What is a library? I spent much of the last semester wrestling that question to the ground. At the end of my wrestling match, I stand in awe of all that a library is and does and all the value we as librarians bring to our communities. My conclusion is that libraries are vibrant and evolving, complex networks designed to facilitate access to and processing of information for a variety of unique constituents.

When I started my quest for the meaning of “library,” I did what anyone does these days. I Googled the definition of a library. Google’s definition is unimpressive and lacking—as in “a building or room containing collections of books, periodical, and sometimes films and recorded music for people to read, borrow, or refer to.” In connection with another project, I was recently informed that a library is HeinOnline, and while that might be a great plug for Hein (and as wonderful as Hein is), I am firmly in the camp that believes a library is more than books, databases, or seats.

Recently it dawned upon me that I was about to complete a decade at my University. In this moment of reflection, I sat down and wrote a list of all that the library had accomplished in that time. I will assert that the list I created gives new definition to the phrase “duties as assigned.” I will further suggest that anyone reading this column could create a similar list that would shock and awe the reader as to what goes on in a library. Librarians excel at making the impossible happen. That faculty member who needs that elusive article yesterday? No problem. Research assistance? We’ve got you covered. Produce a report comparing the curriculums of peer schools, prepare for an ABA site visit, create and assess student learning outcomes for accreditation? All easy—let the librarians do it. The list of what is accomplished in a library is never-ending but, perhaps what is most important: such a list is a microcosm of all that a library is, and yet seems to fly under the radar.

Happy New Year! Was 2017 a bumpy ride for you? We have had political turmoil, natural and manmade disasters, scandal and intrigues. I, for one, am ready to turn over a new leaf.

This issue offers some great inspirations. Start planning your Library Week celebrations, and share your ideas with colleagues by contributing to the new toolkit being put together by ALL-SIS’s Library Marketing & Outreach Committee (see page 5). Think about your professional development—heed the Call for Papers (see page 4); consider attending the next IAALS conference (see page 2. And remember to feed your brain: A Law Librarian in the Dark reviews The Salesman (see page 12), and regular contributor Benjamin Keele launches his new Copyright Explainer column with some thoughts on fixation (see page 13).

As always, contact the Editor, at iwang@law.berkeley.edu, with your feedback, questions, ideas and articles.
In my wrestling match, I became hyper-focused on the “flying under the radar” concept. A library is so many things, and often different things to different people. What one patron values, another dismisses; and often all that anyone cares about is how quickly you respond to their particular need. Marketing and highlighting what we do to multiple and different audiences is one concept to which I continuously returned. I confess marketing often falls to the bottom of my to-do list not as a recognition of its value or need but merely as recognition of competing demands for time.

Every January, as the new year begins, I embrace the concept of cleansing and purging. I clean my office, set up a new calendar, and generally embrace a fresh-start mentality. As you begin 2018, I invite you to consider two questions. The first—What is a library? And second—How do you increase awareness of what a library is and the value your library brings to your community? Be prepared to struggle and, yes, wrestle, with these questions. When I write them out they seem straightforward and to the point but, I will warn you, they are deceptive. These are complex questions with intricate answers. I suspect the answers will also add bullet points to your to-do list and demand time in your schedules.

I will leave you with one additional thought to ponder. Stephanie Wilson and Edward Hart report on the 2017 Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (or IAALS) Conference in this issue. I was fortunate to attend a faculty workshop by a member of IAALS. I recommend reading the full report on Foundations for Practice (available at [http://www.iaals.du.edu](http://www.iaals.du.edu)), if for no other reason than its highlight of the importance of legal research: 83.7% of those responding identified the ability to effectively research the law as needed upon graduation.

Also consider the second runner-up: “identify relevant facts, legal issues and information gaps or discrepancies,” at 71%. For most of us—be it through advanced legal research, first year research courses, ad hoc programming, or one-on-one instruction—effective research instruction and information literacy are, yes, another of those things that falls into what a library is.

Happy New Year!
Caroline ☺

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**A Report on the 2017 IAALS Conference—Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers: To Serve Tomorrow’s Clients**

Stephanie Wilson, Seattle University School of Law
Edward T. Hart, University of North Texas—Dallas, College of Law

The Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS) at the University of Denver has the mission “to forge innovative and practical solutions to problems in our system in collaboration with the best minds in the country.” They put forward the idea:

“The American legal system is in crisis, the causes of which are complex and interrelated. A trusted and trustworthy legal system is essential to our democracy, our economy, and our freedom. To earn that trust, the legal system must be just, impartial, and responsive.”

Since opening in 2006, the Institute has carried out a number of research projects and programs to address this crisis. One project is Foundations for Practice, which seeks to clearly identify the competencies, skills, characteristics and qualities that new lawyers need to be practice-ready when they graduate from law school. Another effort has been their annual Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers Conference, at which educators, lawyers, organizations, and others can showcase how they are preparing new lawyers to face this crisis.

