View From The Chair
Kathy Carlson, SCCLL Chair

This issue is devoted to technology. To me the word technology is synonymous with change since in my lifetime I have seen a number of technological changes.

When I was in high school, reports were handwritten with pen and paper. Can you imagine the noises that would come out of a teenager today if told to handwrite a paper? College brought a little Smith Corona portable manual typewriter and lots of whiteout. In law school, I progressed to an electric typewriter and since job applications needed to be perfect, a lot of retyping. Out in the real world for the first time, I learned to use a Dictaphone and had lots of giggles when the transcriptions came back for correction. Finally, when I went to library school, I reached the era of the word processor. However, it was on a mainframe computer and I had to upload my work for printing and walk to the computer processing center to pick up the finished product. How spoiled we are today with a desktop system and an attached printer.

Those of us who have been around a few years could do the same progression with a number of other pieces of equipment (e.g. the telephone from rotary dial to cell phones with all the apps). This may make us appreciate the advances a little more than those who have never used some of the older technology. It might also make us a little more reluctant to learn something new—again. It all depends on attitude. I actually find new technology exciting as long as it is something that is fairly easy to learn (just tell me which buttons to push to make it work). I don’t think I could ever go back to drafting documents on a typewriter or give up some of the other technological devices to which I have become addicted.

However, as much as technology makes life easier, I believe there are some things that are still better accomplished the old-fashioned way. I love doing electronic research yet I find that there are some things that are still better accomplished by using a book. I also firmly believe that the best electronic

“I also firmly believe that the best electronic researchers are those who learned how to do good manual research first and know what each category of legal research material does and how they play together; that secondary sources provide a fount of information and that one does not need to jump immediately into primary sources.”
researchers are those who learned how to do good manual research first and know what each category of legal research material does and how they play together; that secondary sources provide a fount of information and that one does not need to jump immediately into primary sources. It is a sad fact that some of the newer attorneys do not even know how to use an index (this fact comes from personal reference experience). Somehow we need to convince the next generation that there are still times when it can be beneficial to integrate paper research with their electronic research; that the world will not come to an end if you use a book.

I am sure as I read this issue, I will learn about some aspect of technology that I have not yet experienced. I may get some ideas as to how to integrate a new process or system into the services we provide in our library since as with all of us in SCCLL, the goal is to provide our researchers with the best information possible in the best and most efficient means possible.

From The Editor’s Desk

Jennifer Dalglish, Clackamas County Law Library (OR)

Recent advancements in technology have undoubtedly changed the way people perform legal research and in some ways increased our abilities to serve patrons quickly and efficiently, but they have also brought with them misperceptions regarding the need for traditional public law libraries. This issue includes articles directly and indirectly affected by technological advancements. The article that begins on page 21 regarding the Texas State Law Library may not appear to be about technology, at first, but there is certainly an element of technological misperceptions at work there. Another way in which public law libraries are being affected by technological advancements is described in the article beginning on page 28 by Laura Frost about the impact eFiling is having on public law libraries. The theme for our next issue is “Research & Marketing.” Happy reading!
**California Law Librarians Post on YouTube**

*Vanessa Uribe, El Dorado County Law Library (CA)*

Who Have You Helped Today?

While not as enthralling as Keyboard Cat or "informative" as Sheen's Korner- some of California's County Law Libraries have worked together to create a short promotional video. In this video we've asked county law library staff to respond to the question: "Who have you helped today?" - and the range of responses in just this video short is a true testament to the remarkable amount of questions we answer on a daily basis.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-YW14T10eg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U-YW14T10eg)

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**Apply for a SCCLL Grant**

*Jane Colwin, SCCLL Grants Committee Chair*

The SCCLL Grants Committee is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for grants to assist our members in attending either the 2011 *Equal Justice Conference*, to be held May 18-21 in Las Vegas, or the *AALL Annual Meeting*, scheduled for July 23-26 In Philadelphia. There will be one $1000 grant awarded for the EJC and two $1000 grants for the Annual Meeting.

The application form is available on the Scholarships and Grants page of SCCLL's website - [http://www.aallnet.org/sis/sccll/annual_meeting/scholarships.htm](http://www.aallnet.org/sis/sccll/annual_meeting/scholarships.htm).

Application Deadline: Annual Meeting, April 15.

Please share this information with fellow SCCLL members who may not be on this listserv.

