LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Every academic law librarian knows a new year has begun when the reference desk is surrounded by anxious, unfamiliar and lost faces. Questions such as, how do I find this case?, what is the Federal Register and how do I use it? become part of the familiar background noise. One is reminded that the AALL annual meeting is now a pleasant memory to be stored along with memories of previous annual meetings. I realize, though, that I have not placed all of my memories in storage, some even haunt me daily. I wonder as I provide information to a patron on U.S. foreign policy, or try to locate an agency regulation or decision, if I'm going to find the information requested. Is that critical foreign policy document going to be missing from our old, once felt, reliable foreign policy series? Remember our excellent convention program on classified documents, what an eye-opener! I'm frustrated when I have to tell a very concerned patron that the agency decision she wants is available if she wants to pay for it.

However, I am also reminded daily of how appreciative our users are, and it reaffirms my desire to try to make it better. One of the ways to make it better is to network with librarians who share similar concerns. That's where this SIS can help; there is strength in numbers.

SIS activities have been ongoing since New Orleans. Several members of the SIS have volunteered to serve on committees. The Program Committee, comprised of Marsha Baum, Vice/Chair-Chair Elect, William Walker, Sharon Blackburn, and Judy Stinson, along with input from many SIS members, submitted 10 program proposals and one workshop proposal to the AALL Education Committee for the 1992 annual meeting. I am delighted to report that five programs were accepted. More information about these programs will be given in later issues of JURISDOCS.

Several members have volunteered to serve on the Government Relations Committee. I have not formally appointed anyone to this Committee, pending discussions with the AALL Government Relations Committee, on how the SIS can be the most effective, working together with the AALL Government Relations Committee, in affecting governmental policy.

David Batista, JURISDOCS editor, is working with Madeleine Wright on producing JURISDOCS. As every newsletter editor understands, the more submission of materials the better the newsletter.

Included in this issue of JURISDOCS, is the "proposed travel grant proposal". I have incorporated changes and suggestions that I received on this proposal. Please take the time to read this proposal and to vote. I would like to begin implementing this proposal, if there is majority agreement.

I extend my congratulations to Kay Schleuter, Director of the Texas State Law Library, on her appointment to the Depository Library Council. Kay was recommended by AALL to serve on the Council.

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Lastly, please consider volunteering to compile a state bibliography. Each year, the SIS has been fortunate to add to the State Document Bibliography series. If you do not wish to start from scratch, perhaps you would be willing to update one of the older bibliographies. According to my records, the following states are not represented in the series: Alabama, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and South Carolina. If you are interested, please let me know.

FROM THE EDITOR

THIS ISSUE
This is a smaller than usual issue, but the JURISDOCS Index is included as part of this mailing to all GDSIS members. In this issue is the GDSIS travel grant proposal and the official ballot. Please take the time to vote on this use of our SIS money. Debating is a letters to the editor column containing two news-worthy items. Keep those cards and letters coming!

SUBMISSIONS FORMAT
As I have mentioned before, I would like to receive your writings on a disk, if possible (this saves me a great deal of time). I can now process 5 1/4 and 3 1/2 inch disks, in either Macintosh or DOS format, and in any density. If you send a DOS disk please save your file(s) in either Word Perfect (my 1st choice) or generic ASCII (the form of last resort). If you send a Macintosh disk please save your file(s) in McWrite, McWrite II, Word or text.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

July 30, 1991
I am the NTIS liason for Mid-America Association of Law Libraries. A recent liason news item caught my eye, as it described a potential product from the Social Security Administration’s Office of Hearings and Appeals. I called the NTIS contact person, who said the Office had been drawing back from its commitment and he was frustrated by this. I offered to mention the product at the AALL meeting at the MAALL luncheon and the GD/SIS meeting, so he sent me an information sheet. I collected cards and names from about 20 people, which I have sent on to NTIS. Cheryl Nyberg suggested I send the information to you for possible inclusion in JURISDOCS, so that more people might respond and show SSA there is interest in the product.

There is, of course, the whole issue of whether or not this is properly a depository title. I have provided this information to Bonnie Trivizas, who was at the SIS meeting.

