Letter from the Chair
by Peggeen G. Bassett
Northwestern University School of Law
Pritzker Legal Research Center

Dear Fellow GOVDOC SIS Members,

It’s hard to believe that I started writing the spring letter in January when the temperature here in Chicago registered - 10 degrees in wind chill! It has been a very busy 6 months for me. I had an opportunity to attend the SIS Leadership Meeting at the MacDonald’s Headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois on October 15th and October 16th. During the session we looked at the role of the SIS’s and how Special Interest Sections can be strengthened to maximize the SIS contributions to its members. A facilitator, Grace McGartland, led us through a session where we learned about leadership styles. The December 1999 issue of Spectrum in the “Members’ Briefing” section has an excellent summary of the meeting for those of you interested in the topic. On October 17th I left for the Depository Library Council Meeting in Kansas City. I have written an article which follows, covering some of the major points that I thought would be of interest.

It is now less than 6 months to the annual meeting in Philadelphia (hard to believe) and the Government Documents SIS is sponsoring 5 programs this year. Thanks to Greta Boeringer, the Vice-Chair and Programs Chair, for enthusiastic work as program chair. The programs in Philadelphia will cover a wide range of issues and I hope that many of you will have an opportunity to attend many of them. I have included our preliminary program in the issue and if you have any questions you can check our GDSIS Website (http://www.aallnet.org/sis/gds/) for the finalized information. Our programs this year include 1) Presidential Libraries, 2) the annual GPO Depository Update with Francis Buckley, 3) Federal and State Administrative Decisions, 4) Reconsidering Depository Status and 5) Skills for Documents Librarians in the New Millennium. Thanks to David Gay, Paul Arrigo, Hays Butler, and Virginia Thomas for their willingness to coordinate these programs and also to the speakers who have agreed to participate in the programs. There is a phenomenal amount of work that goes on behind the scenes in putting these programs together so it is with a great deal of appreciation that I thank these members for their willingness to put in the added effort. I would also like to encourage as many of you as possible to attend the GDSIS Business Meeting on Tuesday, July 18th, from 7:30 A.M. to 8:30 A.M. (Coffee will definitely be provided!) It is an excellent forum for us to get input from many of you on issues that you want to see addressed. Also the GDSIS will be holding a free

(continuation on p. 2)
“Welcome to the Government Documents SIS Breakfast” on Monday, July 17th. I hope many of you can attend and if you know a new librarian who is interested in documents or works with government documents, extend an invitation to them. This social event is a great opportunity to not only find out information about the SIS and its activities, but also to get to know other members in an informal setting. (The Congressional Information Service is co-sponsoring the breakfast with us).

Peggy Jarrett, GDSIS Grants Chair, is now soliciting applications for grants from library school students (enrolled in an ALA accredited program) interested in attending the AALL Convention in Philadelphia. The application form has been posted on the GDSIS WebPage. If you know a library school student who is interested in attending, please encourage them to apply. We are particularly targeting students who are interested in a career in government information in law libraries. The grant will be $400 this year and the deadline for applying will be April 15, 2000. Peggy and other Grant Committee members Rob Richards and Kathleen Casey will review the grant applications.

Currently, Charlene Cain, the Chair of the Nominations Committee, is working with Sally Holterhoff, Paul Arrigo, and Sharon Blackburn on recruiting candidates for GDSIS offices. Eric will be posting the names and biographies of the candidates on the GDSIS website.

Thanks to all of the Chairs and the committee members for their hard work on behalf of the GDSIS. One of the important themes at the SIS Leadership Meeting was that leaders are willing to step up to the plate and take a role in an organization. We are fortunate that our SIS has so many individuals who have been willing to come forward and volunteer their time and be leaders in the many activities that we sponsor.

Most importantly, I hope all of you take a few minutes out of your busy schedules to vote and make a difference in the choice of future leaders for the SIS.

