

Foreign, Comparative, and International Law SIS 2007-08

The Foreign, Comparative, and International Law SIS (FCIL-SIS) had an excellent year. It made progress on several fronts while serving the needs of its members. This year's executive board was Jonathan Franklin, Chair, Dennis Sears, Vice Chair, Marilyn Raisch, Secretary/Treasurer, and Mary Rumsey, Immediate Past Chair.

The FCIL-SIS Ellen Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians was awarded this year to Leanne Cummings from Brisbane, Australia. The grant was made possible by contributions to the grant and corpus of over \$3500 from SIS members and friends. The committee chair was Tom Kimbrough, who was joined by Teresa Miguel and Christopher O'Byrne.

Funding the grant was another major area of progress. The goal of the FCIL-SIS was to avoid using the interest from the corpus to fund the grant, to permit the corpus to build up from past market downturns. In addition, the FCIL-SIS knew that there would need to be a longer term structure to build the corpus up to be able to fund the entire amount out of interest. To that end, Dan Wade chaired a committee that looked at how to fund the grant for 2007-08. Due to the efforts of many, over \$3500 was raised, with \$2000 going to the grantee and \$1500+ going to the corpus. In addition, Ellen Schaffer and the SIS will be meeting with AALL in Portland, the site of this year's Annual Meeting to discuss future fundraising possibilities.

In terms of outreach, Mabel Shaw took on the position of newsletter editor and did an excellent job, as did Heidi Kuehl as Webmaster.

The SIS has a new [strategic plan](#), thanks to Molly Brownfield, Victor Essien, Barbara Garavaglia, Carolyn McKelvey, Mary Rumsey (chair), and Dan Wade.

The SIS had an excellent slate of education programs accepted for the Annual Meeting in Portland, including: "International Law and the Evolving Knowledge Society," "One War We Are Losing Now: The Law and Politics of Human Trafficking," and "Acquiring Content in a Global Marketplace: Exploring Vendor Relations Across Borders."

The SIS election went off without a hitch, thanks to Dennis Sears. Marilyn Raisch was elected vice chair/chair-elect. Heidi was elected as the SIS secretary/treasurer. Due to Heidi's election, she will be stepping down as the SIS's Webmaster. There is currently a search for her replacement. In addition to the election, the SIS membership passed a request to employ fundraising for the Schaffer Grants for 2007-08 and 2008-09, before dipping into the interest from the corpus. In addition, any funds received over the award amount would be contributed to the grant's corpus. This can be changed if the 2008-09 executive board wants to, but the two year time span was to put the grant on as firm a footing as possible.

The shortened Annual Meeting created a new set of scheduling challenges. There is an FCIL event or meeting at almost every available timeslot. The major changes for this year were merging the FCIL-SIS reception and the IALL reception as well as adding a second Foreign Selectors Interest Group meeting. There is interest in starting a Roman Law Interest Group in 2009, led by Lucia Diamond and Christopher O'Byrne.

Jonathan Franklin, Chair
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