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From the Editor

Many law librarians feel uneasy and are looking over their shoulders, concerned that their positions are under assault like the supporters of some medieval pretender to the throne, non-librarians are massing their forces offshore, preparing for a landing and the eventual takeover of the profession. Or so goes the most extreme version of the worry made manifest. And it’s hard to say where the most critical threat resides—is it the MIS people, or the paralegals?

We’ll have to postpone dealing with the perceived menace from MIS until some later issue, but this very month we have the last word on the paralegal threat. And a reasonably sweet word it is, too. Kathy Shimpock’s cover article, “Paralegal: Friend or Foe?,” should alleviate the concerns about position security. Kathy looked long and hard, and she found no evidence of a large-scale plot, on the part of paralegals, to undermine degreed law librarians and take over their jobs. But that doesn’t mean you can just ignore the paralegals. While they may not be actively angling for your job, their profession is undergoing changes just as yours is, and they will continue to play a role in law firms and corporate legal departments, a role that often encompasses one or more aspects of the law library.

This month we’re also pleased to bring you an introduction to the revisions to Article 2B of the Uniform Commercial Code—Article 2B is the part of the UCC that deals with electronic information, and as author Bob Oakley (AALL’s Washington Affairs Representative) points out, the revisions “will be of critical importance to us as librarians as we rely more and more on licenses as a mechanism for the acquisition of information.” For those of you who are a little fuzzy on the UCC in general, Bob has provided some essential background information.

By now you’ve all had an opportunity to take a look at the marvelous feast of educational programs being prepared for your intellectual delectation at this summer’s Annual Meeting in Anaheim (the Program Announcement was included with December’s AALL Spectrum)—but what of Anaheim itself? Dorene Smith’s article shows that there’s more, so much more, to Anaheim and Orange County than just Disneyland, and her piece will help you get started planning what you’ll be seeing and doing when you’re not attending programs.

Many of you are already familiar with Linda Absher and her divine creation, “The Lipstick Librarian!” (http://www.teleport.com/~petlin/lilib). For those of you who haven’t yet had the pleasure, Edna Dixon’s piece, “‘Librarian Chic’ Is Not an Oxymoron,” will provide the perfect introduction. And there’s more! Linda has prepared a special Law Librarian Bibliography for AALL Spectrum—it’s on (where else?) the back page.

Current Comments—The 3-year editorial term that’s been shared by Ken Kozlowski and James Duggan is coming to an end, and we’re considering making some changes to the “Current Comments” column. If you have an interest in writing the column, or strong feelings about it (pro or con), please let us hear from you.

Next Month: In March we’ll be bringing you a interview with the new Superintendent of Documents (a librarian, no less), Francis Buckley, conducted by Susan Tulis; an article on Computer Forensics by expert Judd Robbins, and more. In the meantime, happy reading!

Peter Beck
AALL Director of Publications
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librarians the result of downsizing efforts within law firms? Is this a trend? Should we worry? (Just to cut the suspense, I’ll try to follow Alfred E. Newman’s sentiment: "what, me worry?") In examining this issue, I looked for secondary sources and statistics to determine quantitative information. Although many articles (mostly in paralegal publications) raised the idea of the paralegal/librarian, there were no substantive discussions. Usenet messages were also posted for testimonials. It didn’t take long to determine that there is little information out there. Only a handful of individuals responded to my request, so much of the following will be speculation.

**Definitions**

The National Association of Legal Assistants in 1984 defined paralegals as a “distinguishable group of persons who assist attorneys in the delivery of legal services through formal education, training and experience.” Legal assistants have knowledge and expertise regarding the legal system and substantive and procedural law which qualify them to do work of a legal nature under the supervision of an attorney.” Webster defines a librarian as “a specialist in the care and management of a library.” Under these definitions, a law librarian may or may not be a paralegal and a paralegal may or may not qualify as a librarian. So what is the difference? Most law librarians have an MLS or equivalent. Some are even dual-degreed. The majority of paralegals are also college educated, with 59% having an undergraduate and paralegal degree in 1995 (the most recent date for which both paralegal and librarian data were available).

For the purpose of this article, I will define a law librarian as having a minimum of an MLS and a paralegal as having no formal education in librarianship (but with an actual paralegal degree).

How many paralegals are serving as librarians within their organizations? Unfortunately, there are no statistics available. However, in 1995, the National Federation of Paralegal Associations surveyed its members and asked how many were engaged in “performing administrative matters now considered substantive legal work.” Would this include law librarian ship? I don’t know. But the category comprised only 0.4% of all respondents, and their average salary was $30,148.” It’s interesting to note that this is close to the 1995 AALL Salary Survey, in which the median salary in a one-person library with a BA/BS was $32,500. Obviously, not a large number of those participating in their national organizations are involved in these activities. The number of AALL members who have been trained as paralegals without an MLS is also unknown. What type of paralegal would likely be a member of a national organization? Perhaps most would work for larger firms and organizations, which would either pay their dues or provide a sufficient salary to fund individual payment. Smaller firms and other organizations are less likely to provide professional memberships or offer continuing educational opportunities.

**Position on the Pyramid**

Law firm consultants have persuaded firms that legal assistants reduce the cost of client services while increasing profits to lawyers. Expanding paralegal duties perpetuates a firm’s traditional pyramid approach to profits. Where do librarians sit on this pyramid? Do Andersen Consulting and Hildebrant believe librarians increase profitability or was Baker & McKenzie the victim of some new management theory? Although some firms ousted their paralegal managers when the recession hit in the 1980s, others were given additional duties, such as serving as the firm librarian. (And what happened to law librarians? Many have obtained substantial administrative experience, with 7% having responsibilities beyond the library, including records, MIS, and other duties.) The firm librarian positions taken by paralegals appear to be found most often in small firms and corporate law departments where a full-time librarian is not yet needed (and in some areas where library-trained independent contractors are not available for part-time work).

The firm librarian positions taken by paralegals appear to be found most often in small firms and corporate law departments where a full-time librarian is not yet needed (and in some areas where library-trained independent contractors are not available for part-time work).
Therefore, it's quite natural for paralegals in these settings to take over such library responsibilities as arranging materials, ordering acquisitions, accounting, filing, and possibly document retrieval. Many of these tasks are clerical in nature. Remember, most small libraries are not in the need of LC classification, online catalogs, or sophisticated serial records. I was told that “even the smallest corporate law department has a law library, if only to house reference books. Usually, the task of organizing and maintaining the law library will be assigned to a paralegal. Knowledge of legal research and familiarity with legal publications and law books makes it a perfect match. More often than not, legal secretaries or paralegals that work in small law firms or in-house corporate legal departments will be given library duties. The library duties...are not technical in nature but more...general maintenance and organizing and as such do not require a library science education. Many times, the staff attorneys at these small law firms or in-house corporate legal departments do their own legal research and the services of a full-time professional librarian are not economically feasible given the small scale the library operates on.”

However, as firms grow, their libraries also increase. The paralegal may then need to acquire actual librarian skills to perform his/her job well. One paralegal shared, “I can't tell you how many books I read organizing a small law library and I know what classification schemes, cutter numbers, OCLC, etc. mean. I can also tell you about Dewey Decimal, Sears Subject Headings and Library of Congress.” Most law librarians would not envy having to learn these skills on the job. I personally admire anyone who is determined to obtain those skills needed to do a job well, especially when such training is not forthcoming by an employer. This is true whether it be simple skills or learning a new computer language. None of us can rest on our current education, knowledge, and skill set.

Ultimately, some of these paralegals (by their intelligence, skills, and abilities) will obtain more substantial positions within libraries. One paralegal told me she had worked at a large firm library, having obtained her position after working as a paralegal within the firm. Starting as a library assistant, her job duties increased until they included reference, acquisitions, and budgeting. It should be noted, however, that she worked under a professionally trained law librarian who provided many opportunities for continuing education.

Another paralegal told me she received her librarian position within a corporate law department after obtaining her paralegal degree, and a third said she obtained her position within a small firm by "seeking out new assignments." She had previously worked in academic libraries as a library assistant. However, even those paralegals who did not have previous library experience believed their paralegal training made their library duties natural, as they felt comfortable working within libraries.

"Paralegal education is different from library training,” I was told. “In paralegal school, through the legal research class, we become familiar with the layout of the law library and the kinds of books and periodicals and publications in the various areas of the law that we study. It is through this familiarity of law books that library duties may be assigned to us as paralegals.” Many firm librarians reading this article will balk at that statement, knowing far too many paralegals who feel anything but comfortable within a law library. Yet it is my guess that most of the paralegals who end up working within a law library are the more research-oriented ones.

Research Skills

Actually some problems law librarians have with paralegals concern their research skills. Although many paralegals believe their training has prepared them for extensive legal research, many firm librarians will question this assertion. One posting on law-lib described this situation as, “I have assumptions that someone holding themselves out to be a paralegal has certain research skills and I referred her to the set of books holding the information. About 30 minutes later, after blindly gazing at the material, she thanked me and left. Other paralegals do not even know [one of the sources for local state statutes].” Generally, paralegals are required to take one research class for their degree. It is similar to the type of training provided to law students. The lack of research skills provided to attorneys in law school is the stuff of legends (and many law review articles). It is widely recognized that these classes provide little in research knowledge and nothing in regard to actual strategy and reference skills. Those JD/MLS librarians reading this article may wish to ponder how little their legal bibliography class prepared them to serve as a reference librarian. It's fairly obvious, therefore, that taking a single class in legal research is not likely to make you a good researcher. In addition, paralegals have such diverse job responsibilities that many of them have had little library contact outside of that one class. It's not surprising, therefore, to see a paralegal come into a library with a blank stare. Certainly we should not hold our paralegal patrons up to a higher standard than we do attorneys.