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<th>DATE</th>
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| Sunday, July 16   | 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Presidential Libraries  
Coordinator: David Gay  
Speakers: Regina Greenwell, Lyndon Baines Johnson Library  
Nancy Smith, National Archives & Records Administration |
|                   | 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | GDSIS GPO Depository Update  
Coordinator: Pegeen Bassett  
Speaker: Francis J. Buckley |
| Monday, July 17   | 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | Welcome to Government Documents SIS Breakfast  
Coordinator: Pegeen Bassett |
|                   | 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. | Legislative & Regulatory Update  
Mary Alice Baish, Associate Washington Affairs Representative |
|                   | 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. | Reconsidering Depository Status  
Coordinator: A. Hays Butler  
Speakers: Cheryl Nyberg, University of Washington Law Library  
Betsy McKenzie, Suffolk Law School Law Library  
Sheila McGarr, Government Printing Office |
| Tuesday, July 18  | 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | GDSIS Business Meeting |
|                   | 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. | Skills for Government Documents Librarians in the New Millennium, or, How Can We Get There from Here?  
Coordinators: Virginia Thomas, Pegeen Bassett  
Speakers: Timothy Coggins, University of Richmond Law Library  
Susan Tulis, Government Information Consultant  
John Carlo Bertot, School of Information Science & Policy, SUNY Albany |
| Wednesday, July 19| 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. | Federal/State Administrative Decisions  
Coordinator: Paul Arrigo  
Speakers: Barbie Selby, University of Virginia Law Library  
Cheryl Nyberg, University of Washington Law Library  
Kathryn Hough, CCH |
Last October I had the opportunity of attending the Fall Depository Library Council Meeting in Kansas City. I would like to give you selective “Law Librarian” highlights. It was one of the best depository meetings I have attended with a lot of good discussion (formally and informally). When I got back, a colleague asked me what was the best part of the meeting. I had to confess that it was catching up at breakfast with old friends whom I have known through previous jobs! Here are some of the highlights:

• The first session was an update by Michael DiMario on funding issues. The GPO budget had a request for a million-dollar increase targeted at the electronic collection, but the request was turned down. GPO is down to 3,200 people; this is the lowest level since World War II.

• The Sales Program is having financial difficulties and is losing about $1 million a month. DiMario is having his staff study the situation and he has implemented a 15% increase in the cost of publications to help deal with the problem.

• The future of NTIS is still in question, though DiMario is hopeful that NTIS materials will be saved in some format. He has testified at a hearing on the topic. He argued that the NTIS documents were important and they should not be lost and at a minimum should be available through the depository program.

• Francis Buckley discussed many issues affecting the depository program, but began with stressing the need to provide permanent public access to electronic resources. In September, Michael DiMario hosted a meeting with a number of organizations that are attempting to deal with this issue. Representatives from groups such as the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, the National Archives & Records Administration, the National Commission on Libraries & Information Science, the Council on Library & Information Resources, the Joint Committee on Printing, and the House Administration Committee were in attendance. The attendees discussed their organizations’ activities in providing permanent public access. Discussion was begun about cooperative projects and GPO will be the catalyst for future meetings of this group.

• The Joint Committee on Printing has approved GPO’s request to allow the GPO to expand sales procurement to agency publications not printed by GPO, but considered of public interest.

• GPO Sales Division has the deposition transcripts of the U.S. vs. Microsoft Corporation case on CD-ROM for $52. The disk covers transcripts of depositions taken between July 1998 and January 1999. Printed copies and videotapes of individual depositions are also available. The videotapes can be bought from the GPO for $341.

• GPO will be issuing its version of the 1999 Tax CD-ROM, which has 1999 IRS tax forms, instructions and publications for individuals and businesses. It will also include sets of previous years’ tax forms. The advantage of the CD-ROM is that the user can fill in the forms on the computer screen and then save and print. NTIS and the IRS will be issuing a CD-ROM also. The NTIS/IRS product will be considered the “official” one and this is the product that will be distributed to depository libraries. GPO’s Tax CD-ROM is priced at $20, the NTIS/IRS product is $21.
The U.S. Supreme Court has approached GPO with a project to develop the Court’s official web site. The project is in the early states of development. The new site will have slip opinions for the current term, the current court schedules, guides for filing cases, Rules of the Court, biographies of the Supreme Court justices, and historical information on the Supreme Court. The plan is still to use the Hermes system to release bench opinions. The site will most likely be activated during the current Supreme Court term (although no specific date has been set).

Gil Baldwin, Direct of the Library Programs Service, reported the following trends as far as distribution mediums for federal depository materials:
- Online titles on GPO Access: 25%
- Online titles on other agency sites: 19%
- Paper: 20%
- Microfiche: 35%
- CD-ROM: less than 1% (He noted CD-ROM publishing is dropping off).

