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Government Documents
Special Interest Section

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Members,

The AALL Annual Meeting is quickly approaching! To help you with your planning, this issue includes a list of GD-SIS Programs and Meetings. In addition, Galen L. Fletcher, of the Brigham Young University Hunter Law Library, has highlighted the federal document content added to *HeinOnline* in his contribution.

Interested in learning more about the Annual Meeting experiences of GD-SIS VIPs? This issue contains the VIP Reports of both Stephanie A. Braunstein of Louisiana State University and Vicki L. Tate, of the University of Southern Alabama, in which they discuss their respective 2007 Annual Meeting experiences. Also included is a contribution from Jason R. Sowards discussing his experience at the 2007 Federal Depository Library Council Meeting. Scott Matheson has also provided a program review from the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Eric T. Gilson

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**GD-SIS PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS SCHEDULED
FOR THE 2008 ANNUAL MEETING***

Saturday, July 12, 2008

Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training

8:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

Sunday, July 13, 2008

GD-SIS Fugitive Documents Subcommittee Meeting

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

B-1: Explore the Secret Workings of the FISA Court

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Coordinator:

Mary Alice Baish, *AALL Washington Affairs Office*

Moderator:

Camilla Tubbs, *Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Library*

Speakers:

Royce C. Lamberth, *U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia*

Thomas M. Susman, *Ropes & Gray*

* Program descriptions obtained from the American Association of Law Libraries, *Energize Explore Evolve, 101st AALL Annual Meeting & Conference, Portland, Oregon, July 12-15, 2008: Preliminary Program*

Monday, July 14, 2008

***D-1: An Exploration of the Role of Presidential Signing Statements in Legislative Histories:
Analytical and Practical Considerations***

8:45 AM - 9:30 AM

Coordinator and Speaker:

Stephanie A. Braunstein, *Louisiana State University*

Speaker:

Monica Sharum, *University of Pacific McGeorge School of Law, Gordon D. Schaber Law Library*

***F-1: Flashlights, FOIA and Advocacy: Tools for the Explorer in Search of Disappearing and
Restricted Federal Documents***

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM

Coordinator and Speaker:

Anne Klinefelter, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law Library*

Speaker:

Susan Nevelow Mart, *University of California, Hastings College of Law Library*

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

GD-SIS Business Meeting

7:00 AM - 8:45 AM

H-3: 2008 Annual Legislative and Regulatory Update

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Coordinator:

Angela T. Baldree, *Lake County Law Library*

Moderator:

Scott Matheson, *University of Colorado Law Library, William A. Wise Law Library*

Speakers:

Mary Alice Baish, *AALL Washington Affairs Office*

Keith Ann Stiverson, *Chicago-Kent College of Law Library*

K-6: The Not-so-secret World of Government Information: Evolving Approaches for Sharing Research Skills

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Coordinator:

Kerry Skinner, *Arizona State University Ross-Blakely Law Library*

Speakers:

Janet Fisher, *Arizona State Library Archives & Public Records*

Meg Martin, *Wyoming State Law Library*

GD-SIS GPO Update

4:15 PM - 5:15 PM

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Federal Government Documents in *HeinOnline*

Galen L. Fletcher

Brigham Young University Hunter Law Library

Provo, Utah

Most law librarians and current law students know *HeinOnline* <http://heinonline.org/> as a relatively low-cost source for online legal periodicals. This article's purpose is to highlight *HeinOnline*'s increasing federal government document content, and to provide a snap-shot of where government documents are within *HeinOnline* in mid-2008. In just eight short years, this online database has expanded to include over 22 sub-sections or "collections" covering some 40 million pages of legal information. Fifteen of these sub-sections contain significant U.S. government federal publication information, all in PDF format. In addition, this commercial online re-publisher is committed to adding additional useful content in the years to come.

Highlights of *HeinOnline*'s current GPO-originated content useful to law librarians include *complete* collections of: 1) federal statutes, 2) federal regulations, 3) the *Congressional Record* and its predecessors, 4) *U.S. Reports*, 5) *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States* (1931-2004) and similar titles, 6) U.S. treaties, 7) *Manual of Patent Examining Procedure* (all eight editions), 8) many major federal agency decisions (commerce, communication, copyright, labor, patents, securities, tax, and trade), 9) *Foreign Relations of the United States*, and 10) almost 70 compiled federal legislative histories. *HeinOnline* works best when an individual knows a citation and is looking for that specific content. However, its search functions continue to improve. For example, in May 2008, *HeinOnline* added the ability to search by section with the *Code of Federal Regulations*. Hein is also committed to making all of their downloaded PDFs fully searchable by the end of 2008. Additional support for users of *HeinOnline* include various online guides and videos at: http://heinonline.org/home/training/Educational_Resources.html. Further resources include a blog <http://heinonline.blogspot.com/>, training how-to videos on the *HeinOnline You Tube Channel* <http://www.youtube.com/HeinOnline08>, and a recently released help and resource center called *HeinOnline Wiki* http://heinonline.org/wiki/index.php/Main_Page. For those attending the AALL Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, *HeinOnline* is sponsoring four training sessions. These are

July 13, 1:30 pm-2:30 pm; July 14, 9:45 am-10:30 am, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm; and July 15, 9:00 am-10:00 am.

