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from the editor

Law Library Lectionary

One Sunday morning I stumbled onto a solution to a long-standing question stored in my long-term memory: how to find sufficient time and energy for strategic activities when many urgent tasks distract me.

The solution entered my consciousness that Sunday while listening to my sister, a Methodist minister, deliver her sermon. She’s a good preacher and a good pastor, and that morning I realized she and other ministers face time demands similar to those faced by law librarians. Throughout the week, she attends to her congregation’s spiritual and emotional needs, ranging from illness to injury or death of a loved one. But she also must deliver a fresh sermon to her congregation each Sunday.

Ministers can have little time to plan and write their weekly sermons. Yet somehow they manage to stay on message each week. My sister’s secret—and that of many other ministers—is that the lectionary, a kind of long-term pre-planned study/sermon guide.

The lectionary has ancient roots—the Jews first developed it to systematically cover the Torah. In the Methodist church, it evolved into a method that ensures that a parishioner will encounter all the key verses in the Bible in a three-year cycle.

Thus, a congregation in New York could hear the same theme as a church in another denomination across the country. The lectionary offers a selection of scripture and some commentary for each preacher to customize to her own congregation. Because the lectionary links to the calendar, either liturgical or otherwise, the theme changes each week but remains common among Methodist denominations across the country. Thus, a congregation in New York could hear the same theme as a congregation in Montana.

Imagine applying this concept to law libraries. Instead of preachers delivering sermons to congregations, 5,000 law librarians could deliver similar messages each week to their users, all aligned with the AALL theme of the week. Within each library, its parent institution, and across the country, when library users hear a compelling message, they’ll tell someone else and the AALL theme of the week will become a meme.

The compelling and attractive part of the law library lectionary for me is the pre-planned topics for the entire year. I can spin out words responding to a question or a topic but often stumble and stick when starting a sermon. In law library land, of course, the sermon is the elevator speech or the answer to “What’s new in the library?” or “Do we really still need all those books?” It might also be promoting a new database or book along with the training to use the database, etc.

Each week, I envision everyone communicating one of three or four themes customized to their own libraries and jobs. Because the calendar is published for the year, everyone knows in January what the three or four themes for the second week of August will be. As a result, individual stress is reduced and collectively law librarians improve their marketing and promotion by delivering a consistent, powerful message of the value of law libraries.

Because the law library lectionary provides the topics and outlines, each library and librarian can readily adapt the message to their own purpose. We can then spend our energy more effectively and productively—perhaps by listening just a little better for information needs or by offering another way to save the reader’s time.

There’s much to be done before this law library lectionary becomes a reality. Visit the Spectrum blog at aallspectrum.wordpress.com to see more of my ideas about the law library lectionary—and, I hope, to contribute your thoughts.

By Mark Estes

mark.estes@acgov.org
aallspectrum.wordpress.com
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**Members’ Briefing**  
2010-2013 Strategic Directions  
*by Jean M. Wenger*

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**Missing the Annual Meeting?**

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The spring meeting of the AALL Executive Board was held April 9-10 on the campus of the McDonald’s corporate training facility in Oak Brook, Illinois. AALL President Catherine Lemann welcomed Vice President Joyce Manna Janto, Past President James E. Duggan, Secretary Ruth J. Hill, Treasurer David Mao, and board members Carol Bedemeyer, Christine Graesser, Janet McKinney, Jean Wenger, and Sally Wise along with Council of Chapter Presidents Chair Sarah Mauldin. Special Interest Section (SIS) Council Chair Dennis Sears, incoming Vice President/President-Elect Darcy Kirk, and incoming Treasurer Susan Lewis-Somers. Special greetings were extended to Donna Williams, the newest member of the Executive Board, who was attending her first meeting. Headquarters staff attending included Kate Hagan, executive director; Mary Alice Baish, director of the Government Relations Office; Paula Davidson, director of finance and administration; Julia O’Donnell, director of membership, marketing, and communications; Pam Reisinger, director of meetings; Kim Rundle, executive assistant to the executive director; and Chris Siwa, director of information technology. After approval of the meeting agenda, the board worked through a full agenda of action, consent, and informational items; reports; discussion of the strategic plan; and a preview of the new AALLNET website.

**Consent Items**
Among the consent items agreed to by the board were guidelines for electronic record sharing, promotion and selection procedures for the Emerging Leader Award, and a revised charge for the Hall of Fame Special Committee. Consent items are passed en masse without discussion.

**Information Items**
Additionally, a variety of interested entities and individuals submitted information items for the agenda. These items are part of the agenda for informational purposes only and do not require any action on the part of the board. The following reports were received by the board as information items:
- **2009 Price Index for Legal Publications: status and issues**
- **Report and recommendations to improve the Chapter Visit Program**
- **Preliminary report from the Annual Meeting Review Special Committee**
- **American Law Institute/American Bar Association 2009 Critical Issues Summit Report**
- **Status report on promoting AALL leadership on authentication and preservation of online legal resources**
- **Chapter anniversary recognition letters for Law Librarians of Puget Sound, Northern California Association of Law Librarians, and the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries**

**Strategic Directions 2010-2013**
A major collaborative effort with input from members, chapters, SISs, caucuses, Headquarters staff, and the Executive Board has resulted in the approval of the Association’s 2010-2013 Strategic Directions.
- **Maintaining the goals of the 2005-2010 Strategic Plan****—leadership, education, and advocacy—the Executive Board’s Strategic Directions Committee worked on identifying specific objectives for the new 2010-2013 Strategic Plan. Objectives included recruitment and retention of membership, improving vendor relations, education on multidisciplinary topics, and the authentication of legal information. The ultimate goal of the plan is to balance the interests of the numerous entities of the Association. Jean Wenger, chair of the Strategic Directions Committee, viewed “[t]he strategic planning process [as] an incredible opportunity to imagine what we, as an association, can accomplish and then make…happen.” Wenger is to be commended for overseeing this arduous task. The Strategic Directions for 2010-2013 will be formally presented to the membership at the business meeting at the Annual Meeting in Denver.

**Reports**
The board agenda also included reports by the president, vice president, treasurer, director of government relations, executive director, SIS Council chair, and Chapter Council chair discussing their various activities. President Catherine Lemann reported on a successful visit with the staff of the *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals* and the selection of Marcia Hoffman as the new general editor of the publication. Joyce Manna Janto, vice president, reported on preparation for her “no theme” Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in 2011 and the planning of a vendor colloquium in the very near future. Kate Hagan, executive director, discussed methods to increase Association membership and reported on the planned video streaming of three programs during the Denver Meeting. Director of the Government Relations Office Mary Alice Baish discussed the lack of incentive to maintain the federal depository library program, efforts to get the Government Printing Office to become a 21st century publisher through a federal digital system, and AALL support of law.gov as a domain name assigned to the Library of Congress.

**AALLNET Preview**
Chris Siwa, director of information technology, provided the board with a preview of the new version of the Association’s website, AALLNET. The AALLNET homepage redesign and its improved navigational tools were impressive and will be welcomed by the membership. Association members will see a demonstration of the new AALLNET during the Annual Meeting in Denver at the AALL Membership Services booth in the Exhibit Hall.

If you have questions about this column, feel free to contact me or any member of the Executive Board.

_Ruth J. Hill (rhill@sulc.edu) is director of library services and associate professor of law at the Southern University Law Center Oliver B. Spellman Law Library in Baton Rouge, Louisiana._
CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE 2010
GEORGE A. STRAIT
SCHOLARS

West and the American Association of Law Libraries are pleased to announce this year’s recipients of the AALL/West George A. Strait Minority Scholarship Awards: Andrew Christensen, Donyele Darrough, Benita Ghura, Jeffrey Nelson, and Grace Rosales. We are proud to acknowledge outstanding students with this endowment, which is named in honor of a distinguished law librarian and AALL member. Learn about West programs and products at west.thomson.com/librarian or call 1-800-762-5272.
WASHINGTON, D.C., May 14, 2010—On his first full day in office, President Obama released a Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government that outlined specific actions agencies must take to improve transparency, participation, and collaboration. The memo supported the president’s campaign promise to create “an unprecedented level of openness in government.” AALL commended the president at the time for taking concrete steps to shift the culture away from the overly secretive environment that had prevailed during the Bush administration to one of openness.

A key requirement of the transparency memo was that the chief technology officer, in coordination with the director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), would develop an open government directive (OGD) to outline specific actions agencies must take to meet these openness objectives. On December 8, the Obama administration issued the OGD, which required agencies to publish and make available for public comment by April 7 an “open government plan” describing how the agency will increase transparency and incorporate public participation and collaboration into its activities.

In late April, AALL contributed to an audit of agencies’ open government plans, which was organized by OpenTheGovernment.org and conducted by volunteers from nonprofit groups, academia, and other organizations that serve the public interest. The audit ranked the extent to which agencies met each of the requirements of the OGD and provided bonus points to a handful of agencies that surpassed the requirements. AALL conducted the audit for one of the government’s major law enforcement agencies. The full audit is available at www.openthegovernment.org.

Overall, the audit found wide variation in agency plans. The stronger plans fully met all the requirements of the OGD by incorporating deadlines and specific steps to accomplish their goals, links to sites where the public can access more information, descriptions of how they are making information available to stakeholders, and innovative “flagship initiatives” with plans for improving and sustaining the projects. The agencies that ranked the highest were those that clearly took the requirements of the OGD seriously and developed concrete plans to increase transparency, participation, and collaboration.

Highest Scores: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

NASA in particular demonstrated a strong commitment to the OGD’s open government principles. The agency received 18 bonus points—far more than any other agency—for its level of detail and specific milestones set for each project and initiative. One of NASA’s three flagship initiatives is its new Participatory Exploration Office, which will support research on new technologies to increase public participation, coordinate NASA-wide efforts to incorporate new participatory exploration approaches into future work, and act as a clearinghouse for identifying and communicating best practices.

We are very pleased that the EPA’s plan also ranked among the highest. Following public opposition from many organizations, including AALL, to the agency’s proposal to close their libraries in 2006, the EPA realized the value of reaching out to the public for input on its decision making. Then-Chief Information Officer Molly O’Neill implemented several public outreach efforts, including listening sessions, online dialogues, and blogs to gather input on agency plans. The EPA’s open government plan demonstrates transparency, participation, and collaboration continue to be priorities for the agency under its new leadership, and the plan affirms the agency’s intent to instill openness as a guiding principle.

Lowest Scores: OMB, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Justice (DOJ)

OMB’s low score is especially disappointing considering its role as the lead agency in overseeing the OGD. While the agency’s plan more than adequately describes its current activities to be transparent, participatory, and collaborative, the plan lacks milestones for most proposals. OMB’s plan also fails to include any information about the kind of public outreach that was employed in developing the plan and how it will keep the public updated about its progress in meeting its goals. We are disappointed that the agency missed this important opportunity to produce a plan that could have been held up as a model for other agencies.

By Mary Alice Baish

The DOJ received the lowest score because its plan consists mainly of “plans to plan,” and does not provide details about how or in what timeframe the agency will meet its goals. It also lacks specificity about how it will engage its many stakeholders, including members of the public, and respond to public feedback. DOJ’s low ranking is also very disappointing because it is responsible for implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Attorney General Holder’s guidance to agencies in 2009 that restated the administration’s strong support for open government. The plan fails to meet the requirement of the OGD to list the data sets it has made available on Data.gov or to offer new high-value data sets that it plans to release in the future. This is striking because many ideas for high-value data sets were submitted to the agency through its public comment site, IdeaScale.

DOJ adopted as its single flagship initiative a proposal that was submitted by the open government community for the creation of a FOIA Dashboard. The FOIA Dashboard will provide a central location on the DOJ website through which annual FOIA reports can be accessed in machine readable formats. Unfortunately, DOJ did not address many recommendations to strengthen the dashboard—such as providing access to each agency’s complete annual FOIA report from 1996 to date. DOJ is currently planning to make only the 2009 reports available.

AALL and the other auditors acknowledge that the agency plans released on April 7 are only the first round of an ongoing process to develop robust plans. We have suggested that agencies revise their plans by mid-June, taking into account the auditors’ comments, and release version 1.1 so that we can measure improvements. The organizations that conducted the first review of the plans, including AALL, will also continue to monitor their agencies’ progress on implementation of the OGD.

