

FCIL Newsletter

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From the Chair

Tracy Thompson, Chair

The pilgrimage to the Annual Meeting is in full swing. Flights are being booked, rooms reserved, sharing arrangements discussed. Before we descend on Orlando though, we should pause and reflect on this year of disaster and terror, loss and sorrow, healing and hope. Who would have thought we would come so far so quickly in the aftermath of September 11, 2001? We should marvel at our ability to move ahead with purpose and determination in the wake of abject despair. We should delight in our ability to draw from one another the strength we need to face the future with renewed joy.

Now on to the future of the FCIL-SIS! Please join me in congratulating Jean Wenger, our newly elected Vice-Chair/Chair Elect! Jean serves as Reference Librarian for Government Documents and Foreign and International Law at the Cook County Law Library in Chicago. Jean will assume her office in July 2002 at the Annual Business Meeting. Be sure to attend the meeting and welcome Jean as she begins her term. I look forward to Jean's leadership in the coming years!

I want to thank those members who have helped in so many ways during the past year. As you may know, I assumed the office of Chair of the FCIL-SIS last year as the result of the elected Chair's resignation from office in light of her changed circumstances. This means I did not have a Vice-Chair year to learn the ropes. I would not have been able to serve the SIS without the help of **Jean Davis** (immediate past Chair), **Kenneth Rudolf** (Vice-Chair/Chair Elect), **Mirela Roznovschi** (Treasurer), **Stephanie Burke** (Newsletter Editor), **Anne Burnett** (Webmaster and Publications Committee Chair), **Dennis Sears** (Education Committee Chair), **Katherine Topulos** (past Chair), **Marci Hoffman** (consummate program organizer and friend of the SIS), **Mary Strouse** (dedicated Section member and ambassador), **Mary Rumsey** (selfless volunteer of time and space), **Dan Wade** (selfless volunteer and mentor), **Jill Watson** (supporter and facilitator) and **Rhonda Gold** (Chair – Schaffer Grant Committee, 2002). This is not a list of all who have devoted time and talent to the FCIL-SIS; there are many and my thanks extend to each of them as well. I hope to see many of you in Orlando.

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During a recent busy week in Washington, DC, many of our members joined together for a luncheon meeting during the Annual Meeting of the **American Society of International Law**. The Librarians' Luncheon, quickly becoming an annual event, is generously sponsored by ASIL and provides a wonderful opportunity for us to share information about our ongoing projects. Also during that week the Library of Congress hosted *Creating Commercial Connections – Trade Laws of Latin America*. This program, sponsored by the **Law Library of Congress, Law Librarians' Society of Washington D.C. (LLSDC), American Society of International Law,** and the **AALL Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarians Special Interest Section (FCIL SIS)**, was well attended and well reviewed and would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of Marci Hoffman. This was an excellent example of using our time and resources wisely for independent substantive programming.

The program at our upcoming Annual Meeting offers some exciting opportunities. Please take note of the following programs that may be of special interest to FCIL-SIS members. On Sunday, July 21 at 2:45, **Heather Worledge-Andrew** of Glasgow University Library and **Steve Young** of Catholic University will present *Devolution in the United Kingdom: A Revolution in Online Legal Research*. On Monday, July 22 at 2:00, a panel of experts coordinated by **A. Hays Butler** of Rutgers, will present *Connecting with the Worldwide Effort to Combat Crimes Against Humanity: The Creation of the International Criminal Court*. Also on Monday, at 3:15, **Lyonette Louis-Jacques** of the University of Chicago will moderate *The International Law/International Relations Connection – Internationalizing Law Library Collections*. Finally, on Wednesday, July 24 at 10:30, **Katrina Stierholz** of Washington University and **Mirela Roznovschi** of NYU have coordinated *Government Documents Around the World: Access Policies and Strategies of Disclosure*.

In addition to these programs you will not want to miss the Program on Caribbean Legal Materials that is being sponsored by the FCIL-SIS Executive Committee on Wednesday, July 24 at 4:00. We are very excited to have **June Renie**, Law Librarian at Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad, coming to speak on this topic. Ms. Renie was the first President of the Caribbean Association of Law Libraries in 1984 and has been an active member of the profession for many years. Please plan to attend this session and welcome Ms. Renie to the Annual Meeting before we all head to the closing banquet!

