A Taste of Scots Law (But Hold the Haggis Please)

Julienne E. Grant

Last July, I took a one-week group tour to Scotland with my parents. We chose Scotland for several reasons: 1) my father’s ancestry is primarily Scottish; 2) the Old Course at St. Andrews (golf, for those who aren’t aficionados) was on my father’s bucket list; and 3) my mother and I had not been to Scotland since 1977, a trip that is forever etched in our family lore. That trip involved a broken ankle (my aunt’s); terrifying car rides on the “wrong side” of the road (my mother driving and my fourteen-year-old cousin shifting the stick); and a lost piece of luggage that eventually resurfaced at London Victoria station.

Needless to say, this most recent trip to Scotland was comparatively uneventful; we only had one scary incident (our tour guide had a stroke). We stayed in the quiet and charming medieval city of Stirling (about forty miles northwest of Edinburgh), and left the driving to someone else. We did get to St. Andrews, though I ditched checking out the coffee shop where Wills and Kate supposedly met. And although we didn’t have a whole lot of free time during the trip, I did manage to visit some places of interest to the law librarian in me.

A QUICK WORD ABOUT SCOTLAND’S LEGAL SYSTEM (SCOTS LAW)

Scotland has a unique history that has influenced the development of its legal system. Conquered and inhabited by various foreign powers, including the Romans, Vikings, and Normans, its early legal system reflected the practices of those groups. Scotland’s union with England in 1707 (the Acts of Union), however, set the country on a path that aligned its legal system more closely with English common law, while concurrently retaining some of its earlier outside influences. Scots law is thus a mixed or hybrid system. According to Robert S. Shiels, a solicitor in the Supreme Courts of Scotland, “The present Scottish legal system and the complex body of doctrines, principles, and rules which are to be found within that system did not flow from a single Act of Parliament. It represents a long, slow, and spasmodic process of evolution. The influences brought to bear vary with peace and war and related politics.”

THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT (HOLYROOD)

With one “free” day in Edinburgh, I decided to slight the royals again and bypass the Palace of Holyrood house (the Queen’s official residence in Edinburgh). I had actually reserved a ticket a few weeks earlier for a tour of the Scottish Parliament (often re-

From the Chair

Catherine Deane

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Thanks for your continued support of the FCIL-SIS.

FCIL-SIS INTEREST GROUPS & COMMITTEES
Continuing Education Committee
I’m pleased to announce that we now have a Continuing Education Committee, Chaired by Caitlin Hunter, our June 2018 FCIL Librarian of the Month. Please reach out to her if you are:
1. Based in New York City and interested in helping with a NYC based FCIL research event.
2. Interested in teaching a Webinar about FCIL research.
3. Interested in being a member of this committee and helping to organize Webinars and any other FCIL-related educational opportunities outside of the AALL annual meeting.

Latin American Law Interest Group
Many thanks to our outgoing Latin American Law IG Chair, Yasmin Morais, whose two-year term of service ends in July 2019. Yasmin Morais and members of the Latin American Law IG, Sergio Stone and Julienne Grant send weekly Latin American Law updates to Gabriela Femenia, who circulates the updates.

We are now seeking a new Chair, for 2019-2021 so please reach out to the Executive Committee, Catherine Deane, Loren Turner, Sabrina Sondhi, Alex Zhang:

• if you have ideas for what you would like to do as Chair.

• if you would like to be a member of the Latin American Law IG.

Some ideas the Latin American Law IG has expressed interest in doing, include:
1. Create a Legal Research Guide on Puerto Rico or the Dominican Republic.
2. Form an outreach team to connect and collaborate with other librarians/libraries in Latin America.
3. Have a few IG members work the CONELL Marketplace and other events/receptions aimed at newer librarians.

AALL 2019
FCIL-SIS Related Programming
The 2019 AALL Annual Meeting in Washington DC is coming up in a few short months, and we have some FCIL programming to look forward to. Our proposed pre-conference workshops were accepted thanks to the hard work of Loren Turner, her Education Committee co-chair, Dennis Sears and the co-chairs of the Task Force for the 2019 Pre-Conference Workshop, Mabel Shaw & Charles Bjork.

The morning workshop is entitled FCIL Boot Camp: Basic Training.