With all the controversy surrounding this issue, I was interested in discovering how law librarians treated those paralegals who worked as librarians. Although I was uniformly told that law librarians had helped them enormously, some felt they were resentful within the profession. One paralegal told me a story of meeting a librarian at a professional organization and being told she was “cute” for having her paralegal degree. However, another said, “I am sure many MLS professional librarians appreciate and understand the possibility of enhanced job descriptions of the paralegal by adding library-related duties. For the most part where paralegals are assigned library duties, the in-house or small firm library is not a ‘formal’ library in the sense of the word as we know it. And the ‘informal’ libraries tend to have a small area designated as the ‘law library’ section of the legal department that requires normal maintenance in the sense of day-to-day shelving or routing, general organizing, or arranging of the collection.”

Conclusions and Concerns

So what conclusions can we make? One paralegal insisted that "professional librarians do not need to be concerned about extinction of their profession and

Continued on page 8
are valued for their extensive knowledge of library science, cataloguing and classification, and as information specialists.” That’s a nice sentiment but should we worry? I think it’s fairly clear that paralegals are not taking over librarian positions. There is no trend here. Yet there are related issues that concern me. Many of the discussions on our listservs concern what is required to be a “real law librarian.” Do we need an MLS, JD, MBA, Masters in Computer Sciences, multiple languages, various technical skills, etc.? If we within the profession share this much confusion and disagreement, then there is no way we should expect the legal profession at large to understand who we are and what we do. Early in my career as a lawyer librarian, I was introduced by someone I casually knew as a legal secretary. When I clarified that I was a law librarian, she replied, “Law librarian, legal secretary. It’s all the same thing.” I’ve never forgotten that. There are many people within the legal profession who are not clear about what a law librarian is, what our education, skills, and abilities should be and what we can do for them. If we don’t work on ending this confusion, by marketing ourselves loudly and proudly, then we are at risk of extinction, if not by paralegals then by MIS, the records department, or by legal consultants who no longer see our relevance. If we don’t work on ending this confusion, by marketing ourselves loudly and proudly, then we are at risk of extinction, if not by paralegals then by MIS, the records department, or by legal consultants who no longer see our relevance.

Are paralegals our friends or our foes? I think it’s up to us. A long, long, time ago (not to date myself, but it was 1978) Al Coco (past AALL President and an esteemed former law library director who also tells a great story) taught me something valuable. We never know who can help us professionally (whether it be a secretary, managing partner, or janitor), so it’s best to develop strong relationships everywhere. Paralegals often serve as “gatekeepers” for attorneys. One of the major problems in the firm setting is not having the opportunity to develop the professional relationship needed with those “in power.” Providing quality service to every patron—whether a paralegal, an associate, or a secretary—is the best way to get the word out about you and your library. You never know who has the ear of someone important to your career. And finally, paralegals are not our foes but our colleagues. Those paralegals who work within libraries and learn the joys of this profession may also decide to make it their career. There is no one education or skills path that makes a good librarian. Most of us know of excellent librarians without the “requisite” skills. Encouraging those within the profession to get advanced degrees or certification is the responsibility of librarians, library schools, AALL, and other professional organizations. Paralegals are working within libraries today. As library schools close and library directors have difficulty filling positions with qualified individuals, we should encourage those currently working within libraries to obtain the education needed to aspire for professional librarian positions. Remember marketing our profession is much easier to those who already love working in libraries.

Kathy E. Shimpock (kshimpock@mmww.com) is currently an attorney at Muchmore & Wallwork, P.C., in Phoenix, Arizona. She has worked as a law librarian in both academic and firm libraries and is the past president of the Arizona Association of Law Libraries. Her bi-monthly column on law librarianship appeared in Legal Assistant Today from 1993-1996.

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Hot Off the Press:

AALL RESOURCE GUIDE

First in series helps law firms assess information needs

How to Hire a Law Librarian, the first of eight AALL Resource Guides designed for law firm library managers, is now available from AALL Headquarters. It kicks off a series of publications supported by LEXIS-NEXIS, designed to educate decision-makers on critical information issues affecting law libraries.

Keeping Management Informed

“One of a private law librarian’s biggest challenges is keeping management apprised of changes in legal information and how they impact the law firm,” says Resource Guide editor Michael Saint-Onge, librarian at Coudert Brothers in San Francisco and former chair of AALL’s Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section.

“As experts on the changing environment,” we must help management understand the whole picture so they’ll fully appreciate the services and value a law librarian brings to the firm.”

“How-To” Guide

How to Hire a Law Librarian helps firm managers understand how information is used — and could be used — in their organizations. It includes:
- Detailed needs assessment
- Real-world examples
- Law librarian responsibilities, qualifications, and skills
- Guidelines for job descriptions, compensation, and benefits
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- Interview questions and evaluation tips
- Guidelines for maximizing investment in information expertise.

Coming Soon: Guide #2

Expanding Roles for Law Librarians, the second in the series, is scheduled for completion in early 1998. It highlights the many areas where law librarians can contribute to the firm — including non-legal research, records management, conflicts checking, CLE, knowledge management, marketing, and Management Information Systems (MIS).

“Our research shows that a number of law librarians have information-related responsibilities outside the library,” says Roger Parent, AALL Executive Director. “The second Resource Guide is designed to help law firm leaders expand their thinking about what a law librarian can do for the organization.”

Information From Experts

Each Resource Guide is a product of collaboration by leading law librarians, subject-matter experts who provide ideas, research, and information. Design and development costs for the series are being offset by a generous contribution from LEXIS-NEXIS.

Quick Overview

Written from a management perspective, the Resource Guides are especially appropriate for law firm administrators and managers who want a quick overview of the key points of an issue and how it may impact the law firm.

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I see the role of the AALL President as one that requires attention to the problems of the profession of law librarianship and the requests of AALL’s members. It is impossible to address every issue that comes up; each person who holds this office must prioritize the time and attention she or he gives to concerns during the year. I previously have told you that my priorities are relationships with the legal information community and providing educational opportunities that occur more frequently and more conveniently than in the past. Let me tell you what I have been doing in these areas over the past several months.

Meeting with West

In November I met with the President of West Group, Brian Hall. Others attending the meeting from the company were Ruth Stanoch, Andy Prozes, and George Taylor. Accompanying me were Jim Heller, Frank Houdek, and Roger Parent. We discussed some of the educational ventures we are jointly planning, including the satellite video conference to be broadcast in April, and programming that will be held at our Annual Meeting in Anaheim. We discussed the site visit that the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV) was planning to West Group’s facilities in Eagan, Minnesota, later that month.

At our meeting, which was held two days after the AALL Executive Board’s fall meeting, I told the officers from the West Group that the Board had approved the filing of an amicus brief in the Hyperlaw v. West Group case being appealed to the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals. I explained that the Board strongly felt that it must represent our members’ interests in and access to government information. I also reiterated what I have said in the past, which is that while we do have differences concerning issues such as copyright and citation format, our common interests are such that we need to continue to work together, where and when we can. I see no conflict with this approach to doing business, where we both are responsive to our own shareholders’ expressed interests.

Symposium on Disintermediation

Recognizing the importance of working together to assist law librarians, I have been planning a symposium, which will be held in April. Law librarians and representatives of legal information companies will be invited to discuss the effects of the phenomenon of disintermediation in the use of legal information, and propose ways in which we can work together to provide for the best use of electronic legal information by the end user—the judge, the law student, the practicing attorney. A small group of law librarians who are involved in end-user training and representatives from the publishing community who are involved in product development or training programs have been invited to join me in the Chicago area for two days of discussion and problem solving.

I hope that we will be able to respond to issues raised in the McCrate report concerning research readiness of attorneys by: 1) mutually acknowledging the librarian’s role in interpreting and explaining the new research tools; 2) mutually accepting the importance of standard interfaces and search protocols for electronic media; 3) planning more sophisticated training programs for the trainers of the end users; and 4) planning for the standardization and improvement of technical support.

Reed Elsevier/Wolters Kluwer Merger

The AALL Executive Board is well aware of the implications of the proposed merger of the Reed Elsevier and Kluwer corporations. While we recognize the market and industry imperatives which are driving the consolidation of businesses in all sectors, we hope that we can work with the new mega-corporation to avoid potential problems. We have evidence of what those problems could be, and hope that we can work with the industry to ameliorate or prevent such difficulties. AALL has neither the interest in nor the resources required to mount a fight to prevent the merger of two foreign-owned corporations. We do, however, represent half of the purchasing power in the USA’s legal information marketplace, and will flex that power when and where appropriate. Bob Oakley, AALL’s Washington representative, has been asked to monitor any responses or actions by other library associations concerning this latest merger, and to advise the Board if there is action that might be needed or desired in the future.

PDC Plans

I joined the Professional Development Committee when it met in November. During the Committee’s first year ambitious plans were laid out for providing for our members’ educational needs. We also have surveyed you to determine not just your opinion on certification, but also what you feel are the core competencies required of law librarians. This year we will see the first fruits of our plans, with the satellite program to be broadcast in April, traveling workshops, and innovative institutes. Within a couple of more years, each member will have the opportunity to attend or participate in an educational offering each month, designed for practicing law librarians based on AALL members’ answers to our needs assessments.

Participate and Evaluate

Now the buck gets passed: to you. You may remember the inclusion of the Personal Learning Inventory that was part of the Baltimore Annual Meeting Program. This was included so that individual registrants would be motivated to take ownership in their own professional development. Similarly, you, the AALL member, must register, or read, or participate in these programs to make them worthwhile. We also need you to evaluate them. Let us know what training or programs you want. When we provide them, let us know if they were what you needed. We’re listening! Don’t forget: AALL is the only organization that represents the interests, and only the interests, of law librarians.