NTIS INFORMATION SHEET:
Tom Bold, Director, Office of Program Management and Acquisition
National Technical Information Service
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22181
(703) 487-4785

Currently, we are in discussions with SSA’s Office of Hearings and Appeals to begin dissemination of HALLEX soon. The file must currently be requested under FOIA. Please examine the description of HALLEX and call or send me a note if you would like me to provide you greater detail, including pricing and delivery options. Should you wish to suggest other federal information products you would like NTIS to make available, please send those along.

OFFICE OF HEARINGS APPEALS (OHA)
Hearings, Appeals and Litigation Law (HALLEX)
When a claimant disagrees with an SSA decision, he or she may appeal the case. After reconsideration, further appeals are referred to OHA. OHA is currently incorporating the Hearings and Appeals Handbook into HALLEX. HALLEX is published under the authority of the Associate Commissioner of Hearings and Appeals and conveys statements of guiding principles, procedural guidelines, and information to the OHA program staff.

HALLEX has 2 volumes. Volume 1

This description is p. 4 of SSA's Index of Administrative Staff Manuals and Instructions (IASMI).

Sincerely,
Carol L. Moody
St. Louis University Law Library

August 22, 1991

The AALL Government Relations Committee is trying to advertise our telephone message service Gov-Line. Notices have been printed in the AALL Newsletter and in several chapter newsletters.

AALL Gov-Line, (312) 939-7774, is a recorded telephone message reporting on the current status of major governmental issues and events affecting libraries and librarians. Anyone may call the AALL Gov-Line to receive the latest news from Washington D.C. about legislation, regulations, and behind-the-scenes activities of interest to librarians. Significant state and local governmental issues are also reported.

The recorded message, approximately five minutes long, is updated regularly, as events dictate. The recording begins with the date, so callers may hang up if the message is one they have heard already. Each message ends with the name and telephone number of a contact person who can provide further information on the topics covered. Listeners may tape the recorded messages; transcripts are also available.

AALL Gov-Line updates are coordinated by Susan Lewis-Somers of the Government Relations Committee, based on information from the AALL Washington Representatives and GRC members. Comments on the service should be addressed to Susan Lewis-Somers, Box 401A Yale Station, Yale Law School Library, New Haven, CT 06520. Her telephone number is (203) 432-1606 and fax number is (203) 432-9692.

The GRC is excited about this new channel of communication for librarians interested in government information.

Sincerely,
Peggy Roebuck Jarrett
University of Washington
Gallagher Law Library

MINUTES OF THE GD/SIS BUSINESS MEETING

July 23, 1991
Mary Ann Nelson, GD/SIS Chairperson, presiding.

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the 1990 Business Meeting as printed in JURISDOCS, Fall 1990, at 3-5, was moved, seconded and carried.

TREASURERS' REPORT

David McFadden, Secretary/Treasurer, reported that the SIS's balance as of May 1991 was $7946.78. This figure does not include any expenses since the end of May including the business meeting dinner expenses. The income from the sale of the state bibliographies will not be credited to the SIS account until October.

JURISDOCS REPORT

Cheryl Nyberg, JURISDOCS Co-Editor, reported that each issue of JURISDOCS was costing about $700 for printing and mailing. There were three issues produced in 1990-91.

There was a general discussion of including advertising in the newsletter. The consensus of the membership was to maintain the status quo and not allow advertising. The issue of whether the GD/SIS or AALL headquarters should print and mail the newsletter was discussed. It would cost $425 per issue for headquarters to print it. This is slightly less than our expenses. After further discussion it was moved, seconded and carried that the GD/SIS continue producing the newsletter for the time being.

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It was moved, seconded and carried that the newsletter editor has the right to refuse to print material submitted to JURISDOCS.

Faye Couture and Mary Shearer compiled an index of the 1978 through 1990 issues of JURISDOCS. It was distributed at the business meeting and will be sent to other SIS members and subscribers.

STATE BIBLIOGRAPHY SERIES

The following new or revised bibliographies were distributed at the meeting: California, Georgia, New Mexico, Vermont and Missouri. The following state/provincial bibliographies are not yet released: Utah, Florida and Ontario.

There was expressed the need for an order form for the bibliography series. This will be done.

REPORT ON THE SIS PROGRAM

Christine Corcos, Coordinator and Moderator of the SIS sponsored program "Documents in Debate: The Foreign Relations of the United States Series Under Fire" gave a report on the program.

NEW BUSINESS:

ELECTION RESULTS

CHAIRPERSON: Susan Dow (elected in 1990);

VICECHAIR/CHAIR-ELECT: Marsha Baum;
SECRETARY/TREASURER: Carol Moody.