The morning session will cover researching Public International Law (Treaties), Foreign Law and EU Law.

The afternoon workshop, entitled FCIL Bootcamp: Ad-
ferred to as “Holyrood”), so I went for that instead. The building is easy to find because it’s located at the base of Edinburgh’s famous Royal Mile, just across the street from the Queen’s digs.

According to my tour guide, the first written reference to a Scottish parliament appeared in 1235. The modern Scottish Parliament, though, has only been conducting business for about twenty years. In a referendum held on September 11, 1997, a majority of Scots voted to establish a national parliament with competencies in such local matters as healthcare, transportation, taxation, and the environment. Consequently, per the Scotland Act 1998, the country’s first modern parliamentary elections were held on May 6, 1999, and the newly constituted parliament officially convened on July 1, 1999. Members of the Scottish Parliament serve for four years; the next elections are scheduled for May 6, 2021, per the Scottish Elections (Dates) Act 2016.

The unicameral parliament has 129 members, with 73 constituency (local) MSPs and 56 regional reps. There are five parties currently represented; the Scottish National Party, which has supported Scottish independence, has 63 MSPs. There are actually 131 seats in the assembly hall; the two extras are for the Lord Advocate and the Solicitor General, who represent the Scottish judiciary. The former is Scotland’s chief public prosecutor and legal officer, and the latter is the Lord Advocate’s deputy. The Presiding Officer (or Deputy Presiding Officer) leads the business in chamber.

Bills normally go through a three-step process before passage, and committees are heavily involved. Usually, there is a period of one month during which a passed bill may be challenged by one of the “Law Officers” (the Solicitor General or the Lord Advocate) for being outside the scope of the parliament’s competencies. Such challenges are heard by the UK Supreme Court. If the passed bill is not challenged, it is submitted to the Queen for her Royal Assent. Since its modern inception, the Scottish Parliament has promoted the use of Gaelic (Gàidhlig). It passed the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, which set forth a progressive plan for incorporating the teaching and use of Gaelic across the country. This is similar to the Welsh government’s initiative to protect and promote the Welsh language.

The Scottish Parliament’s building is architecturally quite innovative, and it has some wonderful organic elements. Built with steel, oak, and granite, it was designed by Enric Miralles (1955–2000). Construction began in June 1999, and the first parliamentary debate was held there on September 7, 2004. As explained by the tour guide, the building is supposed to evoke the sea and the beauty of the Scottish landscape. The building could not be more different than the Houses of Parliament in London.

THE ADVOCATE & THE AVIZANDUM
My day in Edinburgh coincided with two major events: “The Fringe,” which is described as the “world’s greatest platform for creative freedom” (basically, a massive street festival), and the spectacular Royal Edinburgh Military Tat-
A Taste of Scots continued from page 3

too. For those not in the know (I certainly wasn’t), the use of the word “tattoo” in the military context stems from a seventeenth century Dutch phrase, *doe den tap toe* (turn off the tap)—a drum beat or trumpet blast that would signal innkeepers to stop serving beer to soldiers so they would return to their barracks.

While meandering through the extremely crowded streets of Edinburgh, I somehow ended up on Candlemaker Row and stumbled into a bar called *The Advocate* (with no sign of a *doe den tap toe*). I didn’t drink any beer, but I did buy a t-shirt that has been a hit at my gym; it has a Scottish flag emblazoned on the left shoulder, and on the back in large letters are the words “Called to the Bar.” A couple of doors down, I serendipitously ran across the *Avizandum Law Bookshop*. This place was chock full of legal treatises and other gems about Scots law. “Avizandum” is actually a term specific to Scots law. According to the Judiciary of Scotland’s online glossary, it means “To be considered. Judgment is deferred, an oral or written decision to be given later.”

Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

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Scone Palace once belonged to William Murray, First Earl of Mansfield (1705–1793). He was Lord Justice of the King’s Bench (now the Queen’s Bench Division of the High Court) and Speaker of the House of Lords. He is best known for his decision in *Somerset v. Stewart* (Somerset’s Case, 1772), which held that chattel slavery was unsupported by English common law.