Library Programs Service has a backlog of 219 self-studies. To reduce the time lag for feedback to libraries, the Library Programs Service is changing the self-study process. Beginning this year the self-studies will be requested in three stages with the first group due back to the LPS in May. It is hoped that this approach of spreading the self-study process throughout the year will give the inspectors time to catch up on the backlog.

Recent physical distribution problems of depository shipments have been a major concern of the LPS staff. LPS will be soliciting bids for a new shipping service contract which will be more tailored for depository library distribution. The new contract will not be put into operation until well into 2000.

T.C. Evans, of the Office of Electronic Information and Dissemination, submitted to the Depository Library Council a study comparing GPO Access with other government and commercial Web sites. A comparison of GPO Access, THOMAS, HOUSE.gov, SENATE.gov, Congressional Universe, CQ.com and Lexis-Nexis was based on 3 criteria: 1) resources available, 2) scope of coverage, and 3) whether they provided their own informational content or whether they were a link to other Web sites for information. (A core list of 22 resources was compared on each of the Web sites). The strength of GPO Access was that of the 22 resources compared, GPO Access provided 19 of them and offered 4 other unique resources that were not available on the other Web sites. The closest rival as far as breadth of coverage was Lexis-Nexis, which had 15 resources. However, GPO Access is not as strong in scope of coverage; its coverage in terms of years is greater than or equal to the coverage on the other Web sites for 8 of the 22 resources.

GPO Access now has 101,000 electronic titles and points to more than 59,000 other electronic titles. This represents a 25% growth rate from the past year. There are now 1,300 databases available through GPO Access. Some significant upcoming additions to GPO Access are the following:
- A Statutes at Large application is being developed.
- The GPO is working on a pilot project with the Federal Register Office to develop a more frequently updated electronic equivalent of the CFR.

Robin Haun-Mohamed announced that depository libraries will now be able to use Northern Light's usgovsearch with no charge to the depository library.

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This article outlines the procedures I followed last year in doing a zero-based item selection review of the federal government documents at my academic law library. By comparing the selection decisions of my library with other peer institutions during July 1999, I “discovered” a number of Government Printing Office (GPO) titles to add to my collection and many to deselect (changing my GPO selection rate from 19 to 12%). Online tools available now simplify such comparisons, making it possible for Brigham Young University’s Howard W. Hunter Law Library to perform its first comprehensive zero-based documents review since becoming a selective federal depository library in 1972.

These are the seven steps I followed during the annual update cycle last summer.

1. **Review the library’s federal documents collection development policy.** This first step provided a framework for my changes, and reminded me of the library’s goals of collecting information on particular topics and formats, cooperative collection efforts, and selective housing arrangements.

2. **Determine peer institutions.** What are the schools (libraries) most like my own? During the American Bar Association’s inspection of Brigham Young University’s law school in 1998, the visitors named five different law schools as our peers. Based on our law school’s size, enrollment, and funding, the ABA visitors chose five private university law schools which BYU seems to be aspiring to imitate. I then included the University of Boulder Colorado Law Library (13%, 1988) to add a state-sponsored and geographically closer law library, and one with a well-developed federal documents collection. All six peer law school libraries are selective federal depository libraries.

3. **Collate peer institutions’ item selections.** Using the Item Lister on the FDLP Administration website, I printed out the selections of the six peer law libraries and my own. To make the comparison procedure easier, I used the “selections and non-selections” options, which printed each item number on the same place on each page for each library. I used six different colored pens, marking on my library’s printout the first initial of the other libraries next to item numbers they selected (such as “N” for “Notre Dame” in black and “C” for University of Boulder Colorado in blue). My library’s printout with the various markings became my master list for potential additions and deletions.

4. **Determine potential additions.** My law library’s printout (with the various markings showing the other libraries’ selections) became my master list of possible additions. Based on the master list, I wrote out a list of item numbers based on whether two (or more) of my peer libraries selected an item and I did not. I also did a quick comparison of my law library’s printout with the Utah Supreme Court Law Library (4%, 1975), looking to see what they were choosing and BYU wasn’t. I compared the potential item numbers to GPO’s Suggested Core Collection, reviewed the list looking at the titles associated with each item number (using Wichita State’s Documents Data Miner), and then added 46 item numbers during the annual update cycle. I liked this step as a way of finding out about useful GPO titles that were unfamiliar to me.