In addition to all of these program opportunities, other SIS business will be in full swing in Orlando. Please check the final program for all locations. The **FCIL-SIS Business Meeting** will be held on Monday, July 22 from 6:15-7:15 pm. The **Reception for Attendees from Abroad**, exclusively sponsored by West Group and Thomson Legal & Regulatory again this year, will follow the Business Meeting from 7:15-8:15 pm. Thank you to West and Thomson for their continued support! You may also want to take note of the **Strategic Plan Implementation Committee Meeting**, scheduled for Wednesday, July 24 at 7:00 am, and the **Publication Committee Meeting** scheduled for Wednesday, July 24 at 1:00 pm. Our strategic planning has faltered a bit in the past year, with the departure of Stefanie Weigmann from our ranks, and we would welcome new energy on that front. As always, our Interest Groups will be busy. These include **African Law, Asian Law, CIS and East European, Clearinghouse for Internships and International Personnel Exchanges, Electronic Issues, Latin American Law** and

Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research. Check the final program for all of the dates, times and locations!

Thank you again for your continued dedication to our profession, and to the work of our SIS. See you in July!

Also, please plan to attend the **International Association of Law Libraries Annual Course** scheduled for October 20-23, 2002. This year's meeting will be held at the Yale Law School in New Haven, CT, with an additional, optional day planned for October 24 at Harvard Law School in Cambridge, MA. This is a convenient location for U.S. librarians and presents a wonderful opportunity for you to meet an international population of others in our profession and to see some of the most prestigious collections of legal materials in the country. For complete information and registration, please go to <http://www.iall.org>.

NEW FCIL SIS MEMBERS

Ling-Fei Liu, Malden, MA
P. Russell Nyberg, Ellenton, FL
Montso Adam, Brussels, Belgium
Tove Klovning, Urbana, IL

Donald L. Ford, Pittsburgh, PA
Cheng Lin Liu, Champaign, IL
Annette L. Demers, London, ON, Canada

FCIL Newsletter is published in October, February and May by the Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. The main goal of this Section is to “serve as a forum for exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative and international law, and to represent its members’ interests and concerns within AALL.” *FCIL Newsletter* is sent free to members of the FCIL SIS. It is available for that “exchange of ideas and information”.

The newsletter can be read on the world wide web at:
<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html>.

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Deadline for next issue is September 15, 2002. For more information about the FCIL SIS, visit the Web site at: <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/fcil/fcil.html>

Message from Kenneth Rudolf, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect

Kenneth Rudolf is currently Head of Reference, Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School.

What does FCIL mean to you? If I asked each of you in person, I suspect I would get a wide range of answers. Since I can't talk to each of you in person right now, let me share with you what FCIL means to me.

FCIL has been a part of my life ever since I joined AALL while I was still in library school. The year I attended my first Annual Meeting, I also attended an Institute on International Law at the University of Minnesota, planned and staffed, of course, by FCIL members. At that early stage in my career, FCIL provided opportunities to develop expertise in my newly chosen career as a reference librarian in foreign and international law. Even more importantly, FCIL introduced me to a network of people on whom I could call for support and who became my friends. Since then, I have always organized my Annual Meeting schedule around FCIL events-interest group meetings, the business meeting and reception for foreign librarians, FCIL-sponsored programs, and the FCIL table at the President's luncheon or, more recently, the alternative FCIL lunch (always more fun!).

As my professional duties have moved me away from daily contact with foreign and international law librarianship, I have maintained my ties with FCIL, because its members are the people I enjoy best in the Association. In addition, I try to keep active in the field, occasionally doing backup reference, lecturing from time to time, and compiling an annual bibliography on international environmental law. In these

circumstances my friends in FCIL provide valuable support in person, on e-mail discussion lists, and through print and online resources they create. Because of the contacts I've maintained with these colleagues through FCIL, I know I can trust the information they provide.

Soon I will begin a new professional adventure, taking over as director at the University of La Verne College of Law Library, a small library with only a minimal international collection and no foreign collection at all. In these circumstances, it is very likely that I will need to rely even more on the network of colleagues in FCIL to assist when the stray foreign or international law question requires resources not readily at hand. And I am confident that they will come through for me.

