Message from the Chair

To My Fellow SR Members:

The Annual Meeting offers many interesting opportunities for SR-SIS members.

This spring, David Selden, Librarian and Director of the National Indian Law Library, contacted me with a proposal for the SR. Did we want to join the Native Peoples Law Caucus and the Environmental Law Caucus in a carbon offset project? The Executive Board discussed the proposal and agreed. You can read more about the fundraiser in David Selden's article in this issue.

At our business meeting, we expect speakers to address issues including legal research for death row inmates, service standards and expectations for law library patrons with mental disabilities, and changes to future Annual Meeting programming. We will be thanking our outgoing Secretary/Treasurer, Pam Brannon, for her two-year term of service and Jorge Juarez will be cycling off the Executive Board from his position as past chair. The board will be joined by two new officers: Sarah Jaramillo, incoming Vice-Chair, and Lisa Junghahn, incoming Secretary/Treasurer. At this meeting, David Holt will begin his term as Chair of the SR-SIS, and I hope you will remain in touch with him as issues related to our mission cross your desk in the coming year.

Although the SR sponsored one program this Annual Meeting (F1: Lost in Translation: Immigration Detention and Access to Legal Materials, cosponsored with LISP), there are lots of great programs that address our mission and/or involve SR members as coordinators or speakers. I encourage you to review the offerings for Annual Meeting educational programming—even if you are not able to attend. The programs will be recorded and available through AALL2go.

The standing committee events should also be interesting—take a look at the rest of the newsletter for more information about those events!

I hope you are able to take advantage of the educational opportunities available through our special interest section and the association.

Margaret (Meg) Butler
SR-SIS Chair, 2011-2012
Georgia State University College of Law Library
Donate now. So far 248 books have been donated by generous members of AALL. I believe that the rest of the membership of AALL has a lot more book-giving in them. Let's all stand together and make our donation to ReadBoston number 1,000 books. Every book donation counts, and since this is a matching drive, your giving power is doubled. Below is listed more information about the book drive, as well as different ways you can make a difference.

In a study by Sally B. Neumann, she found that providing children of low-income areas access to books to increases their literacy skills. Literacy, in turn, is a predictor of success in school and earning potential.

Read Boston, this year's beneficiary of AALL Book Drive, seeks to promote children's literacy by providing community centers, afterschool programs and other childcare providers with new and gently-used books, aimed at children up to thirteen years old, in order to create new libraries or supplement their existing libraries.

Two If Buy Book - To make your gift even stronger, the SR-SIS and friends will buy one book for every book that you donate. Right now those in need are needier than ever, so the SR-SIS and its friends want to make AALL's generosity go even farther. The friends of the SR-SIS include Research Instruction and Patron Services Special Interest Section, Larry Abraham of Fordham Law Library and Trudi Bartow of Sterling Publishers.

How can you help Read Boston provide books to children in need?

Order a book online from "2012 AALL Book Drive for Read Boston" Amazon.com wishlist: http://amzn.com/w/25OS2FC9TN1HP.

Send a check or bookstore gift card (from any bookstore) to the book drive co-organizer in Boston (see address below).

Drop off books, gift card, or a check in Boston during the AALL Annual Meeting at the Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section table in Exhibit Hall.

Book Drive co-organizer in Boston:

Kyle Courtney
Harvard Law School Library
Langdell Hall, Room 263
1545 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138-2903

For more information regarding this book drive, please contact Sarah Jaramillo, Alissa Black-Dorward or Kyle Courtney.

An Invitation to Death Row

When I opened my email that March day, I was definitely not expecting an invitation to go to death row. Most of my email is from listservs, maybe a few advertisements about new legal research products, or a reference question or two. But on this day, there it was, an invitation waiting for a response. The email was addressed to Matt Novak, my co-worker at the Schmid Law Library, University of Nebraska, and me.

Why were we asked to go to death row? As the result of a lawsuit, naturally. Apparently, there was a consent decree in place that required death row inmates in Nebraska to be provided, "training in legal research, analysis and writing on a periodic basis. Such classes shall be taught by person(s) trained in the law, holding a Juris
Doctorate Degree or equivalent." We were invited to fulfill that requirement. After receiving approval from our library director, Richard Leiter, we jumped at the opportunity.