Good luck, everyone!
AALL Announcements

Get a Free Year of AALL Membership with Nonmember Annual Meeting Registration

AALL offers nonmembers a complimentary one-year membership when they register for the AALL Annual Meeting and Conference, to be held July 23-26 in Philadelphia. The membership includes:

• Career resources, such as the online Career Center and continuing education to help you learn new skills to advance in your career

• Access to specialized information created just for law librarians, such as the Biennial Salary Survey and the Price Index for Legal Publications

• Subscriptions to the monthly magazine, AALL Spectrum, and quarterly journal, Law Library Journal, to help you keep up on the latest trends in law librarianship

• The opportunity to network and connect with other law librarians from across the country who share similar interests and are facing the same challenges

Discounted rates on all AALL products and services, such as publications, webinars, and online job postings

Annual Meeting registration is now open. Register by June 1 at the early bird rate and save $100. Be sure to take advantage of this special offer for nonmembers. (Annual Meeting logo attached; Annual Meeting page link: http://www.aallnet.org/events/; Annual Meeting registration link: http://www.aallnet.org/events/registration.asp.

Renew Your AALL Membership Early for a Chance to Win a Free 2011 AALL Annual Meeting Registration

In March, AALL dues invoices for 2011-2012 will be mailed out to all library directors for their institutionally paid memberships and to all other individual members. The deadline for membership renewal is May 31.

When you renew early—by May 1—you will be entered in a drawing for a free 2011 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference registration. If you renew on time—by May 31—you'll be entered in a drawing for a free AALL webinar of your choice in 2011-2012. Following is the 2011 membership renewal schedule:

• March: First dues invoices mailed out.

• May: Second dues invoices mailed out.
AALL Announcements continued

- **June:** Final dues invoices mailed out.
- **July:** Expiration notices e-mailed to all members—individuals and those paid by institutions.

**August 1:** Expired members deleted from the AALL membership database and access to the AALLNET Members Only Section and *Law Library Journal* and *AALL Spectrum* subscriptions discontinued.

For more information or to renew your membership online, view the application form on AALLNET. If you have any questions about your membership renewal, contact AALL Headquarters at membership@aall.org or 312/205-8022.

AALL2go Pick of the Month

AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: **Web 2.0 Challenge**.

Need a refresher on blogs or RSS? New to creating wikis? Want to know what colleagues are saying about the value of social networking for your library? AALL2go offers you solutions.

The AALL Computing Services Special Interest Section (CS-SIS)'s Web 2.0 Challenge is an online course for law librarians about social media and how to use it in their libraries. It is a comprehensive and social learning opportunity designed for law librarians based on hands-on use of these technologies.

Each of the five sessions includes:

- An introduction to the topic and suggested learning outcomes for the week
- A screen cast explaining the technology with step-by-step instructions on its use
- Links for further learning

Examples of libraries/librarians using the featured tool

An assignment with activities designed to give you hands-on experience with each tool
AALL Announcements continued

Whether you're just browsing some of the articles listed or you're looking for additional ideas for a particular social networking solution, you have the flexibility to decide how much or how little information meets your needs. To follow along with the course, log in as a guest. (Guests may access most course content, but may not contribute to the site.)

Find this and more than 80 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members on AALL2go!

Unleash Your Inner Leader October 28-29

New law librarians in the early stages of your career—achieve your leadership potential by attending the 2011 AALL Leadership Academy, October 28-29 in the Chicago area. Designed as an intensive learning experience aimed at growing and developing leadership skills, the academy program will help you discover how to maximize your personal leadership style while connecting with other legal information professionals.

The program will feature speakers Gail Johnson and Pam Parr. Johnson is a widely regarded leadership and communications expert and holds a Master of Arts in Communication Studies. Parr has extensive business management and customer service expertise. They have conducted many leadership programs for library organizations and will speak at the 2011 American Library Association Annual Conference.

The application period will start April 1, and applications will be due by June 30. Watch for more details coming soon.

Unraveling the Mysteries of the Law Firm Marketing Department

How much do you know about the marketing department in your firm? What does your chief marketing officer (CMO) envision as the biggest challenges and opportunities in this tough business climate? And most importantly for you, what is your role in helping your firm win new business and sustain longstanding and profitable client relationships?

In this installment of the Private Law Libraries (PLL) Change as Action Summit, you will hear from Joe Calve and Kelly Brown of Morrison & Foerster. Calve is MoFo’s chief marketing officer, and Brown is the director of client relations. For the past year, the MoFo Research and Intelligence Group (the library) has reported to Calve and Brown in the Marketing Department. Calve and Brown bring
AALL Announcements continued

A deep understanding of the capabilities of the MoFo Research and Intelligence team, and they are in a unique position to share their thoughts about how libraries can position themselves to become active participants in the practices of their firms by providing research at the highest level, both for business development and for client work.

