

# FCIL NEWSLETTER

Foreign, Comparative, and International Law  
Special Interest Section



## From the Chair

BY MIKE MCARTHUR

I find maps fascinating. When I was young, I was enamored by each one I could find, whether the battered Rand McNally in our car or the mystical Middle-Earth sketch inside the cover of a dog-eared fantasy novel. It was so grounding to know where I stood on the planet (or my fantasy world), but at the same time feel so infinitesimally small and invisible.

Just a few decades later, maps would become more prevalent than ever. These were of a slightly different variety, vaguely familiar in appearance but functionally quite different. Developed and pushed out by large tech companies, these digital maps bend and twist reality with a swipe of the finger. Filters and functions add additional realism, carefully weaving together actual images of the world from outer space, superimposing a line from the point I am standing to my anticipated destination, and then literally telling me where to go.



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## Resource Reviews: Case Database of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes

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

BY JUAN-ANDRÉS FUENTES

International investment is one of the areas of international law that has grown in importance during the last thirty years.[1] This has been enhanced by the fact that transnational enterprises have international legal personality (even though it is limited).[2] Thus, it is convenient to give special attention to the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), an independent entity responsible for supporting the resolution of international investment controversies between countries and international investors via conciliation and/or arbitration. To make its case law and case-related materials available, ICSID has created a database.

ICSID was established by the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States, which in turn was promoted under the auspices of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (part of the World Bank). The Convention entered into force on October 14, 1966, when twenty (20) of its country members ratified it.

### **How well-known is the source?**

The ICSID database is popular among specialists, government officials, and academics who work in that area of law. However, not all of the legal community knows about the source's existence. Regardless of their individual condition, all members should learn about the relevance of the ICSID.

## From the Chair

Yet despite the ubiquity of maps, there is no shortage of lost individuals. Many fail to familiarize themselves with their surroundings, floundering in the abundance of information when relying solely on these digital tools. It aligns closely with many of the students we welcome on our campuses, and all too often a few years later to our law firms. Now is a pivotal time for our chosen discipline, our profession, and especially our subject specialty.

The theme of the Annual Meeting this past summer in Boston was Mapping Your Future. It was wonderful to see those who were able to make it, and a big thanks to those who made it happen. I hope over the coming year we can find where we stand, and work together to chart a path to where we will have the most impact in a most exciting future.

-Mike

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## Resource Reviews: ICSID

One simple action that would contribute to enhancing the visibility and actual use of the database is improving the ranking in which it appears in commercial engines. For instance, when a user searches in Google for “database for international investment controversies”, the ICSID cases database does not appear listed on the top twenty results.

### **How accessible is it?**

This database is easily accessible because it is online and free to use. In addition, there is no need to create an account to access its content.

Furthermore, cases are presented chronologically in rows, and hyperlinks are used to access their content.

### **How authoritative is it?**

This database has been created and maintained by the ICSID itself. Therefore, it is reliable on the subject.

### **How comprehensive is it, in terms of its contents?**

It is thoroughly comprehensive because it lists all ICSID concluded cases but also pending ones.

### **How easy-to-use (user-friendly) is it?**

The database is user-friendly because it has a visible search bar located in the middle of the homepage. Boxes such as “case number”, “claimant”, and “respondent” make it easy to find appropriate information about a specific case.

There are also useful filters to narrow search results that are available, such as claimant/respondent nationality, case type (conciliation/arbitration), and applicable rules (ICSID arbitration rules, UNCITRAL, or others).

### **How useful is it in terms of its ability to answer both common and rare (difficult-to-find) questions?**

The database covers cases that arise under the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States. This means that, in principle, we will be able to find all cases before the ICSID for countries that have ratified the Convention. In terms of Article 25 of the Convention, “the jurisdiction of the Centre shall extend to any legal dispute arising directly out of an investment, between a Contracting State (...) and a national of another Contracting State (...)”.[3]

However, there is always room to improve. It is indicated that the database is available in French, English, and Spanish, but when looking for cases related to the terms “corruption” / “corrupción” in French and Spanish, respectively, the searches do not bring any results. On the other hand, when the search is performed in English two (2) related cases appear. Work needs to be done, so this database helps answer both common and complex questions for all of its users worldwide.

### **How current (up-to-date) is it?**

Upon review of the database, it can be acknowledged that information related to claims recently filed appears on its system. Undoubtedly, the database offers current information.

To date, more than 155 countries have ratified the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States.[4] In addition, as of December 31, 2022, ICSID registered 910 cases under the Convention and Additional Facility Rules.[5] Therefore, the database deserves greater exposure. In the years to come, the ICSID will enhance its reputation as the main international forum for the settlement of disputes between investors and States in international investment treaties, investment contracts, and domestic legislation.

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## Resource Reviews: ICSID

[1] Salacuse, J. W. (2007). The treatification of international investment law. Law & Bus. Rev. Am., 13, 155.

[2] Walter, C. (2007). Subjects of international law. Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law, 9, 634-643.

[3] Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States, [https://icsid.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/ICSID\\_Convention\\_EN.pdf](https://icsid.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/ICSID_Convention_EN.pdf).

[4] ICSID Rules and Regulations, <https://icsid.worldbank.org/rules-regulations/convention#:~:text=The%20ICSID%20Convention%20is%20a%20treaty%20ratified%20by%20158%20Contracting%20States>.

[5] ICISD Statistics, [https://icsid.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/Caseload%20Statistics%20Charts/The ICSID Caseload Statistics.1 Edition\\_ENG.pdf](https://icsid.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/Caseload%20Statistics%20Charts/The%20ICSID%20Caseload%20Statistics.1%20Edition_ENG.pdf).

## Resource Reviews: Legal Tools Database

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

*BY MEREDITH CAPPS*

This installment of resource reviews discusses the 2023 winner of the American Society of International Law's Jus Gentium Award, which annually recognizes a free, non-commercial online resource providing international legal materials to researchers and the general public: the Legal Tools Database. ASIL approved the Jus Gentium Award in 2014, and past recipients include ILO's NATLEX, the United Nations Digital Library, GlobaLex, the Language of Peace Project, the Global Health and Human Rights Database, and the International Committee of the Red Cross's Customary International Humanitarian Law Database. Legal Tools is administered by the Centre for International Law Research and Policy (CILRAP), with support from the European Union, the International Criminal Court, and other partners, including some state governments. It is a leading resource for materials pertaining to international criminal law, with a focus on the International Criminal Court (ICC), also offering coverage of other relevant entities.

### **How well-known is the source?**

Given its subject-specific nature, researchers whose work rarely concerns international criminal law may not be familiar with Legal Tools. Though Legal Tools does not provide the only means of accessing ICC materials (which are also accessible on pages organized by matter/defendant on the ICC's website), researchers seeking case law from the court will find that its main site, under the Case Law Database menu, directs researchers to the sub-database of Legal Tools compiling ICC materials.

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# Resource Reviews: Legal Tools

## How accessible is it?

The database is an open-access resource on the web, available for use free of charge.

## How authoritative is it?

Material in the database is sourced directly from relevant governmental and intergovernmental entities, with support from those stakeholders, though the work of processing and tagging materials is performed by CILRAP's independent research team.

## How current (up-to-date) is it?

Legal Tools staff upload and search for new relevant documents to include in the database daily. On the date of this writing in September 2023, documents issued by the ICC and other tribunals within the last week were available in the database with assigned metadata.