The sixth annual conference was held on 5-7 October 2017 and had the theme “Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers … to Serve Tomorrow’s Clients.” By putting the client in the forefront, IAALS highlighted that often in the debate about preparing new lawyers to be practice-ready we focus on the law student and potential employers, but not on the clients they will serve. At this conference the authors of this article were selected along with others to give Ignite presentations on the first day of the conference. The fifteen Ignite presentations kicked off the conference with a kaleidoscopic vision of the individual efforts innovators are pursing at their law schools.

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For the Winter 2017 feature of “The View from the Trenches” we have an excellent story focusing on the joys of catering. I know we all can relate to his experiences with the unexpected duties that come along with being a law librarian. Please enjoy!

**Dear Leader, Who is a Perfect Incarnation of the Appearance One Who Buys Catering Should Have**

**Patrick Parsons, Georgia State University College of Law**

Let me introduce myself. My name is Patrick, and I am a professional librarian, legal research instructor, and party planner at the Georgia State College of Law Library. The last title is obviously a joke. I am far from a professional. However, I have reached a strange juncture in my career where I find myself ordering food for groups of people on an alarmingly regular basis.

First and foremost, I’m the chair of Georgia State Law Library PIE Committee. PIE stands for “Party and Information Exchange.” Yes I agree, someone who came before me was way too into acronyms (I’m looking at you, Deborah and Austin). This involves a pretty big Thanksgiving holiday luncheon, and any other shindigs the committee finds necessary to boost morale and fill stomachs. I’m not alone in these endeavors, as there is a committee. Regardless I feel like this commitment requires 5 to 10 food buys a year.

I’m also the VP/ President elect of the Atlanta Law Library Association (ALLA). I know what you’re thinking – Oh, that’s a nice leadership opportunity! I would agree with you. The ALLA is great. But can you guess my #1 duty in preparation for becoming the president of this organization? You got it—Plan the joint ALLA/ SLA holiday party. On top of that, add our student outreach stuff—peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, coffee, and snacks for finals, plus 2 lunches per semester for our law library’s student advisory council. Let’s just say I submit a lot of receipts for reimbursements. I’ve even taken some inspiration from Kim Jong Un himself and given myself a few new titles for my email signature line. These include “Dear Leader, Who Is a Perfect Incarnation of the Appearance One Who Buys Catering Should Have,” “Eternal General Secretary of the PIE Committee,” “Great Man, Who Is a Man of PIE Deeds,” and “Superior Person.” Yes, I know that last one has nothing to do with party planning, but I just like to remind my coworkers.

Then, on top of all that, I’m the chair of the PEGA-SIS social committee. All I have to say is, get ready PEGA-SIS. Start pega-prepping now—this is what I’ve trained for (apparently).

Through all of this food buying, I’ve made a few observations. They are as follows:

1. Good catering vs. bad catering has nothing to do with the food, and everything to do with how fast they return emails and send invoices. I tried for a week to get a hold of one Atlanta restaurant. Instead of returning my calls and emails, they send me an invoice. Even considering their delicious fried chicken, they are now dead to me. Dead!
2. With students, novelty trumps quality. I’m pretty sure if I put out steak and PB&J sandwiches, the latter would be gone first.
3. Setting out peanut butter and jelly sandwich fixins during finals requires you to go to ALDI (or anywhere else) and buy a cartload of nut butters, jellies, breads, and off brand marshmallow crème “fluff.” This will inevitably lead the cashier to look at you like you’re a crazy person with the worst diet in the state of Georgia.
4. Delivery fees are highway robbery. I don’t care if the school is paying, I was raised in rural western

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I still cringe about that time Panera charged me a $30 catering fee ....

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The View from the Trenches—Dear Leader ...

Pennsylvania and I am cheap in all regards! I still cringe about that time Panera charged me a $30 catering fee for a $110 order. That’s 30%! If you have the time, pick up.

5. Free food ≠ dramaless food. There was a 120-comment thread on the Student Bar Association Facebook page about the timing of our PB&J giveaway. The whole incident is now affectionately referred to as PB&Jgate. One student even dressed up as a PB&J sandwich for their party this year and held a sign that read “Not my PB&J.” Inspiring a Halloween costume might be my proudest moment as a law librarian.

6. Buy your own drinks, desserts, and salads. Again, I’m cheap. The big bin of salad mix, some cherry tomatoes, some dried fruit, nuts, and dressing might run you $15. Dump it all in a big bowl and you’ll look like librarian Martha Stewart.

7. That being said, cheap is tiring. Sometimes it’s ok to pay the catering fee, just so long as you grumble about it.

8. Nothing tastes as good when you have to do the ordering. You might think “Oh, this will be great. I’ll get to order what I like.” That is true, but by the end of the meal, you really just want to see it all go away so you can get back to the other things you’re supposed to be doing.

