

# JURISDOCS

Fall 2000



ISSN 0162-3079



Volume 23, Issue 1



Government Documents  
Special Interest Section

## Letter from The Chair

by Greta Boeringer  
Covington & Burling

I plan to use this little column as a bully pulpit for some of my favorite causes. Today it is public libraries and depository libraries in partnership.

The mission of the public library is quite congruent with the mission of the Federal Depository Library Program. This is why partnerships between public libraries and depository libraries are natural alliances. Many law libraries find themselves unable to adequately meet the needs of the public. Forming a relationship with the public library is a great way to better meet that almost sacred obligation.

Law librarians can offer training to public library staff on how to better use the law related and governmental information in their own collections. They can train them to better access these materials on the Internet. This will not only make the public librarians more effective in their own collections, but will lead to better developed referrals to the law library. The Depository librarian can use the opportunity to make sure the public librarian fully understands the Depository Library Program and can communicate relevant law library policies.

Law librarians can also offer training to public library patrons, i.e. the public. This training could focus on teaching them about the Federal Depository Library Program, teaching fundamental legal research skills relevant to a lay audience and teaching techniques for accessing governmental and legal information on the Web. A discussion of the prohibition on unauthorized practice of law may also be relevant. Programs can be targeted to specific groups, such as senior citizens or teens, or the special needs of the homeless.

The law librarian can offer collection development advice, if it is solicited. Strengthening the public library collection and the skills of the public librarians is a way to possibly reduce the demand placed on the law library, while meeting the obligation to serve the public.

Such partnerships will be warmly received by the GPO inspector. Even if you aren't up for inspection soon, start now! It will be very impressive to report a partnership that has extended over years. If the attempt to create a partnership fails, record the attempts made and be sure to let the inspector know what you have done. You will get an A for effort!

Call your local public library today to see what you can offer them. We have much to share, but more to gain!



## What's Inside

Letter from the Chair . . . . .	1
Minutes of GD-SIS Business Meeting . . . . .	2
Attending AALL's Gateway to Leadership Conference . . . . .	4
Membership/Committee News	5
Impressions of the Federal Depository Library Conference	6
Public Access to Government Information through Libraries	7
AALL News . . . . .	10

# MINUTES

## GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS SIS BUSINESS MEETING

93<sup>rd</sup> AALL Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA  
July 18, 2000

**Pamela Tull**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
**University of Kansas School of Law Library**

The Government Documents Special Interest Section business meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Pegeen Bassett (Northwestern University), Chair. Those attending included: Janice Greer, Rob Richards, Katrina Stierholz, Michael Samson, Paul Arrigo, Cecily Giardina, Georgia Chadwick, Eric Parker, Hays Butler, Peggy Jarrett, Mon Yin Lung, Amy Flick, Steven Daniel, Greta Boeringer, Pegeen Bassett, Charlene Cain, Pamela Tull, Schuyler Cook.

### **I. Approval of the Minutes of the Washington, DC, Meeting**

Everyone was given a little time to re-read the minutes from the last business meeting in Washington, DC. The minutes were approved.

### **II. Treasurer's Report: Pamela Tull**

The Treasurer's Report was given by Pamela Tull (University of Kansas), Secretary-Treasurer of the GD-SIS.

The latest financial statement received from AALL shows all revenues and expenses posted through the month of May 2000. That statement indicates a beginning balance on 10/1/99 of \$4,037.16. Total revenues during this time period included \$200.00 (contributions) and \$360.00 (state bibliography sales) for a total of \$560.00.

There should also have been another \$15.00 deposited for a state bibliography sale, but headquarters had mistakenly credited it to another account. This error will be corrected. Expenses posted totaled \$425.80 (newsletter expenses). This leaves an ending balance (as of 5/31/00) of \$4,171.36.

Expenses sent to AALL, but not posted before May 31, include \$632.79 (mailing costs of JURISDOCS this year), \$33.00 (mailing cost of Breakfast invitations for

this conference), \$222.41 (mailing cost for GDSIS ballots), and \$400.00 (grant to attend AALL) for a total of \$1,288.20. When combined with the \$15.00 that will be credited to us (explained above) our actual balance is \$2,898.16 as of July 12, 2000. There will also be a \$200.00 contribution from CIS that will go toward the costs of the "Welcome to Government Documents SIS Breakfast."

