

## Foreign, Comparative & International Law SIS

### Annual Report for 2013-2014

The FCIL-SIS officers and Executive Committee members were Don Ford, Chair; Teresa Miguel-Stearns, Vice Chair/Chair Elect; Roy Sturgeon, Secretary-Treasurer; and Heidi Frostestad Kuehl, Immediate Past Chair.

FCIL-SIS elections were held from April 15<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Lucie Olejnikova was elected as Vice Chair/Chair Elect. The next election for Secretary-Treasurer will be in 2015.

The FCIL-SIS Publicity Committee (Loren Turner and Neel Agrawal, Co-Chairs; Susan Gaultier, member) revived the dormant FCIL-SIS blog as “[DipLawMatic Dialogues](#).” The blog has had a number of postings during 2014, and is an important addition to the FCIL-SIS Web presence.

The Education Committee Co-Chairs Teresa Miguel-Stearns and Dennis Sears did an outstanding job soliciting program suggestions and storing them on a Google docs page accessible for FCIL-SIS member comments. FCIL-related programming in San Antonio included *Mexican Law and Legal Research: Overcoming the Challenges*, moderated and presented by Jonathan Pratter and Julienne Grant, who were joined by attorney David Lopez. No other FCIL-related programming was chosen by the AMPC. However, because of Teresa and Dennis’s excellent work, two of our other proposals were reworked as: *Hot Topic: Land Grabbing: Accessing Information to Protect Property Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (moderated by Teresa Miguel-Stearns, with participating panelists Eugenia Charles-Nelson; Jolande Goldberg; Jootaek “Juice” Lee; and Joan Policastri); and a *Roman Law Coffee Talk Session: Beyond Your Boundaries: What Ancient Legal Systems Can Tell Us About Working Globally* (Lucia Diamond as moderator and presenter, with panelists Jolande Goldberg and Jim Hart).

In addition, two well received programs were added by the FCIL-SIS as “supplemental programming”: a *Global Legal Resources Fair* (originally proposed as a program by moderator Neel Agrawal, who was now joined by Catherine Deane; Lucia Diamond; Heidi Frostestad Kuehl; Jim Hart; Marci Hoffman; Lyonette Louis-Jacques; Ryan Metheny; Lucie Olejnikova; Jonathan Pratter; Ralph Stahlberg; Jean Wenger; and Stephen Wiles) was held during the Teaching FCIL IG meeting period, and *Translation and Interpretation Tools for Law Librarians* (moderator/presenter Don Ford, with panelists Jim Hart and Saskia Mehlhorn) was held during the Electronic Research IG meeting period. The *FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians Winner Presentation* was also billed as programming, as was a book group that met to discuss the political situation in Ukraine.

Ms. Irene Kraft, Associate Library Officer at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, was selected as the 2014 recipient of the FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians. The 2014 Grant Selection Committee reviewed 35 applications from all over the world, including Argentina, the Bahamas, Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, South Africa, Spain,

Swaziland, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and Zimbabwe. The topic of Ms. Kraft's well-received Grant presentation was "Envisioning the World's International Criminal Law Library at the International Criminal Court." Approximately 70 people attended the Grant presentation, which received heavy billing during the month leading up to the Annual Meeting. In addition, Ms. Kraft's participation in the FCIL-SIS Selectors' Interest Group meeting on July 13 was much appreciated.

The FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians Fundraising Committee (co-chaired by Lucie Olejnikova and Jennifer Allison) solicited for Grant contributions both prior to and at the 2014 Annual Meeting. The Grant Fundraising Committee also emailed the FCIL-SIS membership at the close of 2013 as part of an end-of-the-tax year solicitation.

At the FCIL-SIS Annual Business Meeting the membership approved changes to the Bylaws. The amendment is included as Attachment A. The amendment was subsequently submitted to and approved by the AALL Bylaws and Resolutions Committee.

The Executive Committee approved the recognition of four FCIL-SIS members for the Spirit of the FCIL-SIS Award: Julienne Grant, James Hart, Ryan Harrington, and Carmen Valero. The Executive Committee considered nomination letters from the FCIL-SIS membership in awarding the Reynolds and Flores Publication Award to Wei Luo, Marci Hoffman, and Mary Rumsey. Based on nomination letters from the FCIL-SIS membership, the Executive Committee also chose to recognize two members with the Daniel L. Wade Outstanding Service Award: Lyonette Louis-Jacques and Alison Shea.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Ford  
FCIL-SIS Chair 2013-2014

## **Attachment A to FCIL-SIS Annual Report for 2013-2014**

An amendment to the FCIL-SIS Bylaws was approved by the membership at the FCIL-SIS Business Meeting in San Antonio on Monday, July 14, 2014. The amendment was subsequently approved by the AALL Bylaws and Resolutions Committee.

Changes were made in Section 2 of Article VI, Nomination and Election of Officers.

*The approved amendment to the Bylaws:*

The Nominating Committee shall submit the names of candidates together with their written acceptances to the FCIL-SIS Chair by January 15. Nominations also may be made upon written petition of five members. Such petitions, with the written acceptances of the nominees, should be filed with the Nominating Committee no later than January 15. No earlier than February 1, the Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare an official ballot, including nominations by petition. The FCIL-SIS Chair must inform the members of the nominations via publication in the February issue of the SIS newsletter, which may be sent solely in electronic format. If the election is to be held using paper ballots, the procedure outlined in Section 3 of Article VI shall be followed.

*The relevant section of the Bylaws as it read prior to the amendment's approval:*

Section 2.

The Nominating Committee shall submit the names of candidates together with their written acceptances to the Chair in sufficient time to enable the Chair to inform the members of the nominations via publication in the February issue of the SIS newsletter, which may be sent solely in electronic format. In the event of nominations for the office of Chair after distribution of the February issue of the SIS newsletter, such notification may be limited to the actual ballot itself along with an explanation for the exigent circumstances. Further nominations may be made upon written petition of five members. Such petitions, with the written acceptances of the nominees, should be filed with the Secretary/Treasurer not later than April 12. The Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare an official ballot, including nominations by petition.