Murray’s great-niece was the biracial Dido Elizabeth Belle, who was born into slavery in the British West Indies. William Murray and his wife raised Dido in England; her life was the inspiration for the 2013 film *Belle* (haven’t seen it).

So, is Scone Palace the birthplace of the beloved British baked good, the *scone*? Depends on who you ask. All I know is that the scones served in the Palace’s basement café were quite tasty. Speaking of British baked goods, the wildly popular *The Great British Bake Off* television program filmed an episode at Scone Palace during its first season.

**BREXIT & INDEPENDENCE**

With a voter turnout of 67.2 percent, Scotland overwhelmingly voted to remain in the European Union (62 percent for; 38 percent against) in the Brexit referendum of June 23, 2016. Every Scot who I talked to about Brexit was proud that Scotland had voted to remain and was obviously quite skeptical about Westminster’s approach to Brexit. Currently, there is another push for a referendum on Scottish independence; in September 2014, Scots voted against leaving the United Kingdom—55 to 45 percent. Practical folks, these Scots.

On March 21, 2018, the Scottish Parliament passed the “Scottish Bill,” aka the “EU Continuity Bill,” which was designed to protect Scotland’s devolved powers after Brexit and to continue its alignment with the laws...
of the EU. The UK government, however, challenged the bill as being outside the scope of the Scottish Parliament’s competencies. On December 13, 2018, in a remarkably complex ruling, the UK Supreme Court struck down some of the bill’s content. According to a contribution posted on Lexology, “The judgment is a tour de force of some of the most important and fundamental principles of the Scottish devolution settlement. It is likely to be regarded in the future as an important and significant addition to the constitutional jurisprudence on Scottish devolution.”

CONCLUSION: I HATE HAGGIS

It was quite illuminating to see where some of my ancestors came from and to learn a little about Scotland’s government and legal system. Of course I could not depart Scotland without trying its infamous national dish, haggis. I was hoping that my Scottish genes would somehow make it appealing to me, but no such luck. Even a “gourmet” version didn’t cut it.

In any event, Scotland is a beautiful country with exceptionally nice people, and I’m proud to have Scottish heritage. Although London is usually the big draw in the United Kingdom, Scotland is certainly worth a separate visit.

USEFUL RESOURCES


AfronomicsLaw: A Welcome New Addition to the Blogosphere

Julienne E. Grant

AfronomicsLaw, a new blog focusing on international economic law in the African context, was launched on January 14, 2019. The blog’s editors are James Thuo Gathii (Wing-Tat Lee Chair in International Law and Professor of Law at Loyola University Chicago); Olabisi D. Akinkugbe (Assistant Professor, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University); and Nthope Mapefane (Lecturer, Mercantile Law Department, University of Pretoria). The blog was developed in association with the African International Economic Law Network.

According to Professor Gathii, “The blog will complement the growing and important voice of scholars interested in international economic law with a focus on Africa. It will also offer policy makers, practitioners, and others interested in these issues a forum to insightfully engage and reflect on developments on international economic law more contemporaneously.”

AfronomicsLaw will feature relevant news, forthcoming events, and books, as well as online symposiums on topical themes. The inaugural symposium topic was the new African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). A panel of experts weighed in on AfCFTA, including Dr. David Luke, Coordinator of the African Trade Policy Centre of the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

According to Professor Gathii, topics of future symposiums will include Private International Law and International Business Transactions in Africa, convened by Professor Richard Frimpomg Oppong; State Responsibility in Africa’s Extractive Industries, convened by Professor Ibironke Odu-mosu-Ayanu; and Traditional Knowledge and Plant Varieties in Africa, convened by Dr. Titilayo Adebo. You can also see the forthcoming book symposia here.

Consider adding this blog to your LibGuides on international economic law, international business, and African legal resources. Please spread the word!

Social Media Handles:
Twitter: @afronomicslaw
Facebook: AfronomicsLaw
Resource Reviews: EUR-Lex

Part of series of reviews prepared by the Electronic Research Interest Group

Erin Gow

INTRODUCTION

EUR-Lex (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/) is the official database for European Union law. It is continuously updated with primary legal documents and is accessible to anyone for free. Currently, the EU represents 28 member countries across Europe and functions with 24 official languages. Legal documents from all EU institutions and bodies are hosted in EUR-Lex, along with access to selected national law from member states.