The factors involved in the low balance were cited as higher mailing costs, higher printing costs, and lower sales of state bibliographies.

### **III. Report of the Nominations Committee Chair: Charlene Cain**

Charlene (Louisiana State University) reported on the election of SIS officers for 2000-2001.

The new Chair-Elect is A. Hays Butler (Rutgers University) and Robert Richards (University of Colorado) is the new Secretary/Treasurer.

The Nominations Committee for this next year will be Pegeen Bassett, David Gay, and Marsha Baum.

Charlene noted that she has written the procedures for this committee so that future members will have some guidelines. This prompted much discussion about preparing such guidelines for all committees and positions within GD-SIS, then preparing a handbook, possibly posting it on the web site, and having the updating responsibilities go to the outgoing chair.

Paul suggested web-based elections because of the high cost of mailing ballots. Charlene asked if all members are subscribed to GD-SIS listserv. Pegeen said they are not, but several people noted that the membership list, as kept by AALL, can be dumped to assure total coverage.

**IV. Report of the Programs Committee Chair: Greta Boeringer**

Greta (Covington & Burling) reported that more than ten program proposals were submitted for this year's conference, with four being accepted. So far attendance has been good at both the programs and at the "Welcome to Government Documents SIS" breakfast. She also reminded everyone that the "Hot Topic" selected for the conference is the Virtual Electronic Depository Library and urged all to attend this session in Room 204A on Wednesday morning. Hot pink flyers about the session are being widely distributed.

**V. Report of the Grants Committee: Peggy Jarrett**

Peggy (University of Washington) reported that the GD-SIS gave only one grant this year due to the change in scheduling of the Depository Library Conference. The recipient was Donna Nixon.

This year announcements on the e-mails, flyers, and the web site were used to advertise the availability of the grant and twelve applications were received. Last year only one person applied. Pegeen commended Peggy and Rob Richards on the excellent job they did this year. There was some talk on electronic applications, perhaps coupled with written recommendations.

**VI. Report of the Publications Review Committee: Hays Butler**

Hays (Rutgers University) reported that the currency of the bibliographies is a concern. Katrina Stierholz is the new chair of this committee. She will be contacting prior authors about updating their bibliographies. Replacements for authors no longer available, or willing, can be solicited via the listserv. Charlene is updating the Louisiana bibliography, and she suggested that authors/updaters be given a style sheet from which to work. The Washington state bibliography was suggested as a model. Other considerations mentioned included the time table for review by the Publications Review Committee, putting them on the web, and a date the links were checked on the web versions. More advertising of the bibliographies was discussed and suggestions included e-mailing every state/regional law library chapter, other library organizations, and DTTP. Also noted was the Law Library Journal series which may change into a looseleaf format.

**VII. Report of GD-SIS Webmaster: Eric Parker**

Eric (Northwestern University) is enjoying his new position as GD-SIS webmaster. So far he has been busy cleaning up the site, but plans to add more content. He asked that anyone with ideas or concerns contact him via e-mail at [ecp278@law.northwestern.edu](mailto:ecp278@law.northwestern.edu).

**VIII. Report of the Public Relations Committee:**

**Pegeen Bassett**

Pegeen (Northwestern University) reported that she had written an article on the SIS for Spectrum. Paul Arrigo congratulated Pegeen on the large turnout at the business meeting and the "Welcome Breakfast." Greta Boeringer, incoming Chair of GD-SIS, asked that a committee come together to help with public relations next year.

**IX. Report on Web Tutorial Project: Charlene Cain**

This big project, which is designed for training documents processors, is a joint project of Charlene Cain and Larry Schankman (Mansfield University). It has been approved by the Publications Committee, tweaked, and evaluated. Fall 2000 is the targeted completion date. ALA will be notified so that they can add a link from their GODORT site.

**X. Report on GD-SIS/AALL Strategic Planning:**

**Pegeen Bassett**

Pegeen distributed copies of the AALL Strategic Plan and noted that she was pleased that broad issues regarding government documents/information were included. The Strategic Plan was based on questionnaires to Committee and SIS Chairs. Our own strategic plan will need to be updated to conform with this.