Judy Meadows, AALL President, State Law Library of Montana, 215 N. Sanders, Helena, MT 59620-3004 • 406/444-3660 • fax: 406/444-3603 • jmeadows@mt.gov

by Judy Meadows
December 18, 1997

More Support Needed for Digital Copyright Bills

Long before you read this column, you will have received an AALL Action Alert to contact your Senators and Representatives and urge them to co-sponsor S.1146 or H.R. 3048. I briefly reported on Sen. Ashcroft’s (R-MO) “Digital Copyright Clarification and Technology Act” (S. 1146) in the last issue and its strong provisions on fair use, preservation, and distance learning. The outlook became brighter with the introduction of the “Digital Era Copyright Enhancement Act” (H.R. 3048) by Representatives Rick Boucher (D-VA) and Tom Campbell (R-CA) just before Congress adjourned in November.

The Boucher/Campbell bill includes provisions for fair use, preservation, ephemeral copying, and distance education that are similar to those proposed in S. 1146. However, H. R. 3048 contains two strong provisions that are not in the Senate bill: one covers the digital equivalent of the First Sale doctrine; the other is a preemption provision that would negate the use of state contract law to override federal copyright law, such as the proposed revision to the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC), so that users and libraries don’t unknowingly sign away their fair use rights when using “shrink-wrap” or “click-on” licenses. Both bills are of critical importance to the law library community. They offer the best use rights when using “shrink-wrap” or “click-on” licenses. Both bills are of critical importance to the law library community. They offer the best possibility of the “Digital Era Copyright Enhancement Act” passing. If you have not already sponsored both bills, please do so now. You owe your senators and representatives a vote on this issue and may consider co-sponsoring S.1146 or H.R. 3048.

We heartily thank those of you who have found the Alert posted on AALLNET. Please don’t hesitate to join this critically important grassroots effort.

Francis Buckley Installed as New SuDocs

Harding Hall at the Government Printing Office was filled to capacity for the December 1, 1997, swearing-in ceremony at which Fran Buckley became the new Superintendent of Documents. Following a brief history of GPO and the SuDocs by Public Printer Mike DiMario and the official ceremony, Buckley noted that this was the culmination of his long career that began as documents librarian at the Detroit Public Library. He summarized four key objectives for his tenure: first and foremost, to focus on the mission of his office by supporting the depository library and sales programs; to improve the quality and efficiency of customer service; to direct efforts at reducing the number of fugitive documents; and to manage the transition to a more electronic depository library program, including efforts to energize agency participation.

NARA Unveils New Online Systems

The National Archives and Records Administration is developing a nationwide integrated online information delivery system, the NARA Archival Information Locator (NAIL), that will become an electronic card catalog of all NARA holdings as well as a digital collection of the agency’s most popular and important documents, photographs, and sound recordings. The prototype is available at http://www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html. The second new prototype system recently unveiled on the agency’s Web site is ARDOR (Agency Records Disposition Online Resources), which currently contains nearly 430,000 records. Although not yet comprehensive nor guaranteed to be totally accurate, ARDOR will be expanded into a comprehensive system to assist agencies in tracking the life cycle of their federal records and to provide users with a helpful finding tool for federal records. Both initiatives reflect goals described in NARA’s Strategic Plan for 1997-2007.

Mary Alice Baish, Assistant Washington Affairs Representative, Edward B. W illiams Law Library, 111 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-1417 • 202/662-9200 • fax: 202/662-9202 • e-mail: baish@law.georgetown.edu • Internet: http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/aallwash

Title 44 Revision

The fragility of the Washington political process was well illustrated last month when the AFL-CIO took on the White House for failing to include union representatives at the table for discussions on the revision of Title 44, as had been promised by Vice President Al Gore. Until the labor issue is resolved, Sen. Wendell Ford (D-KY), ranking minority member of the Senate Rules Committee, will not sign onto the bill. In addition, Sen. Ford has many concerns about the latest draft by the staff of the Joint Committee on Printing (JCP), particularly the enforcement provisions and its failure to deal specifically with some of the problems of the transition period to a more electronic program. His staff is meeting regularly with the JCP to negotiate these provisions.

In addition, as a member of the Inter-association Working Group (IAWG) on Title 44’s drafting committee, I have been working on a revision to our own proposed language for Chapter 19 that was transmitted to Congress last June. We are redrafting the bill to strengthen certain provisions, particularly those regarding permanent public access and enforcement. The IAWG has created a Web site where you can find all our documents, including the draft bills (http://library.berkeley.edu/GODORT/44DO RT/lawpage.html).

Assessments Study Finally Approved

In a December 1, 1997, letter to the Government Printing Office (GPO), Chairman John Warner of the Joint Committee on Printing finally approved the standards assessment that had been envisioned in 1995 as part of the GPO Study, but was not funded until now. Although constrained by a budget of only $175,000, the assessment will survey about 30 federal agencies and collect data on 300-500 individual products—that agencies already disseminate electronically, or plan to migrate from print to electronic in the near future. Since standards are voluntary within the federal government, the purpose of the study will be to find common trends and patterns to assist GPO in planning the transition to a more electronic depository program. We have been consulted regularly throughout the process of developing the assessment, and at our urging, it will survey select federal courts, the Supreme Court, and the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

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The National Archives and Records Administration is developing a nationwide integrated online information delivery system, the NARA Archival Information Locator (NAIL), that will become an electronic card catalog of all NARA holdings as well as a digital collection of the agency’s most popular and important documents, photographs, and sound recordings. The prototype is available at http://www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html. The second new prototype system recently unveiled on the agency’s Web site is ARDOR (Agency Records Disposition Online Resources), which currently contains nearly 430,000 records. Although not yet comprehensive nor guaranteed to be totally accurate, ARDOR will be expanded into a comprehensive system to assist agencies in tracking the life cycle of their federal records and to provide users with a helpful finding tool for federal records. Both initiatives reflect goals described in NARA’s Strategic Plan for 1997-2007.

Mary Alice Baish, Assistant Washington Affairs Representative, Edward B. Williams Law Library, 111 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-1417 • 202/662-9200 • fax: 202/662-9202 • e-mail: baish@law.georgetown.edu • Internet: http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/aallwash

UCC2B Update

Bob Oakley attended the November meeting of the drafting committee for revising Article 2B of the UCC in Memphis, Tennessee. Library representatives had been meeting with industry representatives for several months to see if it was possible to reach an accommodation. Although no agreement was reached, the library community did submit language for discussion in Memphis. While some members of the drafting committee welcomed the library proposal, it was firmly rejected by representatives of the publishing industry and the information industry. The library community will get together again before the February meeting of the drafting committee to try to craft some new ideas. [Editor’s note: please see the article by Bob Oakley on p.8 for more information on UCC 2B.]

Assessments Study Finally Approved

In a December 1, 1997, letter to the Government Printing Office (GPO), Chairman John Warner of the Joint Committee on Printing finally approved the standards assessment that had been envisioned in 1995 as part of the GPO Study, but was not funded until now. Although constrained by a budget of only $175,000, the assessment will survey about 30 federal agencies and collect data on 300-500 individual products—that agencies already disseminate electronically, or plan to migrate from print to electronic in the near future. Since standards are voluntary within the federal government, the purpose of the study will be to find common trends and patterns to assist GPO in planning the transition to a more electronic depository program. We have been consulted regularly throughout the process of developing the assessment, and at our urging, it will survey select federal courts, the Supreme Court, and the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

Francis Buckley Installed as New SuDocs

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Revisions to Article 2B of the Uniform Commercial Code (the UCC, governing contracts across all 50 states) will be of critical importance to us as librarians as we rely more and more on licenses as a mechanism for the acquisition of information.

I will begin with a brief description of Article 2B of the UCC, which deals with electronic information, then review five issues that are of particular concern to librarians as 2B is being drafted.

The existing Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code governs contracts for the sales of goods. During the centuries over which contract law developed, most contractual transactions were just that: a sale of crops from a farmer to a store owner, a sale of raw materials to a manufacturer, a sale of a car or a house to a consumer. And in that type of economy—based on the sale of tangible objects—common law contract and eventually the Uniform Commercial Code worked just fine. But a number of years ago it began to be recognized that our economy was no longer based simply on the sales of goods; the economy was rapidly evolving into one that was highly dependent on contracts for intangibles—the creation, production, or access to information.

Issues of contract formation, performance, and warranties that worked for the sale of tangible products didn’t work the same way when networks were involved or when the issue related to intangibles such as the development of software or the licensing of information.

As a result, it began to be felt that a new commercial law governing such transactions was needed if the information economy was going to flourish. A drafting committee was appointed with Professor Ray Nimmer as the Reporter. The Committee began its work four or five years ago, meeting several times a year to develop the proposal for a uniform state law on the licensing of information. Since Article 2 dealt with contracts for the sales of goods, contracts for the licensing of information were inserted right after it—hence the designation Article 2B.

The information industry has been represented at the drafting meetings throughout the process, both through its trade association, the Information Industry Association (IIA), and through the presence of a number of individual member companies. Until the last few months, however, there has been little or no representation from consumer groups or the library community.