This program will be videotaped and posted on the PLL website and will be available for free beginning on March 28 on AALL2go. It can be viewed by individual members or by groups. You may want to suggest that your chapter or SIS plan an educational program around the video. For example, tap a marketing director from a local firm to attend a brown bag lunch and watch the video with you; then, follow-up with a Q&A session.

This is the third in a series of five programs moderated by PLL members to provide a primer in law firm management from the view point of firm managers and administrators. The series is part of a two year program undertaken by the Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section (PLL-SIS) of AALL. The goal is to identify significant changes taking place in the legal world, to understand how these changes provide opportunities for assuming leadership roles, and to develop concrete plans for librarians to become leaders within their organizations. The culmination of these efforts, the Change as Action Summit, will take place in Philadelphia on July 23.

Save the Date: April 28 AALL Webinar on Library Technology

The Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section will host AALL’s April webinar, Library and Technology: Finding Common Ground on April 28 at 11 a.m. Central Standard Time. Check the AALL Calendar of Events for more details to come.

Learn to Collaborate and Find Common Ground with Your IT Department

Law firm library and information technology professionals share similar goals and struggle with many of the same issues. As we are all asked to do more with less, the skills that both of these groups bring to the table can be leveraged to increase value and produce results that are not only more effective but also more efficient.

Please join Scott Preston, CIO with Fulbright & Jaworski, and Sarah Clark Kavanagh, CEO of Cable & Clark, for Technology and the Law Firm Library: Finding Common Ground, on April 28, from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. CST.

This webinar will discuss:
AALL Announcements continued

- Perceptions of the law firm technology (from the firm’s library point of view)
- Perceptions of the law firm library (from technology’s point of view)
- Discussion of barriers between groups, common goals, and needs

Discuss methods of effective collaboration

Register by April 21.

(Webinar calendar link: http://www.aallnet.org/calendar/eventdisplay.asp?eid=348&arc=no; Registration link: http://www.regonline.com/lib_tech)

May AALL Webinar: Copyright issues in Distance Education and Training

Join Thomas Lipinski, professor and copyright expert from Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee, on May 5, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. CST, for Copyright Issues in Distance Education and Training as he answers common copyright questions that arise in virtual classes and training sessions. Issues covered during this webinar will include handouts, video usage, participant comments, and post-virtual session issues.

Due to the expansion of distance learning to both the academic and commercial realms, the webinar will look at situations that arise in nonprofit academic institutions as well as law firm online trainings and online professional development sessions.

Learning objectives:

- Discuss how to determine which aspects of U.S. copyright law apply to your institution
- Learn types and amounts of materials that can be circulated to virtual session attendees
- Learn permission requirements and limitations for continued use of recorded online sessions

Register by April 28.

The Washington County Law Library is now back in the Courthouse located on the ground floor in a 4,368 square foot space. We doubled the space we moved from and gained windows! Our space now incorporates an expanded open space for the public, work room with fax and photocopier, 4 conference rooms, room for more public computers, and adequate study space and movable shelving to minimize the footprint our print collections makes.

We also enjoy state of the art technology: automated self-checkout, RFID collection management, and movable shelving. We plan to add wireless technology soon.
State and County Law Libraries Funding and Governance Grid

Laura Orr, Washington County Law Library (OR)

The data on the grid was acquired from state, court, and county law librarians and law library websites around the U.S. Not all of the information was or could be confirmed and we will update the grid as new information is received.

Invaluable information was also gathered from the following sources:


I would not have been able to create and update the grid without assistance from my Washington County (Oregon) Law Library colleagues: Holly Gerber, Assistant Law Librarian, Chrystal Seager, Law Library Assistant, Christi Pingel, Administrative Specialist 2 (Temp).

Grant Applications

Jane Colwin, SCCLL Grants Committee Chair

The SCCLL Grants Committee (Tonya Baroudi, Susan Falk, Anne McDonald, Carol Suhre, Gail Warren & Sharon Wayland) is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for grants to assist our members in attending the AALL Annual Meeting, scheduled for July 23-26 in Philadelphia. There will be two $1000 grants for the Annual Meeting.

The application form is available on the Scholarships and Grants page of SCCLL's website - http://www.aallnet.org/sis/sccll/annual_meeting/scholarships.htm.