HOW WELL-KNOWN IS THE SOURCE?

EUR-Lex is widely known and used, both within the EU and worldwide by those who research EU law.

HOW ACCESSIBLE IS IT?

It is extremely accessible, since it is provided entirely free of charge online, is available in 24 European languages, and provides many primary documents in both HTML and PDF formats.

HOW COMPREHENSIVE (CONTENTS) AND AUTHORITATIVE IS IT?

EUR-Lex is extremely comprehensive, with primary and secondary legislation, case law, treaties, and preparatory materials. In addition to current materials, historic documents are available back to the founding of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951. Additionally, EUR-Lex hosts selected national law from member states, European Free Trade Association legal documents, and other related materials.

HOW EASY-TO-USE (USER-FRIENDLY) IS IT?

The sheer extent and range of information available through EUR-Lex can sometimes make it somewhat difficult to search. For this reason, it is important to build a tailored search at the outset or to be prepared to filter through many results. While both basic and advanced search options are available, sometimes it can be more efficient to search smaller or more tailored databases in order to find specific materials. For example, you may wish to search Curia (https://curia.europa.eu) for EU case law, which then provides links directly back to the relevant content in EUR-Lex.

Although EUR-Lex can sometimes become somewhat overwhelming due to the scale and range of resources available, for the most part it is fairly straightforward to work with. There are usually several ways to access materials, and good help pages and video tutorials are available. The entire database has recently been updated to make it more intuitive and mobile-friendly, although the content itself has not been altered. To find out more about the recent updates see: https://middletemplelibrary.wordpress.com/2018/11/02/a-new-look-for-the-european-union/.

HOW USEFUL IS IT IN TERMS OF ITS ABILITY TO ANSWER BOTH COMMON AND RARE (DIFFICULT-TO-FIND) QUESTIONS?

EUR-Lex is incredibly useful in finding the answer to any question that requires accessing either common or rare EU law. EUR-Lex provides a lot of information designed to assist the non-expert searcher, including useful “Summaries of EU Legislation” and the newly streamlined search interface. With links to related resources, such as N-Lex for national legislation, EUR-Lex can even provide a good starting point for European research that goes beyond purely EU-related questions. More complex questions may take time and skill to track down and sometimes materials may not be available in the desired format or language, but many tools are available to overcome these limitations. For example, sophisticated translation options are available that allow a researcher to select the level of precision required in on-the-spot translations. External links to related resources such as N-Lex, the EU Open Data Portal, or the main EU website also assist in furthering research on questions that can’t be answered directly through the primary materials in EUR-Lex.

HOW CURRENT (UP-TO-DATE) IS IT?

While historic documents continue to be available, EUR-Lex is continuously updated with the latest EU law. Many documents will be available here before they are added anywhere else, but unexpected delays can arise due to the need to complete translations before certain documents are officially published.

Submissions For Next Issue

FCIL Newsletter is looking for submissions for our next issue.

ARTICLES
Conference reports, library visits, exhibit descriptions, resource reviews, member news, etc. Open call for authors.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
May 1, 2019

QUESTIONS?
Contact Melissa Abernathy.
Resource Reviews: Encyclopedia of Private International Law

Jessica Pierucci

INTRODUCTION
The Encyclopedia of Private International Law (EPIL), edited by Jürgen Basedow, Giesela Rühl, Franco Ferrari and Pedro de Miguel Asensio, is a valuable reference resource for starting research on issues across the field of private international law (PIL). It provides an entry point for understanding all manner of PIL topics and the PIL regimes of 80 countries, and access to relevant laws in English (translated where applicable).

HOW WELL-KNOWN IS THE SOURCE?
The encyclopedia is a recent resource, published in 2017, but it is already considered the preeminent reference work in PIL and, therefore, well known by PIL scholars and practitioners, and the librarians who work with them. The EPIL received the American Society of International Law’s 2018 Certificate of Merit for High Technical Craftsmanship and Utility to Practicing Lawyers and Scholars, demonstrating its noteworthiness among U.S.-based international law practitioners and scholars.

HOW ACCESSIBLE IS IT?
The EPIL is an Elgar publication available by subscription through the Elgaronline platform at https://doi.org/10.4337/9781782547235. The publication has the same accessibility and searchability as other publications in Elgaronline. The encyclopedia is also available for purchase in print.