**XI. Discussion of Programming for Minnesota Conference: Hays Butler**

Hays addressed the need for clear procedures for program planning. He also expressed concern that more people need to be involved because of the tight deadline between the annual meeting and the August due date for program proposals. Peggy Jarrett is on the AALL program committee for next year's meeting and explained the process. Hays moved that an education committee be formed in order to involve more people, to have program ideas in place during the previous year, to assist the Vice-Chair, and to generally improve the process. The vote was unanimous in favor of such a committee. Continuing discussion will be carried on via the listserv.

Hays distributed the program ideas for next year and asked those at the business meeting to rank them. He will compile the outcome. He asked all to contact him with program-related ideas, concerns, etc. at [ahbutler@crab.rutgers.edu](mailto:ahbutler@crab.rutgers.edu) or 856-225-6496.

**XII. Report on JURISDOCS: Mon Yin Lung and Cecily Giardina**

Cecily, as Editor of JURISDOCS, thanked Mon Yin for all of her work with the printing and mailing of the issues. She also thanked the writers who had contributed

articles this year.

Discussion followed concerning putting the newsletter on the web. Issues of concern included who would do the mark-up, would it be HTML and/or PDF, should it be passworded or free for anyone, and use of an incomplete version on the web. Greta suggested using PDF and making the whole issue available. Mon Yin pointed out the high costs of printing and mailing the issues (at least one week of processing time is required), and the varying quality of the address labels received from AALL.

### **XIII. Turn Gavel Over to Greta Boeringer**

Greta thanked the membership and Pegeen.

### **XIV. New Business**

Charlene asked that everyone let her know of concerns or issues since she is now on the Government Relations Committee of AALL and is a member of the Depository

Library Council.

Greta reminded everyone to send her any information for the procedures manual. She also discussed a program she attended on Monday regarding relationships with public libraries. She suggested that we try to work with those libraries, speak at association meetings, or provide legal/documents training. She also reported that the Mentoring Committee has contacted her because new documents librarians need mentors.

Pegeen announced that Keith Buckley has resigned as Archivist and Business Manager of the newsletter. Cecily will now take on this job.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.



## **Attending AALL's Gateway to Leadership Conference**

**Donna Nixon**

**recipient of the GD-SIS Student Grant Award  
Student at the School of Information and Library Science  
University of North Carolina**

This year I was fortunate to receive a grant from AALL's Government Documents Special Interest Section to attend the American Association of Law Libraries' annual conference. The conference, which sponsored activities from July 14th through July 20th, was held in the Philadelphia Convention Center in the historic Center City district of Philadelphia. The conference provided an excellent opportunity to learn valuable skills, and to meet many of my colleagues within the profession. The conference was loaded with informative workshops and seminars covering various topics of interest to law librarians. Vendor booths also gave us opportunities to learn about new materials available to law librarians and to become familiar with new vendor technologies. Additionally, social events sponsored by AALL, its

special interest sections, and some generous vendors, provided an opportunity for us to unwind and network with one another throughout the conference.

I began on Saturday with a one day early-bird workshop on negotiating licensing agreements. The lecturers and the exercises provided examples of pitfalls within the negotiating process, and suggestions for protecting the library's (and the encompassing institution's) interests when entering into contracts. On Sunday, I attended a breakfast sponsored by the Government Documents Special Interest Section. There I met and thanked my sponsors. They were comfortably welcoming and infectiously enthusiastic about their plans for the coming year.

In addition to the licensing workshop, I attended sessions devoted to understanding Z39.50 and its implementation; another focused on librarians taking the lead in molding copyright reform; a lively diversity forum dedicated to eradicating prejudice against gay, lesbian and transgendered people; a spirited question and answer session with West Group and Lexis representatives; and a session on improving one's internet browsing skills and speed. One of the more populated and popularly received of the workshops was the one devoted to internet skills. Not surprisingly, we librarians are hungry for every little bit of help that we can get to make accessing the sheer volume of information available via the Internet quick and easy. Conference planners would do well to include more sessions that help us sharpen our skills with electronic technologies.

The various vendor exhibits were not-to-be-missed. There were numerous representatives anxious to show us the latest improvements and changes to their materials and technology. If the opportunity to gain skills in using and to give feedback concerning the material and technology weren't enough of an incentive, the various

door-prizes vendors offered to encourage librarians to stop and learn made each vendor visit that much more appealing.