5. **Determine potential de selections.** To determine candidates for deselection, I printed out my law library’s entire selections from the Documents Data Miner, and then marked on the printout the titles not being selected by two (or more) of my six peer libraries. I also compared my main university library’s selections (80%, 1908) to my potential deselections (including their and my status on various dual format items). After compiling the comparative information (on my peer libraries and Brigham Young University’s non-law library), I evaluated all my law library’s selections by title looking at the Documents Data Miner printout. My online catalog was an essential tool at this point, so I could verify the currency of some serial titles, check circulation records, and examine the receipt patterns of some inactive-appearing item numbers. I also relied on my personal experience with the collection and my knowledge of the collections’ users, retaining a few titles despite the non-selection by my peer law school libraries. I then dropped 541 item selections at the end of July 1999.
6. **Cleanup and follow through.** Using my printout of selections and titles from the Documents Data Miner, I began closing out my online catalog's serial subscriptions to the dropped GPO serial titles. I also have been creating new bibliographic records for serials and other titles my library had not been selecting in the past. Another cleanup aspect resulting from my changes to BYU law library's selections includes communicating with my documents assistant about claims and processing.

7. **Evaluation.** I will not go to the same effort this coming July with item selections, although I am interested in suggestions from those of you reading this article. I discussed my plans at the AALL conference in Washington, DC, last summer with some of you, and also talked with my regional documents librarian (John Walters, Utah State University, [100%, 1907], Logan, Utah) before I added or dropped any items. One change I will make is to include a comparison this coming year of my library's documents collection with the other in-state law library, the state-sponsored University of Utah Law Library (23%, 1966). I superficially examined their item selections this past summer while comparing the other collections, and now I would like to compare the two law libraries' GPO selections in a more detailed fashion.

My collection development goal for government documents last year was to bring my collection more in line with my law library and law school's current needs. By comparing BYU's selections to those of my peer institutions, I feel I was able to use the collective expertise of many of you to help my law library improve its federal documents collection. If what I've written is helpful to your library in conducting a zero-based GPO item selection review as part of the next annual update cycle, perhaps that will be a repayment of some sort.

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2 The law schools chosen were: Cornell (12% selection rate, 1978 start date for depository collection, Duke (7%, 1978), Northwestern (15%, 1978), Notre Dame (11%, 1985), and Vanderbilt (14%, 1976). All selection rates listed in this article are as of June 1999, with some of the law libraries having slightly higher selection rates at present.


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22:2 JURISDOCS (Spring 2000) :7
LEGAL REFERENCE FOR NON-LAW LIBRARIANS: A TEACHING OPPORTUNITY

by Peggy Jarrett
Reference/Documents Librarian
University of Washington
Gallagher Law Library

Law libraries are by nature special libraries. We have specialized collections and knowledge. But a wide variety of patrons who use other types of libraries need access to legal information. One way we as law librarians working in depository libraries can spread the word about legal information resources available to the public is to work with local or regional library associations. Through this work, we can also fulfill the GPO requirements that we cooperate regionally and promote our depository collections and services. This article will describe a program on legal reference given by law librarians to a group of public and academic librarians who have occasion to assist patrons with legal information. There are many ways for law librarians to share our expertise; this is just one example that may spark an idea or two.

The Northwest Government Information Group (NGIN) is a group of depository librarians and friends based in Washington State. Anyone interested in government information may join. NGIN holds two meetings each year in various parts of the state; there is no charge for meeting attendance. A typical meeting consists of a federal depository update, discussion, and a substantive program focusing on electronic sources. Since NGIN members and their libraries are far flung, the group focuses on electronic sources that are accessible to library staff and patrons both west and east of the mountains that divide Washington State.

In the fall of 1999, NGIN planned to meet at the University of Washington. Legal information had been suggested as a topic at prior meetings, so I volunteered to put together a program, titled “Legal Reference for Non-Law Librarians,” which focused on freely accessible Internet resources. NGIN’s officers were delighted and the Gallagher Law Library reference staff was enthusiastic. Mary Whisner and Cheryl Nyberg both agreed to give presentations. Cass Hartnett, the U.S. Documents Librarian at the UW, organized the event. Once we decided on the actual program content, Cass sent e-mail announcements to several listservs of local and regional public and academic library associations. Cass handled the room arrangements, including the equipment set up.

Over thirty librarians from all over the state attended the three-hour program held on October 1, 1999. Half of the attendees were documents librarians, and almost all worked in public services. There were a few librarians from the larger public libraries, but most were from academic libraries - community colleges, private colleges and universities, and public universities.