9. Coworkers who help clean up are wonderful people. Students who help clean up are angels from heaven. I sort of expect it from coworkers—you know, professional courtesy and all. But when a student offers to stick around and help clean up, it warms the heart.

10. That one appreciative person makes it all worthwhile. Everyone always says thanks, but sometimes there’s that one person who really appreciates all the effort you put in. We have a person like that on our student advisory council. I’d run through a wall for him.

Happy 2018! Here’s to a new year and new resolutions! Do you have an article draft you started and haven’t yet finished? A manuscript that just needs a little polishing? An idea for an article that you haven’t yet written? Now is the time to get to work because the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers is here! The Call for Papers Committee is looking forward to your submissions.

The deadline for the Open, New Member, and Short Divisions is March 1, 2018.
The deadline for the Student Division is May 16, 2018.

In this running feature, we want to hear your stories. Share those moments, both challenging and rewarding, that made you love the profession or rekindled your fire for the job that you do. If there is a story that inspired change in your library, we would love to hear it. Send any stories you would like to share to khanschke@nccu.edu.
Focus on Marketing & Outreach

New Library Week Toolkit for Outreach: Seeking Your Ideas

by Amelia Landenberger, University of Kentucky College of Law
on behalf of the ALL-SIS Library Marketing & Outreach Committee

The ALL-SIS Marketing and Outreach Committee wants to hear your ideas for Library Week outreach events or advertising. This year, we are creating a new Library Week Toolkit that provides a repository of outreach event ideas, starting with out-of-the-box celebration ideas to promote your law library each April, or whenever it is convenient for you. While each school will put its own spin on outreach events and tailor them to the particular audiences involved, we know that some of the best events come from borrowed ideas, and sometimes all it takes is one thought to spark planning for an excellent student-focused event. We need your help to make this happen!

ALA’s National Library Week takes place each April, usually during the second full week of April. The upcoming National Library Weeks will be April 8-14, 2018, April 7-13, 2019, and April 19-25, 2020. Mark your calendars now so you can plan ahead. ALA has a wealth of promotional material for the event, including printable and Instagram-able materials to promote your library. While none of these materials are specific to law libraries, they may still be useful for you to promote library services generally. For example, the law library at the University of Utah used the printable table tents from ALA to promote national library week last year. Some of the tents that might be particularly relevant for law libraries include messages such as “Because not everything on the internet is true,” and “Because employers want candidates who know the difference between a web search and research.”

Some law libraries have celebrated National Library Week with events on their own, or as part of their university’s main library’s celebrations. For example, at the University of Utah the law library participates in the main library’s successful Thank a Librarian program. At the University of Wisconsin Law Library, National Library Week is celebrated with Faculty and

Prof. Leslie Francis thanks Melissa Bernstein, Director of the James E. Faust Law Library at University of Utah – “Melissa always keeps me up to date! #ThankALibrarian”

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Focus on Marketing & Outreach—
New Library Week Toolkit for Outreach ...

Staff READ Posters, Trivia Night, Reading Recommendations, and a book give-away. They also get reading recommendations from faculty and staff to share on a LibGuide.¹ Last year, the University of Wisconsin held an open house that included a thematic library week cake. These are the sorts of ideas that other libraries could borrow from to create programming of their own, and we’re grateful to these two libraries for being some of the first to contribute to this idea repository and for being willing to share their Library Week activities with other libraries.

As the Outreach Librarian at my library, I wish I had done more last year to promote National Library Week. Unfortunately, the timing is not ideal for the academic law library semester. After Halloween in the fall semester, and after Spring Break in the spring semester, students have very little interest in any events which are unrelated to exams. Instead of celebrating the law library in April, I have focused my outreach activities around other holidays with better timing, such as Constitution Day, Halloween, and Mardi Gras. The academic calendar has distinct ebbs and flows of student enthusiasm, but the end of the semesters are particularly difficult for students and for me. By the second week of April, I would have a hard time convincing students to stop studying for ten minutes, and I wouldn’t expect to garner enthusiastic participation in Library Week activities.

This past summer, I attended a law librarians’ conference at Northern Kentucky University’s Chase College of Law. One of the librarians at the conference mentioned that they had the same thought about the timing of National Library Week—it’s too close to exams. Instead, they celebrate National Law Library Week, which is a few weeks earlier than National Library Week, allowing students to fully participate in the activities without feeling the looming dread of exams. I think this is an absolutely brilliant idea, and one I hope to replicate at my school. I believe that there are more ideas like this out there, just waiting to be shared.