I've compiled the following list of U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) titles withing *HeinOnline*, giving the reader a feel for the wide variety of materials beyond law reviews in this database. Not all of these sub-sections are in the core subscription to *HeinOnline*, but are part of various a-la-carte modules or additions. If you are considering additional parts of *HeinOnline*, this list may be a useful tool. Materials not based in GPO (such as *English Reports* or state session laws) are, of course, not included in this list. Also, some titles (such as the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents*) are only listed once in this article even though they appear in *HeinOnline* in more than one section. Each section's titles are in alphabetical or chronological order in this list, not necessarily following the same order in the *HeinOnline* database. A general list of all of the collections within *HeinOnline* is at: <http://heinonline.org/home/content/Browse.html>.

I am not affiliated with *HeinOnline* in any way other than as a very pleased and satisfied user of this excellent database. If there are corrections necessary, please let me know. This information is current as of early June 2008 and has been submitted for review to Shane Marmion, Director of *HeinOnline*.

Finally, a few notes on formatting of the list below: 1) a **bold** section is a sub-section or "collection" within *HeinOnline*, 2) numbered titles are within a sub-section, 3) a "+" symbol after a date indicates future issues will come later, and 4) no "+" symbol after a publication date means the title has ceased publication.

List of Government Printing Office Titles in *HeinOnline*

Law Journal Library

1. *Air Force Law Review* (vols. 1-61, 1959-2008+) [title varies]
2. *Army Lawyer* (1971-2007+)
3. *Federal Probation* (vols. 1-71, 1937-2007+)
4. *Federal Reserve Bulletin* (vols. 1-91, 1915-2005+)
5. *Journal of Legal Studies* [US Air Force Academy] (vols. 1-12, 1990-2003)

6. *Military Law Review* (vols. 1-192, 1958-2007+)
7. *Monthly Labor Review* (vols. 1-130, #11, 1915-2007+)
8. *Naval Law Review* (vols. 1947-54, 1947-2007+) [title varies]
9. *Social Security Bulletin* (vols. 1-67, #2, 1938-2007+)

Code of Federal Regulations (1938-1986 [Titles 1-50], 1988-2002 [Title 37], 2003-2008+ [Titles 1-50])

Federal Register Library

1. *Administrative Procedures Act: Legislative History* (1944-46)
2. *CFR: Compilation of Sections Affected* (1949-2000)
3. *CFR: List of Sections Affected* (vols. 25-45, 1960-1980)
4. *Federal Register* (vols. 1-73, #54, 1936-2008+)
5. *Federal Register Indexes* (Indexes to vols. 1-73, 1939-2008+)
6. *United States Government Manual* (1935-2008+) [title varies]

Foreign & International Law Resources Database [Part II. U.S. Law Digests]

1. *Digest of the Published Opinions of the Attorneys-General and of the Leading Decisions of the Federal Courts with Reference to International Law, Treaties, and Kindred Subjects, Revised ed.* (1877)
2. Francis Wharton, *A Digest of the International Law of the United States, 2nd ed.* (vols. 1-3, 1887)
3. John B. Moore, *History and Digest of the International Arbitrations to Which the United States Has Been a Party* (vols. 1-6, 1898)
4. John B. Moore, *A Digest of International Law* (vols. 1-8, 1906)
5. Green H. Hackworth, *Digest of International Law* (vols. 1-8, 1940-1944)
6. Marjorie M. Whiteman, *Digest of International Law* (vols. 1-15, 1963-1973)
7. *U.S. Dept. of State, Digest of United States Practice in International Law* (vols. 1-8, 1973-1980)

Foreign Relations of the United States (1861-1976+) [title varies]

Legal Classics Library

In addition to many privately published treatises, this database includes some older U. S. Government Printing Office law-related publications.