HOW AUTHORITATIVE IS IT?
The 195 entry authors and four editors are among the world’s leading scholars on PIL from 57 countries. Reviews and advertisements show the EPIL is considered a leading reference work in PIL as the first comprehensive survey of PIL to explore the field both by topic area and by country.

HOW COMPREHENSIVE IS IT, IN TERMS OF ITS CONTENTS?
The EPIL is arranged into three sections: (1) topical entries, (2) national reports, and (3) state and international legal instruments in English. This provides users with comprehensive access to the foundations of PIL and relevant laws in English for the 80 countries covered. The entry authors originate from 57 countries, providing a global perspective on PIL, although the preface admits to a European focus.

Topical Entries
247 A-Z entries cover all manner of PIL topics. The entries range from discussions of areas of law (marriage, adoption, insurance contracts, etc.), to core PIL topics (burden of proof, forum non conveniens, reciprocity, etc.), to influential figures, relevant conventions, and more.

National Reports
National reports from 80 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, and Oceania discuss PIL in each country, including reference to key laws and literature for further research.

Legal Instruments in English
National statutes and other provisions on PIL from the countries in the National Reports are reproduced in English (translated where applicable). In addition, a few relevant international conventions are reproduced in English.

HOW EASY-TO-USE (USER-FRIENDLY) IS IT?
Using the EPIL in Elgaronline is fairly intuitive.

The Table of Contents allows click through access to the alphabetically organized entries. The Table of Contents appears on the left when viewing entries for easy navigation to other entries.

The “Search within results” box on the left allows some advanced searching, including “”, AND/OR/NOT, and * as a wild card: https://www.elgaronline.com/page/help-search. Matching text is highlighted in the results list and in the Flowing Text display for each entry. Limiters on the results screen aren’t useful after using “Search within results,” but can help narrow results when conducting a search across the Elgaronline platform from the general Search box or Advanced Search. Using Advanced Search allows searching within common fields. There’s no limiter allowing users to select EPIL when using Advanced Search, but adding “Encyclopedia of Private International Law” to the Book / Journal Title field in Advanced Search will limit searches to just entries within the EPIL.

The default Flowing Text display for each entry includes hyperlinks to Search Google Scholar to access the resources in the Literature section at the end of each entry, but results vary. The laws cited within the body of the entries are not, however, hyperlinked. Users can click Original Pages or Download PDF to view each entry as it appears in print (with an added watermark) and save PDFs for future use. Each entry has its own DOI for saving and sharing perma-links. Options for printing, bookmarking (must create an account), exporting citation information, and email-
ing entries are relatively straightforward, but the test emails I sent myself never arrived and the tags feature for bookmarking generated errors, so their functionality may be hit or miss.

**HOW USEFUL IS IT IN TERMS OF ITS ABILITY TO ANSWER BOTH COMMON AND RARE (DIFFICULT-TO-FIND) QUESTIONS?**

The 247 topical entries and 80 national reports provide overviews of a broad range of PIL topics and citation to relevant literature and laws, allowing the user to find answers to PIL research questions either in the entries themselves or through the publications in the citations. Users are likely to find at least general answers to many of their PIL research questions within the entries and citation to resources for further research.

The EPIL is particularly helpful for accessing PIL laws in English (translated where applicable) all in one place. The translations are generally unofficial, but nonetheless provide English-language access to laws that may not be readily available in English translation elsewhere.

**HOW CURRENT (UP-TO-DATE) IS IT?**

The encyclopedia was published in 2017 and, according to the preface, the national reports and state law translations are current as of 2016. Plans for future updates or a second edition are unclear.

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**From the Chair continued from page 2**

**Advanced Training**, provides more in-depth training on researching International Trade Law, International Tax Law and Anti-Corruption Law.

Both workshops will probably be held at the Georgetown University Law Center on Saturday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM July 13th. The substantive part of the afternoon workshop will probably start around 1:30, with registration before that. Attendees can register for either session or for both. Breakfast and light afternoon refreshments will be provided.

Speakers include:


Professors: Jennifer A. Hillman, Lilian V. Faulhaber and Richard F. Chovanec.