Having worked on this legislation for several years, the drafters now believe the process is nearing a conclusion. The draft was presented to the annual meeting of the American Law Institute (ALI) last spring. At that meeting, one of the members raised the question about the interface between this proposal and copyright— in other words, can copyright owners use a contract mechanism to change the balance of rights they have under the Copyright Act? After some debate, the group passed a motion to the effect that in mass market licenses (more on that concept below), a contract term that is inconsistent with the applicable copyright law is void. Such a provision would make it harder for libraries or individuals to contract away their fair use rights or other rights granted under the copyright act, and I supported the motion.

When that same matter was presented to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL) meeting in July, after some sustained lobbying by the industry, the Conference respectfully asked the ALI to reconsider its decision, based on a freedom of contract notion, and asked the drafters to remain neutral on the issue of whether or not the Copyright Act should pre-empt such contracts.

Formally, that’s where matters stand at the moment. There was another drafting committee meeting in Minneapolis at the end of September where some of these issues were discussed at length. On the pre-emption issue, the drafters remained neutral by simply inserting a section that said, in effect, “any section of this Act that is pre-empted by any applicable federal law, is pre-empted.” That doesn’t get us very far, frankly, and it leaves all the other issues unresolved.

Let me then highlight some of the issues that I have found in the draft as it stands now. Some of these have been debated and discussed; some of them haven’t.

Before I go through the issues, it is necessary to provide a little bit of detail about what the legislation covers. The law, like its Article 2 counterpart, does two things. First it talks about the formation of a contract—what does it take to constitute a valid agreement between the parties? Second, it supplies some default terms in case the contract is silent or omits some key elements. Such default terms might include terms about warranties, what constitutes performance of the contract, and remedies in case one of the parties defaults. I have uncovered problems in the formation section, some of the default terms, and perhaps rather significantly, the overall scope of the law. Let me walk through those concerns with you.

Mass-Market Licenses

The heart of the controversy around these proposals is in the section on formation. This proposed state legislation endorses the creation of what the drafters call mass-market licenses. Controversy has surrounded the issue of shrink-wrap licenses for the last several years. Shrink-wrap licenses are the licenses that typically accompany a piece of software and state that if the purchaser opens the shrink-wrap or breaks the seal on the software envelope, he/she is bound by the terms of the license regardless of whether or not he/she had a chance to read the whole agreement. Most of the courts that have reviewed such contracts have concluded that they are not valid because they do not reflect a true meeting of the minds between the parties since the license agreement was never really entered into.
couldn’t be reviewed and agreed to before the software was purchased. One court—the seventh circuit—has endorsed such licenses, essentially because once the box was opened the purchaser could have rejected the terms of the license and taken the software back for a refund.

The 2B drafting committee has endorsed shrink-wrap licenses. Further, it has broadened the concept in recognition of the need for clickable licenses for parties to be able to create valid contracts over the Internet. Calling them by the more general term mass-market licenses, the committee has stated that a valid manifestation of assent to a license may be found with the click of a mouse on a button that says “I agree,” or other words to that effect, so long as the party had an opportunity to review the terms and whether or not the party actually ever had the terms on the screen.

Such validation of shrink-wrap and other mass-market licenses is obviously fairly controversial. But the larger issue for libraries comes up in the context of whether or not there are any limits to what may be agreed to. Most of the publishing industry believes that so long as the terms are not unconscionable—that’s a pretty high standard—they should be valid. But this is where the McMannis motion and the library community come in. The library community has been worried that individuals and libraries might inadvertently be signing away fair use rights, interlibrary lending rights, preservation rights, or other rights granted to them under the copyright act, without even knowing it.

In general, AALL has tended to think that although it wasn’t particularly comfortable with shrink-wrap licenses, it could understand the need for clickable licenses on the Internet. On the other hand, the library community has thought that if such licenses are necessary for electronic commerce, then people ought not to be bound to terms that remove rights they have under copyright unless they at least know that’s what they are doing and agree to it. As a result, AALL has tried to argue that if mass-market licenses are going to be validated, when licensees give up rights granted to them under the Copyright Act, at the very least it should be called to their attention that that is what they are doing, and they should have to separately indicate their agreement to such a term. This idea can be thought of as similar to the car rental contracts where the renter has to specifically indicate an intention to waive certain insurance coverage. On the other side, the information provider industry is worried that such a requirement would make the creation of such a contract unduly cumbersome. AALL thinks that’s a minimal requirement for someone to give up rights that are expected under copyright.

That is the first issue—mass-market licenses. It is of concern to librarians both because it will affect the rights of our users and also because the way “mass-market” is defined in the statute, it will also apply to some library transactions. AALL has felt that libraries should not lose their rights through this kind of mass-market license unless they are clearly on notice that that is what they are doing.

**Standard Form Contracts**

The second issue is related. Another section of the statute covers “standard form contracts.” This is the more typical way in which libraries obtain licenses today—although the clickable license is clearly the way for the future. A standard form contract is what happens now when a vendor presents the buyer with a form and says “that’s it. Sign.” Suppose you do and you later learn that the fine print precludes your users from making fair use copies of the information in the database. Or suppose it says that under no
circumstances may any part of the information contained in this
database be shared with another library. You may well be willing
to agree to such a term, but AALL has argued that such terms must be
clearly brought to the attention of the licensee so that you are
not later surprised by such limitations.

Those two issues are related to the creation of the contract in
the first place. The next issue is the use of the statute to validate
a potentially controversial contract term. Strictly speaking, it
shouldn’t be necessary to have such a provision in the law since
an agreement between the parties is presumptively valid unless
something is unconscionable. Presumably, then, the drafters have
felt that someone might argue that such a term is unconscionable,
and they want to remove that possibility by validating it
legislatively ahead of time.

Impact on First Sale
This issue is related to first sale, on which libraries are so
dependent. Under the Copyright Act, the First Sale doctrine
allows libraries or other owners of a copy of a work to transfer
ownership or possession of the copy. It permits libraries to lend
copies of things they purchase, and it permits individuals to lend
give away or even sell copies of what they have purchased.

Section 503 of the draft is very difficult to parse, but it seems
to say that a contract term that precludes a transfer is valid and
enforceable. Moreover, such a term could be part of a mass
market license and never have come to the attention of the
purchaser. As a result, an individual user might download
something, pay the price, test the program and decide he/she
can't really use it. But he/she can't give it away either. A book
could be passed on to a friend. Under the terms of a license,
however, the software purchaser may be precluded from doing so.
Similarly, a library might buy an item—say a CD-ROM
directory—and replace it a year later with a
newer edition. If it were a book,
the library could sell the old one in the library bookstore. A license
term authorized by Section 503 would preclude the library from
doing that—or even from lending the item as part of the collection.

Impact on Fair Use
The next issue deals with one of the default terms that are supplied
by the Act. These are terms to which the licensee will be bound
under the terms of the Act, if the contract is simply silent on the
issue. The purchaser might not even be aware of it unless he/she
were familiar with the statute. A contrary contractual provision will
override the statute, as always, but the licensee needs to be aware of
what is in the Act in order to know that he/she might want a
contrary provision.

Section 614 of the draft deals specifically with “access contracts.”
These are types of contracts that will be of great interest to
libraries, since they are defined as being “a contract for electronic
access to a resource containing information, a resource for
processing information, a data system, or other similar facility ...”
(See sec. 2B-102 (1)). That is our bread and butter. Those are the
types of contracts we deal with now on a very regular basis.

Section 614 says first that except as otherwise provided by the
contract, information obtained is free of any use restrictions except
restrictions already covered by the intellectual property rights of
the licensor. It goes on to say, however, “The licensor may make a
transitory copy for purposes of viewing or other agreed use
only or may make a permanent copy of the information accessed
only if authorized by the agreement.” I read that and I wonder
whatever happened to fair use. I wonder about library
preservation. This provision makes it clear that one can't take
basic copyright rights for granted. If this legislation passes and a
library wants the ability to allow its users to make copies, or to
make an archival copy for preservation, the library needs to be
sure that it looks for and puts such rights in the contract.

Scope of the Legislation
Finally, the last issue concerns the overall scope of the legislation.
It is very broad indeed, maybe broader than we are comfortable
with. Section 103 says that the Article covers “licenses of
information and software contracts.” “Information” is defined
to mean “data, text, images, sounds, and works of authorship,
including computer programs, databases, literary, musical or
audiovisual works, motion pictures, mask works, or the like,
and any intellectual property or other rights in information.”

That definition is broad enough to include everything that is now
covered by copyright, including books and other more traditional
tangible forms of information. Under this legislation we can easily
envision the licensing and shrink-wrapping of books.
In the market place, that is not a very likely scenario. But it is possible. More important, perhaps, is the
inclusion in this definition of the word “databases.”
It is clear that this bill is yet another way for the
publishing industry to find a means to protect
databases. By now, it is well known that databases
enjoy only limited protection under copyright, and
some may not be protected at all. It may yet be that
some form of database protection bill will still pass
Congress, but that is by no means certain. In the
meantime, publishers are clearly looking to contract
law to provide them with the protection they want.

Speaking very personally, now, I am not yet sure how I feel about
that. Law librarians all opposed the database protection bill last
year because it was over-inclusive and did not carve out any
reasonable exceptions for libraries or education. On the other
hand, I do understand that the industry is investing millions of
dollars in the creation of databases that are valuable to us. I have
some sympathy with the notion that even while I want to assure
our users of the right to access and make fair use of the information
in those databases, I can understand that the creator of such a
database wouldn’t want to see it ripped off and distributed over
the Internet without further compensation to the person whose work
created the database in the first place. On this issue, I can see
that database owners do have a point worth considering.