## How comprehensive is it, in terms of its contents?

As of September 2023, the database contained over 205,000 documents, including nearly 60,000 ICC documents. For ICC materials, the database offers coverage from 2005, the year in which the court issued its first warrants, to the present. The database also includes materials from major international criminal tribunals convened in recent decades, including those for Rwanda, Yugoslavia, Kosovo, East Timor, Cambodia, Iraq, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, and Central African Republic. The database includes additional resources of interest to those studying international criminal law, beyond the decisions of international tribunals. It compiles relevant treaties under the International Legal Instruments menu, case law relevant to human rights issued by UN entities and regional human rights organs, case law of international adjudicative bodies whose jurisdiction is of a more general nature, substantive and procedural criminal laws of many domestic jurisdictions and notable opinions of domestic courts, publications concerning criminal law by various intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and more. Because it is a free resource, commercial publications are generally excluded.

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*Editor's note: Want to submit a Resource Review or participate in another ERIG project? Visit [their website](#) or reach out to [Noreen](#).*

## Resource Reviews: Legal Tools

### **How easy-to-use (user-friendly) is it?**

Both the broader Legal Tools database, and its subset ICC database, are relatively easy to use, though as with most resources offering vast volumes of primary source materials, researchers may initially feel overwhelmed by search results (or frustrated in their efforts to conduct ideal searches), and expert researchers will find that the tool offers many, though not all, of the features of the most robust commercial databases. The Legal Tools homepage resembles many commercial research databases with respect to both user interface and features, offering keyword search functionality in search fields to the left of the document result list, with options to search particular fields (such as case or file title) and apply date filters. Users interested in browsing, rather than searching, the database can scroll past the search tools to select content in particular collections, and can also then search within those collections. The ICC-specific database also offers the option for users to select content tagged as relevant to particular Rome Statute (the treaty establishing the court and its jurisdiction) articles.

Search results are displayed in order of relevance by default, but can also be sorted in chronological or reverse-chronological order. Result listings include the document name, the name of the issuing body, date, and options for viewing the document or its accompanying record, leaving the researcher to then evaluate the results and determine relevance. The document record provides a variety of metadata, and typically offers the option to view documents in the format in which they were provided by the issuing entities in a PDF document. Though the records and documents are all freely available to all users online, researchers who register for a user account (at no cost) can also organize and save their work within the platform. Not all metadata fields correspond to search fields, and at present there are no linked data features.

### **How useful is it in terms of its ability to answer both common and rare (difficult-to-find) questions?**

Though Legal Tools offers mostly, if not entirely, materials that researchers could locate for free from other online sources, it is unique in compiling materials from many leading but disparate criminal entities in a single resource, and many of the sources from which it offers materials are sources excluded from commercial tools. As such, researchers seeking to assemble primary source materials concerning international criminal law questions would do well to familiarize themselves with the tool. That said, researchers who are novices to the subject might wish to utilize it in conjunction with secondary materials that provide them background, context, and primary source citations, such that they can better identify keywords or document information for use in searching the database.



*We want to feature your travel photos!*

*Email [Janet Kearney](#) for more information and to share photos.*



## Join the FCIL-SIS Continuing Education Committee for a webinar series on FCIL teaching, careers, and collection development!

### **Evidence-Based Instruction for Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Research**

**November 30, 2023, at 11 am-12 pm Central. [Register.](#)**

The webinar will feature panelists Alyson Drake (Head of Instruction & Lecturer, University of Houston Law Center) and Janet Kearney (Reference/Foreign, Comparative & International Law Librarian, New York University School of Law) and will be moderated by Britt Hunter (International and Foreign Legal Research Librarian, Florida State University College of Law).

### **Careers in Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Librarianship**

**December 6, 2023, at 11 am-12:30 pm Central. [Register.](#)**

This webinar will feature Bianca Anderson (Director of Research and Information Services, Shutts & Bowen LLP), Heather Casey (Writer-Editor, Global Legal Research Directorate, Law Library of Congress), Yemisi Dina (Chief Law Librarian, University of York), Abby Dos Santos (Manager of Library Services, Caplin & Drysdale), and Erin Gow (Satellite Librarian, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit) as panelists and will be moderated by Juan-Andrés Fuentes (Librarian for Foreign, Comparative & International Law, Harvard Law School), with questions developed by Sophia Kingsley (Law Library Fellow, University of Arizona).

### **Collection Development in Foreign, Comparative, and International Law**

**March 21, 2024, at 11 am-12:30 pm Central. [Register.](#)**

This webinar will feature Alex Burdett (Reference/Foreign & International Law Librarian, New York University School of Law), Laura Cadra (Senior Collection Development Librarian, Loyola Marymount Law School, Los Angeles), Sherry Chen (Associate Director for Collection Strategy, Penn Law School), and Gabriela Femenia (Director of the Law Library and Associate Professor of Law, Temple Law) as panelists and will be moderated by Louis Myers (Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Librarian, Law Library of Congress).

### Upcoming Meetings:

AALS Annual Meeting, "Defending Democracy," January 3-6, 2024 in Washington, D.C. .

ALA LibLearnX: The Library Learning Experience , January 19-22, 2024 in Baltimore, MD.

ASIL Annual Meeting, "International Law in an Interdependent World ," April 3-6, 2024 in Washington, D.C.



## #AALL23 Boston Conference Experience as told by the 2022 FCIL-SIS Schaffer Grant Awardee Asha O.H. Moncrieffe

“All it takes is a little blind faith” is what I told myself as I applied for the FCIL-SIS Schaffer Grant in 2022. I needed blind faith because I really wanted to attend my first international conference, but I also knew that there would be several other applicants like me from across the world. Thankfully, the application process was convenient and easy since it was done via email. Two months after submitting my application, my blind faith paid off, as I was informed that I was selected! Sadly, I did not get to attend the conference in 2022, but the grant committee was gracious enough to defer the award and my attendance until 2023! To Boston I go...



*Photo courtesy of Asha Moncrieffe*

My time in Boston was nothing short of amazing! I acquired fresh insights into current trends, best practices, and emerging technologies in the field of law librarianship. Several standout moments and activities made this conference a memorable experience. For example, the keynote address by Charles Vogl reminded me of the importance of community and the necessity of extending an invitation so that I can find my tribe, which I will need to effectively navigate the uncertainties of life. Also, sessions that delved into artificial intelligence (AI), innovative research methodologies, and showcased emerging technologies were among my favourites. The vast exhibition hall allowed for interactions with content providers and various displays of emerging technologies. What’s a conference without freebies? I never left the hall empty-handed, and I wished I had more hands or totes to hold everything!

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#AALL23 facilitated meaningful networking with likeminded professionals and experts which was the highlight of the conference for me. I had the pleasure of meeting persons I had only been communicating with via email for years (Hi, Yemisi). Then there were the social events! The Thomson Reuters Block Party and the Bloomberg Law Reception were the perfect avenue to witness law librarians in all their glory; hair down and having a good time. A sea of law librarians electric sliding across the dance floor was something to behold. Having lunch/dinner in an informal setting provided a relaxed atmosphere for creating lasting professional relationships, and I am thrilled for the many connections that I have made.



Let me pause now to “big up” (as we say in Jamaica) Miriam Childs who was always ready with a line from a reggae song or the infamous Jamaican greeting, “wah gwan?” when she saw me! Big ups also to Mark Engsborg, Joe Hinger, and Sherry Leysen! You all welcomed me with open arms and made sure I had the best conference experience possible! Thank you to everyone who took the time to introduce me to their colleagues. Thank you, FCIL-SIS, for allowing me to have this wonderful experience!

The conference was an extremely transformative experience, enriching my understanding of the dynamic and ever-evolving world of law librarianship. The vital role law librarians play in the legal community was reaffirmed, and I returned to my library with renewed passion, armed with knowledge and connections that will certainly enhance my ability to serve the legal community in St. Kitts and Nevis efficiently. I eagerly anticipate future conferences and the continued growth and development of our profession.