Mary Alice Baish, director of the AALL Government Relations Office, 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20001 • 202/942-4237 • Fax: 202/737-0480 • E-mail: mbaish@aall.org • www.aallnet.org/aalwash
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You know that the display case is a public relations tool that allows the library to advertise resources, to educate, and to promote the library community. But to use this tool effectively, you need new ideas. I offer these thoughts in hopes that at least a few will be helpful in re-sparking your interest in your library display case.

Getting Crafty
My favorite display case theme, “Legal Patchwork,” was the brainchild of my aunt, a quilter and attorney. My aunt and a fellow coworker quilted squares for Barrister’s Block, Courthouse Square, Courthouse Steps, Courthouse Star, and White House Steps. (Having seen the stitching gatherings at AALL conferences, I know we have some crafty members in our readership.) These are just a few of the legal quilting patterns available. The display, which was well received, was bright and colorful without the heavy reading that often weighs down displays.

The Water and the Law display was heavier on information but lighter on craft. For this theme, we transformed our library display case into a fish tank with cut-out photos of fish floating above aquarium rocks. I found my enthusiasm refreshed with each added prop. (A fellow staff member later asked about the missing seaweed, which I realized I clearly should have included.)

Several themes lend themselves to display case transformations, such as sports law, art law, or even chocolate and the law.

Embracing Traditions
Traditions at our institution and perhaps also at yours include promotions for Law Week, National Library Week, and graduation. At our academic institution, the graduation display is our most cherished. We fill our display case with photos of 3Ls taken during their first weeks of law school, each picture adhered to a graduation figure. 3Ls chuckle at their own photos and reminisce while 1Ls quickly try to recall their own photo in anticipation of it being on display in a few years.
Delving into Literature
I am among what I suspect is a large group of law librarians with undergraduate degrees in literature. I am also just one of many movie junkies in our group. With these interests in mind, displays on legal poetry, attorneys in fiction, legal classics, and “Harry Potter and the Law” seem to create themselves. A search on any of these topics yields law review articles, primary source documents, lists, or creative ways of thinking about literature and the law.

Moving your PR Online
In recent years, our physical library display case has been complemented by a website linked from our library homepage. The online counterpart serves those outside the library walls and shares a bit of our culture with interested viewers.

Sharing Photos
Requesting photos is an interactive way to get to know your community. Faculty/attorney baby pictures in our library have been a hit, especially when combined with a matching quiz. Patrons and staff have provided family photos (“Family Law”) and pet photos (“Pet Law”) that have drawn in curious passersby.

When dealing with personal photographs, it is best to request electronic copies or to have a system in place for scanning so that originals may be returned promptly and safely. We also found it best to advertise our request well in advance—many of us have to do some digging to find that baby in the bathtub photo.

I benefited greatly from the resources left by my predecessor—and by “resources” I mean an orange filing cabinet filled with individual folders with monthly displays from years past, book jackets received by technical services, and miscellaneous craft supplies. Five years later I passed on the responsibility along with the orange filing cabinet. These cabinets of ideas should not be limited to our own institutions, and in the spirit of sharing, both the AALL Public Relations Committee website (www.aallnet.org/committee/pr/resources.html) and the AALL Wiki on Public Relations Tools (http://aallnet.pbworks.com/Public-Relations-Tools) provide articles and resources for all display creators to visit in a time of need. Display gurus, please visit and share your successes!

Tawnya Plumb (tplumb@uwyo.edu) is the electronic services librarian at the University of Wyoming College of Law Library.

More Online
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Introducing

the

AALL Hall of Fame

AALL announces its inaugural class of inductees to the Hall of Fame

By Frank G. Houdek
What do Babe Ruth, Red Grange, Elvis, Presley, and Hank Williams have in common? Well, beside the fact that they all have appeared on U.S. commemorative postage stamps, each was included in the first group of individuals to be inducted into their profession’s halls of fame—baseball, football, rock and roll, and country music, respectively.

With their selection for the American Association of Law Libraries Hall of Fame in 2010, A.J. Small, William Roalfe, Helen Newman, Marian Gallagher, and 74 other law librarians now also become members of that most exclusive of clubs—the inaugural class of inductees to a hall of fame. And while it may be a while before their likenesses appear on stamps, the singular contributions of Small, Roalfe, Newman, Gallagher, and the others to the profession of law librarianship are no less worthy of celebration and recognition than are those of Ruth, Grange, Presley, and Williams in their chosen fields of endeavor.

Similar in goal to its counterparts in other fields, the AALL Hall of Fame is designed to recognize and honor members of the Association who have a continuing and major role in the development of AALL and the advancement of the law librarianship profession. This aim is reflected in the selection criteria approved by the Executive Board. These criteria require that a candidate be in good standing of AALL for 25 years or more, have made significant contributions to the Association over a substantial portion of his or her period of membership, and must have made significant contributions to the profession.

The inaugural class of inductees, described in more detail below, includes a man commonly referred to as AALL’s “founder” (Small), the first editor of Law Library Journal (Frederick Schenk), the first woman to serve as AALL president (Rosamond Parma), the author of the expansion plan that helped AALL survive and grow even in the midst of the Great Depression (Roalfe), and the Association’s long-time administrative secretary, of whom it was said that she “held us together with baling wire and librarian paste” (Babe Russo).

Without the selfless devotion of such individuals, it is hard to imagine AALL lasting for a decade or two, let alone moving briskly into its second century. Consequently, it is appropriate that many of them are now honored by the Association that they worked so hard to develop and sustain through their selection to its Hall of Fame. For some whose primary contributions came long before the creation of the Gallagher Distinguished Service Award in 1984, the official recognition may be long overdue, but there is no question that it is deserved.

Background

In July 2008, AALL President James Duggan appointed a Member Recognition Special Committee and charged it with exploring “additional ways to recognize and acknowledge members who have provided excellent and sustained leadership to the profession through years of service and contributions” (www.aallnet.org/committee/member_recognition.asp#charge). Duggan asked the committee to suggest new “methods that might be used to honor and recognize outstanding law librarians and/or AALL members,” explicitly identifying the “creation of a ‘hall of fame’ (or similar structure)” as one such possible method.

In June 2009, the special committee, chaired by Gail Warren and including members Carolyn Ahearn and Frank Houdek, recommended to the Executive Board that it create several new awards and methods of recognition. Included in its suggestions were an emerging leader award, a volunteer service award, an innovation in technology award, a distinguished lecturership, pins for 20 and 40 years of continuous membership, and the creation of an AALL Hall of Fame.

In July 2009, the board approved the creation of these awards, including the Hall of Fame, and in November 2009 it directed President Catherine Lemann to appoint a Hall of Fame Selection Special Committee to select “the initial group of individuals to be inducted into the AALL Hall of Fame.” The special committee consisting of Frank Houdek (chair), Patrick Kehoe, Margaret Maes, Judith Meadows, Susan Siebers, and Mary Lu Linnane (ex officio) was formed in December 2009.

In accord with the recommendation of the Member Recognition Special Committee, the Board determined that the first class of inductees would consist of two groups of individuals: all past recipients of the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award (1984–2009) and “other deserving deceased members or members who have been retired/removed from an active career for at least 10 to 15 years” (www.aallnet.org/committee/hof.asp#charge). Since those in the first group were already known, the Hall of Fame Selection Special Committee’s task was to choose the second group of initial inductees who, according to the committee’s charge, “would be designated ‘Pioneers’ of the Association.”

Aside from the daunting task of selecting an initial class from among the hundreds of individuals who deserved serious consideration for inclusion, the special committee wrestled with another question: whether someone whose first important contributions to AALL didn’t occur until the 1940s or 1950s could rightfully be designated a “Pioneer” of an association founded in 1906. Feeling that it could not, the committee recommended to Lemann that the description for the “other deserving members” of the initial group of inductees (i.e., those who had not won the Gallagher Award but were nevertheless worthy of induction in the first class) be expanded to include both “individuals who are designated ‘Pioneers’...because of the roles they played in the formation and early development of AALL, as well as others deserving of induction because of their important contributions to AALL and the profession.”

Lemann approved this change, thereby allowing the special committee, after much research and not a little hand-wringing, to ultimately select an initial class for induction into the Hall of Fame that features 16 individuals designated as Pioneers and 10 others deemed worthy of inclusion. Adding this group to the 52 recipients of the Gallagher Award from 1984 to 2009 brings the inaugural class of the AALL Hall of Fame to 78.

The Inaugural Class Selected by the Special Committee

Once established on AALLNET, the Hall of Fame’s “home” will provide in-depth information about each inductee. But even the cursory listing of professional contributions and achievements that follows leaves no room for argument about the inclusion of these individuals in the inaugural class of a hall of fame devoted to AALL and the law librarian profession. The Pioneer group is listed first, in alphabetical order, followed by the other members.
Pioneers

- **Arthur Beardsley** (University of Washington), AALL president, vice president, and member of the Executive Board; founder of University of Washington law librarianship program
- **A. Mercer Daniel** (Howard University), first African-American member of AALL; attended Annual Meetings from 1934 until 1975, 19 years after his retirement
- **Ernest Feazel** (Cleveland Law Library Association), charter member; AALL president and Executive Board member; served on board of editors of *Index to Legal Periodicals and Law Library Journal*
- **Gilson Glasier** (Wisconsin State Law Library), charter member; AALL president and Executive Board member; second editor of *Law Library Journal*
- **George Godard** (Connecticut State Library), charter member; third AALL president; also served as vice president and Executive Board member; president, National Association of State Librarians
- **Luther Hewitt** (Philadelphia Bar Association), AALL president, vice president, and Executive Board member; chair of Committee on *Index to State Legislation*
- **Frederick C. Hicks** (Columbia University, Yale Law School), first academic law librarian to serve as AALL president; also served on Executive Board; author of several classic texts (including *Materials and Methods of Legal Research*); elected life member of AALL in 1946
- **Margaret Klingelsmith** (University of Pennsylvania), only female charter member of AALL; AALL vice president; one of the first women in city of Philadelphia admitted to the bar
- **Lotus Mitchell Mills** (Sullivan & Cromwell), first private law librarian elected to national office, served as AALL secretary and treasurer
- **Helen Newman** (George Washington University, Supreme Court of the United States), appointed executive secretary in 1934, AALL’s first paid staff position; served as one of three incorporators for AALL; also served as AALL president, secretary, and treasurer; editor of *Law Library Journal* for nine years; cofounder of Law Librarians Society of Washington, D.C., Inc., and later its president; recipient of special citation for outstanding service to the profession and AALL (1959)
- **Rosamond Parma** (University of California), first woman to serve as AALL president, also served as Executive Board member
- **Franklin Poole** (Association of the Bar of the City of New York), charter member; AALL president, secretary, treasurer, and Executive Board member; chair, Committee on the *Index to Legal Periodicals* (1915–42)
- **William Roalfe** (University of Southern California, Duke University, Northwestern University), author of 1930s AALL expansion plan (aka “Roalfe Plan”); AALL president and Executive Board member; co-founder, North Carolina Law Librarians (eventually became first AALL chapter); founding president, Chicago Association of Law Libraries; founding president, International Association of Law Libraries; recipient of special citation for outstanding service to profession and AALL (1959)
- **Frederick Schenk** (Harvard, University of Chicago, Northeastern University), charter member; first editor of *Law Library Journal*, as well as managing editor, *Index to Legal Periodicals*; AALL president, vice president, and Executive Board member
- **A.J. Small** (Iowa State Library), issued the call that led to formation of AALL in 1906; charter member and first AALL president, also served as Executive Board member
- **Gertrude Woodard** (University of Michigan), first woman to serve as an AALL officer and member of AALL Executive Board; AALL vice president, secretary, and Executive Board member; editor of *Law Library Journal* for seven years

Other Members of the Inaugural Class

- **Bernita Davies** (University of Illinois), AALL president, vice president, president-elect, and Executive Board member; editor of *Law Library Journal*
- **Helen Hargrave** (University of Texas), AALL president and Executive Board member; chair and member of numerous committees
- **Sidney Hill** (Association of the Bar of the City of New York), AALL president and Executive Board member; chaired special committee to establish an index of foreign legal periodicals; president of Law Library Association of Greater New York; recipient of special citation for distinguished service to AALL (1966)
- **Eldon James** (University of Missouri, Harvard, Law Library of Congress), AALL president; editor of *Law Library Journal* for 10 years and *Index to Legal Periodicals* for 18 years
- **Ervin Pollack** (Ohio State University), AALL president and Executive Board member; co-director of second AALL institute; co-founder and president, Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries; author of *Fundamentals of Legal Research*
• Miles Price (Columbia University), AALL president and Executive Board member; director of first AALL institute; co-author of Effective Legal Research; recipient of special citation for outstanding service to the profession and AALL (1959)

• Fred B. Rothman (New York University, Fred B. Rothman & Co.), law librarian who founded leading legal publishing company and long-time AALL supporter

• Antonette (Babe) Russo (AALL), long-time AALL administrative secretary; elected AALL honorary member (1990)

• William Stern (University of Chicago, Los Angeles County Law Library), AALL president and Executive Board member; editor of Law Library Journal; Southern California Association of Law Libraries president, instrumental in creation of Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals

• John Vance (Law Library of Congress), AALL president, vice president, and executive board member; first president of Law Librarians Society of Washington, D.C., Inc.