Some representative titles include the following:

1. *Attorney General's National Committee to Study the Antitrust Laws* (GPO, 1955)
2. John P. Butler, *Index: The Papers of the Continental Congress* (GPO, vols. 1-5, 1978)
3. Felix S. Cohen, *Handbook of Federal Indian Law* (GPO, 1942)
4. Federal Trade Commission, *Memorandum on Unfair Competition at the Common Law* (GPO, 1916)
5. Charles E. Magoon, *Reports of the Law of Civil Government in Territory Subject to Military Occupation by the Military Forces of the United States* (GPO, 1903)
6. *Nazi Conspiracy and Aggression* (GPO, vols. 1-12, 1946-1948)
7. Francis Newton Thorpe, *Federal and State Constitutions ...* (GPO, vols. 1-7, 1909)
8. U.S. Dept. of Justice, *Acquisition of Land for War Purposes* (GPO, 1944)
9. U.S. Dept. of State, *Admission of Aliens into the United States* (GPO, 1929)
10. Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, *Study of Mutual Funds* (GPO, 1962)

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (1st-8th editions, 1949/52-2001/07)

Treaties and Agreements Library

1. J. C. Bancroft Davis, *Treaties and Conventions Concluded Between the United States of America and Other Powers Since July 4, 1776*, Revised ed. (1873)
2. John H. Haswell, *Treaties and Conventions Concluded Between the United States of America and Other Powers Since July 4, 1776* (1889)
3. Charles J. Kappler, *Indian Affairs, Laws and Treaties* (vols. 1-7, 1902-1971)
4. William M. Malloy, *Treaties, Conventions, International Acts, Protocols and Agreements ... [1776-1937]* (vols. 1-4, 1910-1938)
5. U.S. Dept. of State, *Catalogue of Treaties, 1814-1918* (1919)
6. *Treaties in Force* (1929-2007+)
7. Hunter Miller, *Treaties and Other International Acts of the United States of America ... [1776-1863]* (vols. 1-8, 1931-1948)
8. *Department of State Bulletin* (vols. 1-89, 1939-1989)

9. *United States Treaties and Other International Agreements* (vols. 1-35, 1950-1984)
10. U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, *List of Indian Treaties* (1964)
11. Charles I. Bevans, *Treaties and Other International Agreements of the United States of America, 1776-1949* (vols. 1-13, 1968-1976)
12. *Treaties and International Act Series* (TIAS 11060-12734, 1982-1996)
13. Department of State, *Dispatch* (vol. 1-10#10, 1990-1999)
14. Congressional Research Service, *Treaties and Other International Agreements: The Role of the United States Senate* (2001)

U. S. Attorney General Opinions

1. U.S. Attorney General, *Annual Report* (1870-2005+)
2. *Official Opinions of the Attorneys General of the United States* (vols. 1-43, 1791-1982)
3. *Opinions of the Office of Legal Counsel of the United States Department of Justice* (vols. 1-20, 1977-1996)

U. S. Congressional Documents

1. *Journals of the Continental Congress* (vols. 1-34, 1774-1789)
2. *Territorial Papers of the United States* (vols. 1-28, 1787-1848)
3. *American State Papers* (1789-1838)
4. *Annals of the Congress of the United States* (1789-1824)
5. *Register of Debates in Congress* (vols. 1-14, 1825-1837)
6. *Congressional Globe* (vols. 1-46, 1833-1873)
7. *Congressional Record* (vols. 1-149, 1873-2003+)
8. *Congressional Record Daily* (vols. 140-154, 1994-2008+)
9. Congressional Research Service, *The Congressional Record: Content, History and Issues* (1993)

U. S. Federal Agency Library

1. *Administrative Conferences of the United States: Recommendations and Reports* (1968-1995)
2. *Administrative Decisions under Immigration and Nationality Laws* (vols. 1-23, 1940-2006+)
3. *Classified Index of National Labor Relations Board Decisions and Related Court Decisions* (vols. 1-28, 1935-2007+)
4. *Court Decisions Relating to the National Labor Relations Act* (vols. 1-38, 1939-1986)

5. *Decisions and Orders of the National Labor Relations Board* (vols. 1-346, 1935-2006+)
6. *Decisions of the Commissioner of Patents and of the United States Courts in Patent and Trademark Cases* (1869-1968) [Title varies]
7. *Decisions of the Comptroller General of the United States* (vols. 1-73, 1921-1994)
8. *Decisions of the Comptroller of the Treasury* (vols. 1-27, 1896-1921)
9. *Decisions of the First Comptroller in the Department of the Treasury of the United States* (vols. 1-7, 1880-1894)
10. *Decisions of the United States Courts Involving Copyright* (Bulletin No's. 1-49, 1789-1985)
11. *Digest of Decisions of the Comptroller of the Treasury: 1894-1920* (1920)
12. *Digest of Decisions of the Second Comptroller of the Treasury* (vols. 1-4, 1869-1894)
13. *Federal Communications Commission Record* (vols. 1-23, 1986-2008+)
14. *Federal Communications Commission Reports* (vols. 1-45, 1934-1965, and Second Series, vols. 1-104, 1965-1986)
15. *Federal Trade Commission Decisions* (vols. 1-140, 1915-2005+)
16. *Internal Revenue Cumulative Bulletin* (1919-2006+)
17. *Interstate Commerce Acts Annotated* (vols. 1-22, 1930-1977)
18. *Interstate Commerce Commission Reports, Second Series* (vols. 1-10, 1984-1995)
19. *Nuclear Regulatory Commission Issuances* (vols. 1-62, 1975-2005+)
20. *Recommendations and Reports of the Administrative Conference of the United States* (1968-1995) [Title varies]
21. *Reports of the Tax Courts of the United States* (vols. 1-128, 1942-2007+)
22. *Reports of the United States Board of Tax Appeals* (vols. 1-47, 1924-1942)
23. *Reports, Opinions and Decisions of the Atomic Energy Commission* (vols. 1-8, 1956-1975)
24. Securities and Exchange Commission, *Decisions and Reports* (vols. 1-55, 1934 -2002)
25. Securities and Exchange Commission, *Judicial Decisions* (vols. 1-5, 1939-1948)
26. *Surface Transportation Board Reports* (vols. 1-6, 1996-2003+)