*Editor’s Note: For more on the FCIL Schaffer Grant, visit us on [our website](#).*



## Minutes for the FCIL-SIS Business Meeting, July 17, 2023

**Minute-taker: Secretary/Treasurer Caitlin Hunter, [hunter@law.ucla.edu](mailto:hunter@law.ucla.edu)**

**Location: Boston, Massachusetts**

The meeting was called to order by incoming Chair Michael (Mike) McArthur at approximately 5:45 pm Eastern Time, with a quorum of 26 members in attendance. Mike welcomed and thanked the members. He described FCIL-SIS as what keynote speaker Charles Vogl would call a strong community, and expressed his hope that members felt that meetings and communications were invitations to engage and be a group that worked together. He thanked everyone who volunteered for FCIL-SIS Interest Groups and Committees, attended FCIL-SIS events, and contributed to the newsletter and blog.

Mike introduced the current Executive Committee:

- Outgoing Chair and Incoming Immediate Past Chair: Marcelo Rodríguez (who was unable to attend the meeting in person)
- Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer and Incoming Vice Chair: Caitlin Hunter
- Incoming Secretary/Treasurer: Meredith Capps
- Outgoing Immediate Past Chair: Loren Turner

### **Current Business**

1. Approval of Minutes from 2022 Business Meeting: The 2022 business meeting minutes were published in the [FCIL-SIS Newsletter at Volume 37, Issue 1, page 3 \(October 2022\)](#). Jean Wegner moved to approve the minutes and Meredith Capps seconded. The motion to approve the minutes passed.
2. Secretary/Treasurer Report:
  - a. Finances: Caitlin Hunter reported that, as of July 17, 2023, the most recent reports that AALL had available were for March 31, 2023. As of March 31, the balance of the FCIL-SIS operating account was \$18,088.76. Also as of March 31, the Schaffer Grant account had \$52,000 in its endowed corpus and \$101,346 in its excess.
  - b. Elections: Because Caitlin was running for Vice Chair, the election was run by Mike McArthur and Loren Turner. Mike reported that there were 65 votes in the 2023 election, which was uncontested. Caitlin Hunter was elected as Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Meredith Capps was elected as Secretary/Treasurer.

*Editor's Note: Due to the nature of reporting, some information is duplicated in the Business Meeting Minutes and the Interest Group & Committee Reports (below). For a full accounting, see both sections.*

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## Interest Group Reports at the Business Meeting

### 3. African Law IG:

Loren Turner delivered the report on behalf of Chair Yemisi Dina. The African Law IG created the AALL program Researching South African Government and Legal Information and hopes to be more active next year.

### 4. Asian Law IG:

Chair Sherry Xin Chen delivered the following report: From September to October 2022, the Asian Law Interest Group was actively involved in the organization of the 2022 Conference of CAFLL (the Chinese and American Forum on Legal Information and Law Libraries). Surrounding the themes of “Core Values & Evolving Roles of Legal Information and Information Professionals”, we hosted six webinars, featuring law librarians as scholars, administrators, education and technology specialists. We had speakers, panelists and attendees from different continents and in different time zones. I would also like to thank many FCIL members here who actively participated in those webinars! The conference also provided us with an opportunity to test and apply an artificial intelligence based translation tool. It was a very cost effective tool but whether it worked well or not, I would like to get your feedback!

### 5. Customary and Religious Law IG:

Chair Renu Sagreiya delivered the report. She thanked Lyonette Louis-Jacques for inviting her to become chair. Last year, CARLIG received the FCIL-SIS Interest Group/Committee Project of the Year Award for producing webinars on Canon Law 101 and Get Refusal and Domestic Violence under Jewish Law. The Get Refusal webinar was a recipient of a Bloomberg Law Continuing Education Grant and featured one presenter who focused on culturally competent service from a secular perspective and one

who focused on halakhic law. This year, Renu served as a panelist at the American Society of International Law, presenting on Buddhist law, and as a speaker at a NELLCO law library consortium event, presenting on language access and development of Spanish-language legal collections. Renu is also collaborating with Marilyn Raisch on a bibliography on Buddhism and the law. Hans Herzl-Betz will be CARLIG’s new chair, and he has great ideas for programming in the planning stages.

### 6. European Law IG:

Chair Alison Shea thanked Jennifer Allison, Lucie Olejnikova, Erin Gow, and Anahit Petrosyan for contributing to the [DipLawMatic Dialogues blog](#) in celebration of Europe Day. She thanked Anahit for agreeing to take over the European Law IG and encouraged FCIL-SIS members to reach out and share their ideas.

### 7. Foreign Law Selectors IG:

Alison Shea reported that she and Lucie Olejnikova were excited to have taken over as co-chairs.

### 8. Latin American Law IG:

Elaine Tornés presented the following report on behalf of chair Juan-Andrés Fuentes: After 18 months of hard work, the FCIL-SIS Latin American Law Interest Group has updated and expanded both the FCIL-SIS existing lists: General Latin American Titles and Latin American Law Journals & Serials with the help of members of the group and non-AALL members. The idea behind this project, which is now a reality, was to map holdings of US institutions and legal publications related to law that are published in the region. These lists are wonderful resources and now they are available on the AALL web.

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## Interest Group Reports

It would be interesting to keep exploring alliances with other groups inside and outside AALL, not only to enrich the content of our work but because we need to accept that our members have time constraints that limit the scope of our activities as a group. That said, if you have a cool idea or think the Latin American Law IG can help an existing project, contact the Chair, Juan-Andrés Fuentes.

### 9. Roman Law IG:

Paul Moorman reported that he was recently appointed as chair and has been brainstorming ideas for the coming year, including a potential program highlighting Roman law collections in Chicago and a collaborative program on canon law. He encouraged members who were interested in becoming involved to contact him.

## Committee Reports at the Business Meeting

### 10. Appointments Committee:

Co-Chair Meredith Capps thanked everyone who participated in the various volunteer surveys this year. She reported that she and co-chair David Isom are finishing up their third year and will be replaced by Anne Burnett and Josh Freeman. This year, the committee sent out two calls for volunteers, because they identified additional needs after the first call was sent out, including needing volunteers for the Strategic Planning Committee and Nominating Committee. The Appointments Committee received overwhelming responses and couldn't place everybody, but they really appreciated everyone who was willing to serve. The Appointments Committee was able to fill all the empty roles except for the Indigenous Peoples Law Interest Group chair. Meredith encouraged anyone thinking about this role to contact the committee.

### 11. Continuing Education Committee:

Chair Caitlin Hunter reported that, in the upcoming year, the Continuing Education Committee will be pursuing a four-part webinar series, originally proposed several years ago by Lyonette Louis-Jacques (Foreign and International Law Librarian, University of Chicago).

Specifically:

- A webinar on pursuing an FCIL career is planned for late October or early November and will feature Bianca Anderson (Shutts & Bowen LLP), Heather Casey (Law Library of Congress), Yemisi Dina (University of York), Abby Dos Santos (Caplin & Drysdale), and Marcelo Rodríguez (University of Arizona) as panelists, with Juan-Andrés Fuentes (Harvard Law School) as moderator.
- A webinar on teaching is planned for December and will feature Alyson Drake (University of Houston Law Center) and Janet Kearney (NYU Law) as panelists.
- A webinar on collection development is planned for Spring 2024 and will feature Alex Burdett (NYU Law), Laura Cadra (Loyola Marymount Law School, Los Angeles), Sherry Chen (Penn Law School), and Gabriela Femenia (Temple Law) as panelists.
- A webinar on the history and future of FCIL librarianship is still in development for Summer 2024 and we welcome suggestions for panelists.
- She welcomed three new members to the committee: Sophia Kingsley, Louis Meyers, and Britt Hunter.
- She encouraged members to send suggestions for additional webinars and continuing education opportunities.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE THE FINALIZED WEBINAR SCHEDULE IN THE ANNOUNCEMENTS, PAGE 7.**

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## Committee Reports

### 12. Education Committee:

Incoming Chair Caitlin Hunter said that as soon as AALL 2023 was over, she would send out an invitation to all FCIL-SIS members to join a meeting planning program proposals for AALL 2024. She hoped FCIL-SIS would submit as many FCIL-related proposals as possible and planned to recycle any rejected proposals as webinars. She also reported that the Education Committee would be planning an in-person pre-conference FCIL workshop at AALL 2024, at the suggestion of Jean Wegner.