The Gallagher Award Winners

From 1984 when it was first established to 2009, AALL presented 52 individuals with its distinguished service award. The first recipient was Marian Gould Gallagher of the University of Washington, a universally applauded choice. The award was renamed in her honor following her death in 1990.

By action of the Executive Board, each of these 52 Gallagher Award recipients is automatically a member of the inaugural Hall of Fame induction class. Given the size of the group and the fact that their AALL activity is of a more recent vintage and therefore better the fact that their AALL activity is of a class. Given the size of the group and the inaugural Hall of Fame induction recipients is automatically a member of each of these 52 Gallagher Award honor following her death in 1990.

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With its distinguished service award. To 2009, AALL presented 52 individuals from 1984 when it was first established its Hall of Fame (www.sla.org/content/SLA/awards/recognition/halloffame/index.cfm) in 1959 with the induction of 20 individuals. Similarly, the Medical Library Association began its Fellows Awards in 1976 (www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/fellows/index.html).

By these standards, AALL, now in its second century, is late in creating a hall of fame to honor its outstanding members. Thus, it should be no surprise that the inaugural class—78 strong—is as large as it is. There was some catching up to do. Now that the first class is chosen, however, it is anticipated that no more than a handful will be selected on an annual basis by the AALL Awards Committee.

In choosing future inductees, the committee will follow the Hall of Fame statement of purpose and selection criteria, as amended by the Executive Board in April 2010 upon a recommendation of the Hall of Fame Selection Special Committee. While these documents emphasize that selection to the AALL Hall of Fame is a singular honor, they also make clear that the Gallagher Award remains the Association’s highest honor. For instance, while the Gallagher Award is explicitly described as an award that is “presented to an individual who has completed or is nearing completion of an active professional career,” the Hall of Fame selection criteria only require that a “nominee must be or have been a member in good standing of AALL for 25 years or more.” Thus, while the Hall of Fame award requires that nominees have provided “distinguished service to the Association over a substantial portion of [their] period of membership” and to have made “significant contributions to the profession,” it does not mandate that they be at the end of their careers.

The Hall of Fame statement of purpose also indicates that “[a]n individual’s induction into the Hall of Fame does not preclude the Association from later presenting the individual with the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award. New Gallagher Award recipients who have not previously been inducted into the Hall of Fame will automatically become members of the Hall of Fame.” It seems likely that in future years there will be individuals selected to the Hall of Fame who are still actively engaged in making substantial contributions to AALL and law librarianship; some of them will then later be honored with the Gallagher Award as their professional careers come to a close.

Going Forward: Future Selections

The Special Libraries Association established its Hall of Fame (www.sla.org/content/SLA/awards/recognition/hallofname/index.cfm) in 1959 with the induction of 20 individuals. Similarly, the Medical Library Association began its Fellows Awards in 1976 (www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/fellows/index.html).

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Hall of Fame “Home”

For most people, the mention of Cooperstown means one thing—the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, which opened its doors in 1939. And for those who visit the Hall in Cooperstown, the highlight is inevitably the Hall of Fame Plaque Gallery. As described on its website, “Bronze plaques of all the Hall of Fame members line the oak walls creating a sanctuary for the game’s legends to be remembered.” (Visit http://baseballhall.org to see this impressive gallery.)

While the Association will not try to replicate Cooperstown or its bronze plaques, it does plan to appropriately commemorate the service and contributions of those selected for the AALL Hall of Fame by developing a page on AALLNET that will contain profiles, information, and, where available, photos for each inductee. It is expected that this page will be completed some time in the next year as the AALLNET redesign moves forward.

Frank G. Houdek (houdek@siu.edu) is associate dean for academic affairs and professor of law at Southern Illinois University School of Law. He served as chair of the 2009-2010 Hall of Fame Selection Special Committee.
Looking Beyond the Stacks

The law library as place

By Stephen Young
traditionally, any discussion of the law library as place has begun—and more often than not ended—with the famous quotation from Christopher Columbus Langdell, former dean of the Harvard Law School, in which he analogized the role of the law library in the field of law to the role of a laboratory in the field of science. While certainly encouraging the now tired notion of learning to think like a lawyer, the problem with Langdell’s and much of the traditional treatment of the law library as place is the one-dimensional aspect that this approach creates. We are often left with the impression that the building is created solely for books and not for people. Lord Herbert Samuel summed up this traditional view of libraries in 1947 when he declared, “A library is thought in cold storage.”

I propose a more three-dimensional approach to the academic law library as place. The use of the term “place” throughout refers just as much to a place within the lives of the law students as it does to the physical space within the law school walls. After all, it is the law students who view it and use it as more than just a laboratory and more than just cold storage.

While this article includes little if any discussion of the library as a place for books, this in no way is meant to imply that books are no longer an integral part of the services a law library provides. Rather, I merely mean to emphasize that they do not necessarily define the role this vital space plays during the three or four years a student spends in law school.

The Third Place
Ray Oldenburg’s 1989 publication Great Good Place, in which he first introduced the concept of the third place, has been discussed in great detail in design literature over the past couple of decades and was recently the focus of discussion at a satellite conference of the 2009 World Library and Information Congress in Turin. However, its application to the law library environment has not drawn as much attention as perhaps it should, although Blair Kauffman did reference this topic in the Spring 2009 Law Library Journal article, “The Twenty-First Century Law Library.” On a personal note, my own experience working on the front lines of academic law libraries for the past quarter century has convinced me that Oldenburg’s concept not only can but should be applied to this environment.

But first we must determine what third places are. According to Oldenburg third places typically possess the following characteristics:

- They form neutral gathering places where all people are made to feel included.
- They provide a leveling environment for human contact and conversation.
- They must be accessible while also providing opportunities for reflection, relaxation, and interaction.
- They are inhabited by “regulars” who feel at home in this environment.

Traditionally, third places were cafés, coffee shops, pubs, community centers, general stores, and other meeting areas outside of the home and the work environment, our first and second places respectively. Although Oldenburg does not specifically reference libraries, the concept can very readily be applied to academic libraries, including law school libraries.

In part, this is because law libraries welcome all members of the law school community by fostering an environment that places immense value on the individual. Law libraries not only provide access to information but also offer human contact in a comfortable, safe setting. Additionally, they provide a neutral place, a place where students are safe in the knowledge that they are not going to be judged or graded. When a student walks into the library, the adversarial environment of the classroom or the moot courtroom is replaced by a more supportive, communal environment. These are qualities that law students might feel are sometimes lacking in other aspects of their law school experience.

Just as important as providing an environment for seeing friends and colleagues, these are also places where people come to recognize familiar strangers: people they see regularly but do not know by name. In many ways, these familiar strangers—the faces that occupy the library carrels, or people they walk by on the way to the computer lab—are crucial in the creation of a third place. Just by their presence they lend a sense of community that in turn reinforces a sense of belonging. Third places therefore provide opportunities for the development of “place attachment” or “institutional bonding.”

Monastery versus Marketplace
However, it would be wrong to give the impression that law libraries automatically assume this third place status with law students. Law libraries must stay relevant in order to attain this, which requires constant evolution and the eschewal of stasis.

This process, or organic aspect of the library, is very much reflected in recent literature. In 2003 Professor Morell Boone, dean of Eastern Michigan University’s College of Technology, proposed the idea that academic libraries are evolving from a “monastery” full of books and journals for scholars to a marketplace competing for clients. They do this partially by offering an array of in-demand services, some in person, some virtual. This evolution has resulted in the development of, among other things, “cybraries”—places where electronic access to materials is greatly enabled. Libraries therefore acknowledge the marketplace by providing access to information conveniently and efficiently. But it goes beyond this to also providing an environment controlled by the marketplace, which might be referred to as the “Barnes & Noble factor.”

Before moving on, let us take a moment to consider cybraries. The emergence of cybraries has led some to argue that the need for the library as a physical place is diminishing. This argument presupposes that the only reason for students to visit the library is to retrieve information. Once this information is made available online and hence can be retrieved remotely the reason for visiting the library diminishes.

If this is true, however, why are most academic law libraries reporting an increase in attendance in recent years at the same time that they are making more of their collection available online? Some suggest the answer lies not in the traditional resources offered by libraries—the books, the journals, the assistance with reference questions—but in the role the library plays as a place in the lives of law students, as a special environment that serves multiple purposes for the student. Once again, Kauffman’s recent discussion of the topic in Law Library Journal is relevant, particularly his comments on the issue of the “born digital” generation of law students and their voracious appetite for law libraries.

The evolution of the marketplace theory is in no small part due to the increased costs of attending law school. In other words, whether we like it or not we must take some ownership of this development. Law schools and libraries should no longer think in traditional terms of students or patrons, as this creates an inverse relationship where the person who pays is seen as subservient to the person who is paid. However abhorrent this is to the traditional vision of academia, we must now recognize that the students are customers in a market that shapes and reshapes all aspects of the modern law school.
This influence is felt in everything from the courses offered by law schools, where we have seen strong student demand for bar preparation courses as part of the curriculum, to the library, where there now exists an expectation of free wi-fi and in some instances learning cafés within the building. Universities, and in particular law schools, need to come to terms with the reality that the faculty and staff are paid employees, and it is the paying customer who calls the shots. Law schools can no longer charge more than $40,000 per year in tuition and fees and not expect the marketplace to react.

In their 2003 study, “Poised between Two Worlds: The University as Monastery and Marketplace,” in EDUCAUSE Review, Nancy Cantor and Steven Schomberg explore how universities are caught between tradition and marketplace. They highlighted this tension within academic institutions by arguing that “libraries, even academic research libraries, can no longer avoid the noise and turmoil and un-vetted free-for-all of the marketplace.”

There is little doubt that over the past decade or so academic libraries, including law libraries, have gradually become far more complex, more expansive, and in many ways less recognizable as libraries in the traditional sense. This evolution has not always been well advertised by the libraries to university and law school administrators, and as a result they are still often viewed as one-dimensional warehouses of books. The blame for this falls squarely on the shoulders of the library profession. We as a profession need to do a better job of communicating not just what we do but also what roles we play in our institutions and in the lives of our students—our customers.

Building Social Capital

The bestselling book Bowling Alone by Robert Putnam defined social capital as the “connections among individuals—social networks and the norms of reciprocity and trustworthiness that arise from them.” The benefits of social capital are plenty, including mutual support (a very important commodity for law students), cooperation, volunteerism, and an overall sense of institutional cohesiveness. Social capital is an essential building block in the creation of communities precisely because it allows people to invest in each other. But in order for social capital to exist, the right environment must be supplied.

Libraries form an important component in the creation of social capital in a law school. They achieve this by performing many roles. Among them are the obvious and the traditional: the collection, the preservation, and the dissemination of information. But we must also take note of the less obvious roles, such as providing comfortable and convenient places to study and informal meeting spaces for the community.

The very space facilitates a sense of belonging to a community. Architecture and furnishings also undoubtedly play a strong role in this—without the design of purpose-built community space and the use of appropriate furniture, it is difficult to achieve this creation of social capital. I will discuss design shortly; however, it is important to acknowledge the influence played by the less easily defined aspects of the space and realize that the image of the law library also takes shape from what happens within this space. It is not necessarily the number of seats, the amount of linear shelf space, or even the availability of service points that creates the environment for social capital; it is the intangible qualities supplied by students that make a third place successful.