Application Deadline for the Annual Meeting is April 15.
2011-2012 SCCLL Board Nominations

Rita Dermody

The 2010 SCCLL Nominating Committee (comprised of Michele Finerty, Sandra Marz, Anne Matthewman, Liz Reppe and Regina Smith, Chair) is pleased to announce the following candidates for the 2011 election:

**Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect (2011-2012)**

Barbara Fritschel, U.S. Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit, Milwaukee, WI

**Member-At-Large (2011-2014)**

Holly Anne Lakatos, California Court of Appeals – 3rd District, Sacramento, CA

Cornell H. Winston, U.S. Attorney’s Office, Los Angeles, CA

The candidates’ background and personal statements can be found on the following pages. The election are being held electronically April 7-20, 2011. Your participation is vital in order to keep our SIS membership strong and to sustain SCCLL SIS as an important and active component of AALL.

The Nominations Committee thanks the candidates for their willingness to take a leadership role in SCCLL. We also thank those who have nominated colleagues or themselves for helping to keep our Section active.
SCCLL Nominations Continued

Barbara Fritschel  
Vice-Chair/Chair Elect 2011-12

Name: Barbara L. Fritschel  
Position: Vice-Chair/Chair Elect  
Employment: Branch Librarian  
2006-present, U.S. Courts Library, Milwaukee, WI  
Education: 
M.L.S., University of Washington, Seattle, 1992  
M.A., Theology, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA, 1987  
J.D., University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1980  
B.S., History/Political Science, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, 1977  
Selected Professional Activities: 
American Association of Law Libraries 1991- 
State, Court and County SIS, 1992-  
Silent Auction Coordinator, 2008-  
SCCLL Board member 2005-2009  
SCCLL Newsletter Editor, 2003-2005  
Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin, 2006- 
Special Libraries Association, 1999-  
Selected Publications: 
“IT’S 10 a.m.: Do You Know Your Client’s Information Needs?”, 14 AALL Spectrum 14 (Nov. 2009)  
Candidate’s Statement: 
With increasing pressures on government budgets, the risk to State, Court and County Law Libraries and their users continues. We need to continue to empower people to become effective advocates for their libraries with their funding entities. I would also like to strengthen our collaboration regarding best practices so that as we find ourselves having to do more with less we can implement programs/ideas that have been successful elsewhere. We also have to better articulate the concrete needs for our libraries, whether or not they are open to the public. I believe that SCCLL, through its’ members, can make positive and vital contributions in these areas.
SCCLL Nominations Continued

Holly Lakatos  
Member at Large (2011-2014)

Employment:
**Law Librarian** (May 2008 to present) *Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District* · Sacramento, CA
**Director of Public Services** (May 2004 to May 2008) *Chicago-Kent Law Library (Illinois Institute of Technology)* · Chicago, IL
**Access Services Librarian** (Sep. 2001 to May 2004) *Tarlton Law Library (University of Texas at Austin, Law School)* · Austin, TX

Education:
M.S. Library & Information Science *The University of North Texas* · Denton, TX
B.A. English *The University of Texas at Austin* · Austin, TX

Professional Activities:
American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), 2000-present  
Continuing Professional Education Committee, 2010-2012
Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee, 2002-2004
Management & Leadership Institute, 2007
Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS, 2005-2007  
Alphabet Soup Planning Committee, 2005 & 2006
Patron Services Committee, 2005-2007
Technical Services SIS, 2010-
State, Court & County Law Libraries SIS, 2010-
Awards Committee, 2010-
Northern California Association of Law Libraries, 2008-present  
Interim Treasurer, 2009
Informal Sacramento Sunshine Week Committee, 2009-present
Western Pacific Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, 2010-present
Special Libraries Association (SLA), 2007-2009
Chicago Association of Law Librarians (CALL), 2004-2008  
Community Services Committee, 2004-2008
Chair, 2005-2006
Meetings Committee, 2005-2008
Public Relations Committee, 2006-2008
SCLL Nominations Continued

Holly Lakatos
Member at Large (2011-2014)

Chair, 2007-2008
Austin Area Law Librarians, 2001-2004
   Steering Committee, 2001-2002
Texas Library Association (TLA), 2000-2004

Publications:


Presentations:
“The Impact of WestlawNext on Legal Research and Legal Research Instruction: A Court Librarian’s Perspective” at the WestPac 2010 Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA): panelist.

“Developing Your Supervisory Skills: Motivating and Retaining Unionized, Tenured, or Nonprofessional Employees” at the American Association of Law Libraries 2010 Annual Conference (Denver, CO): coordinator and moderator.


