



FOREIGN, COMPARATIVE,  
& INTERNATIONAL LAW  
SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION



## FOREIGN, COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW (FCIL-SIS) ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

BY CAITLIN HUNTER, CHAIR  
DATE: JULY 31, 2025

### LEADERSHIP

The members of the FCIL-SIS Executive Committee for 2024-2025 were: Mike McArthur (Immediate Past Chair), Caitlin Hunter (Chair), Renu Sagreiya (Vice Chair/Chair-Elect), and Meredith Capps, (Secretary/Treasurer).

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

The FCIL-SIS membership continued to produce a variety of high-quality educational programming.

The FCIL-SIS African Law Interest Group held a virtual panel discussion titled **African Digitization Stories**, moderated by Yemisi Dina, and featuring Isaac Oloruntimilehin, Alaafiabami Oladipupo, Olubusola Afolabi, and Fu'ad Lawal. The panelists described their missions to preserve and share Nigerian history through their digitization initiatives, [Free Knowledge Africa](#) and [Archivi.ng](#).

The FCIL-SIS Continuing Education Committee organized three webinars:

- **Researching Indigenous Laws and Canadian Aboriginal Law: Context, Strategies, and Collection Development** provided an introduction to Canadian Indigenous law (law internal to Indigenous nations) and Canadian Aboriginal law (law regarding the constitutional rights of Indigenous Peoples and the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and the Crown). The webinar featured speakers Clare Asquith Finegan (Courthouse Libraries BC) and Amy Kaufman (Queen's University, Kingston). The webinar was moderated by Joan Policastri (Collection Services and Research Librarian and Assistant Teaching Professor, University of Colorado Law School). Alison Shea (Research Librarian, University of St. Thomas School of Law) proposed the webinar and assisted with planning. The webinar was coordinated by Caitlin Hunter (Reference Librarian, UCLA Law Library) and Sophia Kingsley (Research Analyst, Sidley Austin LLP).
- **Law, Not Force: Ben Ferencz's Legacy of Legal Justice for Human Rights Victims** honored Ben Ferencz, a Nuremberg trial prosecutor who played a crucial role in the establishment of a permanent International Criminal Court. The webinar featured speakers John M. Geiringer (Partner and Regulatory Section Leader, BFKN law firm) and Adam Weber (Associate Dean of International Programs, Associate Teaching Professor, Chicago-Kent College of Law). The webinar was

developed by Caitlin Hunter and Eugene M. Giudice (Senior Research Services Training Specialist, Dentons).

- **Volunteer with FCIL-SIS!** described opportunities to volunteer with FCIL-SIS and featured speakers Yemisi Dina (Chair, FCIL-SIS African Law Interest Group; Chief Law Librarian, Osgood Hall Law School, York University); Janet Kearney (Chair, FCIL-SIS Newsletter Committee; Reference/Foreign, Comparative & International Law Librarian, NYU Law); and Alison Shea (A past Chair of FCIL-SIS; Co-Chair, Nominating Committee; Co-Chair, Foreign Law Selectors Interest Group). The moderator was Louis Myers (Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Librarian, Law Library of Congress). The webinar was coordinated by Caitlin Hunter and Sophia Kingsley.

Unfortunately, this year's Schaffer Grant recipient, Judy Wairimu Ng'ang'a (Senior Library Assistant – Systems, Kenya School of Law), was unable to obtain a visa to present in person at the AALL Annual Meeting. However, FCIL-SIS is grateful that she agreed to give her presentation as a webinar instead. Her presentation on **Effective Strategies for E-Resource Management in Academic Law Libraries: A Kenyan Perspective** was enthusiastically received and reached 68 registrants, well above the usual attendance of about 20 or so attendees in person. Going forward, FCIL-SIS hopes that Schaffer Grant recipients will be able to give their presentations both in person and virtually.

## ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAMS

FCIL-SIS sponsored two programs at the AALL Annual Meeting.