In other words, the space is just a space until the students—the customers in this market place—inhabit the space and make it their own.

Liquidating Social Capital

But there is of course no value in social capital if it cannot be liquidated into something tangible. In response to this, an argument can be made that the value of social capital built up by law libraries can be very readily converted into monetary capital by law schools. The sense of community that is created translates into current and former students who feel a sense of attachment to the institution and who are often willing to help the school through personal or financial commitments.

Studies, such as “Modeling and Managing Student Loyalty: An Approach Based on the Concept of Relationship Quality,” a 2001 Journal of Service Research article by Kristo Hennig-Thurau, Markus F. Langer, and Ursula Hansen, have shown that academic staff and the university infrastructure, such as the library, play an important role in the development and fostering of institutional loyalty among students. As evidence of this, many of us have often overheard alumni refer to their desks or their study spots within the library. And while wishing to avoid trivializing the issue, there is little doubt that more than a few law school romances owe their existence in part to the library and the opportunities it afforded students to interact with other students.

Does this mean that administrators are short-sighted if they decide to convert library space into faculty offices, law school classrooms, or space for computer equipment? It is clear that none of the facilities just mentioned are likely to foster the institutional cohesion and loyalty as the third place that is the law library. Alumni have little attachment to classrooms since they are often sealed, oftentimes uncomfortably, in multiple classrooms during their three or four years of law school. And they certainly have no attachment to a faculty office or a room that houses computer servers.

By chipping away at library space—the customer’s third place—administrations are in effect chipping away at the students’ memories, their loyalty, and potentially their willingness to donate to the institution. The repurposing of law library space for other law school needs, while perhaps cost-efficient in the short-term, may therefore have long-term consequences that are detrimental to the law school’s bottom line.

The Library Classroom

One challenge alluded to earlier is how to understand the role of the classroom in the library. Does the creation of classroom space within the library undermine or somehow weaken the library as place or does it strengthen it by providing an additional space for learning? Certainly, the use of classrooms in libraries is nothing new but in recent years we have seen more and more law schools view library space as potential classroom space.

Does a dilution of the third place occur anytime we introduce elements of the second place—the work environment—into the equation? Classrooms by their very nature form part of a student’s second place, and thus, by including them in a library, we are taking away from the distinct environment that a library can offer the student. While classrooms clearly constitute learning environments, as we have seen so far, the library is far more than just a place where students learn. Even the placement of computer labs in the library, while perfectly understandable and often convenient even for the librarians, does little to enhance the true “library experience” for the student.

The Role of Library Design

Few would argue that law library design has become increasingly more complex. This reflects in part the struggles encountered by law libraries wanting to remain true to their traditional services while at the same time trying to adapt to the afore-mentioned market-driven changes within the law school.

What role does design play in this attainment of a third place within the lives of law students? As indicated earlier, libraries do not automatically become third places; they must include the requisite characteristics and design to allow for their acceptance as third places. In “University Libraries as Third Places,” a paper presented at the World Library and Information Congress, coauthors Jim Banning, Stephanie Clemons, David
McKelfresh, and Lisa Waxman suggest that these design characteristics include:

- Informal gathering places created by purpose-built spaces that encourage sociability
- A homely, almost cozy feeling created by the right use of lighting, colors, and furniture
- Identifiable markings or branding to create a sense of institutional belonging

Design must allow for two competing traits: one creating a space for interacting with fellow students and the other creating a space that students consider “their space” within the institution, a place where they can feel anchored or sheltered. The monastery/marketplace duality therefore creates conflicts in library design, which is perhaps best exemplified by the idea of the learning café.

A café located within a law library can offer much of what Oldenburg identifies in a third place but is also at odds with the monastic environment in which research and study has traditionally been done. A too large or too prominent social area might flood the study space nooks and crannies of the library with noise and distractions. Equally, if no space is clearly demarcated as social space or group study space, students may be reluctant to engage in peer-to-peer learning sessions for fear of annoying their fellow law students.

This balance of public/private space is a delicate one, but getting it right is an essential ingredient in creating a recognizable third place for law students. If cafés or other social spaces are to be introduced into the law library environment, they must be done so as to minimize the friction between these two worlds. At their best, the introduction of purpose-built social spaces in the law library allows students to move seamlessly between knowledge acquisition and learning interaction, all within a sociable, communal environment. At their worst, they facilitate friction between two communities within the walls of the library: those seeking a place to learn and those seeking a place to socialize.

A recent example of how law library design has tried to integrate the two environments into one space is very much on display at the Wolf Law Library at William & Mary Law School in Williamsburg, Virginia. When it opened in 2007, the library featured a number of social areas that directly targeted the students’ need for a third place. Jim Heller, professor of law and director of the library, notes the use of several lounge areas throughout the library; ping-pong, pool, and chess tables for student recreation; and the availability of large-screen televisions for both informational and recreational purposes.

(continued on page 21)
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Looking to the future, this is clearly a developing trend. Oklahoma City University is currently in negotiations to turn a historic building in downtown Oklahoma City into the new home for its law school and law library. Lee Peoples, law library director at Oklahoma City University School of Law, plans to embrace the concept of the library as “third place” in the renovations. He notes, “many of our students spend their entire day at the law school. We want the library to be a place where they come to get serious about their studies, develop personal connections with their classmates, and begin to establish their professional identity. There will be space for quiet contemplation, space for group study, and space for spontaneous meetings with faculty and other students.”

A Note on the ABA’s Standards
How does the American Bar Association (ABA) address all of this in its Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools? It doesn’t. The most applicable standard is 702, which states: “The Physical facilities for the law library shall be sufficient in size, location, and design in relation to the law school’s programs and enrollment to accommodate the law school’s students and faculty and the law library’s services, collections, staff operations, and equipment.”

While one could argue that the standard does refer to a “design” that can “accommodate the law school’s students,” this in no way reflects the role played by the library as a space within the lives of the law students. Understandably, it is easier to apply standards to concrete issues such as the number of chairs that a law library needs to provide for its student body, but this is no excuse for ignoring this issue. It is certainly possible that in the future the ABA will forge new standards that recognize the law library as a place and not just a location for books, furniture, and services, but until then the standards will lack this added dimension.

The Essence of a Good Library
As a profession we cannot ignore the realities of increased demand for office and classroom space but we must also be sensitive to the less obvious and equally essential need for a place where law students can learn, socialize, build attachments, and reflect either together or as individuals. The essence of a good library is therefore much more than just the collection and services it provides, as important as these are. Rather, the essence of a good library is reflected in the role that it plays as a place within the lives of the students who use it—the greater the role, the greater the library.

Stephen Young (youngs@law.edu) is a reference librarian at the Judge Kathryn J. DuFour Law Library at The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law in Washington, D.C.
AALL’s Road Ahead: Planning for the Future

By Jean M. Wenger

The AALL Executive Board adopted the 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions on April 10, effective at the conclusion of the July 2010 AALL Annual Meeting. Law librarians work in a dynamic, socially relevant, and intellectually stimulating profession. Our progress and influence over the past 103 years are no accident. Our successes are the result of collaboration, dedication, and foresight. For AALL, strategic planning offers the opportunity to work collectively, capitalize on innovations, and advance our professional interests.

With the current 2005-2010 Strategic Directions expiring in July 2010, AALL needed a new plan to continue the progress begun and provide a roadmap for the future. In early 2009, Cathy Lemann, then AALL vice president, charged the Executive Board’s Strategic Directions Committee with spearheading the drafting and development of a new strategic plan for the Association.

As a member, you may wonder about the process used to develop the 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions. This brief exposition will address the development of the new Strategic Directions and will describe how the directions in practice promote and advance the work of AALL.

The Process and the Data

Prior to the spring 2009 board meeting, the Executive Board participated in a planning day facilitated by consultant Marcia Holston of Harrison Coerver & Associates. Senior AALL Headquarters staff and the special interest section (SIS) and chapter council chairs joined the board in its discussions. The group determined that the Association’s core purpose and values were still relevant and accurate as stated in the current plan. They evaluated progress on the goals and objectives of the 2005-2010 Strategic Directions. The board questioned if the current directions of leadership, education, and advocacy addressed the needs of the Association going forward. The board believed so. However, the final verdict would await member consensus.

The group considered trends and factors influencing AALL and its operations over the next five years with particular focus on the economic, technological, governmental, social, cultural, and professional. They conducted an environmental analysis of law librarian-ship, identifying allies, stakeholders, and competitors. The group noted specific areas of research necessary to inform the planning process including information on the legal information industry, library and law school trends, library association trends, law library economics, member concerns, and demographics. The Strategic Directions Committee, executive director, and staff took responsibility for collecting the research and set target dates for completion of required tasks.

The board determined that another five-year plan was not practicable given the accelerated pace of change in the economy, legal information access, and technological advancements. A three-year planning horizon offered a more flexible option in the current and prospective environment.

The collection of data began in earnest after the spring board meeting. As chair of the Strategic Directions Committee, I reported to members at the AALL July 2010 Annual Meeting. Law librarians, as well as you those who attend, provide the vision and inspiration for the 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions. The board questioned if the current directions of leadership, education, and advocacy remain unchanged. However, the directions have been updated. While most of the directions are ongoing, some are a bit more concrete. We hope that we have articulated goals and objectives that members and constituent groups will work toward accomplishing.

This is a plan for AALL but it affects you, the member. Thank you to everyone who responded to the opportunities for input. Your valuable input enabled the Executive Board to approve a plan that is both focused and progressive.

The Executive Board Strategic Directions Committee worked thoughtfully to create this plan. In this Members’ Briefing, Jean Wenger, who guided the committee for two years, describes the process. I am extremely grateful for her leadership and the work of the committee.

This is AALL’s plan. Let’s work together on the directions and objectives over the next three years. By using this plan as a map to guide our work, its milestones will allow us to measure our success as the national professional organization for all law librarians, as well as you those who support the field of law librarianship.

Dear AALL colleagues,

You provided the vision and inspiration for the 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions through your thoughtful, sincere, and critical input. The strength of AALL is its members, and working together, we can continue to achieve success.

Thank you,

2009-2010 AALL Executive Board

Catherine Lemann
AALL President, 2009-2010
Annual Business Meeting in Washington, D.C., on the planning process and invited members to participate, stressing that their input was crucial to the successful drafting of the new plan. AALL staff collected member information through several venues. Law library directors received an economic outlook survey in September 2009 as a follow-up to a similar survey conducted in March 2009. All members also received a membership survey in September 2009 to supplement an earlier membership survey from 2007. Each survey provided for confidential individual responses and comments.

The committee developed a series of targeted short surveys for committees, SISs, caucuses, and chapters. These surveys were designed to capture relevant trends, current and prospective challenges, and ways AALL could proactively support the entity. In addition, the surveys requested that entities tell us “what we didn’t think of.” Surveys were sent to committee and SIS chairs, chapter presidents, and caucus leaders in mid-September 2009. The response rate was impressive, ranging from more than 58 percent (chapters) to 100 percent (SISs).

In late August 2009, the committee created the Strategically Thinking blog on AALLNET as an opportunity for all members to share and brainstorm. To motivate discussion, the committee periodically posted various questions on which members could comment.

The Final Stages of Drafting
Marcia Holston again served as facilitator for the fall strategic directions retreat in November. AALL senior staff, SIS and chapter council chairs, and Marian Parker, AALL’s vendor liaison, joined the board for the retreat.

The board reviewed the findings of the research collected including membership statistics and comments, entity survey responses, library association trends, and law and library school trends. Member input confirmed the board’s projection that leadership, education, and advocacy were enduring and viable directions for the next three years. The board discussed economic issues facing the Association and fleshed out key planning issues.

After the meeting, equipped with survey results, member comments, and retreat discussion, the committee developed draft objectives and revised goal statements for periodic review by the board. Throughout this process, the committee returned to the rich content of members’ suggestions and ideas.

On February 9, Lemann presented the draft 2010-2013 Strategic Directions to members through a special e-newsletter. Members were able to click through to a comment page that remained open until March 5. Members again generously responded with thoughtful and constructive commentary.