U.S. Federal Legislative History Library

1. Contains: Sources of Compiled Legislative History Database [index showing publication info on compilations of federal public laws through 2004+]
2. U. S. Federal Legislative History Title Collection [full-text of 60+ compiled federal legislative histories]

U.S. Presidential Library

1. James D. Richardson, *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents: 1789-1897* (vols. 1-10, 1896-1899) [Covers George Washington thru William McKinley]
2. James D. Richardson, *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, New Series* (vols. 1-22, 1897-1922) [Covers George Washington thru Herbert Hoover]
3. *Code of Federal Regulations: Title 3* (1936-2001+)
4. *Economic Report of the President* (1947-2007+)
5. *Hearings before the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy* (vols. 1-26, 1964) and *Report* (vol. 1, 1964)
6. *Inaugural Addresses of the Presidents of the United States* (1989)
7. *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States* (1931-2004+) [Covers Herbert Hoover, and Harry S. Truman thru George W. Bush]
8. *Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives by President Richard M. Nixon* (1974)
9. *Trial of Andrew Johnson ... on Impeachment by the House ...* (vols. 1-3, 1868)
10. U. S. Wickersham Commission Reports, *U.S. National Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement* (vols. 1-14, 1930-1931)
11. *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vols. 1-43, 1965-2007+)

United States Statutes at Large

1. *Revised Statutes of the United States: 1873-74* (1875)
2. *Revised Statutes of the United States: 1873-74, 2nd ed.* (1878)
3. *United States Statutes at Large* (vols. 1-119, 1789-2005+)

U. S. Supreme Court Library

1. *Rules of the Supreme Court of the United States* (1790-2007+)
2. *U. S. Reports* (vols. 1-544, 1754-2004+)
3. *U. S. Reports Preliminary Prints* (vols. 535-547, 2002-2006+)
4. *U. S. Reports Slip Opinions* (2002-2008+)



VIP Report from Stephanie A. Braunstein (Louisiana State University)

As I put the final touches on my presentation for this year's (2008) AALL Conference in Portland, I ponder how I got to this point—i.e., how I managed to find myself preparing to speak in front of some of the most impressive people in the world: law librarians. The answer is undeniable and cyclical: I owe it to the graciousness of the Government Documents Special Interest Section who offered me the opportunity to be one of two VIP's sponsored by that section for the 2007 Conference in New Orleans.

Last year, when Georgia Chadwick asked me if I would be interested in that opportunity, I was suitably flattered and responded enthusiastically in the affirmative. The experience that followed was a whirlwind of networking, socializing, professional activity, and learning. While no one can argue that the networking and socializing events, for example the Opening Event and the Closing Banquet (a Mardi Gras parade inside the Hilton!), were anything but pure unadulterated fun, the events that will continue to provide value as years go by were the professional learning events of meetings and programs.

At the Opening General Session, I learned more about AALL in general; and at the GD-SIS Business Meeting and Breakfast, I learned more about government documents in law libraries in particular. Attending individual programs allowed me to expand my education and get detailed information about subjects as diverse as dueling in southern legal history and the authentication of government information. Excellent presentations on topics such as finding older government document materials “re-born” in digital archives and the technological side of harvesting online government information “born” as digital served me well in terms of coming away with useful knowledge.

On an emotional level, nothing could compare with the presentation by Eric Wedig and Jeanette Hunter, representing Tulane University's Government Documents Department. Their presentation, “Rising to the Challenge! Reinventing the Depository: Destruction and Rebirth,” chronicled the horrific events of Hurricane Katrina from the perspective of a Depository Library Collection almost entirely decimated by the flood waters in New Orleans. As the brand new Regional Government Documents Librarian for Southern Louisiana, I was especially affected by their story of the disaster. I marveled at their stoicism and, perhaps for the first time since coming to Louisiana to live and work, realized how devastated much of the library community in that area had been—and still was, in many cases.