If you have ideas for Library Week events, or more general outreach events that might be able to be adapted for Library Week or library celebrations at any other time of the year, send them to the ALL-SIS Marketing and Outreach Committee Chair, Vicki Szymczak (vjs777@hawaii.edu) or to me, Amelia Landenberger (Amelia.Land@uky.edu). We look forward to reading and sharing your ideas!

¹ University of Wisconsin Law Library, National Library Week 2017, [http://law.wisc.libguides.com/c.php?g=650093&p=4558032](http://law.wisc.libguides.com/c.php?g=650093&p=4558032) (last visited Dec. 18, 2017). Thank you to Amelia for this installment of the Focus on Marketing & Outreach column contributed by the ALL-SIS Committee on Library Marketing & Outreach. For more information on University of Wisconsin’s National Library Week celebrations, see Bonnie Shucha’s contribution to The View from the Trenches column, “Sharing a Hug During National Library Week” in last year’s Spring/Summer issue (at page 2).

— Ed.
There are new faces at Georgetown Law Library. Kristina Alayan reports that Georgetown is delighted to welcome two new hires to the Law Library team:

Jorge Juarez is their new Reference Librarian and Instructional Services Coordinator. He comes to Georgetown by way of the rainy Pacific Northwest, where he spent the past ten years as the Reference and Instructional Services Librarian at Lewis & Clark Law School’s Boley Law Library. Prior to that, Jorge spent two years as a Reference Librarian at Santa Clara University School of Law in the Bay Area. Jorge earned his BA from Duke University, his MLIS from the University of Washington and a JD from St. Mary’s University School of Law.

Savanna Nolan will be joining the Georgetown team as a Reference Librarian. She comes from the University of Baltimore, where she worked as a Digital Reference Librarian after completing her Master’s Degree in Library and Information Science. While completing her MLIS, Savanna worked as the Digital Services Assistant at Catholic University’s DuFour Law Library. She earned her JD from the University of Georgia and worked at their law library while studying for the bar.

The University of Minnesota Law Library also has two new hires. Connie Lenz is pleased to report that Andrew Martineau and Sandy Jacobson have joined the Library’s reference department.

As the Instructional Services Librarian, Martineau will lead the Law Library’s legal research instruction program, which includes teaching a two-credit Practice-Ready Legal Research course, coordinating the Library’s research instruction for first-year law students, and giving presentations on specialized legal research topics in upper-division seminars. He will also provide reference and research assistance to Law School faculty and students, as well as other library patrons. Martineau earned an MLIS with a specialization in law librarianship from the University of Washington’s law librarianship program, where he also completed a reference internship. He earned a JD from DePaul University College of Law. Prior to joining the Law Library faculty, Martineau served as Research Librarian and Assistant Professor at the University of Nevada’s William S. Boyd School of Law. At UNLV, he developed and taught a highly successful advanced legal research course with an intellectual property law focus. He also worked extensively with the school’s moot court teams.

Sandy Jacobson joins the Law Library as a part-time Reference Librarian. Her primary responsibilities include providing reference services to Law School faculty and students, as well as other library patrons, and producing library research guides. Jacobson is a native Minnesotan, who recently returned to the Twin Cities after an exceptional career as a law firm librarian in Chicago where she served for eighteen years as Research & Library Services Manager for Jones Day. Prior to joining Jones Day, she was a Research Librarian at Jenner & Block in Chicago. Jacobson earned an MLIS from Dominican University and a BA from St. Olaf College.

Duke Law’s J. Michael Goodson Law Library has a new Foreign, Comparative & International Law Reference Librarian, Michael McArthur. Jennifer L. Behrens reports that prior to arriving at Duke in September 2017, Mike worked as a Reference Librarian at the University of Michigan Law Library.
for several years. He received his JD from the University of Nebraska College of Law and an MLIS from the University of Washington, and holds a BA in Japanese from Brigham Young University.

October saw the University of Michigan Law Library welcome three new librarians. Amanda Runyon, Head of Public Services, reports they are thrilled to have these three law librarians on their staff:

Kate Britt, a new Reference Librarian, is a recent graduate from the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies, where she earned her MLIS. She earned her JD from the University of Alabama School of Law.

Joining Kate at Reference is Sarah Slinger. Sarah is a recent graduate of the University of Arizona, where she earned her MLIS with a certificate in Law Librarianship. She earned her JD from Widener University School of Law.

Michigan’s third new hire is Melissa Seelye, who joins the law library as the Scholarly Publishing and Systems Librarian. Melissa is a recent graduate of the University of Western Ontario, where she earned her MLIS.

The University of Richmond’s Deputy Director, Joyce Manna Janto reports on their new hire, Elizabeth (Liz) Schiller. Liz joined the staff at the University of Richmond Law School Library in December 2017 as a Reference and Research Services Librarian. She previously worked for the Library of Congress in the Congressional Research Services division.