### 13. Schaffer Grant Selection Committee:

Chair Mark Engsborg thanked the committee members: Paul Moorman, Sherry Leysen, and Joseph Hinger. He noted that the Schaffer Grant stands out as something FCIL-SIS does that is really special. This year, the grant received a total of 17 applicants, about average for the grant. Applicants were from a wide diversity of jurisdictions. After narrowing the applicants down to four excellent finalists, the committee unanimously chose Ugyen Thinley from Bhutan. However, Ugyen was unable to get a visa in time to attend the conference. Instead, FCIL-SIS enjoyed a terrific presentation from Asha Moncrieffe. Asha was the 2022 Schaffer Grant recipient but was also unable to get a visa in time to attend the conference and deferred to attend this year. Ugyen Thinley will also defer and will be our Schaffer Grant speaker next year in 2024. Because of the ongoing U.S. State Department backlog in granting visas, the Schaffer Grant Selection Committee will open the search this fall to identify a grant winner for the 2025 conference. The committee has heard that the State Department is hoping to clear the backlog within the next year or two, and the committee will revisit the grant schedule next year to see if it's possible to get things back on track, because 18 months from winning the grant to presenting is a long time.

### 14. International Visits Committee:

The pandemic has made it difficult for the committee to organize visits for the past two years, but Committee Chair David McFadden reported that he is working on reorganizing and reactivating the committee. FCIL-SIS Chair Mike McArthur said that he is very passionate about the International Visits Committee and wants to brainstorm ways to visit our colleagues in other countries, see how they do things, and ask questions about how librarianship works in other parts of the world. Mike spent three days at the University of Toulouse in May and some time at the University of Tokyo in July, observing and trying to find ways to stimulate some type of exchange. He hopes that over the next couple of years, FCIL-SIS will generate ideas about how to understand each other and build ties internationally. Mike and David McFadden encouraged audience members to send them ideas.

### 15. Nominations Committee:

Chair Laura Cadra submitted the following report in writing, in advance of the meeting:

The FCIL-SIS Nominations Committee for 2022-23 consisted of

- Laura Cadra, Chair (LMU Loyola Law Rains Library)
- Adam Mackie (University of Connecticut Law Library)
- Traci Emerson Spackey (George Washington University Jacob Burns Law Library)

Committee members put out three calls for nominations for FCIL Vice-Chair/Chair Elect and Secretary Treasurer via the AALL FCIL and Open Forum Communities, and in DipLawMatic Dialogues which additionally populated to AALL KnowItAALL. The deadline for nominations was December 16, 2022. The Committee also reviewed the FCIL membership roster to identify potential candidates.

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## Committee Reports

Following the deadline, committee members contacted Vice Chair/Chair Elect nominee Caitlin Hunter (UCLA Law Library) and Secretary/Treasurer nominee Meredith Capps (Vanderbilt Law Library). Both agreed to run for FCIL office and their names were forwarded to the FCIL Executive Board.

The Committee thanks Jessica Pierucci for facilitating the call for nominations to DipLawMatic Dialogues. The Chair would like to extend deep appreciation and thanks to Traci and Adam for their enthusiastic participation in the work of the Committee.

### **16. Newsletter Committee:**

Co-chair Janet Kearney reported that Melissa Abernathy is rolling off the newsletter after many years of wonderful, wonderful work as chair. Janet will be continuing on, as will editors and committee members Carmen Valero and Jingwei Zhang. The Newsletter published three issues this year, the biggest of which was the October business issue. The May issue was a special memorial issue honoring Duncan Alford and Stephen Wiles. Janet encouraged members to submit articles, especially for the May issue, which is always light on content. The deadline to submit normal articles is February 1, May 1, and October 1. The deadline to submit interest group and committee reports is August 15, because these typically take more time to edit.

### **17. Publicity Committee:**

Co-chair Meredith Capps reported that Jessica Pierucci is rolling off as co-chair and Meredith and Devan Orr will be taking over as co-chairs. Meredith encouraged everyone to submit posts to DipLawMatic Dialogues and noted that the blog has great traffic and is regularly picked up by AALL KnowItAALL.

For next year, Marcelo Rodríguez will continue his Through the FCIL Lens series and Jonathan Pratter will continue his From the Reference Desk series. Sarah Martin will be contributing to the New FCIL Librarian series and Juan-Andrés Fuentes will also be writing a regular column. The blog will also post recaps of AALL and IALL conference sessions and Meredith also welcomes other one-off submissions. The committee is also continuing to maintain the FCIL-SIS Twitter but has had technical issues cross-posting to Twitter from WordPress because of the recent problems with Twitter's API and is investigating whether it makes sense to move to other social media.

### **18. Strategic Planning Committee:**

Mike McArthur reported that chair Heidi L. Frostestad and the rest of the committee have been very busy, and provided a really detailed, wonderful strategic plan for the next five years. He encouraged everyone to stay tuned for implementation.

*Continued on page 15*



## New Business

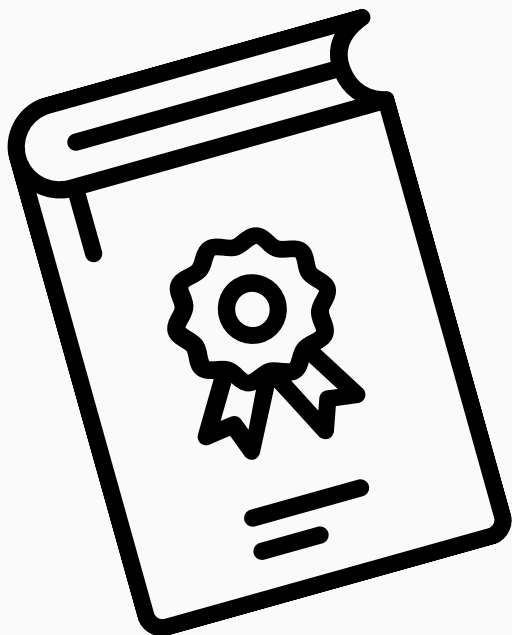
### 19. Recognizing New Members:

Mike McArthur encouraged all new members to introduce themselves. Sarah Martin reported that she was just hired by the LA Law Library in January and graduated from library school last month. Her background is in applied linguistic and legal interpretation and she is happy to be here and enthusiastic to get involved and learn more about foreign and international legal research. Mike encouraged her to reach out to other FCIL-SIS members if she needed anything, and Meredith Capps reported that Sarah would have an upcoming profile in the [DipLawMatic Dialogues blog](#).