The program was divided into four parts:

1) Introduction to the Legal System and Sources
2) Federal Law on the Internet
3) Washington State Law on the Internet
4) What Else Can I Do For a Patron with a Legal Question?

Mary Whisner started the day with a 40-minute "Introduction to the Legal System and Legal Sources." Using an overhead projector, a few props (including the pocket Constitution), and an interactive teaching style, Mary described where law comes from, the court system and cases, how types of law interact, and jurisdiction. Mary quickly discovered that the audience was knowledgeable about the sources of law, but needed some instruction on how cases, statutes, regulations, administrative decisions, and constitutions interact with each other.

Following Mary, Cheryl spent 40 minutes covering "Federal Law on the Internet." Cheryl had created a document titled "Primary Law Sources on the Web" for a series of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs on Internet Legal Research that the Gallagher librarians previously presented. Cheryl adapted the CLE materials for the Law Library’s web page, and she used this adaptation as a starting point for her lecture and demonstration (see http://lib.law.washington.edu/ref/US-
This was a very quick look at (or romp through) a large amount of material. Based on conversations with NGIN members, we made assumptions that the audience was probably familiar with the mechanics of GPO Access and Thomas and had more experience searching for legislative documents than any other type. Our assumptions proved correct and the audience was very interested in the less familiar legal information available.

Next, after a short break, I spent 40 minutes on “Washington State Law on the Internet,” also using “Primary Law Sources on the Web.” Quick demonstrations of the state code, regulations, case law, and a few odds and ends (pattern forms, Attorney General opinions) met with audience approval. Although one of my goals was to be a good federal depository citizen, the state legal sources definitely needed to be covered as well.

Continuing with the legal information theme, the next 20-minute session was a quick look at “What Else Can I Do For a Patron with a Legal Question?” Using another web handout, I covered secondary sources, self-help books, legal research guides, referring patrons to a law library, and suggesting an attorney or advocacy group (see http://lib.law.washington.edu/ref/ngin.html). The handout and presentation referred as much as possible to sources accessible on the Internet, much of it on or through the Gallagher web page. But sometimes patrons do need to use law library collections, and that gave me a great opportunity to reinforce the fact that we are open and welcoming to the public.

Questions were kept for the end, and we spent about 15 minutes discussing a variety of topics. It would have been better to have each presenter handle questions immediately after her segment, but it was impossible this day due to Reference Office scheduling and other teaching commitments. Questions ranged from what’s the jurisdiction for an at-sea collision to how can one access superior court dockets and appellate court briefs. The depth and breadth of the questions illustrated several things: legal information is complicated, legal information is sought by many types of patrons in many types of libraries, and we, as legal information specialists with a commitment to public access, have a duty to share our knowledge.

What would we have done differently? Three hours is not long enough. Four would be better. Certainly, a whole day session or a series of sessions would be extremely useful. But we tried to balance our workload as well as the workload and travel time of the attendees. We handed out a short evaluation form consisting of open-ended questions meant to elicit comments on the content of the presentations. The comments were positive, particularly in regard to the focus on Internet sources. However a sentiment often expressed was a desire for more information, particularly on the details of the legal system. Just a few people asked for a hands-on session – most were happy with the demonstration format – but if booking facilities on a busy campus had not been a problem, we would have seriously considered making this a hands-on program. Overall, the most satisfying praise was the number of librarians who asked us to repeat the program for their colleagues who were unable to attend.

If you are considering a similar program in your area, here are a few suggestions:

- Volunteer to present a program — you need not wait to be asked.
- Look for a group of librarians that already meets regularly — local or regional depository librarians or a state or regional library association.
- If you work in a large city, consider a program for the public service staff at the largest public library. If you work for a university, consider a program for the main campus public services staff.
- Ask your non-documents reference librarians for help. If your staff is small, consider asking librarians from other types of law libraries to help out.
- Use existing resources such as your web page. Adapt handouts already created for other legal research classes.
- Work with the groups you are presenting to — they might be delighted to handle the details of location, publicity, registration, and equipment, while you handle the substance.
- If possible, ask the group before hand what they would like to learn about — electronic only, or print and electronic? Any particular topics — an overview or something more specific such as administrative materials or environmental law?
- Be aware of the collection strengths and weaknesses of your audience. Even librarians from large academic depositories are going to be unfamiliar with non-depository sources, particularly case law.
- Talk about materials other than those in the federal depository program — include self-help books and state legal materials.
- Finally, enjoy yourself — there is no better group to speak to than a group of librarians. They understand patrons, budgets, policies, services, and the success and failure of technology. Best of all, they are appreciative — they know that you took time out of your day to help them increase their knowledge and improve their service.