To return to my original comment about putting final touches on a program presentation and wondering how this came to pass—it really was the experience of seeing AALL programs for the

first time, noting their timeliness and overall quality, that convinced me to submit a program proposal for the 2008 Conference. I had wanted to test interest levels in a topic that a former colleague and I were planning on writing about. Specifically, I believed that an AALL Conference would be the perfect venue to share research and information gathered for the writing of an article on Presidential Signing Statements and their place in legislative histories. It was with pride (and some degree of panic) that I learned that the proposal had been accepted. The hard work to come was daunting, but I knew that my courage to participate in a meeting of so many exceptional librarians was a direct result of my having been the benefactress of the GD-SIS's generosity of both spirit and resources at the 2007 Conference in New Orleans. I am grateful for that largesse and hope to repay it to some degree by contributing to the dialogue at the Conference in Portland.



VIP Report from Vicki L. Tate (University of South Alabama)

First I would like to say how honored I was to have received an invitation from Larry Meyer, Chair of the Government Documents Special Interest Section (GD-SIS) of AALL to be one of their VIP guests at the 2007 Annual Conference in New Orleans. I feel very lucky to have had the opportunity to attend such a great conference. The theme was “Rise to the Challenge” and boy did they ever! As always with library conferences there were so many events from which to choose. It was hard to narrow it down to only one per time slot. Each and every one I attended was informative and well-done. I would like to highlight just a few of the presentations that were for me especially good.

“Everything Old is New Again: Finding Government Document Collections Reborn Online,” presented by Cheryl Rae Nyberg (University of Washington), was a very well-organized presentation, complete with music and sound effects, with many of the old familiar historical references source that we are use to using in printed format, but are now available on the Web. I had a difficult time writing down all of the wonderful sources available to make sure my library catalog was up to date with the current resources. This presentation was very well received by the large crowd attending it, and I would swear it actually received a standing ovation!

Another helpful presentation was “At the Top of the Rise: Government Web Sites That Have Met the Challenge” presented by a five-member panel. It was based on the five general core values for web pages: accessibility, reliability, official status, comprehensiveness, and presentation as developed by the AALL's Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee (AELIC). The panel assessed governmental web sites in light of these criteria and presented those sites they found to be notable. What were especially useful for me were their suggestions of accessibility/usability resources, which was an issue my library was trying to address in light of ADA standards.

Cathy Nelson Hartman's (University of North Texas) presentation “Turning Challenges in to Opportunities: How Law Libraries Can Capture and Preserve Government Web Resources” spoke about the difficulties of using collection development policies developed for traditional, tangible

formats in ever-increasing digital and Web-based materials. The Web-At-Risk project was new to me and provided a lot of food for thought.

On the lighter side of the programs was the one by Andrew Evans (Washburn University) who was one of three librarians that presented their favorite government resources. Though rather unorthodox in his execution of his presentation (and believe me, you had to be there to understand), it made perfect sense when one realized that his favorites sources were “Military, Law Enforcement & Combative Government Resources.” I must say, after seeing his presentation, if I am ever interrogated by international spies, I now know what to do to escape my interrogators.

But the Conference was not all work. It offered some of the best social opportunities that I have ever had the opportunity to attend at a library conference. The Law Library of the Louisiana Supreme Court was a wonderful backdrop for the SCCLL-SIS Reception, sponsored by Thomson West. The food was excellent, the people interesting and the location was serene. The next evening I was lucky enough to attend the LexisNexis/Matthew Bender Scholarship Dinner at the Foundry. Once again, excellent food, wonderful people, and an open-bar. But more importantly a great cause. But there was nothing to compare with the Closing Banquet at the Hilton Riverside. The word extravaganza doesn’t really do it justice. With its Mardi Gras theme, it was a wonderful way to close the Conference.

But what I really take away from this Conference was the number of interesting and friendly people I met. There were some familiar faces from ALA/GODORT or FDLP/DLC meetings that I have attended in the past, but also many new people. I want to thank Larry Meyer (San Bernardino County Law Library) for all of his assistance throughout the Conference. I also want to thank Stephanie A. Braunstein (Louisiana State University), my fellow VIP guest, who was a wonderful roommate and certainly made the Conference more enjoyable. But most of all I would like to thank Georgia Chadwick (Law Library of Louisiana), who as local co-coordinator, was instrumental in making sure I was able to enjoy the entire experience of the Conference. There could not have been a better person for the job.

So, in the future, if you get an opportunity to attend AALL either as a VIP guest, or even as a member of AALL, I would strongly recommend you take advantage of the opportunity. It will be an experience you will enjoy and cherish.