So far, we also know of several programs on FCIL topics that are on the schedule for 2019.


This is an FCIL-SIS sponsored program. The speakers are Law Library of Congress foreign law specialists. They will “discuss some of the regulatory trends, challenges, and governmental strategies related to AI. The panel will address several legal and ethical issues regarding AI from a comparative perspective, including but not limited to: autonomous vehicles, civil and criminal liability, privacy and data protection, surveillance and national security, transparency, and international law approaches to Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS).”

**Latin American Legal Sources**, by the Vice Chair of the Latino Caucus, Marcelo Rodriguez, in collaboration with FCIL-SIS members, Marisol Florén-Romero and Sarah Jaramillo, 3:00 PM Monday, July 15th.

Learn about the nature of the collections of international organizations such as the World Bank (WB), the Organiza-
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tion of American States (OAS) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). Find out how to access and make the best use of their data and services from anywhere in the country.

GDPR: What Your Library Needs to Know, by our former Chair, Alison Shea, in collaboration with members of the PLLIP-SIS, 11:30 AM Sunday, July 14th.

This is your chance to hear from a law firm partner on the legal requirements of data protection and to learn how to ensure compliance with these requirements.

Alison Shea is also speaking at the session, How Law Librarians Negotiate Salary, 2:30 PM Sunday, July 14th.

Let’s Get Experiential! Creating Strategic Partnerships to Develop Experiential Simulation Courses, by our FCIL-SIS Publicity Committee Co-Chair, Alyson Drake, will include some FCIL content.

Learn how to collaborate with firm and government librarians to make courses experiential, based on real life patron requests. The L.A. Law Library has the second largest collection of Foreign and International Law materials in the U.S., after the Library of Congress. They get many FCIL questions, and Ryan Metheny from the L.A. Law Library will be speaking.

Many thanks to all of those FCIL members who submitted programs. I know that this process is time consuming and can be very disappointing, as I myself have submitted a few programs that were ultimately not selected. I try to remember that sometimes, even great programs do not get selected. There are still a few ways to get your idea on the program for AALL 2019, please remember that you will be able to submit proposals for poster sessions and Discussion Dens sometime in the Spring 2019.

FCIL Meetings

We also have a few meetings to look forward to. Since the FCIL programming is usually limited at AALL, we often have substantive programs as part of our meetings. For instance, each year, we invite a foreign law librarian who gives a presentation on law, legal information, and law librarianship. By March, the FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians Selection Committee will let us know which of the 17 applicants from around the globe will be sharing their global perspective with us at AALL this year.

Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians Recipient Presentation, 5:30 PM Monday, July 15th.

This will be followed, as usual, by the International Attendees Joint Reception (AALL/FCIL/IALL) which is scheduled for 6:30 PM Monday, July 15th.

Jurisdictions Interest Group Joint Meeting - Sunday July 14th 7:30 - 8:45 AM (Led by Yemisi Dina, Chair of the African Law Interest Group).


Please contact Yemisi Dina, the leader of this meeting, with ideas, suggestions, and proposals for short presentations. Although a meeting, this time is traditionally dedicated to substantive short presentations to add to our conference programming. All chairs of individual jurisdictional IGs are encouraged to work with Yemisi on planning this meeting.

FCIL-SIS Business Meeting – Sunday, July 14th 12:45 – 2:15 PM (Attendees will receive a boxed lunch. We can’t promise it will be delicious, but it will tide you over until dinner time or the next Exhibit Hall break).

Foreign Law Selectors Meeting - Sunday, July 14th 5:15 - 6:15 PM (Led by Marci Hoffman, Chair, Foreign Law Selectors Interest Group).

Standing Committees Joint Meeting - Sunday, July 14th 6:15 - 6:45 PM (Led by Catherine Deane, Chair, FCIL-SIS).

Consists of: Executive Committee, International Visits Committee & Publicity Committee.

Electronic Research Interest Group Meeting – Monday, July 15th 7:00 – 8:00 AM (Led by Sherry Xin Chen, Chair, Electronic Research Interest Group).

FCIL-SIS Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research Interest Group Meeting – Monday, July 15th 1:30 – 2:45 PM (Led by Beau Steenken, Chair, Teaching Foreign & International Legal Research Interest Group).