All candidates including Virginia Wise and William Walker were thanked for their willingness to run for office.

TRAVEL GRANT COMMITTEE REPORT

There was a discussion of a proposed SIS travel grants program (see Travel Grants, this issue, Ed.). The committee, consisting of Dorie Betram and Carol Moody, was thanked for its work and some suggested changes were made including: clarifying language so that in order to be eligible "non-member documents support staff" would need to be employed by a law library; requiring reports from the recipients of the grants and changing the amount available from $3000 to $1000 and reducing the possible number of grants. The new officers will work out the specific language incorporating the suggestions and this will be included in an upcoming JURISDOCS along with a mail-in ballot.

DEPOSATORY COUNCIL REPORT

Susan Tullis reported on the Depository Council meeting held in April in Boston. Robert Houk, Public Printer, has changed the nature of the council to make it a policy-making body which will work on position papers and go to Washington to advise the Public Printer. Although observers will be welcome at Council meetings, there will be an annual Federal Depository Conference in Washington, D.C. to bring together all depository librarians. The first conference is scheduled for April 6-10, 1992.

ALA/GODORT is in the process of sending a letter with its concerns over the changes. Susan Tullis expressed concerns including the lack of formal participation by Council members in the conference, the shift away from operational to policy concerns only for the Council and the lack of a rotating location for the conference. It is currently planned to have all of the conferences in Washington, D.C. and not around the country as with the former Depository Library Council meetings.

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD FOR GPO REPRESENTATIVES

Wayne Kelley, new Superintendent of Documents and Bonnie Trivizas, Director, GPO Library Programs Services were present as special guests.

Questions included the following areas: GPO's role in increasing the awareness of depositories; access problems for law school depositories; the inclusion of electronic citation rules in the GPO Style Manual; the scheduling of inspections during AALL meeting times; access to the EPA Online Public Access Catalog by depositories and avoiding the NTIS hourly fees; sending letters to directors of libraries encouraging depository librarian participation in the new annual depository conferences; randomness of shipping lists; problems of lack of SuDocs on certain microfiche; ways of reducing the perceived tension and hostility towards law library depositories; a proposed bill dealing with using the GPO as a gateway for electronic distribution.

BYLAW REVISION

It was moved, seconded and carried that the SIS Bylaws be amended to allow for earlier nominations and elections in conformity with an AALL request (see Bylaws, this issue, Ed.).
NTIS LIAISON REPORT

Carol Moody requested expressions of interest for the distribution of Social Security Administration Office of Hearings and Appeals guidelines by NTIS (see Letters to the Editor, this issue, Ed.). In the past these have only been available through Freedom of Information Act requests. There was also discussion of guidelines availability through the depository program and the possibility of the SSA’s Program Operations Manual System (POMS) being available on CD-ROM.

PROGRAM PROPOSALS

Susan Dow, incoming Chair, solicited program proposals which need to be submitted by August 10. Ideas included: a possible patents and trademarks workshop; valuation of depository collections; electronic bulletin boards. There was also a suggestion that an annual GPO update be included at the annual meeting.

GAO MICROFICHE SET

The problems of this set being produced by a commercial publisher was discussed.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Sally Holterhoff discussed the GRC resolution which had been approved by the AALL Executive Board expressing AALL’s concerns about H.R. 534 which would allow the Federal Maritime Commission to impose fees on the electronic redistribution of the Automated Tariff Filing and Information Database.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TIPS, ETC.

Sally Holterhoff encouraged using the AALL Gov-Line [312/939-7774] which gives recorded telephone information about the current status of major governmental issues and events affecting law librarians. She asked for contributions, including news items about state government issues.

Susan Dow suggested that depository librarians should maintain a database of legislators addresses for quick letters when issues come up.

Incoming Chair Susan Dow solicited SIS committee volunteers.

Bonnie Trivizas mentioned the new LPS bulletin board was up and running as of June.

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,
David McFadden, Secretary/Treasurer

CONVENTION PROGRAM REVIEW

DOCUMENTS IN DEBATE:
FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SERIES UNDER FIRE

by Susan Dow, SUNY at Buffalo, Charles B. Sears Law Library

AALL members were treated to a thought provoking and interesting program, sponsored by the Documents SIS, at this year’s annual meeting in New Orleans. A panel, consisting of Dr. William C. Slaney, Historian at the United States Department of State; Dr. Page Putnam Miller, of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History and Dr. Anna Miller, Professor of History at American University provided information on the development and history of the well known series: Foreign Relations of the United States. Recent efforts to improve the compilation, timeliness and accuracy of this series were also discussed.

