

State, Court, and County Law Libraries SIS 2007-08

The State, Court, and County Law Libraries Special Interest Section (SCCLL) completed numerous activities during the year to carry out its strategic goals of advocacy and education. To better achieve initiatives through a well-established committee structure, the SIS added a SCCLL Executive Board liaison to each committee for better communication and more effective organization. The SIS also reviewed a draft procedures manual prepared by Marcus Hochstetler, and while it was accepted in principle, the actual writing, editing, and implementation of the manual was tabled for the following year.

Advocacy initiatives involved SIS participation in the Equal Justice Conference (EJC) in Minneapolis. The conference is co-sponsored by the ABA and the National Legal Aid & Defender Association. Three grants were awarded to SIS members to attend the program. Several other SIS members were involved in program presentations, and the SIS collaborated with the Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL) to sponsor a law library exhibit booth during the conference. SCCLL's participation in the EJC program informed the legal aid community about law library services that support pro se and pro bono efforts. In addition to promoting law library services, law librarian attendees also became more informed about new legal resources and services being delivered by the legal aid community.

The SIS's VIP program also enhanced advocacy efforts this year. To engage important members of the legal community in the SIS, two VIPs were chosen for the Portland meeting. Kyle Theissen is the Code Reviser for Washington and Phillip Margolin is a local Portland attorney turned fiction writer. Margolin also agreed to be the trustee luncheon speaker as well as contribute some of his creative work to SCCLL's silent auction fundraiser.

As for consumer advocacy, a meeting with Thomson West government sector representatives and members of the SIS occurred in New Orleans, and a summary report of the meeting was included in the fall SCCLL newsletter. A second meeting with Thomson West is scheduled for Portland.

SCCLL educational initiatives included acceptance of seven programs for Portland. The programs selected were: "The Evolving Role of Law Librarians with Self-Represented Litigants," "We Are the World: Dealing with Foreign Issues in a U.S. Law Library," "Lawyers in the Library: Exploring New Ways to Serve Our Public Patrons," "Giving Credit: The Law Library as CLE Provider," "Avoiding Giving Legal Advice at the Library: Exploring the Ethical and Legal Framework of Assistance to the Self-Represented," "Battling Employee Burnout? Explore Tools and Techniques to Assess and Address Employee Burnout," and "Using WorldCat.org's Social Software to Promote the Law Library." Four grants were awarded to SIS members to attend the Portland conference.

Other educational efforts included publication of Barbara Fritschel's article "Trends in Library Collaboration to Provide Access to Legal Information" in the NCSC publication *Future Trends* (2007). John Cannan also completed the third of four *SCCLL Resource Guides*. With publication scheduled for summer 2008, the guide describes management techniques for government law libraries.

Other SIS activities included revision of the county law library standards. The standards revisions were forwarded to SIS members in June for review; further discussion and approval are expected in July during the Portland Annual Meeting.

As for SIS honors this year, we were pleased to recognize Jean Holcomb with the Connie E. Bolden Publications Award for her *Law Library Journal* series entitled "Managing By the Book." Our SIS was also pleased that AALL members elected Cathy Lemann as their new AALL Vice President/President-Elect.

SCCLL officers for 2007-08 were: Sara Galligan, Chair; Marcus Hochstetler, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Cathy Lemann, Immediate Past Chair; Amy Hale-Janeke, Secretary/Treasurer; Barbara Fritschel, Karen Quinn, and Lisa Rush, Board Members; and Kim Osis, *ex officio* Board Member and Newsletter Editor. New board members will be Anne Matthewman, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; and Meg Martin, Board Member.

Sara Galligan, Chair
2007-08