

Legal History and Rare Books SIS 2006-07

One of the central purposes of the Legal History and Rare Books Special Interest Section (LHRB) is to promote the study and appreciation of legal history and rare books. It continues to excel in this arena through our educational programming. At the 2006 Annual Meeting, which celebrated the centennial of our organization and highlighted a wide variety of legal history topics, we were pleased to sponsor two programs. "Colonial Virginia's Legal History" was presented by Joel Fishman, Warren Billings, and David Konig. "Forging Connections with Library Friends Groups" was presented by Mark Podvia, Carol Billings, and Jennie Meade. Our roundtable, "The 1906 World," was an entertaining historical review of legal education, law practice, world events, literature, clothing, sports, and industry presented by Mark Podvia, Carol Billings, Beth Chamberlain, Stacy Etheredge, Lucinda Harrison-Cox, and Kurt Metzmeier. We were also pleased to co-sponsor the AALL Centennial Committee's "Promoting the Past to Assure the Future: The Lure of Legal History." In addition to Carol Billings, Katherine Hedin, and Anne Peters as speakers, this program featured a memorable theatrical presentation by Paul Baier.

Mark Podvia continued his superb editing of the *LHRB Newsletter*, excellently assisted by Articles Coeditors Patricia Turpening, Jennie Meade, and Kurt Metzmeier. Karen Beck served as the Member News & Recent Acquisitions Editor, and Joel Fishman served as the Book Review Editor. Morris Cohen and Sarah Yates also regularly contribute articles. The *LHRB Newsletter* has a great mix of substantive research, practical information, and membership news. Patricia has stepped down as an Articles Coeditor, and we heartily thank her for her many years of newsletter service.

Kurt Metzmeier continued to adeptly manage the LHRB Web site. In addition to providing current and all archive *LHRB Newsletter* issues, the Web site features general information on LHRB, access to our official LHRB listserv, links to numerous legal history Web sites, and a 40-year index of the *American Journal of Legal History*.

Two key LHRB projects rapidly coming to fruition are a legal history essay contest for library science, law, and graduate history students, and the establishment of publishing guidelines for our SIS. These ventures will further LHRB's objective to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information concerning legal history and rare books, as well as effectively manage LHRB-sponsored or LHRB-affiliated publications. A special announcement regarding the essay contest will be made at, or soon after, the 2007 Annual Meeting.

2007-08 LHRB officers will be Karen Beck, Chair; Stacy Etheredge, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; and Sarah Yates, Secretary/Treasurer. As I step down from being LHRB Chair, I wish to express my sincere thanks to my fellow LHRB officers and all our LHRB volunteers for their time and efforts. I will be continuing to act as Educator Coordinator for LHRB, and look forward to working with all of you in the coming year!

Laura Ray, Chair
2006-07