The committee compiled and incorporated members’ responses into the final revision of the draft. On Saturday, April 10, after a period of discussion, the Executive Board unanimously approved the 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions.

Executive Board Action Plans
The AALL Strategic Directions are intrinsic to the working of the Association. Leadership, education, and advocacy serve as the Association’s navigation systems. They direct the work of the Executive Board and focus the work of committees and other Association entities. For example, the work of each committee must comply with one or more of the Strategic Directions.

The ultimate responsibility for the achievement of the Strategic Directions rests with the Executive Board, assisted by the board’s Strategic Directions Committee. The committee’s purpose is to “monitor AALL’s overall progress on its Strategic Directions and ensure that the Executive Board and AALL entities are carrying out appropriate actions to implement the Strategic Directions.” The committee accomplishes this charge by preparing two action plans for board approval. “The first, a plan for the upcoming year, should be submitted for approval at the Fall Executive Board meeting, and the second, a report on progress and recommendations for the following year, should be submitted for review at the Summer Executive Board meeting. These plans should incorporate the priorities the Board has set for implementation of the Strategic Directions.”

The Strategic Directions—leadership, education, and advocacy—function as the organizational framework for the board action plans. The action plan presented for approval at the fall board meeting is based on recommendations approved at the summer board meeting, suggested strategies, and any developments requiring attention at that time. The action plan states the action to be taken and identifies and directs the entity or entities responsible for completion of the task. The board might ask an entity—AALL standing committee, board committee, or SIS—to investigate an issue or complete a particular task within a specified time. All activities are in furtherance of the Strategic Directions and each requires that a report be submitted to the board for inclusion in the Executive Board books available in the Members’ Only section of AALLNET.

The second action plan, presented at the summer board meeting, includes recommended actions for the upcoming year that help maintain continuity between Executive Boards. As required, the committee also reports on the status of tasks and accomplishments of the action plan adopted at the fall board meeting.

Strategies: The Keys to Implementation
In a departure from the current plan, the committee believed strongly that strategies should be matched to objectives to provide context and a framework for implementation. After approval of the Strategic Directions at the spring 2010 meeting, the board undertook a preliminary brainstorming session to identify strategies for the approved objectives. The committee will continue to develop strategies and create a working strategies document using ideas generated at the board meeting and through review of research compiled for the board retreat. The expectation is that over the next three years, the Strategic Directions Committee, in consultation with the board, will fine tune, supplement, and revise the strategies as conditions warrant. The strategies document will be a living, evolving document and will be pivotal in the development of the annual executive board action plans.

New Strategic Directions
The 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions focus on the importance of the individual member as a leader within his or
her institution and the Association as a leader in the fields of information and law. AALL exists because of and for its members. The new plan aims to capitalize on the existing strengths of our educational components and make educational offerings more attractive to members in important ways. Our advocacy efforts have taken on new urgency and the objectives have set out more ambitious and specific tasks. Overall, communication is the key for promoting leadership and facilitating more successful advocacy with stakeholders.

The Executive Board encourages you to take time to read the 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions and accompanying vision statement. Our goal is for the new Strategic Directions to provide more guidance for members and entities and to address those areas of most concern and immediacy for the profession. The development of the new directions is the first stage of a three-year endeavor. We look forward to working with you toward the accomplishment and success of AALL’s goals and objectives.

The planning process and final drafting of the 2010-2013 AALL Strategic Directions are the result of hard work and dedication of many professionals including the Executive Board, Strategic Directions Committee, Headquarters staff, and especially you, the members. The Executive Board and Strategic Directions Committee are deeply appreciative of your support for the future initiatives of the Association.

Jean M. Wenger (jwenger@cookcounty.gov) is the government documents/foreign and international law librarian at the Cook County Law Library in Chicago, as well as a member of the AALL Executive Board and chair of the Executive Board’s Strategic Directions Committee.

AALL Vision 2010-2013

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), the national professional organization for all law librarians and those who support the field of law librarianship, serves as the voice of professional advancement and permanent public access to legal information. AALL has set a course to continue to be an essential part of the professional life of every member.

In the future: Members will be recognized as valued leaders in the legal community. AALL, as a dynamic association, will provide leadership training and professional support enabling members to direct and manage information as essential contributors to the mission of their organizations.

Members will have the skills needed to succeed in the ever-changing environment of law and information. AALL will provide multiple educational opportunities for members to find innovative solutions and be at the forefront of new developments.

Members will work to advance and protect continuous and permanent access to legal information. AALL will provide the national voice, the reputation, and the stature to be a strong advocate for law librarians and their constituencies.

AALL and its members seek the advancement of law librarians and the vision to promote critical information policies. AALL, through its initiatives in leadership, education, and advocacy, will solidify the necessary role of law librarians in the global information society.

Leadership
The Association exists through the intent and contributions of members and, in turn, members benefit from an active, robust association, accomplishing collectively what individuals cannot. A strong partnership between the membership and professional association staff positions AALL as a leader among professional legal and information organizations and promotes the influence and economic success of individual law librarians. A fiscally sound organization provides services and benefits expected by members. Members develop vital leadership skills by participation in AALL activities and educational events. Through AALL and its internal networks and groups, members find collective wisdom, knowledge, and the expertise to succeed.

Education
Law librarians work in and contribute to the fast-paced legal information society. Members will gain the progressive skills to meet the challenges in managing and accessing information by participating in continuing, specialized education. The core competencies acknowledge the complex and diversified skills required to succeed and thrive, and offer a basis for professional education development. Members expect the ability to participate in expanded educational offerings on their schedule, at a competitive price, and using a variety of formats best suited to their style of learning.

Advocacy
Law librarians, possessing unique education and training, have the special responsibility to promote permanent public access, authentication, and preservation of public domain government information. Standards for access must continue to expand with the advances in technology. AALL as a collective force can promote and advocate on behalf of members. Given the critical role of law libraries in a democracy, members with the support of AALL must reinforce those critical policies protecting open access to legal information for all citizens. AALL must promote standards for equitable publisher and vendor business practices by educating all relevant parties. AALL must encourage full and open communication between providers and consumers of legal information.
AALL 2010-2013 Strategic Directions

**Core Purpose of AALL**
AALL strengthens the profession of law librarianship and supports the individual efforts of its members.

**Core Values of AALL**
AALL values:
- Lifelong learning and intellectual growth
- The role of the law librarian in a democratic society
- Equitable and permanent access to legal information
- Continuous improvement in the quality of justice
- Community

**GOAL I: LEADERSHIP**
Law librarians benefit from a strong association. A strong association articulates the collective vision of law librarians and enhances the stature of individual librarians as leaders in their workplace and in access to legal information worldwide.

**Objectives:**
- Increase the recognition of AALL by the legal profession, information vendors, government, and the public as the premier resource for legal information issues and the law library profession.
- Support and mentor the development of law librarians at all experience levels as leaders in their professional environment.
- Partner with legal and information organizations to promote the financial and economic benefits of employing law librarians.
- Promote opportunities for members to hold leadership positions within AALL and its entities.
- Increase and improve communication and collaboration within the Association and with its entities, chapters, and related organizations.
- Develop new non-dues revenue sources to expand membership benefits, grants, and scholarships.

**GOAL II: EDUCATION**
Law librarians will have the education and training they need to meet and leverage the challenges of the changing information environment in a global world.

**Objectives:**
- Support and expand an affordable education curriculum based on the core competencies.
- Develop specialized educational programs addressing the diverse needs of members.
- Broaden use of formats, media, and technologies in educational programming to provide a productive experience for all members.
- Collaborate with library and information schools to promote law librarianship, and participation in related educational opportunities.

**GOAL III: ADVOCACY**
Law librarians will be innovative and progressive in influencing legal and government information policies in the public and private sector.

**Objectives:**
- Increase communication to law librarians, their employers, information vendors and the public about the value of law libraries and the critical role legal information professionals play in a global society.
- Promote the value of public law libraries at the local, state and federal level including the need for appropriate funding levels and policies.
- Promote AALL policies that support members and their institutions in establishing fair and equitable business relationships with legal publishers.
- Expand communication channels with information vendors regarding products, product development, and related policies.
- Continue advocacy efforts to ensure the authentication and preservation of official digital legal resources.
- Continue to advocate that government information must be in the public domain, and that information on government websites must be permanently available to the public at no charge.
- Work with the Library of Congress and other national and international organizations to ensure bibliographic standards and other standards necessary for full access to information.
Buying and selling wine over the internet has captured the interest of consumers, producers, and sellers across the nation. The regulations controlling the industry, however, are complex and vary by state.

Wine shipping laws are often different for wine producers and wine retailers; additionally, litigation is pending in several states to open markets and allow everyone to ship wine directly to both in-state and out-of-state consumers. Clearly the wine industry is big business, and while both retailers and wineries want to capitalize on the market demand, their interests, to some extent, are competing.

Meanwhile, consumers question why purchasing wine via the internet is different from shopping online for most other products. Yes, it’s alcohol, but why are there different rules for in-store/winery purchases versus online purchases? With regulations left to the states, there is little uniformity throughout the nation. Cross-border direct shipment issues have been and continue to be litigated in several jurisdictions. So far, the U.S. Supreme Court has left in place each state’s authority to regulate the delivery or use of alcoholic beverages so long as it does not place an undue burden on interstate commerce. And therein lies the question that continues to be tested, i.e., how far can states control legitimate sales?

Looking at the historical background of alcohol regulation leading up to the present helps to elucidate the powerful authority granted to states after the repeal of Prohibition in 1933. With that repeal came the passage of the 21st amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified December 5, 1933, which gave states the power to control the “transportation or importation” of “intoxicating liquors.” States took the initiative after the amendment was passed and became involved in the regulation of alcoholic beverages, although some more heavily than others.

Why Wine?
Wine has come to the forefront of the debate because of growing consumer demand for regional wines. For many years, wine was a beverage associated with high society. As such, it enjoyed only regional distribution, and its regulation didn’t present an issue for the average consumer. It was not until the 1980s that wine sales across borders sparked interest as chefs were pairing wine with food and boutique wineries were popping up everywhere. Health benefits and a cultural preference for wine over hard liquor made wine the new cocktail standard for weddings, receptions, and parties. As demand increased, so did advertising and marketing of Appalachian wines, along with consumer demand for wines from various regions in the country, with California wines remaining high on the favored list.

Most states developed a three-tier system to control the importation and sale of alcoholic beverages, requiring a producer to use a distributor to sell to a retailer who then sells to a consumer. Some states, however, allowed wineries to direct-sell to consumers who were often their in-state customers. As the market increased beyond state borders, however, so did the demand for sale and shipment of wine to out-of-state customers. Some states banned direct shipment out of state but allowed shipments to in-state customers.

Granholm v. Heald
The first U.S. Supreme Court case to provide some guidelines to the direct shipment issue was Granholm v. Heald (544 U.S. 460), a Michigan case heard by the Court in 2005. The plaintiff, a small winery in California, had received orders from Michigan consumers who wished to purchase wine directly. Michigan’s direct shipment ban required out-of-state wineries to sell to an approved in-state wholesaler that could then sell to Michigan consumers, resulting in substantial markups on the price of the wine. However, Michigan allowed in-state wineries to sell directly to consumers. New York plaintiffs also joined the case to contest the same issues in their own state regarding prohibited direct wine sale shipments across borders.

According to the court, both the New York and Michigan regulations...
violated the Commerce Clause. By allowing in-state direct sales, the states favored in-state commerce over out-of-state commerce. Since Granholm's dictate that states treat both in-state and out-of-state sales equally, a majority of states have enacted legislation allowing for direct shipping of wine to all consumers. Along with this wave of legislation has come a variety of conditions, such as requiring direct shipment permits or reciprocal agreements, limiting shipments to a low volume, or allowing shipment only if purchases are made by consumers in person or from smaller boutique wineries that produce under a certain number of gallons per year. Each state has its own set of regulations, most of which have not been tested in a court of law.

There are many competing interests and players in the marketing of wine. With annual U.S. sales of more than $21.6 billion from more than 3,700 wineries nationwide, wine is big business and lobbies on both sides have major interests at stake. Wholesalers want to retain the three-tier system for their livelihood while wineries want all 50 states to open the door to direct shipping.