Awards:
Mersky-Leiter “Spirit of Law Librarianship” Award, 2006
UT Law School Outstanding Service Award, 1997 & 1998

Candidate’s Statement:
I am honored to be nominated as a Member at Large. SCLL SIS has been a cooperative group of colleagues who have helped me explore the various facets of what it means to serve the public and the courts while being a good steward of the public trust. I believe that as these challenging economic times continue, we must continue to assist members who are facing reduced funding or are placed in the middle of political debates. We must continue to support each other in our common goals and work for reducing the cost of information while expanding its reach. I look forward working with SCCLL members to help make the profession stronger.
SCCLL Nominations Continued

Cornell H. Winston
Member at Large (2011-2014)

Employment:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001 - Present</td>
<td>Law Librarian / Records Center Supervisor</td>
<td>United States Attorney's Office Central District of California Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1992-2001</td>
<td>Law Librarian</td>
<td>Sutcliffe LLP</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989 - 1992</td>
<td>Reference Librarian</td>
<td>Whittier College School of Law</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987 - 1992</td>
<td>Assistant Librarian</td>
<td>Munger, Tolles &amp; Olson</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
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Education:

- M. A. Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA
- B. A. University of California, Irvine

Professional Activities:


2010 – 2011 Vice Chair, Black Caucus of the American Association of Law Libraries

2006 – 2009 Member, Executive Board

PRESENTATIONS

AALL Board Updates to Chapters:

- April 2009 MichALL Spring Meeting
- September 2008 WestPac Annual Meeting
- April 2008 AzALL Chapter Meeting
- November 2007 LLAW Chapter Meeting
### SCCLL Nominations Continued

#### Cornell H. Winston

**Member at Large (2011-2014)**

- April 2007  
  SWALL Annual Meeting
- March 2007  
  CALL Chapter Meeting

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<tr>
<th>Year span</th>
<th>Committee/Committee Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007 – 2009</td>
<td>Executive Board Finance and Budget Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Member, Appointments Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004-2006</td>
<td>Member, Annual Meeting Program Committee</td>
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<td>(2006 Annual Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri)</td>
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<td>2004-2006</td>
<td>Member, Awards Committee</td>
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<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>Member, Council of Chapter Presidents</td>
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<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>Nominations Committee</td>
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<td>(Chair, 2001)</td>
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<td>1999 - 2002</td>
<td>Index to Periodical Literature Committee</td>
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<td>(Chair, 2000-2001)</td>
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<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>Local Arrangements Advisory Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Chair, Closing Banquet)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1998 Annual Meeting  Anaheim, California</td>
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**State, Court & County Special Interest Section (2002 – Present)**

- 2003-2004  
  Member, Membership and Mentoring Committee

**Private Law Librarians Special Interest Section (1992 – Present)**

- 2001-2002  
  Member, Education Committee (Orlando Meeting)
- 1997-1999  
  Member, Grants Committee (Chair, 1998-1999)

**Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL) (1987-Present)**

<table>
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<th>Year span</th>
<th>Committee/Committee Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>38th Annual Institute Committee</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Member, Speaker’s Committee)</td>
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<td>2001-2004</td>
<td>Member Executive Board</td>
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<td>(Vice-President/President-Elect 2001-2002; President 2002-2003)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997-1999</td>
<td>Awards Committee (Chair 1998-1999)</td>
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<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>Member, Executive Board</td>
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<td>1995-1996</td>
<td>Grants Committee (Chair)</td>
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<td>SCALL Institute Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994-1995</td>
<td>Arrangements Committee (Chair)</td>
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</table>
SCCLL Nominations Continued

Cornell H. Winston
Member at Large (2011-2014)

1992-1994  Newsletter Committee

Publications:

“Remembering Bob Oakley”  Law Library Journal 100:2  (Spring 2008)

Presentations:

2010 – 2006  From Rookie to Veteran: Navigating the AALL Annual Meeting
Presented at Conference of Newer Law Librarians (CONELL) Sessions
During the Annual Meeting

2003  Discussion Facilitator: “Chapter Special Events”
Roundtable Discussion at 2003 Council of Chapter President’s Meeting, Seattle, Washington

Program C-6  2002 Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida

Candidate’s Statement:

It is both an honor and a privilege to be nominated to serve on the SCCLL Executive Board. Throughout my life, I have been taught that education is key and that learning and adapting to new environments should never stop. It is what we learn from others that enables us to embrace new ideas and adapt to changes in our lives.

In the midst of our current economic environment, our libraries are undergoing major changes in this new millennium as well as this decade. How we are funded? Who are our real patrons? How will we respond to our patrons needs when the foundation is shifting? Yes, there are challenges, but there are also new opportunities for librarians to act as change agents in our various institutions.

The SCCLL-SIS is here to help our members navigate these new environments with minimal frustration. Our SIS is the best resource and user guide for law librarians working in public libraries. I would be honored to represent our interest on the SCCLL-SIS Executive Board and with AALL.
The Texas State Law Library, established as the law library for the Supreme Court in 1854, and expanded to include direct service to the public in 1971, has been recommended for $0 funding in both House and Senate Appropriations Bills.