Rick Buckingham, Director of the Law Library at Suffolk University Law School also has exciting news of a new hire. Ana Delgado started at Suffolk in September as their new legal research librarian. Before coming to Suffolk, Ana completed a clerkship with the Honorable Alberto Rivas, Assignment Judge to Middlesex County in New Jersey. Prior to that, Ana was an assistant librarian at Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico Law School.

There’s news from Cornell. Jacob Sayward has joined Cornell Law Library—as Director for Collections and Operations and Lecturer in Law—where he has oversight of Cornell’s print, digital, and special collections, as well as its scholarly and faculty services and LawArXiv. Before coming to Cornell, Jacob was Head of Electronic Services and Adjunct Professor of Law at Fordham Law School.

The University of Chicago’s D’Angelo Law Library has a new Student Services Librarian. Scott Vanderlin started in that position in September. Along with his news, Scott includes a link to a short biographical piece that was published on the Law Library’s website when he began his new job.

Taryn L. Rucinski also has news. She has started a new position as Supervisory Librarian with the US Court of International Trade in New York. Before coming to the US Court of International Trade, Taryn was the Branch Librarian for the Second Circuit Library also in New York.
Two librarians from the University of North Dakota School of Law Thormodsgard Law Library have news and accomplishments to share.

Not only has Tammy R. P. Oltz been appointed the Director of the Law Library & Assistant Professor of Law at the University of North Dakota School of Law after serving as Interim Director for one year, she has published the following articles:


Congratulations Tammy!

Congratulations are also due Anne Mostad-Jensen, the Law Library’s Head of Faculty Services for her conference presentation. She and Laurie McHenry presented “Legal Resources and Research in North Dakota: What We Have, and How We Can Help You and Your Patrons,” at the North Dakota Library Association Annual Conference, Grand Forks, North Dakota (Oct. 5, 2017).

Edward Hart, Assistant Dean for Law Library, University of North Texas-Dallas College of Law reports that in March of this year, the Texas Supreme Court issued an opinion and a concurring opinion that discuss courts’ citation of Wikipedia. The opinions several times cite to an article by Lee Peoples—formerly Law Library Director and now Interim Dean at Oklahoma City University School of Law—The Citation of Wikipedia in Judicial Opinions, 12 Yale J. L. & Tech. 1, 3 (2009–2010). The Texas Supreme Court opinion and concurring opinion are available at http://www.txcourts.gov/media/1437551/150790.pdf and http://www.txcourts.gov/media/1437552/150790c.pdf respectively.

News from the USC Gould School of Law Library in Los Angeles. On October 30th, the Law Library hosted its first ever Research Fair! During the two-hour lunch break, students were able to talk to representatives from several vendors, publishers, and the main campus library. The fair was held in the library itself and over 150 students enjoyed the Halloween-themed event. Students participated in a vendor game for a Starbucks gift card raffle and trick-or-treated with vendor swag and plenty of candy. Librarians Judy Davis, Cindy Guyer, Diana Jaque, and Karen Skinner organized this successful event and received many thanks from both students and vendors.

For more ideas about holding your own Research Fair, see Kathleen Darvil’s contribution to the Focus on Outreach column, “Research Fairs—Getting the Word Out ” in the Winter 2016 issue (at page 3).
Member News  
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**Promotions & Career Milestones**

Rick Buckingham at Suffolk University Law School reports on the promotion of Diane D’Angelo to the position of Assistant Director for Public Services. Prior to this new role, Diane was a legal research librarian at Suffolk Law and oversaw both the law library internship and faculty research assistant programs. Congratulations Diane!

Nancy A. Armstrong, Director of the Law Library, Ohio Northern University, is a proud recipient of AALL’s 30-year pin, recognizing her long and dedicated service in our profession. She reports that her first full-time position in an academic law library was in 1987, working for Alan Holoch at Villanova University School of Law.

Nancy further reports that she and her colleagues were honored last spring, at the annual student honors banquet. Nancy was presented with the Liberty Bell service award (pictured below). “The Liberty Bell Award, the most prestigious honor bestowed by the Student Bar Association, is presented annually in conjunction with the American Bar Association as public recognition for outstanding law community service at the Claude W. Pettit College of Law.” ([http://law.onu.edu/current_students/academic_awards_and_honors](http://law.onu.edu/current_students/academic_awards_and_honors)) Later in the evening, the law review honored the law library by recognizing the library’s support of the review’s source and citation work.

Ingrid Mattson from the Moritz Law Library at The Ohio State University began service as President (2017-2018) of the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries (ORALL) after having been elected as Vice-President/President-Elect last year.

Susan Azyndar, also from the Moritz Law Library, has been elected to a two-year term as Treasurer (2017-2019) of ORALL. Ingrid and Susan, along with their fellow board members, hope to grow ORALL’s membership in the coming year and continue to steward ORALL’s resources to provide many opportunities for ORALLians to pursue professional development opportunities.