*EDITOR'S  
NOTE: YOU  
CAN NOW  
READ  
SARAH'S  
WELCOME  
POST ON THE  
BLOG.*

### 20. Daniel L. Wade FCIL-SIS Outstanding Service Award:

This award honors an FCIL-SIS member who has made outstanding contributions to the Section in the areas of section activity and professional service. This year the award went to Gabriela Femenia, Director of the Law Library and Associate Professor of Law, James E. Beasley School of Law, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA



### 21. 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. This year the award went to Jennifer Allison, Owner and Freelance Editor, Manuscript Spa, LLC, Boston, MA for her book chapter Source Citation in Legal Bibliography and Its Impact on Research: A Comparative Examination of Criminal Sentencing Discretion Law and Practice in California and Germany, in *The Role of Citation in the Law: A Yale Law School Symposium* (Michael Chiorazzi, ed.: Hein Publishing, 2022), [https://works.bepress.com/jennifer\\_allison/90/](https://works.bepress.com/jennifer_allison/90/).

*Continued on page 16*



## New Business

### 22. Spirit of the FCIL-SIS Award:

This award is presented each year to members whose work furthers our mission, serves the entire FCIL-SIS, and inspires others to act. This year the award went to Renu Urvashi Sagreiya; Juan-Andrés Fuentes, Foreign, Comparative and International Law Library, Harvard Law School, Boston, MA; and Erin Gow, Associate Professor of Legal Bibliography - Online Services Librarian, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville, Louisville, KY.

### 23. Blog Post of the Year Award:

This award honors an AALL member who contributes an outstanding blog post for the FCIL-SIS blog, DipLawMatic Dialogues, during the previous year. This year, the award went to Marcelo Rodríguez, Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian, University of Arizona College of Law, Tucson, AZ for his Through the FCIL Lens series.

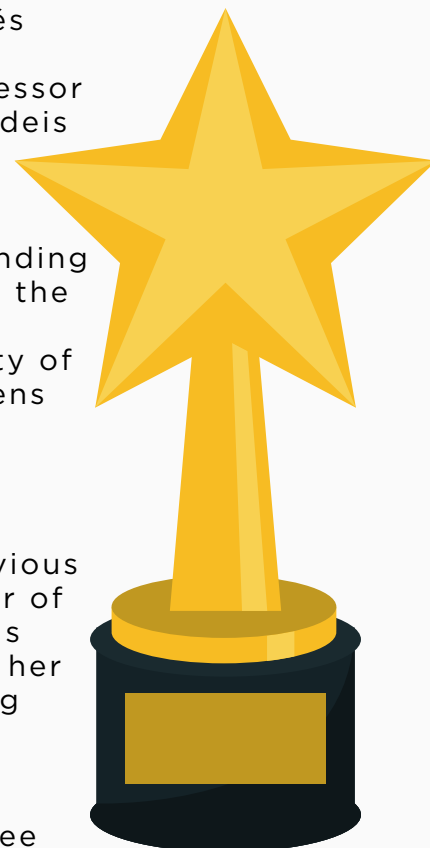
### 24. Newsletter Article of the Year Award:

This award honors an FCIL-SIS member who contributes an outstanding article for the FCIL-SIS Newsletter, during the previous year. This year the award went to Erin Gow, Associate Professor of Legal Bibliography - Online Services Librarian, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, for her resource review of Legislation.gov.uk and her work coordinating resource reviews more generally.

### 25. IG/Committee Project of the Year Award:

This award honors the FCIL-SIS Interest Group and/or Committee that produces an outstanding project for the benefit of FCIL-SIS and/or AALL members during the previous year. This year the award went to the FCIL-SIS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee for its What in the World series of webinars, on the current situations in Ukraine and Haiti. Both webinars were able to garner over 100 registrations and attendance of about 70%.

Mike congratulated all the award recipients and thanked Dennis Sears for obtaining the awards and bringing them to the conference year-after-year.



*Congrats!*

*Continued on page 17*



## Conference Updates

### 27. ASIL Update:

Regular attendee Lyonette Louis-Jacques said that the ASIL conference is crucial for keeping up to date on substantive information about international law and urged members to attend and to re-start the practice of having informal meetups of librarians at the conference.

### 28. IALL Update:

IALL President Mark Engsborg reported that this year's IALL conference will be in Geneva, Switzerland from October 8 to 11, and that next year's conference will be in June 2024 in Oslo, Norway. He hopes to see many FCIL-SIS members there. He reminded everyone that there are three bursaries or scholarships to attend: one open to anyone, one open to any IALL member, and one open to those who have been IALL members for three consecutive years.

### 29. IFLA Update:

Alison Shea reports that she is the incoming Information Coordinator for the IFLA Law Libraries Standing Committee. This year's IFLA conference will be in Rotterdam, The Netherlands from August 20 to 24. Each section within IFLA is responsible for putting on a conference session and, this year, the Law Libraries Section has put together a session on Law Libraries Powering Sustainable Development Goals, featuring a panel from the Netherlands/India, Korea, and Brazil. All papers presented at the conference will be posted for free on IFLA's website, so Alison encouraged FCIL-SIS members to look at them to see what other libraries are doing around the world.

## Wrap Up

### 30. Book Club:

Mike McArthur asked if there was any other new business. Renu Sagreiya announced that Susan Gualtier had recently asked her to take over FCIL-SIS' annual book club, a tradition that was started by Dan Wade in 2014. Renu will send out a poll to select a book and host a virtual book club meeting in August or September.

31. Mike McArthur thanked the rest of the Executive Committee for their work, support, and never-ending energy, and encouraged all members to submit ideas for next year's AALL.

32. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 pm Eastern Time.



## Interest Group & Committee Reports - 2022-2023

### **Asian Law IG**

Xin (Sherry) Chen

From September to October 2022, the Asian Law Interest Group was actively involved in the organization of the 2022 Conference of CAFLL (the Chinese and American Forum on Legal Information and Law Libraries). Centering on the themes of “Core Values & Evolving Roles of Legal Information and Information Professionals”, we hosted six webinars, featuring law librarians as scholars, administrators, education and technology specialists. We had speakers, panelists, and attendees from different continents and in different time zones. I would also like to thank many FCIL members here who actively participated in those webinars! The conference also provided us with an opportunity to test and apply an artificial intelligence based translation tool. It was a very cost-effective tool but whether it worked well or not, I would like to get your feedback!

### **African IG**

Yemisi Dina

We co-hosted the program that was facilitated by Marcelo Rodríguez at the Annual Meeting titled Researching South African Government and Legal Information, moderated by Yemisi Dina.

### **Publicity Committee**

Meredith Capps

This year was once again productive for the SIS blog, DiplawMatic Dialogues, and our content was routinely featured in AALL communications with members. Marcelo Rodríguez continued posting in his popular Through the FCIL Lens series, and received the SIS “Blog Post of the Year Award” for his contributions. Jonathan Pratter contributed to the ongoing “From the Reference Desk” series, and Devan Orr posted bimonthly in the “New FCIL Librarian” series. Members contributed posts recapping sessions from the AALL Annual Meeting held in Denver, the IALL Annual Course held in Palo Alto, the ASIL Annual Meeting held in Washington, as well as relevant webinars hosted by the SIS and its partners. Seven SIS members were featured on the blog in the “Member of the Month” series. Between January 1 and August 1, 2023 the blog was viewed 10,192 times; in the 2022 calendar year, the blog received 10,492 views.

In addition to hosting the blog, the committee has maintained an SIS presence on Facebook and Twitter, and Caitlin Hunter and Meredith Capps hosted a table at the Conference for Newer Law Librarians at the AALL Annual Meeting in Boston, along with Jennifer Allison representing the Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals. Jessica Pierucci concluded her term as chair, and Devan Orr will join Meredith Capps next year as co-chair. As always, we welcome ideas for new blog content, and other means of outreach!

*Continued on page 19*



## Interest Group & Committee Reports - 2022-2023

### ***E-Resources IG (ERIG)***

Erin Gow

Over the past year, the Electronic Research Interest Group has continued to publish the Resource Reviews column in each issue of the FCIL Newsletter.