What does FCIL mean to you? I'd like to know. You can tell me in Orlando this summer, or send me an e-mail with your thoughts. (You can usually reach me at k.rudolf@att.net, although I will probably not have access to e-mail during the first two weeks of June.)

Message from Jean Wenger, Incoming Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Jean Wenger, Government Documents-Foreign and International Law Librarian at the Cook County Law Library, was recently elected Vice Chair/Chair Elect of the FCIL SIS. Jean began her career at the Cook County Law library, where she worked from 1985 through 1995. Jean then moved to Cornell's Law Library; she returned to Cook County Law Library in 1997. Jean has written numerous web-based guides, and spoken at conferences and CLE events.

I am happy to have the opportunity to work with fellow members of the FCIL SIS in a

IALL in the US!

new and challenging capacity, especially incoming chair Ken Rudolf and secretary/treasurer Mirela Roznovschi. My interest in the foreign, comparative and international arena has been a constant in my studies and professional life, even well before becoming a foreign and international law librarian. (I have stories about the "snake currencies" of Europe and the day Mexico nationalized its banks!) The educational programs that are such an integral part of the mission of FCIL will be my first concern as vice-chair. When packing your suitcase for Orlando, toss in your wish list for programs and bring your ideas to the education committee meeting. I look forward to an exciting and challenging year. Tibi gratias ago.

Save the date! Don't miss the **2002 International Association of Law Libraries Reception** at the Peabody Hotel on Tuesday, July 23, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

This is a great year to start attending the IALL Annual Courses, if your library has not yet sent you to meetings abroad. After more than 15 years, the *Annual Course on International Law Librarianship* will again be held on U.S. soil: October 20 - 23, 2002, at *Yale University School of Law*, New Haven, Connecticut, followed by an optional day, October 24, at *Harvard Law School*, Cambridge, Massachusetts. You will find out more about the program of the *21st Annual Course*, the new Directory, the listserv, and other activities and developments within the IALL, if you join us on July 23.

Thanks to *West Group* for generously sponsoring this annual reception!

Submitted by Marie-Louise H Bernal

AALL 2002: Creating Connections

Wondering how you are going to get from the airport to your hotel? Which restaurants are within walking distance of your hotel? Exactly how HOT will it be? For answers to all of these questions and more, check out the Local Advisory Committee's guide

Welcome to Orlando, the City Beautiful

<http://www.aallnet.org/events/local02/index.htm>

Wondering what FCIL has planned for AALL 2002? Anne Burnett once again comes to your rescue with the **Calendar of FCIL-Related Events!** (See page 6)

AALL Annual Meeting
Orlando, Florida: July 20-24, 2002

Calendar of FCIL-Related Events

current as of 5/8/02: please check our online calendar for updated information, including meeting locations, at
<http://www.law.uga.edu/fcil/annmtg02calendar.html>

Sunday, July 21	Monday, July 22
	7:00-8:00am Teaching Foreign & International Law IG mtg
11:45am-12:45pm CIS & East European Law IG mtg	
2:45-4:00pm C-3 Devolution in the UK: A Revolution in Online Legal Research	2:00-3:00pm E-3 Connecting with the Worldwide Effort to Combat Crimes Against Humanity: The Creation of the Int'l Criminal Court
	3:15-4:15pm F-5 The Int'l Law/Int'l Relations Connection - Internationalizing Law Library Collections
5:30-6:30pm Electronic Issues IG mtg	6:15-7:15pm FCIL-SIS Business Meeting
	7:15-8:15pm Reception for Attendees from Abroad
Tuesday, July 23	Wednesday, July 24
7:45-8:45am African Law IG mtg	7:00-8:00am Strategic Plan Implementation Committee
	10:30-11:45am K-3 Gov't Documents Around the World: Access Policies & Strategies of Disclosure
12:30-1:30pm Latin American Law IG mtg	12:15-1:00pm Clearinghouse for Internships & Int'l Personnel Exchanges mtg
	1:00-1:45pm Publications Committee mtg (this time likely to change)
4:15-5:15pm I-4 Around the World (Wide Web): 60 Sites in 60 Minutes	4:00-5:00pm Executive Committee Sponsors Program on Caribbean Legal Materials
5:30-6:30pm Asian Law IG mtg	