Anne Mostad-Jensen, Head of Faculty Services at University of North Dakota School of Law Thormodsgard Law Library has been elected as Chair Elect for the Academic and Special Libraries Section of the North Dakota Library Association (NDLA).

Kudos, Ingrid, Susan and Anne!

Have something to share with your fellow ALL-SIS members? Send your news along to Marlene (mharmon@law.berkeley.edu) or Nina (nes78@cornell.edu) at any time. 😊
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Report on the 2017 IAALS Conference—
Educatimg Tomorrow’s Lawyers:...

The second day started with a keynote by Paula Littlewood, Executive Director of the Washington State Bar, titled “Our Changing Profession: Challenges and Opportunities.” Littlewood described the three major constraints and challenges faced by the legal profession. First, 27 states will soon face a shortage of lawyers due to retirements, decreasing law school enrollment, and professional attrition. Second, the need for legal services is increasing: currently, approximately 80% of middle-income people and 85% of lower-income people face civil legal needs without a lawyer. And, finally, consumers are turning away from lawyers and resolving their legal problems with services such as LegalZoom and Modria.

Littlewood then described how Washington State has responded to these challenges by creating a new tier of legal services providers: the Limited License Legal Technician, and the Limited Practice Officer. Both types are licensed by the Washington Supreme Court to provide some legal services in specific practice areas. This model provides the public with affordable legal assistance for less complex or routine legal needs. The model also allows attorneys to focus their practice on solving complex matters for clients that truly require the expertise and experience of a lawyer.

Littlewood’s keynote was followed by two panel sessions: “How Legal Services Are Adapting to the Needs of Legal Consumers” and “Preparing to Meet Clients Where They Are.” Woven into the day’s schedule were two small-group workshops. The first allowed delegates to identify and discuss the unique value lawyers bring to clients that distinguishes their service from non-lawyer transactional and dispute resolution services. The second small-group workshop asked participants to shape a law school curriculum with clients at the center.

The conference culminated with a design thinking workshop led by Margaret Hagan, Director of the Legal Design Lab at Stanford University’s d.school. The workshop introduced the design process and described mindsets used in design thinking, such as communicating in images, selectively “pausing” feasibility assessment, and viewing all ideas as prototypes. Participants then broke into groups and used design techniques to create a solution to a law school problem. Each solution was then tested and evaluated with simulations.

The authors enjoyed the speakers, programs, and the conversations with other participants, and felt the conference was a great showcase of what individuals are doing to shake up legal education to respond to the crisis that is IAALS’s mission to address, but saw both pluses and minuses in our final appraisal of the conference as a whole:

Still, the authors recommend the conference and encourage greater participation by law librarians to remind our colleagues in legal academia and the legal profession that the practice of law is an information industry that requires legal literacy instruction that librarians are in the forefront of providing.
Welcome to a New Year with A Law Librarian in the Dark! In February 2017, The Salesman won the Oscar Award for Best Foreign Language Film. Yet the film’s director Asgar Farhadi was not at the Oscars ceremony. Instead, a representative for Farhadi took the stage to read the following statement: “My absence is out of respect for the people of my country and those of the other six nations who have been disrespected by the inhumane law that bans entry of immigrants to the US.”

The opening scene in Farhadi’s The Salesman is a series of empty rooms. A double-bed. A dining room table. A lamp. Then, the pink and yellow fluorescent glow of a sign that reads “Casino – Bowling.” This is a stage set for a theatrical production of Arthur Miller’s Death of a Salesman, adapted for the Iranian language. We are then introduced to Emad and Rana, a married couple, who play Willy Loman and Linda respectively.

Shortly into the film, we watch Emad and Rana evacuate their apartment building as it crumbles. The building, it seems, is physically compromised by construction next door. The destruction of their building sets the couple on a path towards their own tragedy.

Emad and Rana find a new home in an apartment owned by their friend and fellow actor Babak. Although the former tenant has evacuated, her presence can still be felt. As the couple moves furniture and boxes into their new space, they find a closet full of the former tenant’s things and drawings by her children. A fog of mystery hangs over the former tenant—they know she is a single woman with children, but when they inquire about her, Babak seems reluctant to say much.

A few days into their new life, as Emad is out shopping, a stranger comes into their home and assaults Rana in the bathroom. Emad comes home to find blood on the floor, and discovers his wife is in the hospital. What exactly happened to Rana is vague. We know that she has been brutally and violently attacked, that her neighbors found her unconscious and brought her to the hospital, but Rana does not want to discuss the details. The neighbors suspect the attack has something to do with the former tenant, whom they describe as “wild” with “many male visitors.”