Resource Reviews:

- ECOLEX by Juan-Andrés Fuentes
  - October 2022  
[https://www.aallnet.org/fcilsis/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2022/10/FCIL\\_vol37no1\\_October2022.pdf](https://www.aallnet.org/fcilsis/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2022/10/FCIL_vol37no1_October2022.pdf)
- Legislation.gov.uk by Erin Gow
  - February 2023  
[https://www.aallnet.org/fcilsis/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2023/02/FCIL\\_vol37no2\\_February-2023.pdf](https://www.aallnet.org/fcilsis/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2023/02/FCIL_vol37no2_February-2023.pdf)
- The Max Planck Encyclopedias of International Law (MPEPIL and MPEiPro) by A. Noreen Farley
  - May 2023  
[https://www.aallnet.org/fcilsis/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2023/05/FCIL\\_vol37no3\\_May-2023.pdf](https://www.aallnet.org/fcilsis/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2023/05/FCIL_vol37no3_May-2023.pdf)

Noreen Farley will take over as ERIG chair from Erin Gow at the annual meeting.

Anyone interested in participating in ERIG is encouraged to join the group's My Communities page:  
<https://community.aallnet.org/communities/community-home?CommunityKey=fec748d0-6904-4ff0-9148-880819c84fb4>.

### ***Appointments Committee***

Meredith Capps & David Isom,  
Outgoing Co-Chairs

The Appointments Committee created and publicized this year's annual volunteer survey, which was open May 15–June 1. We received 15 responses (versus 14 last year) and reached out to several other FCIL-SIS members who had not responded to gauge interest in taking over as chairs for two interest groups whose incumbents were looking to roll off. By our count, eight volunteers this time around were new to serving on FCIL-SIS committees—a much higher percentage of the total responses than in either of the two previous years. We worked to balance the interests and preferences expressed in survey responses with the needs of the committees and IGs and completed the work in the first week of July.

In addition to the spring survey, we circulated a supplemental call for volunteers in the fall to identify members to serve on two committees with current needs: Nominating and Strategic Planning. We received a robust response, readily filling all available slots on both committees.

After serving as co-chairs for three years, we have passed the baton of the Appointments Committee into the capable hands of Anne Burnett ([aburnett@uga.edu](mailto:aburnett@uga.edu)) and Josh Freeman ([jf3528@columbia.edu](mailto:jf3528@columbia.edu)). Please contact them with any suggestions about how the committee's work might be improved in future years.

*Continued on page 20*



## Interest Group & Committee Reports - 2022-2023

### ***FCIL-SIS Website Committee***

Lucie Olejnikova and Charlotte Daugherty, Co-Chairs

In August 2022, the Website Committee welcomed Charlotte Daugherty as its newest member; she is currently the Legal Research Librarian for Foreign and Comparative Law at the U.C. Berkeley Law Library. Welcome Charlotte! Charlotte is assuming the role of a Co-Chair this year, leading this committee going forward. The committee continues to keep the FCIL-SIS pages up to date and works to align branding with the overall AALL look. Aside from keeping frequently edited pages up to date, the committee has concluded a few bigger projects that have been underway for several years. The committee has shared the list of projects in its inaugural issue of Website News sent on May 19, 2023 via the FCIL-SIS listserv in advance of the FCIL-SIS Business Meeting at AALL.

The Latin American Interest Group has updated [the Latin American Journals and Serials Database](#). This multiyear effort resulted in a completely revised and expanded list of Latin American Journals and Serials in libraries across the U.S. You are invited to contribute information about your library's physical and electronic Latin American journal and serial collection to the list. Please contact the Chair of the Latin American IG.

The [FCIL-SIS Homepage](#) was updated. The [FCIL-SIS DEI Committee](#) has a newly created page, listing its charge and programming. In the fall of 2022, Mary Rumsey and Charlotte Daugherty updated [Publication Opportunities](#), featuring a list of places where members and others can publish their work.

This page is updated periodically. Also in 2022, Erin K. Gow and Lyonette Louis-Jacques updated the [Online Discussion Forums](#), listing a variety of ways to connect and network globally.

The [Continuing Education](#) page is regularly updated and lists the variety of programs organized by FCIL members, often with links to recordings, presentations slides, or handouts. The FCIL-SIS also keeps track of annual meeting educational programming on the [Annual Meeting Programs](#) page. Programs are listed in reverse chronological order starting in 1995. Don't forget to check out the [FCIL-SIS Awards, Grants, and Recognitions](#) pages, featuring this year's recipients. Congratulations to all! Individual [FCIL-SIS committees and interest groups](#) pages are updated on an ongoing basis throughout the year as we hear from members. Please continue to reach out to the Website Committee with any updates.

The next big project for the Website Committee is to review and assess the [History](#) portion of the FCIL website. The committee will be calling for volunteers to partake in this important effort to preserve the history of this special interest section. To all committees and interest groups, please continue to reach out to the Website Committee with any updates to your pages.

*Continued on page 21*



## Interest Group & Committee Reports - 2022-2023

### **Roman Law IG**

Paul Moorman

Salvete FCIL-SIS! After many years of leadership by the esteemed and irreplaceable Marylin Raisch, Paul Moorman was appointed Chair of the Roman Law IG starting in July 2022. During this transitional period, the Roman Law IG was quiet until a meeting was held on June 30, 2023. Attendees included the Chair, Sergio Stone, Victoria Tokar, Sabrina Sondhi, and Renu Sagreiya. The meeting had two agenda items. The first was a discussion of the future of the IG. Before the transition to the new Chair, there had been ongoing discussions about merging the Roman Law IG with the Customary and Religious Law Interest Group (CARLIG) or perhaps changing the name to a more inclusive Ancient Law IG or something similar. The consensus of the attendees at this meeting was to maintain the status quo and keep its current name and focus on Roman law and its influence on law and other disciplines, and partner with other IGs and SISs with similar and related interests as appropriate.

The second agenda item was our plan for the coming year. After discussing various proposals, the attendees thought the IG should investigate hosting a webinar on Roman law collections and sources in Chicago in advance of the 2024 AALL Annual Meeting. In addition to this webinar, the IG will also look into the feasibility of a tour at a Chicago law library with a significant Roman law collection during the Annual Meeting, perhaps partnering with the Legal History & Rare Books SIS (LHRB-SIS).

Finally, Marylin would sometimes include a bibliography of recent Roman law publications in her annual report for the Roman Law IG. To continue that tradition, here is a selected list of recent books on Roman law that may be of interest to the membership:

Bubb, Claire, and Michael Peachin, eds. *Medicine and the Law under the Roman Empire*. Oxford Studies in Roman Society & Law. New York: Oxford University Press, 2023.

Candy, Peter, and Emilia Mataix Ferrándiz, eds. *Roman Law and Maritime Commerce*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2022.

Johnston, David. *Roman Law in Context*, 2nd ed. Key Themes in Ancient History. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2022.

Kearley, Timothy G. *Roman Law, Classical Education, and Limits on Classical Participation in America into the Twentieth-Century: The Second, Expanded Edition of Lost in Translations: Roman Law Scholarship and Translation in Early Twentieth-Century America*. Fort Collins, Colorado: Veterrimus Publishing, 2022.

Nasti, Fara, and Aldo Schiavone, eds. *Jurists and Legal Science in the History of Roman Law*. Translated by Peter Christie. New York: Routledge, 2021.

Piacentin, Sofia. *Financial Penalties in the Roman Republic: A Study of Confiscations of Individual Property, Public Sales, and Fines (509-58 BC)*. Boston: Brill, 2021.

*Continued on page 22*



## Interest Group & Committee Reports - 2022-2023

### **Roman Law IG**

Southon, Emma. *A Fatal Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum: Murder in Ancient Rome*. New York: Abrams Press, 2021.

