

Addie the Eagle



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From the Editors

Dear GD-SIS members,

In this issue, we are looking forward to attending the annual meeting, reconnecting with colleagues, and participating in educational sessions in Washington this summer. In her Message from the Chair, Stacy Fowler has helpfully put together a guide to highlights at AALL 2019 for government documents librarians. We have not one but two updates from the Advocacy Committee (and some annual meeting highlights for those interested in advocacy). Last but not least, Trina Holloway reflects on her experience attending the AALL Management Institute.

As always, thanks to everyone who contributed and we look forward to your future submissions.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Kunkel





Message from the Chair

Stacy Fowler

Technical Services Librarian/Associate Professor, St. Mary's University Law Library

GD-SIS Chair 2018-2019

The Spring semester coming to a close means the Annual Meeting is fast approaching. After looking over the slate of educational sessions for this year Annual Meeting, I wanted to highlight several that are particularly relevant to those of us who work with government information.

Top of the list is our GD-SIS sponsored program this year. It is program **G1: Using (and Teaching) Nonlegal Authoritative Government Documents and Databases to Win Cases and Guide Clients**, slotted for Monday, July 15 4:30 PM–5:30 PM. Please plan to attend and support our SIS colleagues.

Program description: We all use some types of legal government documents, such as statutes, regulations, and caselaw. Yet there are millions of nonlegal government documents—satellite imagery, in-depth reports, posters, and datasets on everything from climate to manufacturing, housing, health, and international trade—that can add powerful support to legal cases, and help provide authoritative guidance to clients with regulatory questions. This program features speakers from the U.S. Patent and Trade Office and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who will each give a tutorial on their websites. These sites are government documents, deemed both authentic and authoritative, featuring a plethora of information that can be used in civil and criminal cases.

Other programs that will be interesting to government document librarians include:

B2: AALL Public Policy Update; Sunday, July 14 2:30 PM–3:30 PM

The annual Public Policy Update connects members with AALL's policy committees—Copyright and Government Relations—and fellow advocates to promote and strengthen the Association's grassroots advocacy efforts. Participants will hear about AALL's past and upcoming legislative priorities and have the opportunity to talk with the policy chairs and one another during small group sessions led by the committee chairs. Topics will include access to court information in PACER, changes at the Library of Congress and Government Publishing Office, enactments of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act, and the latest on copyright. In addition, the winners of the 2019 Public

Access to Government Information and Robert Oakley Advocacy awards will receive their awards and give brief remarks.

C7: 30 Years on the Front Lines: The Past, Present, and Future of Information Policy Advocacy at AALL; Sunday, July 14 4:00 PM–5:00 PM

2019 marks the 30th anniversary of professional advocacy at the American Association of Law Libraries. This program will celebrate the milestone by telling the story of advocacy at AALL from the point of view of those who were present at its inception. These are seasoned, expert, passionately engaged librarians telling the story of how AALL took its core values into the national political arena. The presentation will inform participants of the meaningful successes enjoyed by AALL's advocacy efforts, and it will inspire participants to expand their professional practice beyond the concerns of their individual institutions and help them to see that the future of librarianship depends on rational and coherent state and federal government policy. The future of any institution depends on the ability of its members to tell a compelling story about its work. By the end of this presentation, every participant will be able to tell the story of AALL's advocacy work and will know why the continuation of that work is crucial to the future of our profession and, indeed, of our democracy.

H7: A Peek Behind the Curtain of the U.S. Code; Tuesday, July 16 8:30 AM–9:30 AM

The U.S. Code is central to our legal system and legal research. Have you ever wondered how it comes to be? In this session we'll hear from the experts, the Office of the Law Revision Counsel (OLRC), as they explain the codification process, what exactly is 'positive law,' and why some law appears in statutory notes. They will also discuss the challenges of the codification process and how that affects the structure of the Code.

I4: Social Media as Primary Sources of Government Information; Tuesday, July 16 11:15 AM–12:15 PM

There is a sharp increase of official communications from our elected officials that happens first, primarily, and even solely on different social media platforms. Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram are the best examples of social media tools that have allowed our elected government officials to interact directly with their constituents and the public at large. Considering the impact, relevance, and extensive usage, should these communications then be considered primary sources of government documents?

As my year as GD-SIS chair comes to a close, I want to thank all those who helped me make this year smooth going. Thanks especially to Pat Behles, Cate Kellett, Shannon Roddy, and Ed Hart for their help and support. Access to reliable and authenticated government information is so important in these turbulent times, and I applaud those in our field who strive daily to connect people to possibilities. I look forward to seeing where the next year takes us.

Advocacy Committee News

UELMA: 21 States and Counting

By Marlene Harmon, University of California School of Law Library

In 2011, the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, now the Uniform Law Commission, approved the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA). UELMA requires that state primary legal materials, including state constitutions, sessional laws, codified laws and agency regulations, which have been published electronically and designated as official must be authenticated, preserved and permanently accessible to the public.

Twenty-one states have enacted UELMA. AALL, its chapters, and members have been strong advocates for UELMA passage in their states.

Most recently, Iowa's UELMA legislation, HF 743, was signed by Governor Kim Reynolds on May 8, 2019. John Edwards, Associate Dean for Information Resources and Technology and Professor of Law at Drake University Law School in Des Moines, reports on the successful advocacy that led to UELMA's enactment in Iowa: "Thanks to critical lobbying efforts from Drake Law School, Iowa has become the twenty-first state to adopt ... UELMA. Drake Law Library faculty drafted multiple communications to legislators urging support for the bill as well as rallying support from other Iowa librarians. Drake's Legislative Practice Center also made many contacts with key legislators to ensure the bill's passage this session." He further reports: "These enactments would not be possible without the collaborate efforts of law librarians working with many others to advocate for the bill....It also was a great opportunity to foster bipartisan support at a time when in other matters, that is sometimes difficult to find."

Before this issue of Jurisdocs goes to press, the UELMA's twenty-second enactment may well happen. As of this writing, Texas bill HB 402, passed by the Texas legislature on May 14, 2019, is awaiting Governor Abbott's signature.

UELMA has also been introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature this year.

Detailed, current information about UELMA and its enactments is available from AALL's Government Relations Office [UELMA Resources on AALL's website](#) and from the [Uniform Law Commission](#).



Above: Iowa UELMA Signing, May 2019

Advocacy Committee News

United States Code Annual Supplements Survey

By Larry Meyer, San Bernardino County Law Library

As of this writing, hopefully many, if not all, of your institutions have had a chance to fill out the survey sent out by GPO regarding the U.S.C. annual supplements. While the survey was not specifically targeted to our community, thanks to Emily Feltren, our ever hard-working Washington staffer, both depository and non-depository law libraries were encouraged to complete the survey.

As members of the Government Documents community, hopefully even if your institution does not select the supplements, you are able to appreciate the importance of the annual supplements to those of us with strong U.S.C. collections as well as to those patrons who are more comfortable using print codes for their research purposes vs. digital products. In encouraging GD-SIS members to participate, our Advocacy Chair, Peggy Jarrett, outlined those features and additional reasons as to why many within our community find continued publication of the annual supplements to be important to our respective user communities, further encouraging GD-SIS members to participate.

We can expect to hear more about this survey and other interesting and exciting developments within Government Documents during AALL in D.C. Hope to see each of you there!

At AALL

Will you be in Washington, D.C.? We hope to see many of you at Lobby Day on July 12 and at these programs:

Sunday, July 14, 2:30pm-3:30pm. [AALL Public Policy Update](#)

Sunday, July 14, 4:00pm-5:00pm. [30 Years on the Front Lines: The Past, Present, and Future of Information Policy Advocacy at AALL](#)

Tuesday, July 16, 8:30am-9:30am. [A Peek Behind the Curtain of the U.S. Code](#)

2019 AALL Management Institute

Trina Holloway

Head of Collection Services

Georgia State University Law Library

The 2019 AALL Management Institute took place in Chicago, Illinois, and Maureen Sullivan was the facilitator. I was excited about attending this Institute, and I looked forward to engaging education sessions and connecting with colleagues. I especially looked forward to learning techniques on how to be a more effective manager. As the days went on, I realized this Institute was much more than learning techniques and fine tuning skills I already possess. I was learning and engaging with my colleagues on how to bring forward the best in others and myself, effectively communicating, and learning how to inspire change. These are just some of the highlights.

Helping staff bring out their best can be a difficult task but can be accomplished if both parties (manager and staff) are willing to work together. Most often, a person's weakness is the focus. During this Institute, I learned to highlight a person's strength and work together on making that strength or strengths stronger. This is not to say that low performance should not be addressed, but as an avenue to achieving the best from your staff. Having clear and regular communication, clear goals and priorities, and trust can foster a relationship that promotes empowerment.

Effectively communicating is always important, especially in a work environment. One key aspect of communication is listening. One should listen to understand by being an active listener. Being able to paraphrase and give constructive feedback fosters a positive atmosphere. Those expressing their opinions should know their views are being received in a supportive environment. It is important to respond without emotion, especially if the opinions expressed are different from yours. Of course, there are times having certain conversations can be difficult; however, an effective leader knows to approach the conversation with respect and openness to hear solutions.

It can be a challenge to motivate your staff or yourself, especially when changes are in the future. The most important thing in this process is to get the facts and be transparent with your staff or colleagues. There needs to be a clear understanding about receiving input and what role each individual will play in the transition. If possible, have the staff be a part of the process; this will most definitely empower them. It lets them know you value their opinions. Ensuring the necessary resources will readily be available also helps in the process. The downside is that not everyone will be accepting of the changes. You need to be aware that each person has different ways of expressing their feelings. Displaying understanding and being willing to take the extra steps to move each person along in the process goes a long way.

I personally thank the GD-SIS Grants Committee for selecting me as a recipient for the 2019 AALL Leadership Institute Grant. This award made it possible for me to attend another great program offer by AALL.