Dr. Slaney began his presentation by remarking that there has always been a conflict between the public’s need for information in order to maintain a well functioning democracy, and the government’s wish to control and limit the disclosure of certain types of information for national security reasons.

Dr. Slaney discussed the development of the Foreign Relations series, by dividing its 130 years of existence into three main phases. During the 19th century, documents were published in the series about a year after the events occurred. Very few documents were withheld from publication and about 75 volumes were issued. At the beginning of the 20th century until the end of World War II, 75 volumes were also issued, how-
ever, the withholding of documents from publication became more pronounced after the Spanish-American War.

The series underwent a major change at the end of World War II. After 1945, foreign policy development became the responsibility of many Federal agencies, not only the State Department. A major contributor to the Foreign Relations series became the White House and the President. Dr. Slaney mentioned that in the last ten to fifteen years, the most important foreign policy documents have been issued by the White House. The security of information and the need to protect national security is a concern of most of the agencies involved in foreign policy. Security regulations governing the transportation, access, discussion of classified materials and the procedures for the declassification of documents lead to more and more documents being withheld from publication. Historians have begun to question how accurate the volumes in the Foreign Relations series may be if more and more documents involving the foreign policy of the United States are not declassified and therefore not included in the published volumes.

Compilation of volumes in the series is also more difficult since State Department historians have to gain access to records of different Federal agencies, each with its own set of regulations. Because of the nature of security regulations, discussions between historians on the value of certain records in determining American foreign policy cannot occur. Of course, the documents obtained for the series have to be declassified before they can be included in the series.

In an effort to improve the quality and accuracy of volumes in the Foreign Relations series, the State Department is working in the following areas: improving relations with other Federal agencies so that State Department historians can more easily gain access to foreign policy records located in Federal agency archives; improving internal declassification procedures within the State Department and allowing the Advisory Committee on the Foreign Relations series a greater role in advising the Secretary of State so that a more accurate representation of U.S. foreign policy can be located in the series volumes. The State Department is also exploring the idea of more accurately reflecting the amount and nature of materials deleted within the text of a published document.

Dr. Miller remarked that historians make three assumptions. Historians feel that access to primary sources is essential for the accurate writing of history. They believe that some records, although very few records, need to remain classified. It is the burden of the Federal agency to determine why something should remain classified. Historians also make the assumption that democratic government relies on access to information. Not only does the public deserve an open, accountable government, but the policymakers also need to know the historical record in order to determine future governmental policy.

The Advisory Committee on the Foreign Relations series in its 1980 annual report to the Secretary of State, expressed its dismay over the delay in the publishing of volumes of the series. They felt that some of the delay in publishing occurred because of the review process used in the State Department. After the State Department historians, who have security clearance, reviewed materials for inclusion in the volumes, a draft manuscript was written and then reviewed by the Classification/Declassification Center (CDC) of the Department. This process can result in the deletion of materials. In the 1951 volume on China and Korea, 10% of the materials included in the draft manuscript were deleted by the CDC. Because the historians cannot review the deleted materials, they have no ability to determine if the manuscript is an accurate picture of American foreign policy.

The major U.S. historical societies have been aware of the problems in the compilation and accuracy of the Foreign Relations series. In 1988, several historical societies passed resolutions at their annual meetings, expressing concern over the process of declassification of documents. Copies of these resolutions were sent to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the U.S. Senate. The Senate responded by contacting the Secretary of State. The outcome of this action was the reorganization of the Advisory Committee in an attempt to quiet the voices of concerned historians.
The greatest catalyst for change occurred with the 1989 release of the early 1950's volume on Iran. No mention was made in the volume of the role that the CIA had played in the coup that restored the Shah to power, even though a personal memoir of the event had been cleared by the CIA for publication. This event led to the much publicized resignation of the Chair of the Advisory Committee. The Organization of American Historians passed another resolution which it sent to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Senator Pell introduced legislation aimed at solving some of the problems with the accuracy of the Foreign Relations series during the latter months of 101st Congress.