FCIL-SIS Education Committee Meeting – Tuesday, July 16th 7:15 –8:15 AM (Led by the FCIL-SIS Vice/Co-Chair Education Committee).

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I know it’s really early, but this is an opportunity for all of us to meet at the end of the conference and begin brainstorming about programming for the 2020 Annual Meeting when we meet in New Orleans, LA.

ELECTIONS
I’m pleased to announce that Susan Gualtier has been nominated to run for the position of Vice-Chair/Chair Elect Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Jennifer Allison has been nominated to run for the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the FCIL-SIS for 2019-2020.

Congratulations Susan and Jennifer!

Bios:

Susan Gualtier
“Susan Gualtier is a Reference Librarian at the University of Pennsylvania Biddle Law Library. Prior to accepting her position at Penn, she served as Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Librarian at the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center Library. She earned her B.A. in History from Yale University in 2000, her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center in 2004, and her M.L.I.S. from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in 2011.

Susan has been a member of FCIL-SIS since entering the law library profession in 2011. In 2014, inspired by clinical work she had done as a law student, she founded the Customary and Religious Law Interest Group, which she chaired until 2018. She has also served on several other FCIL-SIS committees, including the Publicity Committee, which she has chaired since 2015, the Education Committee, and the Task Force on the 2016 FCIL Summit.

Outside of FCIL-SIS, Susan is active in PEGA-SIS, ALL-SIS, and LHRB-SIS, has served on several AALL Award Juries, and has been a member of the Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals Advisory Board since 2014. She received the Spirit of the FCIL-SIS award at the 2015 conference in Philadelphia and was a Leadership Fellow at the 2016 AALL Leadership Academy.

Susan lives in Philadelphia and is the head of a four-cat household. She enjoys running and yoga, and recently began taking aerial classes at the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts.”

Jennifer Allison
“I am a Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Librarian at the Harvard Law School Library, where I have worked since December 2012. In that capacity, I provide research support and instruction to law students (primarily those working toward LLM and SJD degrees), and also work in collection development and selection.

Prior to coming to Harvard, I was a research librarian at the Pepperdine Law School Library for five years. I earned a BA in English and German from Pacific Lutheran University in 1994, a JD from Pepperdine in 2007, and an MLIS from San Jose State University in 2010.

I completed an LLM in German Law from the University of Würzburg in Germany in 2018, and wrote my LLM thesis, in German, on the protection of fundamental rights under the German Basic Law when public functions are privatized, focusing on Germany’s private security industry. While I was an LLM student, I also served as an instructor in the law faculty’s foreign law and languages program, where I taught Legal English, Introduction to US Law, US Criminal Procedure, and US Administrative Law.

I serve as a country editor for Foreign Law Guide (Austria and Germany), and I have also written for GlobaLex. I also wrote a chapter on law librarianship for the book Mastering Subject Specialties: Practical Advice From the Field, which was published in 2016.”

Our current Secretary, Sabrina Sondhi, will be providing more information on the MyCommunities listserv about the upcoming elections which will be held in March.

FCIL-SIS AWARDS
FCIL-SIS members are scholars, leaders and diligent contributors to the FCIL librarianship profession. Our field is so broad that our small community maintains 19 committees and interest groups and we are very lucky to have active and interested members who chair and participate in these groups.

Have you, or an FCIL-SIS member you know, made a significant contribution to the profession in the last year? If so, please nominate yourself or a colleague for one of the three special awards that the FCIL-SIS presents each year during the FCIL-SIS Business Meeting. The Executive Committee would like your input and help in identifying our esteemed FCIL-SIS colleagues who are deserving of these prestigious awards.

The Daniel L. Wade FCIL-SIS Outstanding Service Award

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From the Chair continued from page 10

This award honors an FCIL-SIS member who has made outstanding contributions to the Section in the areas of section activity and professional service.

The Thomas H. Reynolds and Arturo A. Flores FCIL-SIS Publications Award

This award is given to an FCIL-SIS member or members who have greatly contributed to the professional development of their AALL colleagues during any given year. The winning "publications" may be print, digital, or electronic initiatives.