Robert Oakley (oakley@law.georgetown.edu) is the Director of the Law Library
and Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center. This article was
adapted from a presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Research
On October 17, VALL (Virginia) held its Fall Meeting at George Mason University Law Library in Arlington, Virginia. For the first time the meeting was divided up for discussion into separate special interest sections: Private, Court, and Academic Law Librarians. After the meeting adjourned, the participants traveled to the Law Library of Congress and the Library of Congress. Malo Bernal graciously gave a brief presentation on what is new at the Law Library, including the new Global Legal Information Network (GLIN) project. GLIN is a database of statutes and regulations of Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas, which the Law Library shares with the other member libraries. A tour of the Law Library’s Reading Room and the Library of Congress concluded the day’s meeting. With its marble columns, staircases, mosaics, stained glass windows, and exquisite paintings, the Great Hall of the Library of Congress is truly one of the most magnificent entrances to any library in the world!

Law Librarians of New England (LLNE) held a joint Fall meeting with Southern New England Law Librarians (SNELLA) in Hartford, Connecticut, October 30–November 1. The topic of the meeting was “Back to School, Emerging Issues in Education Law.” Mary Alice Baish (Assistant Washington Affairs Representative for AALL), the keynote luncheon speaker, gave an informative update on key issues of legislation relevant to libraries, and the lobbying activities of the organization led by her and Bob Oakley. Guest speakers and panelists, including a number of leaders in the field of education from around Connecticut and New England, led discussions on such topics as Special Needs Education, Charter Schools, and Magnet Schools, just to name a few. A highlight of the meeting was a reception at the Wadsworth Atheneum, the oldest public art museum in the country. Special exhibits and guided tours made this a great occasion to network and relax after a full day of meetings. Special thanks go to the planners of the event, especially Darcy Kirk (Law Librarian and Associate Professor of Law at the University of Connecticut). In addition to her hard work organizing the meeting, Kirk was one of few who reminded us with her attire at the museum reception—costumes optional!—that it was indeed Halloween Night!

Programs in the Future

SEAALL@NewOrleans.98! The planning is underway for SEAALL’s (Southeastern) Annual Institute and Conference March 11–14, 1998, in New Orleans, Louisiana. The one-day Institute, on Thursday, March 12, will address “Power & Influence: Tactics for Success.” This program will feature Dr. Abigail Hubbard (the College of Business Administration at the University of Houston) and Sally Reed (Director of Norfolk Public Library). They will focus their discussions on learning how to influence others within one’s organization and help participants find ways to build a power base outside of their libraries. Some of the wide-ranging Conference topics include: Training, Teaching—Is There Time for Reference? Technology, the Library & the MIS Department; The Process & Management of Change in Technical Services; Louisiana Legal History; Law Librarians & the Electronic Dissemination of Court Opinions; Creative Marketing for Librarians; Censorship at Your Library—Update; Summer Associate Blitz—Academic & Firm Librarians Unite!; and Employment Law Discrimination.

SEAALL Program Committee members are Nonie Beisenherz (Loyola University), Bea Citron (St. Thomas University), Tim Coggins (University of Richmond), Billie Jo Kaufman (Nova Southeastern University), Amy Osbome (University of Kentucky), Pedro Padilla-Rosa (University of Puerto Rico), Ebba Jo Sexton (University of Kentucky), Martha Thomas (Kilpatrick Stockton), Steve Thorpe (University of Tennessee), and Chair Sue Burch (University of Kentucky). Local Arrangements are being handled by Carol Billings, Betty Kern, and Chair Cathy Lemann.

The SCALL (Southern California) Institute Committee is planning a spectacular seminar for February 27–28, 1998: Business Law in the ’90s and Beyond: Who Owns W hom Now. This year’s 26th Annual Institute highlights mega-mergers in the legal publishing industry and other businesses today and into the next millennium. Disclosure, WESTLAW, and LEXIS will lead a discussion and demonstration session on conducting business research. Ken Sengalas (Rhode Island State Law Librarian and author of the Legal Information Buyers’ Guide and Reference Manual) will present an overview of mergers and acquisitions in the legal publishing industry. A panel of librarians and vendors will address issues we all have been dealing with on a daily basis. Other speakers will predict future trends in business.

LLSDC News

LLSDC (District of Columbia) is continuing its year-long Management Institute. Roberta Shaffer (Covington & Burling) presented a program on statistics in November and Pat Wagner spoke in December. Five more programs for 1998 are scheduled in this series.

The 3rd Edition of the LLSDC General Legal Publications Union List was published in January 1998. The LLSDC Executive Board has put together a committee to come up with a Technology Strategic Plan for LLSDC. This committee will investigate and plan for bettering the Chapter’s Web site, specific Internet training objectives, increased use of e-mail, and an LLSDC Librarians’ Technology Training Program.

Tidbits

The Law Library Association of Maryland has joined the ranks of the wired at http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llam.

The President of CoALL (Colorado), Ann Marie Wills (Hall & Evans) resigned. She was replaced by the Vice President Mary Wills (Parcel Mauro Hultin & Spaanstra). The CoALL Executive Board appointed a new Vice President, Gary Alexander (University of Denver).
PR by Walking Around

You've heard of the management technique of Management by Walking Around? Well, let's twist that a little and talk about Public Relations by Walking Around. No matter what type of library we represent, there are those in our patron group who never (or rarely) set foot in the library. What is their image of the library? (Oh no! There's that word librarians hate—image!) I'm not going to talk about the image of the librarian with bun and sensible shoes; I'm talking about the image of the library within the organization. Not necessarily the image the organization gives lip service to (all academics have heard the exhortation that the library is the heart of the institution—until it comes to handing out the dollars), but how others in the organization see you—and the library—as part of the whole organization.

Finding out how the organization views the library may not be easy. Looking at the management structure of the organization may give you a clue—is the Library Director on equal footing with the MIS Director or other unit heads? Are you “in the loop” when it comes to decision making? Are you included in social events? Does the organization see the library as a financial drain and an easy place to cut when the budget is tight? Librarians on a calendar-year budget should be thinking about the annual report and how they can put their best foot forward to the organization. Let the organization know how your professional networking at meetings and conferences helps the organization meet its information needs.

Let's not forget the walking around. How many times each day do you leave the library and go to other parts of the building? If you're not doing it once a day, maybe you should be. Knowing the physical layout of your organization can be very important—you can speak with confidence when space reallocation is discussed if you know a place where space could be more effectively used; if a space is being discussed that you are not familiar with, you will have no basis for expressing your views. You may have to listen to comments like “Who let you out of the library?” or “What are you doing on this floor?” for several months, but eventually people will get used to your being in places other than the library. This can be one area where your personal image comes into play. Do you dress like the support staff or like the associates and partners (or judges? or faculty?)—depending on the school’s culture, this may not be a valid comparison? Walking around gives you a feel for when particular groups or individuals are busiest, which groups have the best holiday decorations, or the best parties.

Are you invited to the social events (or “duty functions”—it's your duty to attend)? Dinners, receptions, lectures, the firm “prom”? As dreadful as these gatherings can sometimes be, your attendance signifies that you are part of the organization and you are there as a person, not the library. If you know the people in your organization, you'll know which ones you can talk to about things other than law and which ones to avoid. Take your spouses when it's appropriate—payback for attending their duty functions.

As hard as you try, all your techniques may not change your status in the organization, but you can chip away at individuals' perceptions. It may be enough to persuade someone to take your side in a discussion. Someday the management of your organization will change—if you have good relationships with the new management people, the library should benefit from the change.

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Ten Year Anniversary

“My decision to become a law librarian grew directly out of my experience working in a law library. I was hired as a looseleaf filler in the law library the first day of law school, and continued working in several capacities throughout my three years of school.”

— Personal Statement, 1987 AALL Scholarship Application

N ext month I will observe my 10-year anniversary as a law librarian at Southern Illinois University School of Law. As anniversaries go at SIU, the tenth is not a big one...I'll get a 10-year pin and a handshake from the Vice-Chancellor at a day-time ceremony. (In comparison, 15-year employees get a dinner. Put in 20 years and you'll get free parking on campus for the rest of your life). And since I have at least 28 more years until retirement, I suspect that these anniversary ceremonies will become "old hat" after a while. Still, this anniversary marks an important milestone in my life. Ten years ago this month I was still in library school, and I had serious doubts about even living expenses. More important, however, the scholarship signified that the American Association of Law Libraries was willing to invest in me, in the hope that I would enter the profession and practice the "gentle art" of law librarianship.

"The decision to go to library school is not without its attendant problems. I "put myself through" undergraduate and law school, relying on work and loans. While I am quite willing to continue to work through library school, I have incurred over $27,000 in student loans, and thus am unable to borrow any more.”

— Personal Statement, 1987 AALL Scholarship Application

The scholarship was definitely reassuring to me that I'd picked the right career. It wasn't always the case, though. I had applied for an AALL scholarship the year before attending library school, and was turned down. The rejection letter carried only the name of the committee chair, a man whom I was determined to hate. However, I decided to attend library school anyway, and met a fellow law librarian student, Mary Whisner (now at the University of Washington, Seattle), who did receive a scholarship for each Scholarship Committee member. Professors Lance Dickson (now at Stanford) and Wes Cochran (now at Texas Tech) wrote supportive letters of recommendation. By a happy coincidence, the letter announcing that I'd won a scholarship was signed by the same committee chair as the year before (he served two consecutive terms), a man I could no longer hate.

"Eventually I hope to direct a major academic law library. Short-term goals include finishing my library degree and working as a reference librarian.”

— Personal Statement, 1987 AALL Scholarship Application

Ten years later, I’m pleased to say that I am extremely happy as a law librarian, and can only belatedly express my appreciation to the members of the AALL Scholarships and Grants Committee who (I hope) saw some promise in my scholarship application in 1987.