22:2 JURISDOCS (Spring 2000) :9
CANDIDATE FOR VICE CHAIR/CHAIR ELECT: A. HAYS BUTLER

Hays is an Assistant Professor and Librarian III at the Rutgers Law School Library – Camden. He received an MS from Drexel University’s College of Information Science and Technology in 1997; a JD from Boston College Law School in 1975; and a BA in History from Middlebury College in 1972. Employed by Rutgers since 1997, he supervises the organization and maintenance of government documents; assists in collection development; performs assigned research tasks for faculty; writes articles and bibliographies for publication; teaches legal research; and staffs the reference desk. Prior to his employment at Rutgers, Hays held the following positions: he was Senior Counsel from 1989-1996 for Delmarva Power and Light Company; an attorney in the office of the General Counsel from 1987-1989 for the Michigan Consolidated Gas Company (Michcon); an attorney in the Office of the General Counsel for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission from 1978-1987; and an associate with the law firm of Miller and Norton from 1975-1977.

Hays is a member of the Vermont, Michigan, Maryland and District of Columbia bars. He is the current Vice President/President-Elect of the New Jersey Documents Association and served as Secretary for that association from 1998 to 1999. He has also served as Chairman of the Publications Committee of the AALL Government Documents SIS since 1998. He is a member of the American Bar Association and Beta Phi Mu. He is the author of “An Annotated and Selective Bibliography of the International Criminal Court,” 10 Crim. L.F. 121 (1999) and “Recent Publications,” 8 Crim.L.F. 361 (1997).

CANDIDATE FOR VICE CHAIR/CHAIR ELECT: KATRINA STIERHOLZ

Katrina is Government Documents Librarian at the Law Library, Washington University, St. Louis. She was awarded an MS from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1993; an MLA from Washington University, St. Louis in 1992; and a BA from Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois in 1985. In her current position Katrina manages the acquisition of and access to United States and Missouri state government materials. In addition, she oversees the Access Services of the Law Library, which provides the interlibrary loan services for students, faculty, and staff of the Law School and retrieval of research materials for the Law School faculty. Katrina also serves on a team of reference librarians who provide reference assistance to faculty, students, and other patrons of the Law Library.

Prior to joining the Law Library, Katrina worked at Saint Louis University's Law Library as a Government Documents and Reference Librarian. Before that, she was the Government Documents

**CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY/TREASURER: PAMELA TULL**

Pam is the Electronic Services/Government Documents Librarian at the University of Kansas School of Law Library. She received a BS in elementary education in 1975 and a Master's in Library Science in 1994 from Emporia State University. Pam creates and maintains web pages for the KU Law Library and the Kansas Judicial Branch. She is the current editor of Index to Law School Alumni Publications and co-authored U.S. Government Directories, 1982-1995 with Joyce McCray Pearson. Her professional memberships include the American Association of Law Libraries (Sec/Treas of GD-SIS since 1998), the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries (Kansas News Liaison and web-person for the Pro Bono Committee), and the Kansas Library Association (past Sec/Treas of GovDocs Roundtable).

**CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY/TREASURER: ROB RICHARDS**

Rob is Technical Services Librarian with federal depository responsibilities at the University of Colorado Law Library. He received an MS in Library & Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1996; an MA in Communications Studies from the University of Iowa in 1994; and a BA in English from Yale University in 1992. In his current position, which he has held since 1997, Rob administers the library’s participation in the Federal Depository Library Program, manages selective housing arrangements with four other campus libraries, and develops web-based resources to facilitate collection development for depository materials. From 1996-97 Rob served as Library Technician and Professional Research Assistant at the University of Colorado at Boulder Government Publications Library, where he cataloged U.S. federal documents, provided reference service, wrote HTML for "Colorado By The Numbers" (a web-based statistical abstract for Colorado), and taught bibliographic instruction sessions on federal legislative history research.