Now, we had to prepare. Matt and I evaluated available resources, talked with another person who had presented in the past, and drafted some comments. The prison had recently switched to Lexis as the primary legal research tool for the inmates and we wanted to focus some of our time demonstrating how to conduct efficient online legal research using their subscription to Lexis. We also needed to make sure we began with the "we can't give you legal advice" language that we use so many times with pro se patrons in our library and leave open the possibility that the inmates might want to discuss other aspects of legal research.

After making our preparations, we went to the penitentiary that housed the death row inmates. It was a little over an hour away. After about ten minutes of sorting out a little confusion at the front desk over what exactly we were doing there, Matt and I were searched and escorted to death row. Before being introduced to the inmates, we asked to see the print library collection and Lexis terminals. We set up a table where we could stand and make a formal presentation, but it didn't take long to decide it would be easier if we all sat together around a small table. The inmates were attentive and polite. We covered our prepared materials, did a demonstration on a Lexis terminal, and answered general research questions. The two hours that we spent at death row flew by. When we finished, Matt and I were escorted out and drove the hour home. Would I recommend going to death row to teach legal research? Absolutely.

Do you want to learn more about our trip to death row? Attend my presentation at the SR-SIS business meeting on Monday, July 23rd at 5:45pm. Not going to AALL or can't make the meeting? Please feel free to send me an email or call me.

Stefanie Pearlman
Marvin & Virginia Schmid Law Library
University of Nebraska College of Law

Help the Environment and Families in Need: A New SR-SIS Project

The SR-SIS is sponsoring a solar heater project, which is being carried out by Trees, Water & People, a non-profit organization. This project will help Native American families who are struggling to pay their heating bills and will replace "dirty" electricity created from coal-fired power plants with clean solar energy.

This project, also supported by the Native Peoples Law Caucus and Environmental Law Caucus, helps families heat their homes in South Dakota where families often spend more than 50% of their income on heating, and temperatures often go below zero.

The goal of this project is to raise at least $1,500 to build and install at least one solar heater. Your donation is tax-deductible and each $10 offsets 1 ton of C02, or the equivalent of the average trip for 1 to and from the AALL conference. Follow this link to learn more and make a donation and if attending the AALL meeting, sign the pledge sheet at the SIS activities table in the exhibit hall.

Contact David Selden, a new member of the SR-SIS with questions: dselden@narf.org
Listing of SR-SIS Meetings and Programs of Members

Below is a listing of all of the SR-SIS meetings and functions, as well as posters and programs that are being presented by SR-SIS members. For the programs, the SR-SIS members presenting are listed first and the presenters who are not SR-SIS members are listed in parentheses.

Meetings & Functions

Sunday, July 22

5:30-6:30pm: Standing Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues Business Meeting, HCC-Room 301.

8:30-10:30pm: Standing Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues Reception, Tremont 647 (647 Tremont St).

Monday, July 23

12:00-1:00pm: LISP/SCCLL/SR Joint Roundtable on Services to Pro Se Patrons and Prisoners, Sheraton-Independence Ballroom West.

5:45-6:45pm: Business Meeting, HCC-Room 301.

Tuesday, July 24

7:00-7:30am: Standing Committee on Law Library Services to Institutional Residents, Sheraton-Conference Room.

Posters

Maureen Cahill, Starting a Student Library Advisory Board (with Morgan Stoddard, Christopher C. Dykes & Laura F. McKinnon).

Sarah Jaramillo, The 10 Most Common Errors in Pro Se Complaints.

Jane Larrington, Technology That Counts: Tools That Improve the Quality of Legal Research Instruction (with Anna Russell).

Charles A. Pipins, Have iPad, Will Travel (with R. Martin Witt).
Programs

Sunday, July 22nd


Monday, July 23rd

8:30-9:00am: Susan Nevelow Mart, *A Teachable Moment: The Relevance of Results Using Digests and Citators*, HCC-Room 206.


8:30-9:45am: Kurt Carroll, *Technical Services by the Seat of your Pants*, HCC-Room 207 (with Bess Reynolds & Christine Korytnyk Dulaney).