Past FCIL-SIS Chair and current Black Law Librarians SIS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Dean Deane (Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian, UC Law SF) organized the program **Thriving Wages and Anti-Oppressive Compensation: Bold Ideas or Ethical Obligations for an Inclusive Profession?**, featuring speakers Kate Dixon (Dixon Consulting and Raka Rising) and Olivia Smith Schlinck (Head of Research Instruction & Lecturer in Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law). FCIL-SIS co-sponsored the program with BLL-SIS and Social Responsibilities SIS.

Past FCIL-SIS Chair Alex Zhang (Research Professor of Law & Associate Dean, Duke University Law School) organized the program **From Idea to Publication and Beyond: Navigating Legal Research Textbook Creation and Leveraging Emerging Technologies**. Speaker and past FCIL-SIS Chair Heidi Frostestad (Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Information Services & Associate Professor of Law, Northern Illinois University College of Law) discussed her book *International Legal Research in a Global Community*. The program also featured speakers Aaron S. Kirschenfeld (Clinical Associate Professor of



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Law and Digital Initiatives Law Librarian, UNC Law School) and Amy Taylor (Clinical Services and Research Librarian, University of Georgia School of Law), as well as moderator Brittany Menton (Research and Knowledge Services Manager, Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP). FCIL-SIS sponsored the program.

### HONORING OUR MEMBERS

FCIL-SIS presented the following awards to its members:

- The **Daniel L. Wade FCIL-SIS Outstanding Service Award** was presented to two FCIL-SIS members:
  - Anne Burnett, Foreign and International Law Librarian, University of Georgia School of Law Library. The librarian who nominated Anne praised Anne's years of volunteering for FCIL-SIS Committees and wrote that "without dedicated volunteers like Anne who will continue to serve where asked throughout their career, we would not be able to keep our small but mighty SIS moving forward."
  - Laura A. Cadra, Head of Reference Services/Foreign & International Law Librarian, LMU Loyola Law School (Retired). The librarians who nominated Laura praised her many years of mentoring new FCIL law librarians and encouraging new FCIL librarians to become active in FCIL-SIS.
- The **Thomas H. Reynolds and Arturo A. Flores FCIL-SIS Publications Award** was presented to two publications:
  - YEMISI DINA & YASMIN MORAIS, [LEGAL RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN](#) (2024). One of the three librarians who nominated this publication predicted that the book would become "the go-to publication for teaching foreign and international law research in the Caribbean" and described it as "a must-have addition to any law library collection."
  - Alison Shea & Jennifer Alison, [European Legal Research](#), in *HANDBOOK FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES LIBRARIANS* (Brian Vetruba & Heidi Madden eds. 2024). The librarian who nominated this publication described it as "an example of excellent scholarship that bridges the information gap and ensures access for all."
- The **Spirit of the FCIL-SIS Award** was presented to three members:
  - Charlotte Daugherty, Foreign & Comparative Legal Research Librarian, University of California, Berkeley Law Library. The librarian who nominated Charlotte praised her "contributions and commitment to FCIL."

- Sarah E. M. Martin, Librarian, Global Law & Language Access, Los Angeles County Law Library. The librarian who nominated Sarah praised “her willingness to jump in and get involved in all things related to law librarianship.”
- Paul Moorman, Senior Law Librarian - Research Services/Foreign & International Law, USC Gould School of Law. The librarian who nominated Paul praised him for “quietly and steadily contributing to the success of the FCIL-SIS for more than a decade” and being “a great team player who is always ready to volunteer and represent FCIL.”
- The **Blog Post of the Year Award** was presented to Sarah E. M. Martin for her post “[Hidden Gems of the LA Law Library: Treasure Hunting in the Stacks.](#)”
- The **IG/Committee Project of the Year Award** was presented to the FCIL-SIS Newsletter Committee for their [February 2025 Mardi Gras themed issue](#). Thank you to Newsletter Committee chair Janet Kearney and members Ana Delgado Valentín, Carmen Valero, Jingwei Zhang, and Kristen Clarke Kellems.
- The **Newsletter Article of the Year Award** was presented to Janet Kearney, for her article “Janet’s Good but Not Well Organized or Methodical Bibliography” and for her work coordinating the Mardi Gras themed issue more broadly.