Some would argue that eliminating the wholesale distributor will reduce the cost of wines to out-of-state consumers. Others insist that direct shipping costs will eliminate whatever savings might be realized. What is perhaps most apparent, however, is that the marketing of wine will only grow with the ability to ship across borders.

New Challenges
While gearing up for the advent of wine sales across borders, state efforts to maintain the traffic raised an additional complication. According to a recent article in Wine Spectator, in June 2009 the California Alcohol Beverage and Control Department cautioned wineries using internet providers as marketing agents to handle orders that these handlers must be authorized and licensed to sell alcoholic beverages. The article further speculated that other state agencies may be poised to issue similar warnings; the threat may have prompted Amazon.com to back down from creating a division for internet wine sales.

And so the controversy continues as states struggle to maintain control over these shipments, prompting a tug of war between the Commerce Clause and states’ rights—and between wineries and wholesalers. This will be an interesting battle to watch and one that we law librarians will certainly be asked to research.

Judy Janes (jjanes@ucdavis.edu) is acting director at the University of California at Davis Law Library.
"Litigants who cannot afford a lawyer, and either do not qualify for legal aid or are unable to have a lawyer assigned to them because of dwindling budgets, are on their own—pro se."

As New Hampshire Chief Justice John T. Broderick, Jr., and California Chief Justice Ronald George note in their New York Times op-ed, “A Nation of Do-It-Yourself Lawyers,” “Unrepresented litigants now also include many in the middle class and small-business owners who unexpectedly find themselves in distress and without sufficient resources to pay for the legal assistance they need.”

Starting Anew
When I was laid off (or “terminated,” “fired,” or whatever politically correct term one might use to describe a “friendly” departure from one of AALL's large institutional law firm members), I had a chance to reflect on life at large law firms and other large business libraries. Long commutes; underground, carbon-monoxide-filled parking structures; long hours; and office politics are what I remember most. Nonetheless, I had earned a comfortable living, enjoyed lots of professional development opportunities, and learned a lot over the years.

Rather than lament the past, I took a personal inventory and decided to start anew. I had a substantial financial stake, thanks in part to my previous employer, (I am thankful that at least one employer maintained some character during this latest downward economic trend) and decided to go into business for myself. Last year I started Lawtradr.com, a legal document preparation and legal research and consulting company. I became a registered and bonded legal document assistant (LDA) and Process Server. I obtained a business license and went to work.

I love the law. It’s important to me. I already had all the legal research experience I needed as a practicing law librarian. I had prevailed twice in the state of California Fourth District Court of Appeal over the last several years. In addition, I had almost 15 years of experience filling out court forms and assisting others in filling out court forms.

A Matter of Affordability
In my opinion, Broderick and George got it right in their op-ed piece. The growing trend towards self-representation in the nation’s courts is a modern phenomenon. It also represents financial opportunity for businessmen such as myself. Should lawyers and law librarians be concerned for their jobs? Probably not. Broderick and George put it this way: “Litigants who can afford the services of a lawyer will continue to use one until a case or problem is resolved. Lawyers make a difference and clients know that. But for those whose only option is to go it alone, at least some limited, affordable time with a lawyer is a valuable option we should all encourage.”

Whenever I meet with a new client, I encourage him or her to hire “competent legal counsel,” not just

Why access to justice is important

By Alan T. Schroeder, Jr.

As New Hampshire Chief Justice John T. Broderick, Jr., and California Chief Justice Ronald George note in their New York Times op-ed, “A Nation of Do-It-Yourself Lawyers,” “Unrepresented litigants now also include many in the middle class and small-business owners who unexpectedly find themselves in distress and without sufficient resources to pay for the legal assistance they need.”

Not every civil litigant who can’t afford legal counsel is financially impoverished or eligible for legal aid of one type or another. Even a family making $65,000 a year may be unable to afford a $10,000 non-refundable retainer if that same family has two years left on its car payment, a house payment that’s doubled through no fault of its own, and a son or daughter in college.
“legal counsel.” The response is always the same: “I can’t afford an attorney.” Indeed, according to Christian Nolan in his March 2009 Connecticut Law Tribune article, “More Litigants Go to Court without Lawyers,” in the U.S. District Court in Connecticut, the number of self-represented litigants has risen gradually each year since 2005, when there were 180. The number has crept up to 199, 203, and then 267 from 2006-08.

Enter Lawtradr.com. There is a large segment of the population that needs guidance in submitting their legal forms and pleadings pro se. Not legal advice—they already have an idea of what it is they want to accomplish—but simply what forms or documents they need and when and where they need to submit them.

The pro se litigant may ask you to research affirmative defenses in a credit card collection action. Or the pro se litigant may want to file Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 bankruptcy, but has no idea where to start. Lawtradr.com sits down with clients, pulls up the necessary California Central District or Eastern District bankruptcy forms and starts typing away. The client provides all the substantive information. For many law librarians, this routine may sound very familiar to what you do in your law library, sans typing.

In 1971 Nolo Press published How to Do Your Own Divorce in California. On page 11, the author infers that in 1971, only 1 percent of litigants proceeded without an attorney. Let’s fast forward almost 20 years later to 1990 when, in San Diego, at least one party proceeded in propria persona 46 percent of the time. By 2000, San Diego had at least one party proceeding in propria persona 77 percent of the time. That’s right—one of the largest and wealthiest metropolitan areas in the nation had more than three quarters of its family law litigants proceeding in propria persona in 2000.

Likewise, in a 1999 child support study by the California Judicial Council, only 11 percent of litigants had legal representation. Enter California’s own “Equal Access to Justice” program.

Measuring Success

How can law librarians gauge their success in such matters? Generally speaking, they can’t and probably never will. Here’s why. The law is a “business process” in which online legal research and a law book are only a part of the entire “business process.” What that self-represented litigant does when he or she walks out of the law library is the unknown. I wonder if she knows she has 30 days to respond to that credit card collection complaint? Did he file and serve an answer? Does she know she may be eligible for a court fee waiver? What did his civil complaint look like as filed? How did she accomplish personal service? Was he able to resolve his jurisdiction and venue issues sufficiently?

Once a complaint is filed, next come all the motions to strike and demurrers filed by the defendant, and once again the law library and law librarian may be integrated into the legal “business process.”

So whatever happened to our intrepid self-represented litigant proceeding in propria persona? The answer is we don’t know. The law as a business process has too many variables dependent on human behavior to be predictable based only on a law librarian’s efforts.

For example, judges are a peculiar lot when it comes to litigants proceeding in propria persona. Some are particularly harsh, some considerate, and some won’t even look at you. In Alan S. Jr. v. Super. Ct. (2009, 173 Cal. App. 4th 238), the California Fourth District Court of Appeal, Division Three, sardonically lamented the many courtroom ailments facing self-represented litigants.

Therefore, self-represented litigants can expect their courtroom experiences to be frequently distasteful—trial courts are not short on hubris.

In California, the trial bench is so peculiar they fought tooth and nail against mandatory judicial education courses and obligations. The California bench fought this requirement because...well, because they could. After all, they make the rules. Now, throw in a judge’s particular gender bias, racial bias, and whether your judge spent the night out on the town last night and one gets the picture of how one’s hearing might digress proceeding in propria persona.

According to Frederick and George, “We need members of the legal profession to join with us, as many have done, in meeting this challenge by making unbundled legal services and other innovative solutions—like self-help websites, online assistance programs, and court self-help centers—work for all who need them. If we are to maintain public trust and confidence in the courts, we must keep faith with our founding principles and our core belief in equal justice under the law.”

Don’t be fooled by a self-represented litigant’s lack of knowledge of a law library or the law in general. Many of today’s self-represented litigants just need to be pointed in the right direction. According to Ann M. Zimmerman’s article “Going Pro Se” in Volume 73 of Wisconsin Lawyer, “In 1996, a quarter of the respondents in a study commissioned by the New York State Bar Association were self-represented.” The study indicated that these pro se litigants were “better educated and on the more highly compensated end of the middle income spectrum.” The law librarian might think of today’s self-represented litigant as a “new” attorney—highly educated but needing research direction.

Some self-represented litigants go on to do big things. I’m reminded of the recent New York Times article on 34-year-old former bank robber Shon R. Hopwood. (See “A Mediocre Criminal, but an Unmatched Jailhouse Lawyer” in the February 8, 2010, New York Times.) There does appear to be a direct correlation between Mr. Hopwood’s time spent in a law library and his U.S. Supreme Court success. The flipside of one’s research is one’s writing—another very important variable for any self-represented litigant—not to mention the uninterrupted focus that a jail term allows.

What a practicing law librarian should remember is that most attorneys will never see the inside of a court of appeal or supreme court and are completely incapable of ever getting there. I’m trying to define some balance for law librarians’ peculiar habit of treating self-represented litigants one way and attorneys another. It’s fairly easy to explain, as many law librarians have law degrees.

Overcoming Challenges

Can the “Access to Justice” and “Equal Access to Justice” movements succeed in light of all these variables involved in the business process we call the law?

Absolutely.

If you’re looking for a concrete answer, I’ve just given it to you. The law as a business process has too many variables to predict a self-represented litigant’s success or failure based on one variable performance alone. Success or failure many times is in the “eyes of the beholder,” just as one might ask himself or herself at what price success? One of the biggest hurdles for law libraries and law librarians to overcome is over-specialization and human resource categorization of just what it is we do. But, to quote Melissa Barr’s reference to Charles Dyer in the summer 2009 issue of State, Court, and County Law Librarian News (“Too Wet for Ducks at the 2009 Equal Justice Conference”), “there’s a whole lot going on out there in the self-represented litigant world, as Charley will tell you at the AALL Annual Meeting,” “Law libraries and law librarians are particularly positioned to assist the growing pro se/self-represented litigant phenomenon.”

Sacramento Public Law Library has furthered access to justice for the Sacramento metropolitan area and anyone in California with internet access.
by creating their Legal Resource Guides, available at www.saclaw.lib.ca.us. Publications like these are important, if frequently overlooked, within our own law librarian community. They’re useful, on point, and much appreciated.

AALL law librarians frequently work in the rarified air of Fortune 500 firms, law schools, and fancy federal courthouses. Big and mid-size firms and their clients account for the vast majority of money pumped into the legal business process throughout America. These firms are not geared to help the self-represented litigant and are firm believers in financial “majoritarianism.” Their legal system and business process looks with disdain upon the parallel legal system and business process self-represented litigants find themselves in. Big and mid-size firms’ “select” pro bono work revolves around politics, future business, gender, and religion. So self-represented litigants can’t count on them, and the increasing numbers of self-represented litigants bear out that assertion.

In addition, most public law libraries are dedicated to practicing attorneys, and they exploit that relationship. A common misconception is that public law libraries are primarily for you and me. However, if the “Access to Justice” and “Equal Access to Justice” type movements dry up and go away, then what? What better place than a public law library to house or integrate such self-help programs? The meat grinder that is the legal business process will continue—only with no public law libraries or law librarians’ directions for self-represented litigants.

Just because the variables of the legal business process are too numerous and unpredictable to quantify for a court administrator doesn’t mean law libraries’ efforts to assist self-represented litigants are failing. A dire outcome is predictable if “Access to Justice” and “Equal Access to Justice” type movements vanish.

One answer is more law libraries—one centrally located law library dedicated to practicing attorneys doesn’t work and is an outmoded business model. One lesson learned from starting Lawtradr.com is that a lot of people out there can’t afford any type of legal research or forms assistance. Public libraries have tried to step in but there seems to be a general reluctance to do so. It’s safe to say some public libraries provide more legal research assistance and materials than others. Whether it’s a law library or a public library stocked with legal materials shouldn’t matter—it should be a combination of both.

The library administrator is sure to say, “But Alan, what about the economies of scale that computers provide?” For a law librarian, yes, the “plastic box” may be the answer. But can our intrepid self-represented litigant afford to spend hours inside the “plastic box” without success? Probably not. Computer-generated, vendor law libraries are not free for the public. However, if our intrepid self-represented litigant had a law library within walking distance or a short drive away, he or she would have free access to the law. Pigeon-holing the self-represented litigant for budgetary purposes as a “computer researcher” or “book researcher” is at odds with big firm trending towards the former. As odd as it seems, the middle and lower middle class individuals thrown into the legal system may not know that a law library exists, much less that many of its resources exist online.