In addition to providing research support to the courts and the public, the State Law Library offers a centralized, cost-effective research facility for the Office of the Attorney General, and all of the other agencies of state government. Closure of the State Law Library will have a significant impact on the efficiency and effectiveness of legal research conducted by state agency staff, and it will degrade access to the justice system for all Texas citizens.

The legal research needs of the courts and state government will continue after the library is closed. Inevitably, the cost of this research will increase, and the quality of the research will deteriorate as agencies and the courts are forced to purchase their own research materials or find other sources of information. The professional staff of the State Law Library excels at finding requested information efficiently and economically. Loss of this staff assistance will make legal research more difficult for the agencies. Finding another library providing comparable resources will be a challenge. It has been suggested that the University of Texas at Austin law library can substitute for the State Law Library. Unfortunately, this solution works better in theory than in practice. The UT library is not set up to support the legal research needs of state government; it does not have the space to store the State Law Library’s materials; lack of parking will be an ongoing problem, as will lack of access due to library closure during academic breaks and vacations. In addition the UT Law Library staff has its priority to serve the students and faculty of the law school; their collection of resources, training and experience are all based on that mission, not supporting the needs of the appellate courts or a multi-faceted state government law practice.

The library also supports the judiciary by providing a fee-based copy service for the case files maintained by the Court of Criminal Appeals, Supreme Court and 3rd Court of Appeals. The library provides a centralized, efficient service, which relieves the three courts of this multi-step task and allows affordable access to files for inmates, their families and their attorneys who are working on appeals. The SLL also provides reference assistance to these inmates and fills document delivery requests for information and materials not available to inmates in the prison libraries.

“The Texas State Law Library, established as the law library for the Supreme Court in 1854, and expanded to include direct service to the public in 1971, has been recommended for $0 funding in both House and Senate Appropriations Bills.”
In addition to assisting the courts and state agencies, the State Law Library spends a great deal of time working with the general public, guiding them through the labyrinth of the Texas legal system. Daily, citizens in their roles as consumers, renters, landlords, employers, homeowners, and small business owners come to the library or contact the library by email or telephone seeking help understanding the law. The economic crisis that has swept the country has had a devastating impact on the financial affairs of many Texas families. Every day the library receives questions from frustrated, desperate people wanting to know how the law affects their particular situation. These callers are citizens facing layoffs, foreclosures, repossessions, scam artists, and legal penalties. Many of these callers are referred to the library from other agencies or organizations that do not have the resources or the expertise to help them find the pertinent laws they are seeking.

Library staff does not provide legal advice but can help the citizen navigate the law in order for them to make informed decisions about their options. It is a great example of a government agency empowering the citizen to play a part in solving their own problems, or at least to understand what is needed. Closure of the State Law Library will leave these people with nowhere to turn. Public libraries do not have the resources currently offered by the State Law Library, and their staffs do not have the experience guiding the untrained user through the intricacies of the law. Proposed cuts in funding to public libraries will further exacerbate this deficiency. County law libraries would be able to help some of these patrons, but they vary significantly in services offered. Currently only 59 of the 254 Texas counties maintain any type of legal collection. Not all of these collections are open to the public or have staff which can provide guidance in using the collection.

One additional beneficiary of the State Law Library must be noted – the Texas legal community. The library has been an extremely valuable resource for attorneys throughout the state. Not only does the library maintain a current collection of core legal materials but its historical collection of statutes, regulations and treatises are often invaluable in legal research, and they are not readily available elsewhere. Library staff receives questions daily from attorneys, both solo practitioners and members of large firms, in search of elusive documents, obscure cites or access to treatises outside the scope of their normal practice. The library has been in a unique position to respond to
these requests within hours by sending electronic copies of the requested text or individual volumes needed for review.

The State Law Library is more than stacks of dusty law books. It is a carefully selected collection of paper and electronic books and databases assembled to help attorneys, judges and citizens to use and understand the law. It is a staff of skilled professionals, experienced in assisting a wide variety of clients to use library resources to interpret the law, pass judgments and to solve problems. Although there is a wealth of legal information available on the Internet and through commercial databases, it is more important than ever for skilled professionals to provide a filter for the untrained user, as well as the busy attorney. High costs and the glut of information (both good and bad) make legal research trickier than ever. Closure of the library will lead to inefficiencies in legal research at all levels in state government. It will pose obstacles for attorneys requiring assistance with historical materials, and it will inhibit the public’s access to the legal system in Texas.