The AALL conference introduced me to a strong and tight-knit community. I learned a great deal, and got to sit among some very awe-inspiring movers and shakers within our membership. Special interest sections like the Government Documents Special Interest Section give newcomers and experienced librarians an opportunity to work and serve together in areas about which we are most passionate. I look forward to working with and learning from my AALL brothers and sisters and to becoming an active participant in the Government Documents Special Interest Section.



## MEMBERSHIP/COMMITTEE NEWS

### Dee Barker Wins Member Grant

The Government Documents Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL GD-SIS) awarded its 2000 Member Grant to Ms. Dee Barker, Government Documents Assistant at Washburn University School of Law Library. Ms. Barker is documents assistant to Paul Arrigo at Washburn and has worked with him to compile his Index to Government Full Text Periodicals which he presented at the recent Federal Depository Library Conference in Arlington, Virginia. Ms. Barker stated that attending the FDLC would give her a new

understanding of the purpose of the Depository Library Council and how its actions directly affect her daily routine.

The AALL GD-SIS Member Grant is given to financially assist members of the SIS and their documents support staff to attend the Federal Depository Library Conference and Fall Depository Library Council Meeting. Preference is given to those individuals who will not receive full support from their employing institution and/or those individuals who have never before attended an FDLC meeting.

# Impressions of the Federal Depository Library Conference

Dee Barker

Recipient of the GD-SIS Member Grant Award  
Government Documents Assistant  
Washburn University of Law Library

I am a government document assistant at Washburn University Law Library. I am so grateful for your help in sending me to the FDLC conference in Washington DC in October 2000. It was a new experience for me.

The biggest impression I had of the FDLC conference was the friendliness of the people. I was able to strike up a conversation with almost everyone I met. With each individual, I was equally able to find something we had in common, even though our experience levels were often very different. The GPO employees seemed to have a desire to help us in any way that they could.

In the beginning of the conference, I felt that individual librarians had doubts about changing to electronic selections, but by the end it seemed their worst fears had been mainly put at rest as a result of the information they had received.

It was wonderful to see the operations of LPS and how they handle getting the documents to my library. I have a better understanding of what LPS goes through on a daily basis. And I can now put faces to the names on the government document list serve messages I receive.

Some of the sessions were for reference librarians as a means of helping them understand the changes in the agencies web pages. But my favorite session was on displays of government documents. One library even brought in a WW II jeep as part of a display. I am looking forward to making an attempt at creating a display, at our library, that will help students be more aware of the use of the government document section. I will continue to monitor the web page at

<http://www.lib.mankato.msus.edu/lib/govdoc/proj/tutorials/finalfront2.html>. This is where additional displays will be presented.

The best part of attending the conference was being able to hear my supervisor present our project to the group. To see our project go to:  
<http://198.252.9.108/home.govper.html>. We are providing access to full-text Internet government periodicals. Even though I have been working on the project for 18 months, I was able to learn from his presentation. I was able to see how many people are looking forward to being able to use the work I have been doing. There is satisfaction in knowing your work will be appreciated.

The whole experience of being at the FDLC conference will be with me for a long time. I had never traveled by airplane and had never been to Washington DC. Thanks for making this possible.

#### Editor's Note:

Full text of selected presentations given at the FDLC conference can be found in *Administrative Notes*, vol. 21, issue 15.

[http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/adnotes.html#quick](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/adnotes.html#quick)

More about the Federal Depository Council can be found at:

[http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/fdlp/council/index.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/council/index.html).

# PUBLIC ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION THROUGH LIBRARIES

A Trip to Bulgaria, June 2000

Nancy Bolt

Colorado State Librarian  
Denver, Colorado

## Introduction

The more I travel in Bulgaria the more I am impressed by three things:

1. the incredible beauty of the country and friendliness of the people
2. the people's commitment and passion about maintaining their democratic society
3. the librarian's desire to improve library service for the people they serve

My interest in Bulgaria began seven years ago when Iskra Mahailova, then at the National Library, became an ALA/USIA fellow and spent 6 months working at the Colorado State Library. That led to a family vacation to Bulgaria, then a lecture, tour and then three librarian trips where we participated in conferences and visited libraries around the state.

This article will focus on the trip just completed in June, 2000. Information about conferences to be held in 2001 and articles about other trips can be found at <http://www.sni.net/bulgaria>.

Our trip to Bulgaria this year had a very different purpose than past years. This year we went focused to do only one conference on one very important theme: *Public Access to Government Information through Libraries*. We also wanted to honor the six Bulgarian libraries who had asked to form partnerships with Colorado libraries to increase cultural understanding and to help all the libraries build collections.

As always with Bulgaria, we got much more than we bargained for.

## Access to Government Information

Last year we met Governor Radimir Enev from the Stara Zagora Region of Bulgaria. He was struggling with a directive from the national government to make government information available to the public and didn't have a clue how to proceed. The National Parliament was considering then and has since passed a new law on *Public Access to Public Information*. The opening purpose of the law states that the people of Bulgaria should have access to information about their government "in order to form an opinion of their own" about government activities. How could it be better said?

We offered to do a conference in Stara Zagora this year. The conference would focus on libraries as the avenue to distribute government information. We spent most of the year planning this conference. We had presentations by me on the main topic, by Mary Redmond from the New York State Library on how and why a government entity would want to give public information to a library; how a library can convince a government agency to provide the information, and how a library would organize the information for public access. Bonnie McCune from the State Library blew them away with a presentation on marketing your library to the public (frankly, a new idea for them). Roumi Radenski, a Bulgarian now living in the U.S. and working at the Library of Congress, spoke on automating government document access and delivery.

The conference was attended by the Governor, who gave opening remarks, and by his staff. His PR person, Daniela Miteva, and other staff attended. Mrs. Miteva is also an elected member of the local parliament. Of course, local librarians were there from the public libraries and the university libraries. There was actually

some tension in the room (surprise!). After our formal presentation and during discussion, Mrs. Duncheva of the public library basically said she had been asking for government documents and the government had been reluctant to give them. Buzz, buzz, buzz. Break. After the break, Mrs. Miteva said that the Governor had now committed that the Regional Government would provide information to the libraries and that she would see that the local parliament would as well.

Now we'll see if the governmental entities follow through with deposits and if the libraries do in fact organize them for easy public access. A lot of hesitation on both sides.

#### Partner Libraries

Our second main purpose was to visit our partner libraries. There are six partnerships in place (Bulgarian libraries are all named after historical or literary figures so I'm just going to list the town):

Jefferson County Public Library  
Sofia Public Library

Boulder Public Library  
Varna Public Library

Bemis Public Library in Littleton  
Stara Zagora Public Library

Douglas Public Library District  
Dobritz Public Library

Eagle Valley Library District  
Veliko Turnovo Public Library

Aurora Public Library  
Bourgas Public Library

As a Partner Library in the Colorado Library Association/Bulgarian Library Association project, each library automatically became a Sister Library in the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS). NCLIS provides a very nice plaque, signed by Hillary Clinton, the Honorary Chair. While I was presenting these plaques to the Librarians and mayors in Bulgaria, the International Sister Cities convention was being held right here in downtown Denver. Plaques were being presented to our libraries as well.

Our partnerships are just beginning. Veliko Turnovo and Eagle Valley have the most interactive program going. They have already sent one box of books (test case) and there are four more ready to be mailed. The VT

librarians also suggested a pen-pal program among the young kids and that is underway. They have been exchanging e-mail and snail-mail letters for several months. This fall, senior citizens in Eagle will make Christmas tree ornaments for Bulgarian libraries.

Other partnerships are just getting started. E-mail in Bulgaria isn't always reliable and seems to float in and out of existence. Georgie Beltchev of the Sofia Public Library, however, was able to come to the American Library Association Conference in Chicago where he met Bill Knott. They are looking at a way for Mr. Beltchev to visit Jefferson County after next year's ALA meeting.

We made presentations to all six library directors and either the mayor or a representative from his/her office. The Sister Libraries program recognizes that most local libraries get their support because the local town government provides the funding, so they are eager to recognize the mayors as well.

In Sofia, the presentation to Mr. Beltchev and Mayor Sofinanski was made at the American Information Center with Sofia librarians looking on. In Stara Zagora we made the presentation at the reception following the conference. As it turns out, BOTH Mr. Miteva from the local parliament and Mrs. Krusteva from the Mayor's office wanted the plaque so I had to present it twice and ask them to share it. Mrs. Duncheva accepted for the library.