Afterwards, the couple grapples with what to do next. Emad wants to go to the police, but Rana refuses. Some of their neighbors wonder why they don’t report the attack; while others advise them not to, that in doing so, Rana will have to “justify” her actions and open herself up to “all kinds of stories.” The couple tries to carry on with their work and their theatre rehearsals, but they can’t.

Frustrated by his wife’s refusal to report the attack and by her emotional withdrawal, Emad becomes obsessed with finding out the identity of her attacker. Unable to console Rana, he settles on doing his own investigative work, with the intent of taking revenge upon his wife’s attacker. However, once he finds the attacker, the question becomes “what next?” Outside of the legal system, with no police, and no judges or courts what can Emad do? And what if Emad’s need for revenge conflicts with his wife’s need to heal? The answers aren’t easy.

The Salesman was released on DVD in May 2017 by Sony Pictures Home Entertainment. It is also available on Amazon Streaming and via iTunes.
Some provisions in the Copyright Act are very precise and concrete. For instance, a library must have a specific sign on photocopiers to avail itself of Section 108’s harbor from any infringement patrons may commit using the equipment. However, other provisions are less prosaic, raising questions of metaphysics. For this column, I would like to focus on one of these provisions, the requirement in Section 102 that a work (book, painting, song, and so on) be fixed in a tangible medium of expression. What does it mean to be fixed, and what is a tangible medium of expression? In this column, I will discuss the fixation requirement, and the next column will look at the tangible medium of expression requirement.

The requirement that something must be fixed is important for several reasons. First, the Patent and Copyright Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 of the US Constitution) authorizes Congress to give authors rights in their writings, implicitly requiring that the works be written down in some way. Second, it would rather difficult to decide who had created a work or what exactly was protected by copyright if it was not recorded. Suppose you and I both think of the same lyrics for a song (while this is improbable, independent creation of two identical copyrightable works is possible, but we will set that aside for now). You write the lyrics down, but I just keep singing them to myself while taking my daily morning walk.

You have a copyrightable work in the lyrics, while I do not. I do not have a required writing, and I have no way of proving that I had created the lyrics independently. But I had the lyrics in my head the entire time! Memories and thoughts in one’s mind are not regarded as fixed, which seems fair to me, given how fluid my memories tend to be. Also, I would have no solid evidence I created the lyrics myself. Even if we had the technology, I would prefer my brain not be considered a record the court needs to examine to decide copyright claims.

The fixation requirement has caused some problems for digital technologies. To be fixed, a work has to be stable for more than a transitory duration. When I view a website in a browser, the browser often caches some of the content to enable faster viewing, and when I listen to music on Spotify, my computer keeps some of the music in a buffer to avoid skipping. Computers make many copies of whatever data it is working with, whether on the hard drive or in the random-access memory (RAM). MAI Systems Corp. v. Peak Computer, Inc., 991 F.2d 211 (9th Cir. 1993), held that loading software into RAM for diagnostic purposes created a copy that was sufficiently fixed for copyright purposes. The case has been distinguished by some courts, and William Patry argues the holding is wrong (3 Patry on Copyright § 9:63 (Sept. 2017 update)), but this controversy shows that a basic requirement that a copyrighted work be fixed has been challenged by new technologies. I would tend to agree with Patry on this question. A major point of RAM is that it holds the data a computer is using at any given moment, and that strikes me as too fluid and changing to meet the fixation requirement.

We have looked at why the Copyright Act requires a copyrighted work be fixed. In the next column, we will examine what is meant by a tangible medium of expression in which the work is fixed. If you thought determining if a work was fixed for more than a transitory duration was perplexing, wait until you see how courts try to decide what counts as a tangible medium.
It’s been half a year since the Newsletter ran this feature, aggregating the AALL2go Picks of the Month from the AALL eNewsletter. As you gear up for the new year and the new semester, consider spending an hour or two learning and thinking about leadership and management, presentation technologies, and other academic librarian skills.

June
Thinking Ahead: Encouraging Strategic Thinking in the Library
Your organization’s leadership is thinking strategically about their direction and next steps, and perhaps you should too. This program from the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting uses a strategic thinking framework to help you evaluate and plan how you can support your organization. During the program, Greg Lambert provides the law library perspective while Franklin Shen presents Decision Strategies International’s six disciplines needed to succeed in uncertain times, from anticipating what is on the horizon to learning from past experience.

July
Innovations in Teaching with Technology
Two law librarians, each with extensive experience working with technologies, take you through important shifts in the practice of law, legal education, and the tools that support both. This program is great for any law librarian hoping to get exposure to a range of technologies, and can be listened to in parts or as a whole. For academic librarians, there is an interesting discussion on the unbundling of education into component services (think certifications versus degrees), and the role of technology in teaching students from afar. There is also insightful discussion on adaptive tools that facilitate the incorporation of dynamic formative assessments to test learning and offer timely feedback. For the futurist, the last part of the program predicts which technologies, namely virtual reality, will eventually become part of legal education and practice.