**Jason R. Sowards, 2007 Federal Depository Library Council Meeting Grant Recipient,
Discusses His Meeting Experience**

I am writing this article as I look out onto the airfield of Kansas City International Airport. My

first depository library council meeting came to a close earlier today and I return to North Carolina more informed and enlightened about the world of federal government information I am responsible for as Wake Forest Law School's depository librarian. I should also mention that I am overwhelmed and just a little bit exhausted. In addition to the massive amounts of barbeque I ate and the new acquaintances I made, I am returning to work tomorrow with a better understanding of what my role as a documents librarian is and a better appreciation of the organism that is GPO. I came to appreciate that it does an amazing job of providing as much government information as possible which is freely and easily accessible.

I suppose the most important feature of this meeting was its user-friendliness for the first-time attendee. For those of us both new to the profession and new to the responsibility of being our library's depository point person, having the opportunity to learn not only about GPO projects and initiatives (such as FDSys and web harvesting), but also to learn from fellow documents librarians ("Web 2.0 for Document Librarians" and "Getting Published – You Can Do It!") was invaluable. The variety of programming made for a very engaging and educational experience.

Lunch was important, too. Yes, a mid-day meal is important for any documents librarian, but at the meeting, lunch was organized so that attendees could spend time with and get to know other documents librarians. The first lunch allowed selectives and their regional depository to get together and not only socialize, but address individual depository needs. I appreciated getting to meet my fellow North Carolina documents librarians, especially Natalia Tuchina, who is also in Winston-Salem, working at the Forsyth County Public Library. Again, as someone new to the profession, it was great to find someone, literally down the street, to be a resource. The second lunch was organized by library type, and during that lunch, I met with my fellow law librarians, most of whom were new contacts for me. I am looking forward to reuniting with them in Portland this summer.

When I started at Wake Forest in November, I was given the option of either being responsible for international law research or being our government documents point person. I chose the latter, not only because I had a government documents class in library school and found the work fascinating (and challenging), but also because of my personal belief in the right of people to have unfettered access to the information their government produces. Assuming responsibility for my institution's role in making such access available was a no-brainer, especially because when I teach my students legal research, I let them know of the myriad of free resources the government makes available, and also inform them about what may not be readily available and how to make effective FOIA requests. I also teach a session on government information for our advanced legal research class. In attending the meeting in Kansas City, my commitment to government information has been

solidified even further, as a librarian, teacher, and citizen, and I know my students will leave Wake Forest more aware of government information, both its extensiveness and their rightful access to it.

Although I overheard some people at the meeting lament over the lackluster meeting (just under 200 people at last count), I was grateful for the smaller crowd. This made the act of networking much more meaningful as you could meet more people in a very short period of time. With an endless supply of Starbucks coffee throughout the day and good food always at arms length, Kansas City was a very pleasant experience. And not as flat as you probably thought! I am very thankful to the GD-SIS for providing financial assistance to attend the meeting—I feel like a better government documents librarian already!



Scott Matheson, 2007 AALL Program Review

“Rising to the Challenge: Finding and Preserving Federal Judicial Information on PACER”

Do you know how to find the docket of a federal case when you only know the party names? Do you know where you can get a 50-page brief for less than the cost of a latte? Many of us have heard of PACER, and may have even used it in our work, but this year’s AALL Annual Meeting provided an inside look at how the federal court’s public access docket and e-filing system works as well as some new features we can look forward to.

Two representatives of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO), Wendell Skidgel and Ted Willmann, presented the program. Barbara Brandon coordinated the program with help from Mary Alice Baish, Elizabeth LeDoux, and Scott Matheson.

Mr. Willmann began the presentation by explaining what PACER is, how it is related to the e-filing program and addressed billing and customer service portions of the system. He explained that CM/ECF (Case Management/Electronic Case File) is the standard used by over 200 federal courts to provide both public access - the PACER program - and e-filing - the attorney program. Attorneys who need to file documents simply register their PACER login with the court to gain filing privileges. Because there is only one system, researchers and librarians have access to the most current data available.

Mr. Willman explained that each court’s system is locally administered, so some policies and even features vary locally. He pointed out the U.S. Party/Case Index is administered by the Pacer Service Center and that all user registration and billing is handled by that office. The Service Center now offers a few features that were new to this author, including a client-matter number validator

(with the ability to make the number required) and a “master account” function where a firm librarian can group attorney accounts under one master account for billing and administrative purposes.

The speakers reported on a full-text searching pilot developed by and in use at the New Mexico District Court. This got the attention of many in the room, and led to questions of when it would be implemented at other courts. The New Mexico staff has applied for a grant to help them make their search function available to other courts around the country.