10:45-11:45am: Susan Lyons, *Digitizing Legal History*, HCC-Room 306 (with Wei Fang).

12:00-1:00pm: Ryan Harrington, *Recipient of the FCIL Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians*, HCC-Room 205 (with Sergio Stone).


1:15pm - 2:15pm: Cynthia Guyer, *Diversify Your Teaching Portfolio with Tutorials!*, HCC-Room 207 (with Karen Skinner).

Tuesday, July 24th

8:30-9:45am: Kate Irwin-Smiler, *You CAN Handle the Truth: Using Pop Culture to Teach Legal Research*, HCC-Room 304 (with Julie Graves Krishnaswami & Deborah Schander).

8:30-9:45am: Neal Kent Agrawal, *The Librarian as Author: AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers*, HCC-Room 311 (with Anna Russell, Carli Spina, Jennifer Lentz, Linda Tesar, Mark W. Podwa, Michael G. Chiorazzi & Yasmin Sokkar Harker).

8:30-9:45am: Charles A. Pipins, *Riding Solo: Legal Research Competencies for the Solo Practitioner*, HCC-Room 208 (with Katy Stein, Michael Bird & Shawn Friend).


2:30-3:15pm: Kate Irwin-Smiler, *Amping up Library Orientation*, HCC-Room 312 (with Liz McCurry-Johnson, Ashley Moye & Shari Berkowitz Duff).

3:45-4:45pm: Margaret (Meg) Butler, *Passing the Baton: Managing Temporary and Permanent Succession Changes*, HCC-Room 304 (with Ajaye Bloomstone & Wendy E. Moore).


**Workshops**

8:30am-5:00pm: Kate Irwin-Smiler & Margaret (Meg) Butler, *Legal Research Teaching Academy*, Harvard Law School, Wasserstein Hall, Room 3018 (with Catherine M. Dunn, Karen Storin Linitz & Sara Sampson).

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**SCLGI Reception**

**Date & Time:** Sunday, July 22, 8:00pm - 10:00pm  
**Place:** Tremont647 (corner of Tremont and W. Brookline Street)

This year's reception will be held at Tremont647, one of the premier neighborhood restaurants in the South End. It is a 12 minute walk from the Sheraton Boston or a short taxi ride.

Since opening in 1996, Tremont647 has attracted a diverse clientele of neighborhood fans and is known for an adventurous American cuisine focused on locally grown ingredients. Listed in all the gay guides to Boston as a comfortable place with great food and custom cocktails, it has developed a fan base of locals and knowledgeable Boston visitors. It is also famous for its pajama brunch so you may want to return on another visit to Boston and break out your best jammies!

Some of you may already be familiar with the chef and owner, Andy Husband. He has been a contestant on the Hell's Kitchen television show and has published a cookbook, *The Fearless Chef*. In addition, Husband has demonstrated a strong commitment to the community. He is on the advisory board of Boston Operation Frontline, a program that fights hunger by using chefs to teach cooking and nutrition to low-income families. Since 1998, Tremont 647 has hosted the organization's annual Operation Frontline charity dinner 11 times. To date, Husband has raised over $100,000 in cash donations through his two restaurants, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to the charity. He also co-chairs the Boston Taste of the Nation, an annual fundraising event for Share our Strength, one of the country's leading hunger relief organizations.

Chef Andy has created a menu specifically for the SCLGI reception. It will include a mixture of hearty appetizers, including Mini BLA's (bacon, lettuce & avocado), tempura soba maki, grilled and chilled shrimp cocktail, avocado and cheddar quesadillas and much more! For the price of a $10.00 admission (proceeds to be donated to the Alan
Holoch grant fund), you will receive a complimentary drink ticket plus all the appetizers you can eat! A fully staffed bar will be open for the duration of the reception for the purchase of additional libations.

Please remember to thank our sponsors this year for their generous contributions to our reception. They are: Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA, LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, William S. Hein & Co., Inc., and Wolters Kluwer Law & Business. I hope to see everyone at our reception on Sunday night!

Richard Jost  
SCLGI Chair, 2011-2012  
Gallagher Law Library  
University of Washington School of Law