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22:2 JURISDOCS (Spring 2000) :11
CONGRATULATIONS - CHARLENE CAIN APPOINTED TO DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL
Charlene Cain, Associate Librarian/Government Documents Librarian of the Paul M. Hebert Law Center, at Louisiana State University, has been appointed to serve on the Depository Library Council beginning with the October 2000 Depository Library Conference. The Depository Library Council advises the Public Printer and Government Printing Office Officials on issues related to public access to Government information products through the Federal Depository Library Program. Charlene was the Chair of the Government Document SIS 1998-1999. Over the years Charlene has made many contributions to documents librarianship, including being Chair of the Louisiana Library Association Government Documents Roundtable 1990-1991 and Chair, in 1995, of the Louisiana Federal Depository Library Council Ad Hoc Committee to Revise the Louisiana State Plan. Her dedication and commitment to documents librarianship and her knowledge of government information issues facing depository libraries will make her an excellent representative in the Depository Council.

GDSIS WEBMASTER
Beginning September 1999, the Government Documents SIS has a new webmaster, Eric Parker. Eric has recently joined the Government Documents SIS and is the Catalog Librarian at Northwestern University's Pritzker Legal Research Center. Eric has a BA from Cornell University in English, and MA in English from the University of Chicago and an MSLIS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. From July 1993 to December 1994, he worked as a librarian at Robert Morris College in Chicago. From January 1995 to the present he has been a Cataloger at the Pritzker Legal Research Center. In addition to his cataloging responsibilities, he also works on the Pritzker Legal Research Center Web Pages.

Eric is carrying on the work so ably set in motion by Emily Carr, who set up the GDSIS Web Pages in April of 1998. At that time Emily was Editor of JURISDOCS and a member of the GDSIS Publications Committee. Many thanks to Emily for her hard work and for providing her expertise in this important project for the Government Documents SIS.

GDSIS GRANTS COMMITTEE
Student Grant Opportunity – We Need Your Help!

Do you have any library school students working for you? Do you teach library school students? Do you guest lecture in library school classes? Know anyone who does?

The Government Documents SIS will award a grant in the amount of $400 to a student currently enrolled in an ALA accredited library and information studies master's program. The grant is to be used to attend the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference held July 15-20, 2000 in Philadelphia, PA.

Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate interest in government information and a career in law libraries, and the GDSIS Grants Committee would like your help in getting the word out to qualified students.

We will post an announcement on a variety of listservs and will send it to all the library schools. But we would also like SIS members to forward the information to eligible students, or to librarians or library school educators who work with students.

The deadline for receipt of applications is April 15, 2000. The application can be found at www.aallnet.org/sis/gd/.

Questions about the grant can be directed to Peggy Jarrett, GDSIS Grants Committee Chair, at pjarrett@u.washington.edu.
AALL NEWS

AALL PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE - PUBLISH WITH AALL!

*Do you have an idea for a new electronic or print publication of interest to law librarians?
*Would you like to grow professionally and personally by creating a new publication that would be of use to your colleagues?

Then the AALL Publications Committee would like to hear from you! The AALL Publications Committee encourages people to publish with AALL, and reviews proposals for new AALL publications.

From the AALL Publications Committee website at: http://www.aallnet.org/committee/publications/, you can contact members of the Publications Committee, or download a proposal form.

AALL publishes or sponsors a wide variety of materials of interest to law librarians, in print, electronic, and micro-formats. The include:

*Periodicals, such as AALL Spectrum and Law Library Journal
*Indexes, such as Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals
*Professional Development Materials
*Bibliographies and Research Guides
*Management and Public Relations Resources
*Occasional Papers on Various Topics
*Educational Program Materials
*Results of Research
*Instructional and Training Resources

AALL is eager to publish new materials. If you have an idea for a new publication, we look forward to hearing from you!

AALL PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - SPECIAL PROJECT

The Public Relations Committee has a special project planned for the Philadelphia annual meeting. We are inviting all AALL Chapters, Committees, SISs, and the Executive Board to prepare time capsules which we will then store for twenty-five years.

You can help define our time and also be a unique part of law librarianship's past and future. Our committee will supply the time capsules, and this will be an opportunity to offer a glimpse of your past to our future selves and colleagues. During this summer's Philadelphia meeting the time capsules will be sealed and tucked away for twenty-five years at AALL archives.

The objects you choose to encapsulate can run the gamut from the profound and serious to the weird, silly and sentimental. It's up to you. We'll have more details on preparing your time capsules in the coming months, but the Public Relations Committee hopes you will start thinking now about what items you want included in your time capsule.