Since it began in 1967, AALL’s scholarship program has helped over 300 people reach their dreams of becoming law librarians. Generous benefactors include information vendors, corporate donors, and AALL members and friends. Many AALL members find it convenient to donate to the Scholarship Fund when paying annual dues, but donations are accepted at any time through the year. Please consider a generous donation to the AALL Scholarship Fund.

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If you have an interest in writing this column, or strong feelings about it (pro or con), please let us hear from you. Contact Peter Beck at 312/939-4764 or pbeck@aall.org.
New Law Librarians

Jessie Cranford has joined the staff of the UALR/Pulaski County Law Library, Little Rock, Arkansas, in the newly created position of Circulation Librarian. Jessie received her MLS from Texas Women’s University, and was formerly the Librarian at the Bryant Public Library in Bryant, Arkansas.

Peter J. Egler is the new Reference Librarian at the Sacramento County Law Library. He received his MLS from the University of Pittsburgh in April, and has a JD from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. Pete served as Librarian and Associate Attorney in the law offices of Egler Garrett and Egler since 1988.

Barbie Selby will become the Government Documents Librarian at the University of Virginia Law Library, Charlottesville. She has been the Assistant Government Documents Librarian at the Alderman Library, the main library of the University of Virginia.

Sailaja Tumrukota joined the St. Thomas Law Library, Miami, Florida, as Circulation/Reserve Librarian. She recently obtained her MLS from the University of South Florida and was the recipient of the 1997 Dade County Library Association Scholarship Award. Previously she worked in ILL and Serials at the law library and the main library of the University of Miami.

Changing Places

Beatrice Citron has been appointed the Acting Director of the St. Thomas University Law Library, Miami, Florida. She had been the Associate Law Librarian/Head of Public Services.

Amy DeLong has joined the staff of the Law Library at UNUM Life Insurance Co. of America, Portland, Maine, as Information Specialist. She was formerly with the law firm of Pierce Atwood in Portland.

Taylor Fitchett will join the University of Virginia Law Library, Charlottesville, as Associate Law Librarian, effective May 1. She is currently Director of the Robert S. Marx Law Library at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

G. LeGrande Fletcher has joined the Howard W. Hunter Law Library at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, in the newly created position of Government Documents/Microforms Librarian. He was previously Technical Services Librarian at the Washoe County Law Library in Reno, Nevada.

Mary Katterfield, formerly Reference Librarian at Venable Baetjer Howard and Civiletti, Falls Church, Virginia, is now the Law Librarian in the Office of General Counsel Library at the D.C. Housing Authority, Washington, D.C.

Mark Mackler is now Librarian at Sonnenschein Nath and Rosenthal in San Francisco, California. He had previously been Librarian at Kenney and Markowitz in San Francisco.

Joyce A. McCray Pearson, formerly Associate Director, has been appointed Director of the Law Library at the University of Kansas, School of Law Library, effective November 2, 1997.

Jack McNeill, formerly Circulation/Reserve Librarian, St. Thomas University Law Library, Miami, Florida, is now Faculty Services Coordinator and Foreign/International Law Librarian there.

Barbara Murphy, Associate Law Librarian, University of Virginia Law Library, Charlottesville, is retiring after 26 years in that position. She will continue to work part-time for the library on special projects.

Joan Ogden, formerly Reference Librarian, Sidley and Austin, Chicago, Illinois, is now the Information Specialist in the Health Law Division of the American Medical Association.

Paula Tejeda has been promoted to Associate Law Librarian/Head of Technical Services at the St. Thomas University Law Library, Miami, Florida. She had been Assistant Law Librarian/Head of Technical Services.


Lynn Zweifler, formerly Law Librarian at Brown Rudnick Freed and Gers and in Hartford, Connecticut, is now the Law Librarian at Axinn Veltrop and Harkrider, also in Hartford.

Professional Activities

Elizabeth D. Kenney (Librarian, Dechert Price and Rhoads, Boston, Massachusetts) was a panelist at the Internet Librarians ‘97 Conference held in Monterey, California, in November. She spoke on “Attorneys on the Web” as part of the “Internet Librarians in Action” seminar.

Edgardo Rotman (Foreign and International Law Librarian at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida) was appointed the United States representative to the Council of the International Penal and Penitentiary Foundation. In this capacity, in October 1996 he was the rapporteur in Berlin at a conference on the legal aspects of crime prevention organized by the Foundation, and sponsored by the German Ministry of Justice, the United Nations, and the Council of Europe. Since then he has given lectures on related subjects at the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, in Costa Rica; at the Judicial Auditorium of the State of Para, Brazil; and at the University of Buenos Aires School of Law in Argentina.

Christine Stouffer (Librarian, Ulmer and Berne, Cleveland, Ohio) has been appointed to a seven-year term on the Board of Trustees for the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library system.

Janet Sinder, Head of Information Services, Duke University School of Law Library Box 90361, Durham, N.C. 27708-0361 • 919/613-7120 • fax: 919/613-7237 • sinder@law.duke.edu
The listings here are edited for space and provided to keep readers informed of what sorts of jobs have been recently available. Many jobs listed here will have been filled by the time this issue is printed. Full listings of all current placement ads are available through several means: by phone, from the 24-hour Career Hotline, 312/939-7877; by fax, from the AALL Fax on-Demand service call 908/544-5901 and request document 730; on the World Wide Web, at AALLNET (http://www.aallnet.org). To place an ad, call Kate Kasprzyk at 312/939-4764.

**Head of Educational Services**, Thomas M. Cooley Law School Library, Lansing, Michigan. Coordinates all areas of Educational Services including reference, electronic legal research, and faculty liaison services. Requires JD and MLS; three to five years of progressively responsible reference experience. Some evening and weekend hours required. Very competitive salary and benefits commensurate with experience. 

**Firmwide Librarian**, Broad and Cassel, Orlando, Florida. Statewide law firm with seven offices. Responsible for transforming current library holdings from individual offices into firmwide library, implementing a computerized library; establishing and maintaining vendor accounts; creating Intranet. Requires MLS and previous law library experience, JD preferred. Minimum salary is $38,000, depending on experience and qualifications.

**Reference Services Librarian**, King County Law Library, Seattle, Washington. Plans, organizes, and directs activities including reference, computer, and other technology applications. MLS or JD required. Competitive salary and excellent benefits.

**Assistant Reference Librarian**, University of Utah Quinney Law Library, Salt Lake City, Utah. Provide full range of reference services to diverse group of users, teach sections of legal research. Requires JD or MLS with law library experience. Faculty, tenure track position with generous health, vacation and retirement benefits. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

**Law Librarian**, The Missouri Court of Appeals, Kansas City, Missouri. Manage law library and provide reference and research assistance to the court’s legal personnel. MLS plus one year law library experience or equivalent required. Experience providing hardware/software support for stand-alone and networked PCs a plus. $27–$31.5k depending on qualifications and experience. Excellent state benefits.

**Head of Law School Library Computer Services and Educational Technology**, Saint Louis University School of Law, St. Louis, Missouri. Coordinates computer services, oversees Internet services (including Web site development), shares non-computer reference responsibilities (including one night per week and participation in the weekend rotation), assists in teaching a legal research class for graduate students and makes in-class presentations in Legal Research and Writing and other law school classes. Non-tenure-track faculty member. Supervises a department of one professional librarian, one full-time paraprofessional, and one part-time computer assistant plus student assistants. Requires MLS and JD or substantial experience in a law library. Salary range: mid 40s. (Note: job posting deadline was after this issue was printed; the ad has been filled.)

**Head of Public Services**, Case Western Reserve University Law Library, Cleveland, Ohio. Directs reference staff of six professional librarians and coordinates training in the latest research technologies. Team-teaches Advanced Legal Information Systems. Requires MLS and JD or substantial experience in a law library, minimum 3 years’ relevant experience. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

**Researcher**, Vista InterMedia Corporation, Stamford, Connecticut. Part-time weekend, night work: Law publisher requires approximately 7 hours per week online research. Work on your Pentium, 28,800 modem, on your own schedule. Your work product will be submitted via e-mail. Knowledge of Folio Views helpful. (Note: job posting deadline was after this issue was printed; the ad has been filled.)