August
Telling the Story of Research: Altmetrics at Pitt
Do you read news articles, blogs, or social media? Speakers Lauren B. Collister and Timothy S. Deliyannides say that it is important to “capture the life cycle of scholarship.” In just under an hour, you will discover how to keep track of online-only data.

September
Learning from Crucible Moments: Lessons in Crisis Leadership
Dr. Steven Bell is known as a respected researcher and university librarian within the field. His qualifications include a PhD in Education, a long list of publications about teaching and technology, and several speaking engagements. In this webinar, Dr. Bell gives a comprehensive overview of competent leadership strategies, highlighting the importance of contacting Human Resources prior to hiring or terminating staff, and discussing the importance of stability, trust, and being reflective in a crisis situation.

October
Cuban Law and Legal Research: A Snapshot During the Deshielo
Are you intrigued by recent relations between Cuba and the United States? Have you wondered where business relationships between the two countries will go? Do you have associates, clients, or students wanting to travel to Cuba? How do you help them with Cuban Legal Research? This AALL 2017 Annual Meeting panel discusses all of these topics. Jorge Piñon from the University of Texas at Austin, Marisol Florén Romero from Florida International University, and Teresa Miguel-Stearns from Yale Law School take you in-depth, providing great political and business insight into the legal research process for Cuba, including a straightforward assessment of the authority and reliability of legal research resources. The group also discusses possible future scenarios, including the state of Cuba today, events impacting transition in Cuba, and business challenges.

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Do you feel like your instructional approach needs a refresh? Want to improve the style of your training sessions? Longing for a better connection with your audience? During this session, Steve Hughes, a communications consultant, engagingly covers how to open big, develop the skills to think on your feet, weave storytelling principles into your presentations, and project confidence. The hour-long session includes an introduction to concepts like SPARQ and SOAR, which provide an actionable framework for enhancing your presentations. Practical considerations such as how to make eye contact with audiences of varying size and attention-grabbing ideas for introductions are also covered.

Ask the Experts: Tough Questions and Essential Lessons on Personnel Management

Whether you embrace your role as manager or have stumbled into it accidentally, this webinar is for you. This program from the 2016 AALL Annual Meeting features three librarians with significant management experience discussing important topics related to personnel management. Topics covered include giving appropriate feedback, facilitating difficult conversations, and managing through change. In particular, the speakers answer participant questions about managing conflicts between subordinates and team building. The webinar concludes with a discussion about how a manager should respond to an employee who states “that’s how it has always been done.” Practical and insightful, this webinar is helpful to managers at any level and institution.

Find all these and more free continuing professional education programs and webinars for AALL members on AALL2go (login required).
GENERAL INFORMATION

ALL-SIS was established in 1979 to promote interest in and to address issues of common concern to those employed in academic law libraries. The SIS serves as the umbrella organization for all interests—administration, collection development, consortia, directors, fees for service, interlibrary loan, public services, technical services, middle management, etc.

ALL-SIS provides opportunities for all librarians to contribute to the overall betterment of the entire academic law community. ALL-SIS has grown to approximately 1,200 members and is the largest SIS in AALL. Our members come from all aspects of academic law librarianship. Because of the SIS’s broad coverage and subtopic focus, all those working in academic law libraries can benefit from membership and are encouraged to join.

ALL-SIS on the Web

Visit the ALL-SIS home page at http://www.aallnet.org/sections/all for other information about the special interest section and its activities and resources.

Digital archives (PDFs) of the ALL-SIS Newsletter are available on the ALL-SIS website, under the Popular Resources menu. The Newsletter is also available to subscribers via HeinOnline.

Deadlines for the 2017-2018 Academic Year

We rely on member contributions to keep the ALL-SIS Newsletter going strong. This year, we hope to include a regular Spring issue in addition to the special Election issue in March. We welcome your comments, questions, and ideas to help make this quarterly schedule a reality.

Are you organizing or presenting at an event of interest to your academic law library colleagues? Is your library working on a special project? Have you recently attended a professional development activity and learned something new to share? Or are you just eager to speak out about an issue of concern to academic law librarians?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, please contribute! Member News announcements may also be submitted to the column editors, or directly to the ALL-SIS Newsletter Editor.

The remaining submission deadlines for the 2017-2018 academic year will be February 9 and May 18, 2018. Thank you for your consideration and for your contributions.

The ALL-SIS Discussion Group

The ALL-SIS discussion group is used for official ALL-SIS announcements, news from AALL, and discussion of topics of interest to section members. To read or post to the discussion group go here. (You will have to log in to AALLNET).

You can then choose the ALL-SIS Group from the list of eGroups. For more information consult the AALL My Communities Quick Start Users’ Guide, available at http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Communities/discuss/mycommunities-qsguide.pdf.