Mr. Skidgel reported that the AO is working with the National Archives to develop electronic case file record retention schedules. In the interim, all files are being preserved, though some are moved to archive servers to decrease the load on the active court servers. These archived case files remain in the system index and retrieval is transparent to PACER users.

A few upcoming features were discussed, including selecting multiple documents from a docket for one-click download. This will be included in the next software release, coming first to bankruptcy courts, then to district courts. The AO is also working to provide audio recordings of hearings, transcripts and durable, linkable URLs for materials in the system. Some of these features require technical changes, while others require policy and procedure adjustments. It was interesting to hear that all of these developments are funded by the modest 8-cent-per-page user fee.

Mr. Skidgel also announced that the AO is working with GPO to develop a pilot project that will provide some Federal Depository Libraries with fee-free access to the PACER system for on-site patrons. The AALL Executive Board endorsed a resolution, later joined by the American Library Association, requesting that GPO work with the AO to establish a pilot no-fee PACER program for depositories; we are now beginning to see the fruits of this leadership effort. A copy of the resolution is available at <http://www.aallnet.org/aallwash/re04012006.html>. This pilot is pending approval of the Judicial Conference of the United States.

In addition to the GPO pilot, the speakers did note that there are various fee-waivers authorized in the PACER program that are administered locally by each Chief Judge. Some reasons for waivers include indigence, pro-bono representation, and independent research.

The representatives noted that each value-added vendor (like CourtLink or CourtExpress) has the same access to PACER data as the public does and pays the same rates. To increase the efficiency of harvesting high-demand data, like bankruptcy filings, the AO is developing an XML feed for

vendors, though the public will also have access to this reformatted data. The speakers also noted that some requests for PACER features are not implemented because the mission of the service is to provide simple access to data, not value-added features that are, by policy, left to private vendors.

The program concluded with a lively question and answer session with broad participation from attendees. The organizers and the Government Relations Committee thank Mr. Skidgel and Mr. Willmann for their participation in this valuable program.

Minutes of the Government Documents-Special Interest Section Business Meeting

Tuesday, July 17, 7:00 a.m.

AALL Annual Meeting, New Orleans

Present: Mary Alice Baish, Anne Barker, Pat Behles, Stephanie A. Braunstein, Georgia Chadwick, Schuyler Cook, Adrienne Cobb, Suzanne Corriell, Ric Davis, Cindy Etkin, Andrew Evans, Janet Fischer, Janet Fisher, Joel Fishman, Galen Fletcher, David Gay, Cecily Giardina, Jessica Gillespie, Bob Grundy, Paul Hoffman, Earlene Kuester, Meg Martin, Scott Matheson, David McFadden, Lynn Merring, Larry Meyer, Jennifer Morgan, Elizabeth Outler, Eric Parker, Marian Parker, Sarajeane Petite, Michele Pope, Jenny Schnell, Melanie Sims, Vicki L. Tate, Randall Tenor, Tory Trotta, Camilla Tubbs, Dee Wood, Annmarie Zell

Chair of the GD-SIS Larry Meyer opened the breakfast meeting at 7:20 and thanked those who had worked with him throughout the past year. He also thanked LexisNexis for sponsoring the breakfast. The meeting agenda was distributed. David McFadden made a motion to approve the agenda, and Scott Matheson seconded. The vote was favorable. Larry then asked all present to introduce ourselves to the rest of the group.

GD-SIS VIP Stephanie A. Braunstein, of the Louisiana State University Library, remarked that she was enjoying the Conference and that the LSU Library would be celebrating 100 years as a federal depository library in October 2007. VIP Vicki L. Tate, of the University of South Alabama, also said that she was enjoying the Conference.

The minutes from the previous meeting (July 10, 2006) had been distributed via e-mail and were also passed out at the meeting. Janet Fischer made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Marian Parker. The vote was favorable.

Officer and Committee Reports

The Treasurer's Report was distributed by Secretary/Treasurer Mary Jane Mallonee. She reported that income was \$8,072.74, mostly derived from the sale of 332 state bibliographies. Expenses of \$3,672.26 included photocopying, mailing supplies, and postage, plus grants, conference expenses, and VIP expenses. The total estimated balance in the GD-SIS account at the end of June 2007 was \$21,218.64. Included in the report was the observation that advertising our state bibliographies on other SIS listservs boosted sales and an acknowledgement of the prompt and efficient processing of bibliography orders by Eric Parker and AALL Financial Assistant Ivonne Torres.

Scott Matheson and Larry explained that the SIS has to pay for two of its programs this year. The programs are "Rising to the Challenge! Reinventing the Depository: Destruction and Rebirth," coordinated by Larry Meyer and featuring two librarians from Tulane University's main library; and "Tough Librarians Rise to the Challenge with Tough Government Documents," coordinated by Andrew Evans of Washburn University Law Library and also featuring Brent Johnson of Widener University Law Library.