**Associate Librarian for Technical Services & Automation**, Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. Supervises the Technical Services Division, performs cataloging duties, manages acquisitions, participates in staffing the Reference Desk (by arrangement). MLS or Info Science degree required, JD desirable. Salary competitive, commensurate with qualifications and experience; excellent fringe benefits & TIAA-CREF. Participation in professional activities supported.
**Electronic Services Librarian**, Southern Methodist University Underwood Law Library, Dallas, Texas. Provides training and user support to the law school's faculty, staff, and students in electronic legal research systems; managing the daily operation of the law library's student computing resources; and maintaining and supporting instructional technology. Requires bachelor's degree in a relevant subject area and an ability to become expert in all aspects of information technology as related to law schools and academic law libraries. JD, MLS, or MS in computer/information science is preferred. Salary will be $32,000–$35,000 depending upon qualifications. #13361

**Law Library Director**, St. Thomas University, Miami, Florida. Responsible for management of the Law Library including supervision and development of personnel, collection development, incorporation of new technologies into the curriculum, financial management, and management of a unified computer network. Must be familiar with ABA and AALS standards and interpretations governing law libraries. Applicant must have a thorough knowledge of the latest computer applications and technologies utilized in law schools. JD and MLS and significant experience in law library administration is required. Academic rank and salary commensurate with experience and potential. #13360

**Reference Librarian**, Boston, Massachusetts. Major downtown Boston law firm seeks full-time reference librarian. Experience using legal business materials; proficient in manual and online research. Ideal candidate will have MLS and prior experience as a reference librarian in a law firm or corporate legal department. JD preferred but not necessary. Salary DOE, competitive. #13359

**Head of Technical Services**, University of Michigan Law Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Manage department of 24; acquisitions, serials, cataloging, ILL system. Requires MLS, 5 years' experience including management, excellent communication skills, ability to work as part of a team to achieve library goals. Minimum salary $65K. #13354

**Research/Instructional Services Librarian**, Northern Illinois University College of Law, DeKalb, Illinois. Twelve-month, tenure-track position with rank of assistant professor. Responsible for providing reference and research support to all law library users; expect substantial involvement in legal research teaching. MLS and JD required. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. #13318

**Assistant/Associate Reference Librarian**, University of Michigan Law Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan. MLS required, plus organizational and teamwork skills. JD preferred, plus law library and computer experience. Salary $30,000 and up depending on qualifications; generous benefits worth 22% of salary. #13184

**Assistant/Associate Reference Librarian**, University of Michigan Law Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Provides full range of reference service for all parts of the collection to law school community. Responsible for collection development in assigned area of international law and documents. JD and MLS required. Salary: $34,000 and up depending on qualifications; generous benefits worth 22% of salary. #13133

Cambridge University
A Sublime Time in Anaheim

by Dorene S. Smith

The selection of the Anaheim/Orange County area for the 1998 AALL Annual Meeting necessarily brings one thought to most people’s minds: Disneyland! But Anaheim and Orange County have much, much more to offer than just amusement. Orange County has many cultural and historic sites, as well as sporting events, beaches, shopping malls, restaurants and yes, amusement parks. And the fun doesn’t have to stop there. The Anaheim/Orange County area is an excellent choice for any convention due to its central location in Southern California—just 30 miles south of downtown Los Angeles and 100 miles north of San Diego. This article will give you a brief introduction to all the things to see and do while in Southern California.

Family Attractions

Family attractions abound in the Anaheim/O.C. area. First, of course, is Disneyland, built by Walt Disney in 1955 and billed as “The happiest place on earth.” It has eight theme “lands” and more than 60 rides and attractions. Not too far from Disneyland, just west of Anaheim in Buena Park, is Knott’s Berry Farm. Knott’s truly was once a roadside berry stand, the birthplace of the boysenberry. Today Knott’s is a 150-acre theme park with rides, shows, and attractions celebrating California and the West. Adjacent to the park are 30 shops and restaurants that make up the California Market Place. Just down the street from Knott’s Berry Farm are two themed dining attractions. Medieval Times offers 11th century entertainment—a show of feats of skill and combat performed by costumed knights on horseback, along with a meal served by authentically dressed wenches. Just next door is another themed restaurant: Wild Bill’s Wild West Dinner Extravaganza. Wild Bill’s provides old-fashioned western entertainment—a western show with lariat twirling, western skills and contests, and can-can dancing accompanied by a family-style meal. Audience participation is encouraged.

Within blocks of these two dining shows are two “museum attractions”—the Movieland Wax Museum (with more than 300 figures of movie and television stars in authentic settings), and Ripley’s Believe It Or Not Museum (featuring oddities and strange sights from journalist Robert Ripley’s travels, as featured in the comic strip of the same name). One last family attraction to consider is Wild Rivers, a themed waterpark featuring 40 water rides and attractions.

Cultural Enrichments

If you favor the cultural, don’t despair. Contrary to popular opinion, California does have culture. The Anaheim/O.C. area has many museums, art galleries, and performing arts venues. The Bowers Museum of Cultural Art in Santa Ana is Orange County’s largest museum. The displays include the art of indigenous people from America, including exhibitions on pre-Columbian and Native American art, and historic California artifacts. Don’t miss the Bowers Kidseum, featuring interactive adventures for kids. It is the nation’s only hands-on cultural art museum for children. Also in Santa Ana is the International Surfing Museum—located in Huntington Beach—“Surf City, USA.” Home to the US Open Surfing Championship, Huntington Beach is rated the “most heavily surfed beach on the West Coast” by Surfer’s Almanac. The Surf Museum is home to a collection of some of the most significant artifacts in the history of surfing. Another must-do is a visit to the Mission San Juan Capistrano. Famous for the swallows’ return every spring, the Mission is beautiful any time of year with its 10 acres of gardens, fountains and arches, Indian cemetery, and early California historical museum. For a different type of California history, visit the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace in Yorba Linda. While there, visitors can tour the farmhouse where Richard Nixon was born and reared and visit the burial sites of President and Mrs. Nixon. Lovely gardens and sculptures can be enjoyed at the Sherman Library and Gardens, located along Pacific Coast Highway in Corona del Mar. The gardens provide a museum of living plants, displayed amidst a setting of fountains and sculptures, and an abundance of seasonal flowers. Highlights include a cactus and succulent area, an outdoor tea garden, a central garden with extensive flower
Outdoor Enjoyment

But don’t spend all your time indoors, for the sunny California climate inspires outdoor fun, especially in the summer. For those who prefer to relax in the outdoors, the fabled California beaches are a fine place to start. Orange County has a 42-mile coastline comprised of many public and state beaches. Many beaches have volleyball courts, fire rings, showers, and restrooms. Which beach you visit depends upon what activities you want to pursue. If surfing is your sport, try Doheny or Huntington Beach. If you would like to try skin-diving, head to Corona Del Mar State Beach, where offshore reefs attract schools of fish to observe. Into building sandcastles? Newport Beach has contests for budding sand architects every summer. If you would like to try your hand at fishing, head to Seal Beach, where you can try your luck from the pier. (The pier also offers a selection of restaurants for any unlucky anglers.) Wherever you decide to go, for that quintessential California experience, a picnic on the beach can’t be beat.

Sports Offerings

For the more active-minded outdoor fans and sports enthusiasts, there are a multitude of options to choose from—from participatory to spectator. In the spectator column, Anaheim is home to the American League Anaheim Angels, just across the freeway from Anaheim Stadium is Arrowhead Pond, home ice to the Mighty Ducks hockey team and the Anaheim Splash indoor soccer team. This sports and entertainment complex also hosts a variety of other popular sporting and entertainment events. If horses are your game, consider a trip to Los Alamitos Race Track. Just West of Anaheim, it is the country’s premier quarter horse facility offering quarter horse racing from April through December, on a Thursday to Sunday night schedule.

Shopping Galore

Anaheim/O.C. also has many wonderful venues for those of you who would like to partake of that great indoor sport—shopping! Fashion Island is Orange County’s premier open-air shopping center with more than 200 specialty shops, services, restaurants, a seven-screen cinema, and department stores. A combination marketplace and community gathering point, Fashion Island is located 20 minutes south of Anaheim. Just five minutes south of Disneyland, MainPlace/Santa Ana is contemporary, Southern California shopping at its best! MainPlace has 190 specialty stores, the Main Course (15 eateries), five restaurants, and a six-screen theater complex. A full-service concierge desk, language bank, and currency exchange complement the extravaganza of stores. Also not to be missed when visiting Orange County is South Coast Plaza, Orange County’s answer to Rodeo Drive. The plaza itself, located in Costa Mesa, is divided into three shopping areas (South Coast Plaza, South Coast Plaza Village, and the Crystal Court), and is one of the nation’s most elegant and distinctive shopping centers. Don’t forget to ride the carousel in Carousel Court, sure to bring back happy childhood memories, and guaranteed to be loads of fun.

On the Water

There are many opportunities for fun afloat as well. The Balboa Island Ferry travels from Balboa Peninsula to Balboa Island daily, with 24-hour service in the summer. Balboa Island, a man-made island built just before World War I, has many interesting shops and restaurants. On the nearby peninsula, you will find Balboa Pavilion, a stately, turn-of-the-century Victorian building built in 1905. Today it offers dining and boating facilities and serves as a terminal for sightseeing cruises and passenger trips. You can board a boat there to make the 22-mile trip to Santa Catalina Island. The island is a great place to hike, bike, scuba-dive, golf, fish, or shop. The island's architectural landmark, the Casino, was built by chewing-gum magnate William Wrigley, Jr., who once owned the island. It now houses a movie theater, art gallery, and the Catalina Island Museum. Other fun sea-based activities include dining cruises, bio-ecological cruises, and sportsfishing charters.

From the inland valleys to the coastline and beaches, Orange County/Airheim is packed with things to do and sights to see. Your visit to Anaheim for the Annual Meeting is sure to be a memorable experience.

Dorene S. Smith (Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson, Los Angeles) serves on the Local Arrangements Publicity Committee for the 1998 Annual Meeting.
American Association of Law Libraries

Mission: Recognizing that the availability of legal information to all people is a necessary requirement for a just and democratic society, the American Association of Law Libraries exists to promote and enhance the value of law libraries to the public, the legal community, and the world, to foster the profession of law librarianship, and to provide leadership in the field of legal information and information policy.

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Membership: Individual member dues are $129/ year. Persons who are not law librarians may join as Associate members; individual Associate dues are $129/ year. To join AALL, or for more information, contact Kate Kasprzyk at 312/ 939–4764, or request the membership application from Fax-on-Demand (908/ 544–5901, request document #510).

Fax-on-Demand: 908/ 544–5901
AALLNET Website: http:// www.aallnet.org

Annual Meeting:
1998 July 11–16 Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, California
1999 July 17–22 Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Reviewed by Marya Place

Written by two law librarians (one of whom works as a consultant for LEXIS-NEXIS), Computer-Assisted Legal Research: A Guide to Successful Online Searching was developed so that readers can “quickly attain basic proficiency” in conducting online research. This guide covers the major legal research services and some non-legal databases, and discusses CD-ROM, bulletin board services, and the Internet.