The Spirit of the FCIL-SIS Award

This award, my personal favorite, is presented each year to members whose work furthers our mission, serves the entire FCIL-SIS, and inspires others to act.

More details for each award and past recipients can be found on our website: https://www.aallnet.org/fcilsis/awards-grants/

Award nominations are due March 31.

You may send your nomination to anyone on the Executive Committee, Catherine Deane, Loren Turner, Sabrina Sundhi, Alex Zhang.

IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIC PLAN

For the next four years, we are focusing on:

1. More Educational Webinars

   • We created a new committee, the Continuing Education Committee, which will focus solely on non-AALL meeting programs. Our new Chair, Caitlin Hunter, is hard at work; under her leadership, the Committee will coordinate two webinars and an in-person FCIL event in NYC.

2. Pre- or Post-AALL Annual Meeting Conference Programs

   • Our Pre-Conference workshop was accepted.

   • Related - At least 17 regular programs were submitted by our members on FCIL topics, of these, two were ultimately chosen.

3. Updating of FCIL-SIS Website Content

   • Many thanks to Lucie Olejnikova, Chair, Website Committee, Chris Siwa, Director of Information Technology, AALL, and all of the IG and Committee Chairs for their work migrating the website from the old to the new platform.

   • Thanks to Melissa Abernathy for keeping the Newsletter web pages up to date.

   • Outstanding website-related projects: Updating the Jumpstart page (Last updated in 2016) and the Teaching FCIL pages, including the Innovations In Teaching FCIL 2013 and the Syllabi & Course Materials Database.

Bloggers for Diplawmatic Dialogues

We also wanted more people to blog for Diplawmatic Dialogues. We have solicited a few new authors, but we still need more volunteers. This is a chance for you to share your perspectives on anything that you think would interest Foreign and International Law Librarians. I encourage you to write a quick 400+ word post to share your ideas with your peers. We’re longing to hear from you as evinced by the high number of views and visitors on the Diplawmatic Dialogues Blog. Please reach out to the Publicity Committee Co-Chairs, Susan Gualtier and Alyson Drake with your blog post idea. This blog has taken off because of the selfless contributions of FCIL-SIS members, and we encourage all of you to participate and share your voice and your ideas with the community.

Thanks everyone for your attention. Please feel free to contact me or anyone on the Executive Committee if you have ideas for how to improve the FCIL-SIS. We would love to hear from you.

Member Publications

Have you recently published an article or blog post? We would love to highlight it in our Recent Member Publications.

Send your information to Jingwei Zhang for the next issue.
FCIL-SIS Member Recent Publications Roundup

Our SIS is fortunate to include in its ranks exceptionally talented and enthusiastic writers. With this feature, we are happy to spread the word of their recent publications.

**SPECTRUM**


**BOOK**


**JOURNAL ARTICLES**

Legal Reference Service Quarterly


Book Reviews


Law Library Journal


**BLOG POSTS**

RIPS Law Librarian Blog

- Brandon Nichole Wright, *The Evolution of Legal Education Could Lead to Positive Opportunities for Law Librarianship*
- Brandon Nichole Wright, *Jim Crow’s Last Stand in Louisiana and Reviewing Library Diversity and Inclusion Implementation*
- Brandon Nichole Wright, *Internet Librarian 2018*
- Brandon Nichole Wright, *Let Us Not Forget About Bar Association Benefits*
- Brandon Nichole Wright, *The Case of the Torn Presidential Record and the Future of Its Library*
- Lora Johns, *Destigmatizing Mental Health Talk in Law School: Reflections for a New School Year*

SLAW Blog

- Lyonette Louis-Jacques, *On Writing, or “Beer + Edits”*
- Lyonette Louis-Jacques, *Conferencing, Or, Every Fish Has a Job*

International Association of Law Libraries Blog

- Catherine Deane, *Luxembourgeois Echoes… (part one)*
- Amy Flick, *Luxembourgeois Echoes… (part one)*

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

All-SIS Newsletter

- Benjamin J. Keele, *Can an Animal Make a Copyrighted Work?*
- Government Documents SIS

TS-SIS Newsletter – Technical Service Law Librarian

- Aaron Kuperman, *Space Insurance and How it Complicates LCC*
- Aaron Kuperman, *“Civil law” vs “Common law”*