In Bourgas, we met in the government administrative offices with local librarians watching as Kostadina Hrousanova, the library director, and Marusja Ljubcheva, the Deputy Mayor, accepted plaques. In Varna we met in the mayor's office. Bulgarians are often very formal and this was the epitome of formality. Mayor Kiril Yordanov had his own translator and I had mine. He had newspaper and TV press on hand to film it all. He sat on one side of the table and I sat on the other, making the presentation a little awkward. He didn't smile except when he pointed out that Hillary Clinton had signed the plaque (which for the first and only time I forgot to mention.) (Clinton is a big favorite in Bulgaria because he visited Sofia last year.) Library Director Emiliya Steneva-Milkova accepted with a big smile for the library.

Dobritch is north of Varna on the Black Sea and far enough away that we could not visit it this year. But Library Director Elena Koeva Urtchenko came to Varna and we repositioned all the chairs in the mayor's conference room and filmed the presentation to her as well.



Finally, in Veliko Turnovo, we met in the library director's office and talked for a long while before the presentation. Director Sasha Georgieva told us about the library and we talked about American libretto programs. Presentations were made to Mrs. Georgieva and to the Head of Cultural Programs, Veliko Ivanova. Later that afternoon we met the mayor, Dr. Rumens Rashev, a former neurologist. He is as different from the Varna mayor as possible. We met on the patio of the beautiful Arbanassi Palace, summer home of the Russian communists. It has a vista of mountains that rivals anything we have in Colorado. The mayor shared his dreams for the economic development of Veliko Turnovo. He told us that the library director was retiring and that he would make sure the new librarian supported this partner program.

### A New Model

While in Bulgaria this June I was privileged to be asked to speak at the organizing meeting of a new group in Bulgaria. It is called Association Tolerance and is composed of Mayors and Vice-Mayors of small and medium-sized towns committed to demonstrating to the world that ethnic groups in a Balkan country can live in peace. I'll let them speak for themselves. Here are their three main objectives as translated into English for me.

1. Introducing society to the problems and needs of the citizens from medium and small municipalities in the mountainous, semi-mountainous, and economically deprived regions and also in the regions of a mixed ethnic (in terms of culture and religion) origin.
2. Supporting municipalities in these regions for the development, judgment and implementation of effective local policy.
3. Coordination of national strategies, local programs and interest for the development of these municipalities in relation to preserving their administrative autonomy.

There were several speakers in addition to me at the opening session. Because of the focus on ethnic diversity, there were speakers from different ethnic backgrounds, even the Turkish ambassador, and from various economic development organizations, such as the European Union. While predominantly Bulgarian, the Mayors in this Association Tolerance serve communities that include sizeable populations of Turks, Muslims, Gypsies, Macedonians, and Romanians.

I felt very honored to be asked to speak. I pointed out that America has always struggled with integrating different ethnic groups into our society economically while still helping such groups maintain their own identity and culture. Sometimes we have been successful and sometimes less so. Of course, I mentioned the role of libraries and information centers in helping local communities develop economically and in preserving and celebrating different cultures within a community.

The Bulgarians are very conscious of their position in the Balkan regions. They see themselves as a "New Model" of how a Balkan country and its people can live in peace and integrate ethnic groups into an economically developed community. They are committed to meeting all the requirements to join both NATO and the European Union. They are anxious to receive all the assistance they can. The speakers at the opening of the Association Tolerance mentioned this "New Model" many times and they see their association as playing a role maintaining and enhancing the model.

Since this meeting I have received an e-mail from Nahit Zia, Deputy Mayor of the Municipality of Gotse Delchev, a small town in southwestern Bulgaria, asking for advice on setting up a business information center

Later in the week I was able to meet Senator Ahmet Dogan, a member of the Bulgarian National Parliament, the political leader of the Tolerance Association, and leader of the Movement for Rights and Freedom (MRF). MRF is the third largest political party in Bulgaria. Senator Dojan has a PhD in Philosophy and was in prison between 1986-89 as leader of an underground organization seeking restoration of the rights of Bulgarian Turks. Senator Dojan is one of the sponsors of the *Access to Public Information Act* passed by the Bulgarian National Parliament.

