for October at Cornell.

Finally, Dan Wade distributed a 2013-2014 annual report of the Yale Law Library foreign and international collection. (See attached Appendix B.) A heavy emphasis is being placed on rare books and print monographs. It is hoped that others might prepare such reports for future meetings to inform others about what is happening at their libraries.

LA Law Library, the country's second largest public law library, is a premier center for research in foreign, comparative, and international law. The global print collection and subscription databases consist of primary and secondary sources from every jurisdiction around the world as well as international legal materials.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Respond to research requests from firms, practitioners, and scholars in LA County and around the world.
- Provide 'on demand' materials via document delivery services and also loan items to a large network of patrons.
- Evaluate, collect, and maintain materials for all foreign jurisdictions and international legal topics.
- Teach interactive global legal research courses to attorneys (MCLE), paralegals, librarians, academics, and the public.
- Create resource lists to supplement the library's continuing education initiatives as well as local and state bar, nonprofit, trade, and government programs.
- Partner with LLMC to design and implement best practices related to processing large donations of global materials.
- Publish educational and outreach materials, as well as write grant applications pertaining to the collection.
- Provide tours for legal professionals, students and professors, librarians, and foreign dignitaries.
- Facilitate continuing legal education classes and panel discussions on current global topics.
- Train patrons on global legal research databases.
- Host programs addressing export businesses, cross-border litigation, and family law matters.
- Plan, create, and install displays of global materials in the library and the Los Angeles Superior Court.
- Participate as instructor on global legal research topics presented at area law firms, law schools, and conferences.

PRIMARY LAW

Government gazettes; statutes and codes; case reporters and digests; treaties; decisions of international tribunals

SECONDARY LAW

Practice materials; research guides; dictionaries; encyclopedias; commentaries; forms; periodicals

DATABASES

Foreign Law Guide; Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals; HeinOnline; RIA Worldwide Tax & Commercial Law; LLMC Digital

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COLLECTION

- Current and historical global sources comprising approx. 400,000 volumes (40%) of overall collection
- Expanded Global Reference collection in the Reading Room
- Comprehensive collection in 3 ½ floors of closed stacks
- \$650,000 FY 2014/15 budget for global continuations and \$30,000 for new purchases (20% of total collection budget)

OUTREACH

- AALL FCIL-SIS Publicity Committee (Co-Chair)
- California International Law Journal, State Bar of California (Editor and Regular Columnist)
- Whittier Law School Jessup International Moot Court (Coach)
- Global Law Resource Fair, 2014 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference
- DipLawMatic Dialogues: Published by AALL FCIL-SIS (Blog Co-Administrator)
- Classes and events posted on library website, listservs and calendars, and on the ASIL website
- Growing network of lawyers, librarians, and legal professional around the country and world

GLOBAL LIBRARIANS

- Current: Neel Agrawal (2012-)
- Former: Paula Hoffman (2007-12); Amber Lee Smith (1991-2005); Earl Weisbaum (1966-87); William Stern (1939-71)