Justices Broderick and George encourage the legal community to pitch in during these times by creating various programs for pro se litigants. Are libraries leaving gaping holes in their practice by not fulfilling their mission statements vis-à-vis access to legal materials and “Access to Justice”-type programs? Absolutely. More now than ever, “Access to Justice” and “Equal Access to Justice” type programs are critical for our society. The self-represented litigant isn’t going away anytime soon.

Alan T. Schroeder, Jr. (alans@lawtradr.com) runs Lawtradr.com.
Once upon a time—and in another country—a lovely town called Blissful nestled gently in the State of Innocence. The inhabitants of Blissful were greatly blessed. A marvelous Superhighway known as I-Infinity bisected their happy town. This was very nice for the denizens of Blissful because they could drive on I-Infinity to effortlessly reach all regions of this vast state in record time.

Who needs law libraries? It’s all free on the internet.

By Jonathan C. Stock
There was one catch, however. You had to pay for lots of pricey things, and many people did not have the money. I-Infinity did you no good without money to buy a car. A car did you no good without money to buy gas, a driver’s license, a registration fee, insurance, and auto maintenance. If you could pay for all these things, you could get on I-Infinity and ride anywhere blissfully throughout the State of Innocence. Except there was another cost: tolls. The farther you went on I-Infinity, the more toll stations you reached; the more toll stations you reached, the more you paid; and the more you paid, the less you had for other things—like food, clothing, and shelter. You could go a long way on I-Infinity but you had better be able to pay. Otherwise, you had better stay home.

The inhabitants of Blissful were doubly blessed. Not only did they have a physical Superhighway, they also had an Information Superhighway: the internet. That was very nice for these happy Blissful folks because Prophecy assured them they could ride effortlessly on the internet, answering any question, however abstruse, with just a few keyboard strokes. There was one catch, however. You had to first buy a lot of pricey things and many people did not have the money. Traveling on the internet from home or office did not work unless you bought a computer. A computer did you no good without money for peripherals, software, and virus protection. You also had to pay a hefty monthly fee to some internet service provider for access. But having done all these things, you could board the Information Superhighway and ride blissfully through the far realms of human knowledge.

Except there was another cost: tolls. Each station had a sign: Lexis, Westlaw, Loislaw, and HeinOnline being some among them. The farther you journeyed on the Information Superhighway, the more toll stations you reached; the more toll stations you reached, the more you paid; and the more you paid, the less you had for other things—like food, clothing, and shelter. You could go a long way on the information superhighway but you had better be able to pay. Otherwise, you could often have it all and stay home.

The residents of Blissful were triply blessed. Their local courthouse lodged a public law library. Citizens could access its print materials, and they could ride the information superhighway on its computers, clearing the aforementioned toll stations allowed by its subscriptions. Better yet, citizens often did not have to journey to the library in person. They could pose questions and receive answers virtually by e-mail. Reference librarians ran electronic searches, organized information, and sent attachments—resolving in minutes matters that might have taken hours.

Time was money, and remote reference saved time. It also saved money—not only because time was money but also because money was money. The public law library paid each toll station annually with taxpayer funds. Since all citizens were taxpayers, they were not admitted through the toll stations for free, but they were admitted for cheaper than they would have been on their own credit cards. The public law library did with its budgetary power what public libraries have always done: made resources available to all that most could not afford. This meant you could effectively use the information superhighway and still pay for things like food, clothing, and shelter. Better yet, you could often have it all and stay home.

For many years, joy reigned in Blissful. But even in Blissful, joy could not reign forever. One day not so long ago, the economy dropped into a pit—the deepest pit that anyone had seen for 80 years. Things fell apart and the center did not hold. Suddenly there was less money to spread around. The free public law libraries were not free; they were funded by tax dollars. As impoverished taxpayers put fewer dollars into government coffers, government services were cut.

There was never a question that government services must be cut; the only question was which government services would be cut and by how much. The Innocence Judicial Branch administered 15 public law libraries geographically dispersed throughout the state. It decided to cut law libraries—not simply to reduce budgets and service hours, but to permanently close them.
Five were eliminated the first year in hopes that an improving economy would prevent further cuts. The economy got worse. Five were eliminated the second year with similar hopes. The economy got still worse. Five more, including the law library at Blissful, were threatened with closure on July 1 of the third year. This would mean there would be no more free public law libraries in the State of Innocence. Patrons could no longer visit the law library or use its computers to journey the information superhighway, nor could they pass through its toll booths for free or get their research questions answered by e-mail and stay home. They could only stay home. All the reference librarians would vanish. A tree might fall in the forest but—soon—there would be none to hear.

The citizens of Blissful might have waxed unhappy. They really should have done so but they did not. They did not because they had spent two years watching other law libraries close without protest. Bad things happened but they happened to different people—people in far-away countries of whom they knew nothing. Better to be quiet, they thought, so bad things would not happen to them.

By the time their turn came, Blissful folks had been mesmerized into acceptance. They believed what the authorities said when they informed them all that the law library closures were a done deal. Besides, the authorities assured, law libraries were needless in an electronic age. Everything necessary was free on the internet. With great ingenuity, the Innocence Judicial Branch had built a lovely free website. It had forms, practice book rules, docket information, news, lots of nice little booklets, answers to frequently asked questions, and more... so much more. Why, the website even put out high quality, the Innocence Judicial Branch had built a lovely free website. It had forms, practice book rules, docket information, news, lots of nice little booklets, answers to frequently asked questions, and more... so much more. Why, the website even put out high

Great Big Search, or GBS, was a grand search engine owned by a private corporation. From the goodness of its heart, GBS had fashioned this engine in such a way that entering a few words in a big box retrieved helpful documents. That was very nice for people. GBS was generous—so generous that it put up state and federal case decisions far back in time and all for free. They even provided nice little features like a citator—for free. Indeed, GBS gave people what looked like a commercial database—for free.

That was not all. GBS had scanned in millions of books and promised to scan millions more. Some were under copyright and some were long since in the public domain. GBS controlled those under copyright and would soon charge an arm and a leg for them; but it promised that those in the public domain would always be free. Case law was in the public domain, so people drew comfort from GBS. Blissful residents trusted their authorities and they trusted GBS. They were convinced that legal information would henceforth always be free in the State of Innocence.

Who needed law libraries or law librarians any more?

Luckily for the citizens of Blissful, GBS suddenly went and did a funny thing. Luckier still, GBS went and did this funny thing on New Year’s Day—six months before the Blissful Law Library’s slated closure. It slammed the public portal shut, and slammed it hard. From that instant, dollar signs popped up wherever you turned, no matter whether information was under copyright or public domain. And they were very, very big dollar signs.

Blissful citizens hurled bitter imprecations at GBS: “You promised this information would be always free,” they shouted. “You promised!” GBS could not but smile: “Promises are promises,” it intoned. “Promises are promises, but business is business. You reside in the State of Innocence, but we do not. From now on, folks, it’s pay to play.”

The people of Blissful howled in plaintive chorus at an indifferent moon. “You do not understand,” they whimpered. “We cannot pay— so we cannot play. The authorities have pledged to close our Blissful Law Library in July. Once it is gone, we shall have no place to go! The sea waters are rising and rising. Soon we must drown. What shall we do?” they intoned, raising their hands high in supplication. “What shall we do?”

As if by a miracle, the sky brightened and a solemn voice admonished them from above.

“You had better get on your collective horse, dear Blissful folks, and save your public law library. It is a priceless asset: one that will vanish forever unless—like free citizens—you petition government for redress of grievances.”

Dark portents gave resonance to this command. Tidal waves swelled high overhead and menaced their homeland shore. Blissful citizens elected to heed the voice. They took responsibility for their own fate and did what should have been done two years before. They vented outrage in the public press; they bonded with state and national law library associations; they launched a petition drive collecting supportive signatures from impacted citizens; they contacted local legislators; they got a proposed bill introduced to restore library funding; they testified en masse before the Innocence Legislature on its behalf; they obeyed the voice as free citizens rather than like serfs.

The bill passed, the governor signed, and Blissful—along with four other happy towns—kept its public law library after all.

The citizens of Blissful did not drown that year, but their past indifference had caused others to drown. And while they did not drown that year, neither were they safe for the next nor yet the year thereafter. Tough times stayed tough and then got tougher. A turning tide drew back the rising waters once but the tide would turn again. It would turn again and it ran strong.
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Anonymous, Famous, or Infamous

Leave your job without harming your career

By Ryan Valentin

The economy is changing and with it the direction of our career paths. Many of us find ourselves leaving old jobs and starting new ones. Law librarianship is a small profession with relationships operating within a few degrees. Even if you don’t know a particular law librarian, odds are you know someone who does.
Small as the community may be, it remains a highly specialized profession, consisting of people with long career paths and even longer memories. So consider carefully how you want to be remembered when you leave one position for another: anonymous, famous, or infamous.

While a plethora of lists exist enumerating the many “dos and don’ts” of leaving your old job for a new one, the rules for law librarians are different. How you choose to leave your job in a small-membership profession like law librarianship, where fame or infamy often come easier than anonymity, potentially has a greater impact than if you are leaving a large-membership profession where anonymity comes easy and rock stardom is uncommon.

As professionals looking for new opportunities, we all want to stand out. But to ensure that you don’t stand out for the wrong reasons, make sure you avoid the temptation to:

- **Be physically absent**
  Frequently calling in sick your last few weeks or months makes a difficult situation harder by prematurely burdening coworkers with your responsibilities. Such absenteeism also earns you their resentment. Continue to show up.

- **Be mentally absent**
  Your reputation among coworkers will be sealed once they discover the long list of issues you stopped addressing once you accepted your new opportunity. Catching up on all the work you let fall apart will let them know just how little you care. Physical presence is not enough. Continue to do your work.

- **Create chaos**
  If you choose to leave a disaster in your wake, someone will have to clean it up, and they will remember you for all the wrong reasons. Leaving your office better than when you found it, not worse, speaks highly of your character. Cleaning up demonstrates pride in yourself and respect for others.

- **Cause civil unrest**
  Now is not the time to “stick it” to everyone you could not stand for the past weeks, months, or years. Continue to treat your coworkers politely.

- **Leave projects unfinished**
  Allowing projects to come crashing down on those who rely on you is reprehensible. Do your best to finish any projects you have started. Give your coworkers and others a "heads up" about things you have been working on but will no longer be able to maintain.

- **Dress inappropriately**
  Starting a new job is not cause or permission to start dressing how you please at your current job. If shorts and flip flops were inappropriate before, they are inappropriate now. Make an effort to maintain the standard you set for yourself in the past and dress professionally.

- **Shirk obligatory meetings**
  Sure, it was difficult to sit through those meetings a few months ago and it has only become more difficult. Temporary as your stay may be, you should continue to attend faculty, committee, and other institutional meetings.

- **Speak poorly about your colleagues, boss, or employer**
  If the reason to avoid this temptation is not apparent, you are not thinking hard enough. Remember how small the profession of law librarianship is?

- **E-mail everyone about how you “really feel”**
  Authoring and publishing e-mails containing your therapeutic diatribe is even worse than vocalizing it. Your e-mails last forever and ever. Recipients don’t delete your proclamations—rather, they save such insightful gems for special occasions. Resist the urge to write something you wouldn’t otherwise say.

As a professional you have the right and responsibility to influence how your past, present, and future colleagues regard you. So remember, this profession is small—exercise your right responsibly.

**Ryan Valentin** (ravale2@email.uky.edu) is a reference librarian at the University of Kentucky Law Library in Lexington.
It’s not too soon to propose programs for the next AALL Annual Meeting

By Anne Myers

High quality programs are the hallmark of a successful AALL Annual Meeting. They come from you, the members, in the form of program proposals and suggestions offered to the Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC) and Headquarters staff. This reliance on member contributions will continue with the 2011 Annual Meeting next year in Philadelphia.
One change for 2011 is that there is no theme for the Annual Meeting. Instead, we are looking for fabulous programs grouped into six tracks, one for each of the AALL Competencies in Law Librarianship, which apply across all types of law libraries. In fact, it is our hope that members needing to get focused information in one of these areas will be able to use the tracking to support their meeting attendance. The program tracks are:
- General or Core Programs
- Library Administration and Management
- Research, Reference, and Client Services
- Information Technology
- Collection Development and Cataloging
- Teaching

In the recent survey of the AALL Annual Meeting experience, members clearly stated that they want advanced programs, practical knowledge, and programs on substantive law, technical services, and library management and administration. The AMPC is particularly interested in supporting those needs and is looking for proposals that feature concrete, practical ideas and case studies about library services and information resources. We want our members to take away new knowledge and skills that they can apply in their libraries and in their career paths.