Verboven, Koenraad, and Paul Erdkamp, eds. *Law and Economic Performance in the Roman World. Impact of Empire* vol. 44, Boston: Brill, 2022.

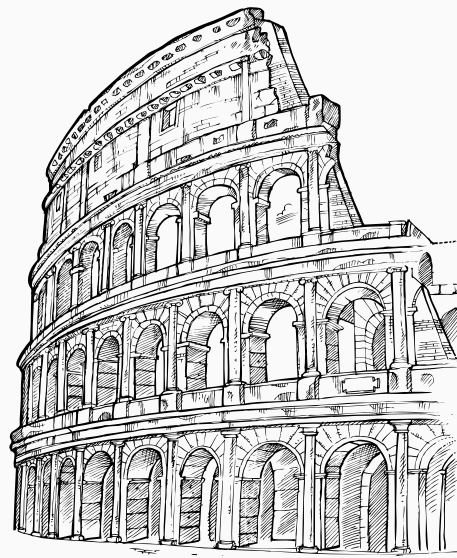
Verhagen, Hendrik L. E. *Security and Credit in Roman Law: The Historical Evolution of Pignus and Hypotheca*. Oxford Studies in Roman Society & Law. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022.

### **Latin American Law IG**

Juan-Andrés Fuentes

After 18 months of hard work, the FCIL-SIS Latin American Law Interest Group has updated and expanded both the FCIL-SIS existing lists: [General Latin American Titles](#) and [Latin American Law Journals & Serials](#) with the help of members of the group and non-AALL members. The idea behind this project, which is now a reality, was to map holdings of US institutions and legal publications related to law that are published in the region. These lists are wonderful resources and now they are available on the AALL web.

It would be interesting to keep exploring alliances with other groups inside and outside AALL, not only to enrich the content of our work but because we need to accept that our members have time constraints that limit the scope of our activities as a group. That said, if you have a cool idea or think the Latin American Law IG can help an existing project, contact the Chair.



### **CARLIG**

Renu Urvashi Sagreiya

A couple of members of CARLIG continued work on the ongoing Buddhism & Law Bibliography Project, which will be posted as a resource on the IG's page once completed. If you are interested in volunteering for this project, please contact the new Chair, Hans Herzl-Betz. In March 2023, the immediate past Chair, Renu Urvashi Sagreiya, was invited to the American Society of International Law (ASIL) Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. to speak about Buddhist Law at a roundtable developed by the International Legal Research Interest Group (ILRIG) titled, "Researching Religion and Human Rights: Old Ideas Applied to Modern Issues." For the upcoming term, CARLIG is considering developing programming on Hindu Law. In addition, we are hoping to collaborate with Native People's Law Caucus on a program about the Vatican's recent repeal of the Doctrine of Discovery.

*Continued on page 23*



## Interest Group & Committee Reports - 2022-2023

### **Schaffer Grant Selection Committee**

Joseph P. Hinger

The Schaffer Grant Selection Committee selected Mr. Ugyen Thinley as the recipient of the 2023 FCIL-SIS Schaffer Grant. Mr. Thinley is an academic law librarian at Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law in the Kingdom of Bhutan. Due to difficulties in obtaining a travel visa on time to enter the USA, Mr. Thinley was not able to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting in Boston. The extension of his grant to attend the 2024 Annual Meeting in Chicago was approved.

Our 2022 grant recipient, Asha Moncrieffe, was able to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting in Boston. Asha is a native of Jamaica, and currently working as the Law Librarian at the Office of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs, in Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis. Ms. Moncrieffe gave an outstanding presentation titled “Law Librarianship from a Caribbean Law Librarian’s Perspective” on Sunday, July 16.

**EDITOR’S  
NOTE: SEE  
ASHA’S  
ACCOUNT OF  
HER VISIT TO  
THE 2023  
ANNUAL  
MEETING ON  
PAGE 8.**

For the 2023 Schaffer Grant, there were 18 applicants that spanned the globe. Applicants were received from: Belgium, Bhutan, Chile, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Kenya, Luxembourg, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. The Committee narrowed the applicants to 3 finalists. After receiving references for the 3 finalists, the final selection of Mr. Ugyen Thinley was made.

The 2023 Schaffer Grant Selection Committee was chaired by Mark Engsborg of Emory University School of Law. Committee members included Sherry Leysen of the University of California Los Angeles Law School, Joseph Hinger of LLMC, and Paul Moorman of the University of Southern California School of Law. The Committee discussed the long wait times for delegates to obtain a travel visa to enter the United States and how we could work around this situation. The U.S. State Department has extremely long wait times for the visa process in most parts of the world. For some countries, the wait time is greater than 2 years! Since this Committee has encountered this situation twice, our proposal to begin selection for the Schaffer Grant more than a year in advance was accepted. The next 2024 cycle of applicants will be for attendance at the 2025 Annual Meeting.

*Continued on page 24*

## ***Continuing Education Committee***

Caitlin Hunter

This year, the FCIL-SIS Continuing Education Committee began planning for next year's webinar series. The webinar series was suggested several years ago by Lyonette Louis-Jacques (Foreign and International Law Librarian, University of Chicago) and consists of a four-part series on pursuing an FCIL career, teaching FCIL research, FCIL collection development, and the history and future of FCIL librarianship.

The webinar on pursuing an FCIL career is planned for late October or early November and will feature Bianca Anderson (Shutts & Bowen LLP), Heather Casey (Law Library of Congress), Yemisi Dina (University of York), Abby Dos Santos (Caplin & Drysdale), and Marcelo Rodríguez (University of Arizona) as panelists, with Juan-Andrés Fuentes (Harvard Law School) as moderator.

The webinar is designed to cover a variety of FCIL careers, including but also going beyond the traditional academic FCIL librarian role. Marcelo will talk about his experience answering FCIL questions as a court librarian and about the experience of transitioning into an academic role. Heather will talk about her experience working as an FCIL librarian at Georgetown Law Library and transitioning to her current role as writer-editor in the Global Legal Research Directorate for the Law Library of Congress. Abby will talk about her work as a law firm librarian, and Bianca will talk about her experience transitioning from working as FCIL librarian at University of Miami to working as a law firm librarian. Finally, Yemisi will talk about her successful, varied, and international career, starting as a law librarian in Nigeria, moving on to establish the law library for the College of the Bahamas, and then becoming director of Canada's Osgoode Hall Law School Library.

The committee is delighted to have also lined up wonderful panelists for our next two webinars. The webinar on teaching is planned for December and will feature Alyson Drake (University of Houston Law Center) and Janet Kearney (NYU Law) as panelists. The webinar on collection development is planned for Spring 2023 and will feature Alex Burdett (NYU Law), Laura Cadra (Loyola Marymount Law School, Los Angeles), Sherry Chen (Penn Law School), and Gabriela Femenia (Temple Law) as panelists. The webinar on the history and future of FCIL librarianship is still in development for Summer 2024 and we welcome suggestions for panelists.

Because I am also Vice Chair this year, I'm hoping to build a connection between the program proposal process and the webinar development process. I plan to re-purpose as many rejected AALL proposals as possible into webinars- so I encourage everyone to submit proposals!