The stand alone bill had the following provisions: volumes in the series would be issued no later than 30 years after the events occurred; the membership of the Advisory Committee for the series would be statutorily defined, thereby eliminating the possibility for the Secretary of State to alter its basic composition; the Advisory Committee would have the ability to review materials deleted from draft manuscripts in an effort to determine if the resulting manuscript accurately portrayed American foreign policy; and most State Department records would be declassified after thirty years and sent to the National Archives for public review. The legislation was not enacted during the 101st Congress.

Legislation has been introduced in the House (H.R. 1415) during 102nd Congress as part of the State Department authorization bill. The Senate version of the bill (S. 1433) is similar to the legislation introduced during the 101st Congress. The White House feels that the bills are unconstitutional because of the separation of powers, and because of Executive Order 12356, a 1982 order dealing with the declassification of government records. There are differences between H.R. 1415 and S. 1433. It is expected that the bills will go to a conference committee for resolution. [Note: As of this writing, H.R. 1415 was passed in lieu of S. 1433 and on October 21st, 1991, H.R. 1415 was sent to the President for signature].

Dr. Anna Nelson, was the final panelist. She mentioned that Herbert Feist had written in an 1967 article that it took a sweep of the wrist to mark a document classified although it takes great efforts to erase the mark.

She agreed with Dr. Miller that accurate historical accounts could not be written without access to primary documentation. The question of who writes history and from what sources is a concern. Most of current history is written from personal memoirs and investigative reporters. These accounts enter the nation's mind as history. It takes twenty to thirty years to verify that these accounts are accurate when materials become declassified.

The Foreign Relations series is important to historians and the public because of its ease of use and because it is available in libraries. It provides access to government information without needing to go to the originating agency.

It has been estimated that State Department records for 1954-1956, located at the National Archives, are comprised of 6 million pages. It is important that qualified historians sift through the materials and bring to the public's attention those records reflecting American foreign policy. It has been determined that 98% of the materials located in the National Archives that are thirty or more years ago, are generally declassified after review.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION
BYLAWS

Article I: NAME

The name of this special interest section of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) shall be the Government Documents Special Interest Section (GD/SIS).
Article II: OBJECT

The object of the Government Documents Special Interest Section shall be to disseminate information on government documents to the AALL membership; to further continuing education of law librarians in the area of government documents; to coordinate the activities of law librarians in representing their interests to public and private groups with regard to the publication, dissemination, citation, and use of government documents; and to work in cooperation with documents groups in other associations and organizations.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP

Any active individual member or a designated institutional member of the AALL, as defined by its Bylaws, may affiliate with GD/SIS upon payment to the AALL of a annual fee for this SIS. All members of the GD/SIS shall have full voting rights.

Article IV: MEETINGS

Section 1. An annual meeting of the GD/SIS shall be held in connection with or during the annual meeting of AALL.

Section 2. Meetings shall be open to all members of the AALL but no person may vote in the SIS meeting who is not a GD/SIS member in good standing.

Section 3. A quorum for a business meeting of the GD/SIS shall consist of 15 of the GD/SIS members.

Section 4. Notice of the meeting shall be made in conjunction with the notice for the AALL annual meeting.

Section 5. Robert's Rules of Order in the latest edition, shall govern all deliberations of the GD/SIS when not in conflict with the bylaws of the GD/SIS.

Article V: OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. Officers.
The Officers shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect, and a Secretary/Treasurer. The Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect shall be elected annually by the GD/SIS. The Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect shall automatically become Chairperson after one year and shall so serve during the second year following his or her election.

Section 2. Duties of Officers.
The Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect, and a Secretary/Treasurer shall perform the duties usually pertaining to their respective offices and such other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Executive Committee.
There shall be an Executive Committee of four, consisting of the officers name in Article V, Section 1 and the immediate past Chairperson. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be those usually assigned to such committees in similar associations.

Section 4. Committees.
There shall be such standing or special committees as the Executive Committee shall create or shall be created by a majority vote of those present and voting at the annual meeting of the GD/SIS.

Section 5. Appointments.
The Chairperson shall appoint all members of committees unless the GD/SIS shall direct otherwise.

Section 6. Terms of Office.
All offices and members of committees shall serve until their successors are elected or appointed and qualified.