Eric Parker reported for the Grants Committee. He thanked the other committee members, Nancy Cowden and Jill Sidford, for serving on the Committee. The annual grant for attending the Federal Depository Library Council Meeting in Washington, DC, was awarded to Alicia Brillon, of the University of Colorado Law Library. The amount was \$400. The Veronica Maclay Grant for travel to the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference was awarded to Suzanne Corriell, a student at the University of Iowa's School of Library and Information Science. She received \$200 for program and CONELL registration. Suzanne was at the SIS business meeting and informed the group that she has graduated from the University of Iowa and will be working at the University of Richmond Law Library.

Scott Matheson moved that the grant for travel to the FDLC be increased by \$200 and the Veronica Maclay Grant be increased by \$100. Marian Parker proposed an amendment to the motion: the Maclay Grant for students should include conference registration, CONELL, one night at a hotel, and coach airfare. Janet Fischer asked that the motion be amended to state that each grant should be for \$1,000. Scott amended his proposed motion to state that both the FDLC grant and the Maclay Grant should cover expenses of the recipients up to \$1,000. Janet Fischer seconded the motion. Discussion of these increases mentioned the ever-increasing costs of attending the conferences and

that the Grants Committee would be required to confirm the expenses submitted by the recipients. The vote on the motion was favorable. David McFadden moved that the Grants Committee report be accepted. David Gay seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Lynn Merring, Liaison to the Annual Meeting Program Committee, announced that the deadline for submitting proposals for conference programs in 2008 is August 15, 2007. Members having ideas for programs, which can be 45 minutes or up to 75 minutes, should contact Lynn via phone or e-mail. Scott Matheson mentioned that copies of The Program Proposer's Quick Guide are on a table in the Exhibit Hall.

Ric Davis, Acting Superintendent of Documents and Director of Library Services and Content Management at the U.S. Government Printing Office, and Cindy Etkin, Program Planning Specialist for the Superintendent of Documents, represented the GPO. Ric thanked Cindy for the hard work she has been doing and thanked the SIS for monitoring and supporting the work of the Federal Depository Library Program. He is pleased with the new members of the Depository Library Council. The FDLP Desktop was recently re-launched in beta form with some new features. There is also now a beta version of Public and Private Laws on GPO Access, with the goal of having "official" versions of laws available as soon as possible. The 20th annual Interagency Depository Seminar will be held from July 30 to August 3 in Washington, DC.

Mary Alice Baish, Associate Washington Affairs Representative for AALL, thanked Ric Davis and Cindy Etkin for attending the SIS meeting. She reported that the appropriations bill for the GPO did not fare well in the House but was being treated more favorably in the Senate. There is hope that PACER will soon be available at no charge to law libraries after many years of requesting it. Mary Alice also talked about the status of the FOIA amendment, the Open Government bill, and the EPA libraries.

Larry Meyer reported on the National Summit on Authentication of Digital Legal Information held in Chicago in April 2007. Participants included a cross section of AALL leadership, plus representatives from various states and legal organizations. Some states hope to have "official" documents on their web sites soon. Mary Alice Baish thanked Ric Davis for making "official" federal documents a goal of the FDLP.

New Business

Larry Meyer thanked Scott Matheson and Mary Jane Mallonee for their work as officers of the SIS and presented them with gifts of New Orleans treats. Larry also thanked Georgia Chadwick and Janet Fischer for their "work behind the scenes."

Joel Fishman announced that as of last week the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes were online, the last of the 50 states to put statutes online.

Jennifer Bryan Morgan encouraged members to volunteer to work on GD-SIS and other AALL committees. Mary Jane Mallonee thanked Eric Parker for his work distributing the state bibliographies that were ordered through the SIS Secretary/Treasurer. Eric announced that the new Chair of the Publications Committee would be Ed Hart of the University of Florida Law Library.

Larry Meyer thanked Melanie Sims of the Louisiana State University Law Library for being a candidate for Secretary/Treasurer and congratulated Dee Wood of the University of Kentucky Law Library for winning that election. He also congratulated Andrew Evans on his election as Vice Chair/Chair-Elect. Larry asked for a motion to destroy the electronic results of the election. Scott Matheson made the motion, and Pat Behles seconded the motion. The motion carried. Joel Fishman moved that the results of the election be accepted by acclamation. David McFadden seconded the motion, and the results were accepted. Larry congratulated Jennifer Morgan as she assumed the position of Chair of the GD-SIS for the coming year.

Sarajeane Petite moved for adjournment of the meeting, and Camilla Tubbs seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Mary Jane Mallonee
Secretary/Treasurer