Twenty-five years isn't that long. Look how fast the millennium went by! In July, 2025 we hope we'll all still be around (it doesn't hurt to be optimistic) to attend the annual AALL meeting and watch as our time capsules are opened.

The GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS SIS will be a participant in this project. Please contact Pegeen Bassett with your suggestions for the GDSIS time capsule. Pegeen Bassett, Documents Librarian, Pritzker Legal Research Center, Northwestern University School of Law, 357 E. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. Phone: (312)-503-7344. Fax: (312)-503-9230. E-mail: p-bassett@nwu.edu.

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AALL’S MENTOR PROJECT
If you are really new to the field of Law Librarianship and would like to develop an ongoing relationship with an experienced law librarian who is willing to provide guidance, support and counseling, or if you are really an experienced law librarian interested in becoming a mentor, AALL’s Mentor Project, under the auspices of the Mentoring and Retention Committee, will act as a matchmaker. Take a look at the Mentor Project web page at http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor_project.html, where you'll find further details on the Project as well as application forms for both Mentors and Mentees. You may also contact Dick Vaughan at rvaughan@indiana.edu or Chip Marlor at cmarlor@law.uconn.edu for further information.

D.C. INSIDER
by Mary Alice Baish
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Copyright Office Notice of Rulemaking Published in Federal Register, November 24, 1999
The Copyright Office filed a rulemaking notice on 11/24/99 in accordance with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998. The notice asks whether the Copyright Office should recommend that the Librarian of Congress establish an exemption to the anticircumvention measure contained in section 1201(a) of the Copyright Act of 1976 as amended 17 U.S.C.§ 1201(a), enacted in the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998. Comments on behalf of the American Library Association, American Association of Law Libraries, Association of Research Libraries, Medical Library Association, and Special Libraries Association were submitted to the Copyright Office on February 17, 2000. The comments urge the Librarian of Congress to issue an exemption to the restrictions that prohibit access to copyrighted works in an electronic environment. If the Librarian of Congress does not issue an exemption, the impact of the technological control measures on libraries would: 1) limit the applicability of the first sale doctrine; 2) curtail the ability of libraries to archive and provide long-term access to electronic resources; and 3) impede other non-infringing activities that advance the fundamental public purpose of copyright law. The full text of the comments are available at http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/aallwash/letters.html.

State Activity - Uniform Computer Information Transaction Act (UCITA)
The Virginia General Assembly passed the UCITA, but the effective date is delayed until July 1, 2001. The Joint Commission on Technology and Science will “appoint a technical advisory committee to study the impact of this act on Virginia businesses, libraries and consumers.” The study is to be completed by December 1, 2000.

Annapolis, MD, was the site of a joint hearing on February 3, 2000. Testimony was heard from proponents AOL and Microsoft. AALL was represented by Skip Lockwood, coordinator of the 4cite coalition; Jim Neal, Director of the library system at Johns Hopkins University; and by AALL member Harvey Morrell, who also spoke on behalf of LLAM. Visit the 4cite (For a Competitive Information and Technology Economy) website at http://www.4cite.org for more information..
National Technical Information Service (NTIS) - Closure or Transfer

The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) conducted several meetings in February, 2000, to discuss the future of NTIS. Representatives from the Department of Commerce defended its proposal to shut down NTIS and move its clearinghouse functions to the Library of Congress by the end of fiscal year 2000. William Tabb, of the Library of Congress, was noncommital about moving the clearinghouse to the Library of Congress. Fran Buckley, Superintendent of Documents, suggested that the clearinghouse could be merged with existing SuDocs services (GPO Access, the GPO Sales Program, and the Federal Depository Library Program). Both Tabb and Buckley emphasized the need to look at NTIS within the broader issue of federal government information policy, such as creating timely and comprehensive finding tools, providing permanent public access, and developing more effective enforcement of agency responsibilities under Title 44.


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Materials for publication may be submitted to the editor. Deadline for the next issue is May 15, 2000. The editor reserves the right to reject materials submitted for publication. The only exception to this rule is letters submitted for the “Letters to the Editor” column by current GOVDOC SIS members. This exception provides members an open forum within which to express their opinions. All of the opinions expressed in JURISDOCS represent only those of the individual authors and do not represent those of the GOVDOC SIS or AALL.

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