Like many Bulgarians, he spoke to me through a translator but his body language told me he understood my English before it was translated. I commended him on the new law but said it lacked the means to organize all of the government information across agency lines and make it easily available to the Bulgarian citizen. I suggested he consider an amendment that would create an official depository program through libraries. He smiled and said he would consider it.

Meeting with the Senator and me were the Executive Directors of the new Association Tolerance, Ajdjan Dieva and Kirilua Angelova. Ms Dieva and Angelova specifically asked for information about municipal

government in the United States. They also expressed interest in having some Mayors or city officials from the United States, particularly Colorado, visit Bulgaria next year. While Colorado will be the focus, we are also open to Mayors or city officials from other states to come as well.

The Mayors or city officials from Colorado will be asked to participate in three conferences with Bulgarian Mayors, and visit several of the towns that the Mayors serve.

I will be sure the Bulgarian libraries are on the schedule.

I'm also anxious to see if our conferences and urging for public libraries to be depositories of local government information have had any success.

### Trip Sponsors

We would like to particularly thank our sponsors who helped make the conference on "Public Access to Government Information" possible. Their contributions supported conference speakers, translators, handouts, and presentations to the partner libraries. Our sponsors are:

Sirs Mandarin, Inc.  
Friends of the Lone Tree Library  
Follett Software Company  
Sagebrush Corporation  
JNR Associates  
Pattern Research  
Bulgarian Library Association  
Colorado Library Association  
Colorado State Library

## AALL NEWS

### **UCITA TELECONFERENCE**

AALL, ALA, ARL, MLA and SLA are cosponsoring a teleconference on the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (UCITA) that will be held on December 13, 2000. The purposes of the teleconference are to provide a "primer" on UCITA and its implications for libraries, as well as strategies for opposing this legislation. There will also be an opportunity for Q&A.

UCITA is a proposed uniform law that, among other things, validates terms in "shrink-wrap" and "click-on" licenses. This law would restrict uses by libraries that are permitted under federal copyright law.

The four panelists who have been actively involved in the UCITA debate in their home states are:

James Neal (Dean of University Libraries, Johns Hopkins University);

Rodney Petersen (Director, Policy and Planning, Office of Information Technology at the University of Maryland);

Catherine Wojewodzki (Librarian, Reference Department, University of Delaware Library and former member of the Delaware legislature);

Sarah (Sally) Wiant (Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, Washington and Lee University).

More information can be found at:  
<http://www.arl.org/ucita.html>.

JURISDOCS (ISSN 0162-3079) is the triannual publication of the Government Documents Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. The Government Documents Special Interest Section as a matter of policy does not print advertising in JURISDOCS.

Materials for publication may be submitted to the editor. **Deadline for the next issue is February 1, 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.

Claims for missing issues should be directed to the business manager. The copyright to each article that appears in JURISDOCS is held by the author of that article. Reproduction without the author's permission is forbidden by the Copyright Act of 1976 ☼

**AALL Government Documents  
SIS Officers and JURISDOCS and Website Staff 2000-2001**

**Chair**

Greta Boeringer  
Covington and Burling  
1330 Avenue of the Americas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
New York, NY 10019  
Phone: (212) 841-1172  
Fax: (212) 841-1010  
Email: gboeringer@cov.com

**Vice-Chair/Chair Elect**

A. Hays Butler  
Rutgers University Law School Library  
217 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Camden, NJ 08102  
Phone: (856) 225-6496  
Fax: (856) 225-6488  
Email: ahbutler@crab.rutgers.edu

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Rob Richards  
University of Colorado Law Library  
CB 402 Fleming Law Bldg. Rm. 190  
2405 Kittredge Loop Dr.  
Boulder, CO 80309-0402  
Phone: (303) 492-2706  
Fax: (303) 492-2707  
Email: rrichard@stripe.colorado.edu

**JURISDOCS Editor & Business Manager**

Cecily A. H. Giardina  
Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State  
University Library  
150 S. College Street  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
Phone: (717) 240-5226  
Fax: (717) 240-5127  
Email: chg3@psu.edu

**Webmaster**

Eric Parker  
Pritzker Legal Research Center  
Northwestern University School of Law  
357 E. Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611  
Phone: (312) 503-8476  
Fax: (312) 503-9230  
Email: ecp278@law.northwestern.edu