Section 7. Early Vacancy.
a. In the case of the death or resignation of the Chairperson of the GD/SIS, the Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect shall become Chairperson and shall serve until the end of his or her own elected term.
b. If the Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect cannot assume the duties of Chairperson, the GD/SIS will elect a Chairperson, as specified in Article VI, Section 1 b) and Section 2.
c. Should the office of Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson elect become open for any reason, such as the death, resignation, or promotion of the Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect, the office shall remain vacant until filled by the next regular election.
Article VI: NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations.

a. There shall be a Nominating Committee appointed by the Executive Committee, to consist of three members, no one of whom shall be a member of the Executive Committee, and no one of whom shall be a candidate for office at the succeeding election. The Chairperson of the committee shall be designated by the Executive Committee. Two candidates for each office to be elected shall be presented.

b. In the event that the Vice-Chairperson/Chairperson-elect cannot assume the duties of the Chairperson and such fact is known prior to March 1, the committee shall nominate a candidate for the office of Chairperson for the term of one year.

c. Names of the candidates, together with their written acceptances, shall be presented by the Nominating Committee to the Chairperson in sufficient time to enable the Chairperson to inform the members of the GD/SIS of the nominations prior to [MARCH 1] (April 1,) either by publication in AALL Newsletter or Jurisdocs, or by mail. All candidates must be members of the GD/SIS.

d. Further nominations, except for the office of Chairperson, may be made upon written petition of ten members in good standing of the GD/SIS. Such petitions, accompanied by written acceptance of the nominees, must be filed with the Chairperson of the GD/SIS, not later than [April 1] (May 1).

e. The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall prepare an official ballot, including nominations by petition. The professional position of each nominee shall appear on the ballot. The ballot may include some biographical information about each nominee furnished by the nominee.

Section 2. Elections.

a. The Nominating Committee shall have charge of the conduct of the annual election and the counting and tabulation of all votes cast.

b. Prior to [April 15th] (May 15th), the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall mail a copy of the official ballot to each member in good standing of the GD/SIS. Ballots shall be marked, sealed in plain envelopes marked "BALLOT", and returned to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee before [May 15th] (June 10).

c. The candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected and shall be so reported by the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee at the annual business meeting of the GD/SIS. All candidates shall be notified of the results of the election by the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee at the earliest possible time.

d. In case of a tie vote, a run-off election shall be held at the business meeting of the GD/SIS at the AALL annual meeting. Run-off elections shall be by secret ballot of the members of the GD/SIS attending the meeting. The ballots shall be counted immediately and the candidate with the largest number of votes declared elected.

e. The ballots shall be destroyed by the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee after the annual business meeting of the GD/SIS.

Article VII: AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1.

Bylaws of the Section may be adopted, amended, or suspended at the annual meeting of the Section by a majority vote of those present and voting. Or, bylaws may be adopted, amended, or suspended through a mail ballot. Whenever the bylaws are to be changed by mail vote, the Secretary shall mail ballots to every member in good standing of the GD/SIS. Such ballots shall state the text of the proposed change, the purpose of the change, and the date by which ballots must be returned to the Secretary. Proposed changes in the bylaws by mail must receive a majority vote of the ballots returned to the Secretary in order to pass. Tie votes shall be
considered failure to pass.

Section 2. Any amendment shall take effect after it has been submitted to the AALL Committee on Constitution and Bylaws for review, and thereafter approved by the AALL Executive Board.

Text to be added is enclosed within brackets, text to be deleted is enclosed within parenthesis.

THESE BYLAWS WILL BE IN EFFECT, PENDING APPROVAL BY THE AALL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE.

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ANNUAL STATE DOCUMENTS
BIBLIOGRAPHY SERIES

New Additions
The following titles were added to the State Document Bibliography Series this past year:

- Georgia Legal Documents, an Annotated Bibliography, compiled by Rebecca Simmons Stillwagon. 1991. 45 p.

If you would like a copy of these, or other publications in the series, please remit $10.00 per publication, to AALL Headquarters, Dept. 77-6021, Chicago, Illinois 60678-6021.

A listing of state document bibliographies (minus the newly revised Vermont bibliography) is included in the September 1991 issue of AALL Newsletter on pages 489-90

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AALL GD/SIS TRAVEL GRANTS PROPOSAL

The AALL GD/SIS would like to establish travel grants to support attendance at documents related meetings, conferences and continuing education programs.

PROPOSAL:

1. All GD/SIS members, and non-member documents support staff at the recommendation of an GD/SIS member, are eligible to apply for a travel grant. A person may receive a travel grant only once.