The first two chapters are devoted to LEXIS-NEXIS and WESTLAW. Step-by-step information for each service includes hardware and software requirements, database selection, and guidance in formulating a search query. The guide discusses proximity, truncation, exclusion, connectors, and stop words (those terms ignored by a system because of their frequent occurrences) for each service. It provides specific instruction for retrieving legal information, such as statutes and cases, along with “real world” examples that any legal researcher could encounter.

Also covered in these chapters are special features, such as LEXIS-NEXIS’s lexsee and lexstat commands, keep and the LEXIS-NEXIS log, and WESTLAW’s Key number searching and the find command. The guide describes in detail natural language searching, cite-checking services, and current awareness monitoring services. Finally, the LEXIS-NEXIS and WESTLAW chapters conclude with a discussion of how billing for each service is computed. This last point may not be particularly useful for anyone with a contract agreement, but an attorney or researcher who is just getting started with online research will appreciate the clarifying points about pricing options.

Perhaps the best feature of these opening chapters is the numerous illustrations that accompany the descriptions of searching, database selection, etc. Readers who don’t have the benefit of assistance from experienced librarians or weekly visits from vendor representatives will appreciate knowing what they will be looking at on their own computer screens.

The remaining half of the guide addresses researching the law by subject, online choices for non-legal research, and other electronic services. Subject access to LEXIS and WESTLAW is explained and includes recommended database choices; however, those looking for in-depth discussions particular to their areas of practice should look elsewhere. The recommendations are scant, and not all areas of the law are covered. This half of the guide addresses legislative history research and using online secondary sources, including coverage of the Legi-Slate service. Non-legal sources are, for the most part, limited to DIALOG and the non-legal databases in LEXIS-NEXIS and WESTLAW, although there are mentions of public records services such as CD B InfoTech and business-oriented services such as Dow Jones. The final chapter, on “other” resources, is a catch-all for CD-ROM, bulletin board services, and the Internet, which gets only three pages or so—hardly enough in this day and age. The Internet segment does not include even a small table of landmark sites for conducting free research, such as THOMAS, the Patent & Trademark Office, or the myriad access points for U.S. Supreme Court opinions.

The guide closes with a helpful Appendix of LEXIS-NEXIS and WESTLAW reference card reprints. How many times have you wanted to use the lexstat feature but couldn’t remember how LEXIS-NEXIS cites the Virgin Islands Code? How about trying to find the numerical equivalent for Contracts in the Key number Contracts 48? The Appendix offers these and many other useful reference tables, such as WESTLAW and LEXIS-NEXIS commands, searchable fields, an explanation of citator services, and a listing of addresses and phone numbers for more information.

While Computer-Assisted Legal Research: A Guide to Successful Online Searching may not be an absolute necessity for your collection, keep it in mind to recommend to those working in settings without a library and those who want to get started independently and at their own pace. Once they attain basic proficiency with the help of this book, those individuals will be ready for something with more in-depth coverage for their areas of interest.

Marya Place (mpp@nutter.com) is Assistant Librarian at Nutter McClennen & Fish, Boston, Massachusetts.

Lawbook exchange
Think you too might be a Lipstick Librarian? Take this quiz (excerpted from the Lipstick Librarian! Web site):

1. Do you have an MLS or MLIS?
   a. My degree’s from Southeastern Mississippi Technical Institute and I haven’t touched a mascara wand since 1972. (0 pts.)
   b. My degree’s from Central Wisconsin State U. and I once thought of purchasing a pair of moderate high-heels at Macy’s during an ALA conference in New York. (2 pts. for women; 25 pts. for men)
   c. No degree, but I played a glamorous yet evil librarian for three episodes of All My Children—I died in a mysterious cataloguing accident! (35 pts.)

2. My idea of erotic literature is:
   a. The Diary of Anais Nin. (10 pts.)
   b. The newest bodice-ripper in our popular fiction collection. (5 pts.)
   c. AACR2, especially the section on corporate-added entries. (0.5 pts.)

3. If you could, what would you wear at the reference desk?
   a. Comfortable separates in cotton knit. (2 pts.)
   b. Sequins, but my library director won’t let me. (35 pts.)
   c. Discontinued journals, clear masking tape and scratched CD-ROMs, but my library director won’t let me. (0.16 pts.)

SCORING:

80–60 pts: Congratulations! You’re a high-flyin’, rouge-smearin’ Lipstick Librarian! You spend countless hours trying to find Post-Its in aubergine and sage. We know you’ve got a little shrine to RuPaul somewhere back in your cubicle. In short: you go girl!!

59–40 pts: You have definite Lipstick Librarian tendencies. You’re probably the kind of person who spends your annual serials budget on Marie Claire and Interview Magazine yet you run a one-person library for a hydrologic engineering firm. The cure? Give in and go buy those Vivienne Westwood wedgies and that Donna Karan body stocking you’ve been dreaming about!

39–20 pts: By now you’ve realized that upstairs there’s a lonely fashion synapse firing hopelessly in the dark. You want to be a Lipstick Librarian, you need to be a Lipstick Librarian, but somehow you always wind up in the murky back aisles of K-Mart amongst those granny sweatshirts and ammo supplies. Your idea of sexy shoeware is Birkenstocks with a sling on the back. An erotic evening for you would be trying to wash 10 of your long-haired cats while listening to NPR. Take comfort in knowing you’re not alone—after all, you are a librarian.

Under 20 pts: Sigh . . . let’s be blunt, shall we? You’re probably reading this right now over a mound of pathfinders from the 1960s you’ve saved in case of a bibliographic instruction emergency, or (if you’re a cataloger) while you’re building a catalog database of your canned goods. (“Does the can shape count as an access point?”) The closest you’ve come to make-up are the perfume samples you rip out of magazines ‘cause you have a chemical sensitivity to everything except that strange gritty soap in the ladies room. You must learn to live with your fashion-impaired state—after all, can you really see yourself standing at the reference desk in a vinyl jumpsuit and 6-inch platforms?

Linda Absher, creator of the Lipstick Librarian, is a Reference Librarian (and closet lipliner junkie) at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

Edna S. Dixon, an aspiring Lipstick Librarian, became a cataloger at Georgia State University College of Law Library out of concern that her regular presence at the Reference Desk might be too distracting—much too sexy, who could study?

Bibliography continued from page 32


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CATALOGING FOR LAW LIBRARIES: Outsource all your cataloging and conversion needs with FASTCAT: our professional librarians provide original/copy and conversion services for ALL materials in ALL formats. Contact us at: Library Associates, 8845 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 201A, Beverly Hills, CA 90211. 310/289-1067 FAX: 310/289-9635. E-mail: fastcat@primenet.com. URL: http://www.primenet.com/~fastcat.

**Memorials**

*AALL Spectrum* has been advised of the deaths of:

**Mary Sidell,** Director of Library and Information Services at Williams Kastner & Gibbs in Seattle, Washington, and the first President of LLOPS (1990–91), on December 13, 1997;

**Janet Wallin,** Law Library Director and Professor of Law at the University of Toledo (Ohio) for more than 30 years, and President of ORALL (1967–68), on December 11, 1997.

*AALL Spectrum* carries brief announcements of members’ deaths in the Memorials column. Traditional memorials should be submitted to Frank Houdek, Editor, *Law Library Journal*, School of Law Library, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901, for inclusion in the *Law Library Journal*. 
Do you take personal umbrage at the prevailing stereotype of librarians: dowdy bun-wearers in clunky shoes? When you tell people your occupation in social settings, is the usual response one of outright disbelief that one so sophisticated and stylish could possibly be a librarian?

If so, you just might be a Lipstick Librarian. Created by Linda Absher of Lewis and Clark College, the Lipstick Librarian! Web site (http://www.teleport.com/~petlin/liplib/) is creating a stir in the library world the likes of which has not been seen since those radicals at the Library of Congress convinced academic libraries to toss out Dewey in favor of LC.

The site declares before the whole world what the majority of law librarians have always known—many librarians are in possession of not only a wealth of information but an enormous sense of style. (We have seen you at meetings and parties, and yes, we are impressed.)

While the Lipstick Librarian is focused on women — librarianship is after all still a female-dominated profession (darn it!)—Absher makes it clear that lipstick librarianship is not solely the domain of women. Lipstick librarianship is "a state-of-mind, an outlook... To be a Lipstick Librarian, one does not need to be of a particular gender, sexual orientation, or even color-coordinated!"

A tongue-in-cheek rejoinder in the fight against librarian stereotypes, the site includes an explanation of What Is a Lipstick Librarian?, Bibliographies, hilarious Beauty Tips!, and a column in which "The LL Explains It All For You."

AALL Spectrum: What or who inspired you to create the Lipstick Librarian?

Linda Absher: I got a little tired of doing a spit take every time someone said to me "You don't look like a librarian!" Seriously, my inspiration came from all those looks people would give me—everything from benign sympathy to questioning stares, as if I'd just announced to them I'd decided to become a kind of bibliographic nun.

AALL Spectrum: When can we expect the movie to come out and who would you like to see play your role?

Absher: As soon as Spielberg returns my calls, I can see it now: "Lipstick Librarian—The Lost World." I see Sandra Bullock playing me, but knowing Hollywood, it'll probably be Brenda Vaccaro, with a special gueststar appearance of Barney the Dinosaur playing the critical supporting role of "The Serials Cataloger."

Continued on page 30

The Essential Law Librarian Bibliography

by Linda Absher (The Lipstick Librarian)

created for AALL Spectrum


Continued on page 30