Now is the time to begin generating ideas for next year’s conference. The online program and workshop proposal site (http://proposals.aallnet.org) is now open for your proposals. It will enable you to develop your proposal in your own workspace, share it with your colleagues, and submit it online by the September 15 deadline (and, yes, that is one month later than in the past).

A program planner’s handbook is also available on the site. It is the first of many resources that will provide you with help, suggestions, and guidance to turn your ideas into excellent program proposals. The handbook also includes a detailed description of the competency tracks with examples of programs, many previously presented, which would fit in each category.

The AMPC welcomes ideas from librarians with all levels of experience and from a variety of library types, positions, and settings. All AALL members can propose programs as individuals or through a special interest section, caucus, or other group. The only requirements are that your suggested proposals be original and useful for your colleagues and that they closely follow the recommended proposal guidelines outlined on the proposal collection site.

Be creative, be thoughtful, be innovative. Expand on a dangerous idea to see new ways of tackling old problems or shed light in new directions. Consider the practical takeaways that other librarians will gain from attending your program, and ask, “Would my boss pay for me to attend this session?”

The 2011 Annual Meeting Program Committee looks forward to your program and workshop proposals, and to seeing you all in Philadelphia for a fabulous conference that you helped to build.

Anne Myers (anne.myers@yale.edu) is the librarian for serials services at Yale Law Library in New Haven and chair of the 2011 Annual Meeting Program Committee.

AALL 2011 Essentials

Program and workshop proposals for 2011 are due September 15. Check out these online resources for help with your proposal idea:

Online Program and Workshop Collection Site
http://proposals.aallnet.org

The Program Planner’s Handbook
www.aallnet.org/events/ProgramPlannersHandbook.pdf

Proposer Quick Glance
www.aallnet.org/events/11_proposer_quick_glance.pdf

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Current Events

Expand your mind and connect with colleagues at these select AALL events. Visit www.aallnet.org/calendar for more information and offerings.

July 10
103d AALL Annual Meeting
Denver

October 20
Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting
Canton, Ohio

AALLNET Redesign Update

As AALL Headquarters staff work diligently to migrate and format current AALLNET content to the new AALLNET website, the AALLNET Strategic Planning Special Committee created a project site, www.aallnet.org/redesign, to keep AALL members and entities updated on progress, timelines, and to answer questions. Visit the site to learn more about the redesign process, and let us know if you have more questions to add to our FAQs.

Summit 2010: Mapping Our Future

The 2010 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference site, www.aallnet.com/events, has all the information you need to get ready for Denver, from information on this year's speakers and programs, to registration, housing details, and a handy scheduling tool. Check it out and make sure you don’t miss any of the many education, networking, or social events.

Annual Meeting 2.0

If you’re attending the AALL Annual Meeting, you can connect with fellow Annual Meeting attendees by joining AALL on Twitter (http://twitter.com/aallnet), Facebook, and the Summit News Blog (http://summitnewsaaall2010.blogspot.com). Learn about hot spots in Denver, find a roommate, and see which programs your friends are tweeting about.

the return slot

Too Many Stock Photos in Spectrum?

Dear Editor,
I feel increasingly distanced from Spectrum—this is going to sound weird—because of all the iStock photos. It seems like the magazine is becoming filled with oversized photos of people who are models, not librarians. I wonder if anyone else has an opinion about how glossy the mag has become—pro or con?

—Debra Denslaw, reference librarian/interlibrary services manager at the Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis

Editor’s Note:
I’m saddened to read that you feel distanced from Spectrum. The editorial staff strives to produce a high-quality magazine worthy of the profession it represents. We make every effort to pair articles with interesting, complementary imagery and welcome authors to contribute photos to accompany their articles. Even with member-contributed images, however, we are left with a lot of space to fill.

While we would certainly prefer professional photos of our members over stock images, the resources required to hire a professional photographer and schedule shoots across the country are prohibitive. Fortunately, iStockphoto.com offers affordable high-quality imagery, which has allowed us to maintain high visual standards for Spectrum (even if we do wish the site offered more images of librarians).

—M.E.

announcements

Don’t Miss Out on an Exciting New Year—Renew Your Membership Today

As the only national association dedicated exclusively to law librarians’ needs and interests, AALL can tap into the power of the law library community to provide you with resources you need to succeed in today’s environment and to ensure that the profession remains strong and vital now and in the future. If you haven’t renewed already, be sure you do today so you don’t miss out on valuable member benefits.

• AALL2go, our new online learning center, brings continuing education programming to your desktop, including more than 60 free programs for AALL members.

• AALL’s new online Career Center provides advanced resume and job search features, whether you’re looking to find or fill a position.

• The new and improved AALLNET will debut this fall. The new site will be easy to navigate, feature a fresh new look, and include improved search functionality.

• AALL is offering a discounted membership rate for AALL members who are recently unemployed ($56 instead of $222). Unemployed AALL members should fill out the online form at www.aallnet.org/about/unemployed-member-form.pdf.

For more information or to renew your membership online, view the application forms on AALLNET at www.aallnet.org/about/join.asp. If you have any questions about your membership renewal, please contact AALL Membership Services Coordinator Hannah Phelps at hphelps@aall.org or 312/205-8022.
More AALL members will be able to reach their educational goals through the award of LexisNexis/John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarships and the LexisNexis Academic & Library Solutions/James F. Connolly Scholarship.

These awards are named for LexisNexis visionaries who strongly believed in the value of law librarians and in their potential as the profession evolves.

Congratulations to the following LexisNexis/John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship recipients:
Jennifer Ekblaw, Ronald Fuller and Robert Malesko.

Since 1953, LexisNexis has supported the law librarian profession through participation in the AALL Grant Program. Through the AALL/LexisNexis Grant Program, more new librarians will be able to attend the Annual Meeting.

Congratulations to the following Grant recipients:

Richard Amelung          William Mills
Theodora Belniak           Cheryl Niemeier
Scott Burgh                Jill A. Smith
Elizabeth Christian        Margaret West
Katherine Coolidge         Kai Williams-Slaton
Nicole Dyszlewski         Cornell Winston
Druet Klugh               Caroline Young
Meredith McNett

Our special thanks and appreciation go to LexisNexis for establishing this unique relationship with AALL and for maintaining these educational traditions.

Learn more about LexisNexis® librarian resources
http://law.lexisnexis.com/infopro

American Association of Law Libraries
What topic or article title would you like to see in Spectrum?

“...We know that staff librarians tend to remain in place for long stints, and we generally know the reasons they do so (though a survey might yield some surprising results), but our profession does nothing to distinguish them from inexperienced staff librarians. I would like Spectrum to look at the culture of long-term staff-level librarianship and recommend administrative measures (or maybe measures within AALL) to recognize decades of service as a measure of library quality. Becoming an administrator should not be the only way of moving up in this profession.”

—Linda Tashbook, foreign international comparative law librarian at the University of Pittsburgh Barco Law Library in Pennsylvania

“I recently started a new job so I’d like to read some ideas on getting organized at a new job and finding time to ‘do it all.’ There probably have been a lot of people out there who have had their schedules changed, either from full-time to part-time or to no job at all. But if the economy is getting better, as they say, then people will soon be transitioning into new jobs and may also want the advice that I need.”

—Julie Horst, headquarters branch librarian at the U.S. Court of Appeals Ninth Circuit Library in San Francisco

“I would like to see an article on attorney general (AG) librarians. We are probably a hybrid among law librarians—we work in public law offices but, with few exceptions, do not serve the public. Some AG libraries have sizable staffs, while many are one-person libraries. The duties of AG librarians also reflect the diversity of the attorney general departments they serve—consumer protection, civil litigation, and environmental advocacy.”

—Anne McDonald, law library coordinator at the Rhode Island Department of Attorney General in Providence

“...Anything on project management—it’s the new buzz word—especially managing a move or construction project, catalog conversion, or introducing new staffing options such as embedded researchers, distance research, outsourcing, etc.

“I would also like to see articles on contract negotiations, with and without a consultant, and the rise of law firm cost-control consultants.”

—Lucy Curci-Gonzalez, director of library services at the Kenyon & Kenyon LLP Library in New York City

“I would love to see an article about how new librarians get the interview—and then get the job. I graduated in December, have applied to over 40 jobs since last August, and have only had one interview. I do not know if I am doing something wrong or if there are simply more qualified people applying for the same positions. I believe I am not alone in this concern, and I am sure there are many readers who wonder what else they could do to get the jobs they apply for.”

—Shira Megerman, research specialist at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Leon E. Bloch Law Library

“I think it would be great for Spectrum to have a regular column on ‘The Sustainable Law Librarian’ covering practical tips, advice, and stories of how law librarians are leading the way toward environmental sustainability.”

—David Selden, law librarian at the National Indian Law Library/Native American Rights Fund in Boulder, Colorado

Spectrum wants to hear from you! Look for a reader survey in your e-mail inbox this fall. Please share your thoughts to help ensure that Spectrum continues to deliver high-quality professional information and insight.
memorials

AALL Spectrum has been advised of the death of Kai-Yun Chiu.

Ms. Chiu was born in Kai-Yun, China. In 1959, she moved to San Francisco and earned a bachelor’s degree from Holy Names University in Oakland, California, and an MLS from the University of California at Berkeley. She later earned a second master’s degree in administrative science from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Ms. Chiu worked at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore until 1968 when she became head of the government documents department at Johns Hopkins University. In 1976, she began working at the Library Company of the Baltimore Bar, where she remained for almost three decades. Ms. Chiu was a co-founder in 1986 of the Subscription Libraries Roundtable, a national organization of law libraries. A long-time member of AALL, Ms. Chiu was active in the Legal History and Rare Books Special Interest Section; the State, Court, and County Law Libraries Special Interest Section; and the Asian American Law Librarians Caucus. She died on May 29.

AALL Spectrum carries brief announcements of members’ deaths in the “Memorials” column. Traditional memorials should be submitted to Janet Sinder, Law Library Journal, University of Maryland At Baltimore, Thurgood Marshall Law Library, 501 W. Fayette Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-1768; jsinder@law.umaryland.edu.

Do you have a bright idea?

Apply for an AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grant.

- The AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grants Program helps fund educational programming outside of the Annual Meeting. Educational programming that can be distributed to the entire AALL membership will be given priority.

- Chapters, SISs, member institutions, and individual AALL members are eligible.

- Guidelines for proposals and the application form are available online at www.aallnet.org/prodev/grant_program.asp.

- The deadline for the first round of proposals is September 9, 2010.
Do You Have a Captivating View from Your Law Library?

Many law libraries have interesting or dramatic views of cityscapes, mountain ranges, or beautiful vistas. If your law library has a great view, this is your chance to share it with AALL.

In order to be publishable, pictures must be of relatively high quality. While we can work with a print, digital submissions are better. Digital submissions must be high-resolution (300 dpi). When scanning photos, set the scanner at high-resolution/print quality/300 dpi. When taking pictures with a digital camera, make sure that the camera is set to take the largest photo possible.

Depending on the number of submissions received, we will publish one or two photos in each issue of Spectrum and post them on AALLNET at www.aallnet.org/view/view_month.asp. Photos will be published on a first-come, first-served basis. Publication of a submitted photo is not guaranteed.

To submit a photo, or if you have questions, please contact AALL Marketing and Communications Manager Hillary Baker at hbaker@aall.org.

View from the Harry and Diane Rinker Law Library at Chapman University School of Law in Orange, California. Large flocks of Amazon Parrots, of which this Red-crowned Parrot is a member, inhabit Old Towne Orange, dining on the magnolia trees outside the library windows. Photo by Tracie Hall, serials and acquisitions librarian.

View outside the front door of the Appalachian School of Law Library in Grundy, Virginia. Photo by Michelle Elswick, circulation assistant. Submitted by Chris King, public relations librarian.
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