***EDITOR'S NOTE:  
SEE THE  
FINALIZED  
WEBINAR  
SCHEDULE IN THE  
ANNOUNCEMENTS,  
PAGE 7.***

*Continued on page 25*



## Interest Group & Committee Reports - 2022-2023

### ***Continuing Education Committee***

Finally, I am excited to welcome three new members to the committee: Sophia Kingsley, Louis Meyers, and Britt Hunter. I look forward to working with them and hopefully passing on leadership of the committee in 2025. As always, I welcome ideas for new webinars and I am happy to help support webinars in whatever way works best, whether that's developing a webinar from an idea, providing advice, helping with promotion, or managing technology. If you have suggestions for speakers or topics you'd like to see covered or have any other idea for an FCIL continuing education event, please reach out to Caitlin Hunter at [hunter@law.ucla.edu](mailto:hunter@law.ucla.edu).

### ***International Visits Committee***

David McFadden

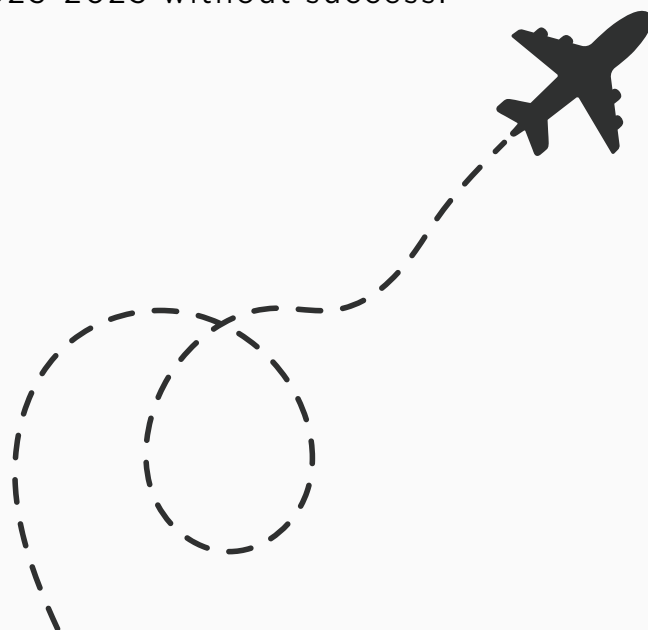
The committee wasn't very active in 2022-2023. We met to discuss plans but didn't do much else.

Over the last few years, the committee has also been extremely inactive. In the coming year, we hope to be able to change that. We will be posting announcements on various listservs, blogs, etc. to solicit those interested in hosting international law library visits. In addition, we will be updating our collection of reports on visits. Those haven't been updated recently. There have been FCIL members and others who have participated in visits recently and we would like to have their reports. With these efforts, we hope to have a higher profile in 2023-2024 than we have had in a number of years.

### ***Indigenous Peoples Law IG***

Julienne E. Grant

Last fall, the chair of the Indigenous Peoples Law Interest Group (IG) called for volunteers to work on a project collecting and analyzing indigenous land acknowledgement statements. Only one IG member volunteered. She and the chair discussed the project several times via Zoom and limited the scope to law schools with programs or courses offered on Indigenous Law. They drafted a survey, which included a statement of purpose—that is, "to gain an understanding of the prevalence of these statements, how they are being utilized in academic settings, and whether indigenous groups are involved in their drafting." The survey contained five questions. With just two people involved, the project did not advance, although the groundwork for it has been completed if the IG wishes to pursue it at another time. The chair also attempted to recruit a new chair for 2023-2025 without success.



*Continued on page 26*





## 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**

Kim Nayyer, Prince, Hachette, AI & the Changing World of Copyright Law, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 12.

Trina Morrow, Timonie Green & Kristy Chu, Passport Not Required: International Relations is not Just Between Nation States, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 16.

Loren Turner, FCIL Research Questions: From the Bend, Bar & Law Librarians, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 20.

Jennifer Dixon & Janet Kearney, FCIL Research for Beginners: Top Tips for Getting Started with Confidence, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 23.

Richard Leiter, Joseph L. Andrews Award Celebrates Achievements in Legal Literature, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 43.

Rachel Green, Caitlin Hunter, Sherry Leysen & Lynn McClelland, FCIL Tech: The Search for Case Dockets and Documents Around the World, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 48.

Trezlen Drake, Voices Across the Spectrum: Reflections on Law Librarianship, Ideas for Advancing the Profession, and Tips for a Better Work-life Balance, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 52.

Ryan Metheny, Michelle Trovillo & Scott Vanderlin, Reference Desk: Navigating the AALL Annual Meeting, 27 AALL: Spectrum, July / Aug. 2023, at 54.

Aamir Abdullah, Havilah Joy-Steinmen Bakken, Rachel Evans, Valerie Horton & Jason Tubinis, Special Guest Reference Desk: A Quick Guide to Effective Gadgets and Work-from-home Essentials to Help You Succeed in any Work Environment, 28 AALL: Spectrum, Sept. / Oct. 2023, at 40.



### **Blog Posts - IALL**

Mark Engsberg, More Than an Exciting Destination!

*Continued on page 28*



## Recent Publications

### Blog Posts -

### DipLawMatic Dialogues

Charles Bjork, [ASIL 2023 Annual Meeting Recap: Protecting Cultural Heritage in Conflict Zones: Multidisciplinary Approaches](#)

Charles Bjork, [ASIL 2023 Annual Meeting Recap: Junk in International Law: Can We Avoid the Oceans' Fate in Outer Space? \(Pt. 2 of 3\)](#)

Charles Bjork, [ASIL 2023 Annual Meeting Recap: Junk in International Law: Can We Avoid the Oceans' Fate in Outer Space? \(Pt. 3 of 3\)](#)

Meredith Capps, [AALL 2023 Recap: "Researching the Implementation of Foreign and International Law on International Indigenous Peoples"](#)

Juan-Andrés Fuentes, [Self-Executing Constitutional Provisions in Comparative Law](#)

Juan-Andrés Fuentes, [About the New Constitution of the State of the Vatican City](#)

Juan-Andrés Fuentes, [Liability Over AI Chatbots - Applying Basic Concepts of Consumer Law](#)

Caitlin Hunter, [AALL 2023 Recap: Schaffer Grant Recipient Presentation - Law Librarianship from a CARICOM Law Librarian's Perspective: Challenges, Achievements, COVID-19, and the Future](#)

Sarah Martin, [AALL 2023 Recap: "Researching South African Government and Legal Information"](#)

Lucie Olejnikova, [GlobaLex July/August 2023 Issue is Live](#)

Lucie Olejnikova, [GlobaLex May/June 2023 Issue is Live](#)

Lucie Olejnikova, [GlobaLex March/April 2023 Issue is Live](#)

Devan Orr, [Year of Professional Development: Am I a Veteran Member Now?](#)

Marcelo Rodríguez, [Through the FCIL Lens: Ecuador, Gabon, Zimbabwe, Jordan and Myanmar](#)

Marcelo Rodríguez, [Through the FCIL Lens: Brazil, Senegal, Niger, Israel and Cambodia](#)

Marcelo Rodríguez, [Through the FCIL Lens: Guatemala, Mali, Montenegro, Lebanon and Micronesia](#)

Marcelo Rodríguez, [Through the FCIL Lens: Ecuador, Rwanda/South Africa, Turkey, Pakistan and Thailand](#)

*Continued on page 29*



## Recent Publications

### Book Reviews

Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong, Book Review, 115 Law Libr. J. 322 (2023).

Staci J. Pratt, Book Review, 115 Law Libr. J. 324 (2023).

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### GlobaLex Articles

Jennifer Allison, UPDATE: Foreign Law - Subject Law Collections on the Web

Louis Myers, UPDATE: Comparative Civil Procedure: Finding Primary and Secondary Sources

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Andrew Dorchak, UPDATE: The Crisis in Darfur - Researching the Legal Issues

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Caitlin Hunter, Can Computers Find Racist Laws? Virginia's Text Mining Project to Identify Jim Crow Legislation

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#### Legal History & Rare Books

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