Texas state government is facing critical decisions on funding priorities. The many needs being presented are compelling and not every program can be supported. Continuation of the State Law Library and the services provided to the citizens of Texas deserves further consideration.

One possible approach to maintain the library’s invaluable historic collection and the critical services provided by its staff would be to find an alternative source of funding for the library. If the library cannot be a high enough priority for the requested general revenue funding, perhaps supplementing a reduced GR appropriation with income from increased fees or relevant taxes could be considered.

The State Law Library requested the following budget for the next biennium:

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<thead>
<tr>
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The library would be able to continue providing current services to the public and basic services to the courts, at a reduced level of appropriation. This option however, would not actually save the state money – in fact, it would increase costs to the state because the courts would have to pick up the cost to cover lost service. Cost of materials would increase because the library now gets a discount for volume purchases. The cost of staffing to provide the copy service would be increased due to the need for duplicative operations in each court.

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Staff: 10 FTEs

**Option 2: Fund original core library functions for courts and state agencies**

This option would preserve the State Law Library’s historic collection, and essential staff while reducing the mission to its original goal of serving as the law library for state government and the top appellate courts. This option would maintain the core services of the library while keeping the infrastructure intact to allow restoring service to the public as the state’s financial situation improves.

The library would focus on providing basic reference assistance to state agencies and the courts. The library would reduce staff and update the book collection only for critical materials. Service would be considerably less than what is currently available.

The following services would be limited to state agency and court staff

- Telephone reference service
- Document delivery
- Use of the library and its historical materials
- Loan of materials
The Library would be closed to the public (including pro-se litigants, private practice attorneys, and general public) the following services would be eliminated:

- Public access to Westlaw and legal reference databases
- Telephone, walk-in and email reference service
- Document delivery from historical materials
- Use of library materials in the library
- Some non-core services to the Judiciary and state agencies would be eliminated:
  - Copy service for inmate files
  - Purchase and maintenance of books for court offices
  - Service to callers referred from state agencies

### FY2012 FY2013

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Staff: 8 FTEs

Supplement a reduced General Revenue appropriation with revenue from fees to provide services to the public as well as the courts and state agencies. This option would support all of the services outlined in Option 2 and continuation of current services to the public. Fees could be assessed on one or more elements of the public which would directly benefit from the restoration of library services to the public, or could be based on court filing fees, or a combination.
The library would be open to the public and the following services would be continued:

Public access to Westlaw and online legal reference databases
Walk-in staff assistance to the general public and pro-se litigants
Copy service for court files would be reinstated
Library staff would handle callers referred from other state agencies
Self-help legal materials would be available
Electronic access to thousands of historical documents and treatises would be available in the library via public access computers
Key legal materials and treatises would be kept up to date supporting attorneys throughout the state needing access to materials outside their normal scope of practice.
Document delivery service from the library’s current and historical materials would be available statewide through PDF copies or interlibrary loan
Professional reference support for attorneys and court staff throughout the state would be available via telephone, email or interactively through library website.
Public libraries, county law libraries, county and municipal government officials would have access to professional law librarians to assist them in answering questions received.
An enhanced library website would keep the legal community abreast of new materials acquired by the library and recommended titles available in key practice areas.
Monthly CLE courses for attorneys
Access to legal materials via adaptive technology for patrons with visual disabilities
Purchase and maintenance of books for court offices
Library materials could be borrowed for use off-site
### TEXAS STATE LIBRARY, 1854 – 2011?

**continued**

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Staff: 12.5FTEs

Some Examples of fees that could be considered:

- **Legal Services Fee paid by Attorneys** – Currently, attorneys pay $65 per year. An increase of $10 per year would generate nearly $650,000 (**Legal Services Fee**: Govt. Code sec. 81.054(j))

- **“Public Law Library” fee** – A new fee paid by attorneys, similar to the Legal Services Fee could be introduced at $10 per year to generate the target amount.

- **County Law Library Fund** currently receives fees for each civil case filed in county or district court. Some portion of these fees could be used from those counties without a viable law library to acquire services from the State Law Library. Currently, some of those fees are not being used for library service.

- **SB 726 by Rodriguez on Feb. 16th** proposes a new Judicial Access and Improvement Account funded by a combination of fees and court costs that would authorize the Supreme Court to use up to $1 million “to provide state law library services.”

- One other possibility would be to increase the Occupation Tax paid by attorneys. Currently, attorneys pay $200 per year. An increase of $10 per year would generate around $650,000 (**Occupational Tax**: Tax Code 191.142). An increase of $20 per year would completely fund the library and allow the library to significantly improve the services provided to attorneys throughout the state.
TEXAS STATE LIBRARY, 1854 – 2011?

continued

NOTICE

State Law Library to Close – 2011

Both House Bill One and its companion Senate Bill One eliminate all funding to the State Law Library. Unless funding is restored the library will be closed.