2. The GD/SIS will set aside a portion of its treasury each year to fund travel grants. The total amount of funding each year will be dependent upon the balance in the GD/SIS's account. The Executive Committee will determine the amount of money to be used for this purpose and a vote of the membership will be conducted during the annual business meeting of the GD/SIS to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation. The total maximum award per recipient will not exceed $500.00.

3. The funds awarded are to be spent on travel, lodging, and registration fees only. Submission of receipts will be required. Unexpended funds must be returned to the GD/SIS.

4. Travel grants can be used for any document related meeting, conference, or continuing education program offered either nationally or regionally, with the exception of the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting. Some examples of events to be funded include: interchanged depository seminars, GODORT ALA preconferences and the annual depository library meeting to be held in the Spring.

5. Notifications of the availability of grants and an application form will be published in the Fall issue of JURISDOCS.

6. An Awards Committee, selected by the Chair of the GD/SIS, will be formed to review the applications and select the grant recipients.

7. Preference will be given to those individuals who will not receive any support from their institutions and/or those individuals who have never before attended the meeting for which they are requesting support.

8. Award recipients will be required to summarize the meeting attended in JURISDOCS.

COMMENT:

by Susan Dow, GD/SIS Chairperson

Under the direction of Mary Ann Nelson, a committee was established to investigate the possibility of using a portion of the GD/SIS treasury to fund travel grants. The Committee submitted its recommendations at the annual meeting of the GD/SIS held in New Orleans during July 1991. Based on comments received during that meeting, several revisions have been made to the original recommendations.

The Travel Grant Committee suggested that the treasury set aside $2,000 to $3,000 per year for the funding of grants. The amount of money to allocate for this

CUT ON DOTTED LINE, VOTE, AND MAIL IN.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
(on the other side)
purpose generated some comment. I am suggesting that rather than designate a set amount of money, that the Executive Committee, review the state of the GD/SIS treasury before the SIS annual meeting each year. The Executive Committee can then suggest an amount, based on the balance in the GD/SIS treasury, and the membership of the GD/SIS can approve or disapprove that amount at the annual business meeting.

There are several unknowns at this time that may have a great affect on the balance of our treasury. Once AALL headquarters begins selling separate subscriptions to the SIS newsletters we may see a big drop in section membership since many of our members only join the GD/SIS to receive JURISDOCS. Even though we voted at the annual meeting to continue distributing JURISDOCS ourselves, we will still have to provide AALL Headquarters with a camera ready copy so that those individuals selecting the “newsletter package plan” can receive their copy. However, the increase in section dues to $12.00 may alleviate some of this problem.

While we generally do not incur large expenses during the year, the only major expense being costs associated with producing JURISDOCS, we do incur large expenses at the time of the annual meeting. AALL does provide support for non-AALL members participating in educational programs; however, if a Special Interest Section wants to invite individuals to address a business meeting or host a reception, or provide coffee, that cost must be borne by that Special Interest Section directly.

Our treasury has been strengthen by the sale of the state bibliographies. Hopefully, volunteers will continue to create state bibliographies and/or revise older bibliographies. This source of revenue needs to continue.

The Executive Committee, composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and the past Chair, can project a realistic budget for travel each year. The GD/SIS membership can then review the Committee’s decision knowing the fiscal situation of the GD/SIS at the annual meeting.

It was also suggested at the annual meeting that grant recipients provide a summary of the meeting attended for publication in JURISDOCS. Since the editor of JURISDOCS is always looking for submissions, and since the GD/SIS felt that the meeting was important enough to fund, I think this is a wonderful idea.

It was decided at the GD/SIS annual business meeting in July that a mail ballot would be taken on whether or not to institute this proposal. Please use the OFFICIAL BALLOT below and vote on whether or not to accept this proposal as presented. If this proposal is accepted, and in order to expedite the awarding of travel funds for this year, the Executive Committee will review the budget, determine an amount of money to allocate for this year, and select a Travel Grants Committee in December. A separate mailing including an application form will be sent to GD/SIS members in January.

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OFFICIAL BALLOT

Please vote on the travel grant proposal as presented above.

_______YES

_______NO

Please return by December 30th to:
Susan Dow
Charles B. Sears Law Library
State University of New York at Buffalo
O’Brien Hall - North Campus
Buffalo, New York 14260

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