We realize this will have an adverse impact on your ability to conduct legal research. We will keep you posted on the budget process.

To express your opinion:

Notify your Texas Senate or Texas House of Representatives Member Don’t know who represents you? Go to: http://www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us/


State Agency Personnel - Notify your Agency Head of the impact of the closure of the State Law Library.

Sign the petition circulated by the Austin Community College Paralegal Association: http://bit.ly/SLLpetition

Thank you for your concern!

Texas State Law Library

205 W 14th Street

Austin, TX 78701

512-463-1722

library@sll.state.tx.us
eFile? Isn’t That Something Your Tax Guy Does?

Laura Frost, Clark County Law Library (NV)

In recent years, e-filing has expanded outward from the dark corners of tax time into the day to day life of the court clerks. E-filing simply means to electronically file a document (or set of documents). This method of filing documents has become common place in many court houses in larger cities. Many even have mandatory e-filing requirements. Even if your particular jurisdiction hasn’t yet fully joined the digital age, it doesn’t hurt to brush up on the lingo and implications coming down the pike.

The majority of lower level courts that use e-filing have contracted with a third party vendor to service their e-filing needs. For instance, the second Judicial District in Washoe County, Nevada, uses Tybera Development Group and only allows registered attorneys to use the system. They also require a $100 annual e-filing fee from the attorneys that wish to use their system. The eighth Judicial District in Clark County, Nevada, uses Wiznet to service their e-filing needs. This system operates differently than Tybera in a few very important ways. In the eighth District, e-filing is mandatory. This means that all filers, pro se and attorney alike must use the electronic system. This system charges an additional fee, above the filing fee, for each item processed through the system.

At the Federal level, e-filing has been a daily part of life for around a decade. Bankruptcy court has mandatory e-filing for all bankruptcy attorneys, but allows pro se patrons to file using paper copies. Their website has very detailed information on how to file using the ECF (Electronic Case Filing System). Federal court also uses the same ECF system to electronically file documents. The Federal court also has made it mandatory for all attorneys to use the ECF system. Unlike some of the local level systems, there is no additional fee for attorneys that wish to use the system.

If e-filing becomes mandatory in your library, there are some issues that may need to be addressed. Many county libraries have very limited resources available to allocate to new computers or increased internet security, not to mention more training for their staff on how to use the new filing systems. And what about the libraries that are not fully in charge of their computer settings? What’s it going to take to convince your IT department to allow the use of email and credit cards on “their” machines?
eFile?

Continued

E-filing is coming to a court near you. Maybe not today, but it will eventually arrive in the wake of streamlining functions, saving paper, and saving money. One major benefit to utilizing e-filing is the ability to file documents at any time of the day. This has allowed larger, more detailed cases to be filed from the office during system slow times (which makes the system run faster for everyone). Will it be a huge pain, like that neighbor kid down the street with their thumping loud car? Or will it be the sweet little Girl Scout with her addictive thin mints? Only time will tell, and I’m hoping for the Girl Scout.

2011 Silent Auction-Philadelphia Freedom

Barbara Fritschel, Silent Auction Committee

Okay, I’m not sure how “Philadelphia Freedom” fits into the silent auction, unless you consider the proceeds make it possible for people to attend the conference. We offer generous travel grants, made possible by the donations of our members.

Once again the silent auction will have both an online and in person component. Paula Doty, Nevada courts, will run the online auction blog which will open a few weeks before the annual meeting and will end at the SCCLL breakfast in Philadelphia.

As always, we are looking for great donations. Hand crafted items, small items and gift certificates are always welcome. Basically we are looking for stuff that will be easily transported by airplane. Jewelry, scarves, books, tape, and food (chocolate!!!) have all been popular items.

Also, don’t forget to apply for the grants. They certainly go a long way to covering meeting expenses.

If you have any questions or are interested in donating items, please contact Barbara Fritschel at Barbara_Fritschel@ca7.uscourts.gov. Watch the list serve for more details in June.
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(307) 777-7509
kcarlson@courts.state.wy.us

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ammathewman@tlaline.ca

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The Back Page

Member News & Announcements

On November 14, 2010, Jennifer Dalglish gave birth to a beautiful baby boy and eventually named him Tulson Jack. As Editor of this newsletter, she threatened the readers with pictures of his adorable little face if she didn’t receive any Member News. Well, you asked for it! Here they are: