

R I P S

Law Librarian

A Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

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Message from the Chair...

D.R. Jones

We are now preparing for the AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle. Although email and the Internet are essential in maintaining our communications throughout the year, they still do not replace the opportunities we have when we can meet in person.

I encourage you to attend the four RIPS sponsored programs and one of the two roundtable discussions (they are scheduled at the same time). Be sure also to stop by the RIPS table in the activities area in the exhibit hall. Also, the RIPS-SIS business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 13th from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. There are also committee meetings scheduled throughout the week.

I will echo the message of last year's Chair, Marc Silverman, by saying that we really need more people to become involved in the SIS. Any member is welcome to attend the business meeting and the committee meetings and to become active in the SIS. Just show up and express your interests! The Annual Meeting is the place to share ideas and become involved. So much of the work of this SIS is done by a very dedicated group of people. They have done a great job, but there is so much more to do, and they can use some help. If you can't attend a meeting, just contact me or any of the SIS officers or committee chairs to express your interest.

We will be preparing a new strategic plan for RIPS. At the business meeting, I will be reporting on the development of the new plan. Your suggestions for this two-year plan are welcome. Under consideration for inclusion in the plan is a move to an electronic-only newsletter, further collaboration with other SIS; and the continued development of the recently revamped website.

I want to thank and congratulate Melissa Serfass again on the new design and redevelopment of the RIPS-SIS website, <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/>. The redevelopment of the website was an important part of our current strategic plan, and was one of the highlights of RIPS-SIS accomplishments during the past year. Other highlights include: the Eleventh Year of the Legal-Research Teach-In; the RIPS-SIS Board approval of the Public Service Committee's ADA Policy; which will be submitted to the AALL Executive Board; the \$500 contribution of RIPS-SIS to the George Strait Minority Scholarship Fund; and the updating work on the RIPS-SIS bylaws (thanks to Marc Silverman).

Melissa Serfass will soon be filling this Chair. I know she would welcome your ideas and involvement. We look forward to seeing everyone in Seattle!

Research Instruction
and
Patron Services SIS

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Research Instruction and Patron Services SIS Business Meeting Agenda Sunday July 13 5:30-6:30 pm

I. Call to Order

II. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes from the 2002 Business Meeting
(Printed in the Fall/Winter 2002 Newsletter, Vol. 25 no. 1)

B. Financial Report - Pamela Melton

C. Annual Report to Membership – D.R. Jones

D. Committee Reports

1. Patron Services - Gary Hill

2. Web Page - Melissa Serfass

3. Research Instruction - Sheri Lewis

4. Nominations – Judy Kaul

5. Programs - Jessie Cranford

6. Public Relations - Peggy McDermott

7. Listserv - Coral Henning

8. Teach-In - Gail Partin, Kristin Gerdy

E. Briefs in Law Librarianship - Bobbie Studwell

F. Introduction of new officers, board members, and committee chairs -
D.R. Jones

III. New Business

IV. Adjournment and Closing Statement – Melissa Serfass

Roundtables in Seattle

In addition to the Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Roundtable, described below, RIPS will also be sponsoring a *Reference Roundtable* on Tuesday, July 15, 2003 from 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm. There will not be a Circulation Roundtable or Legal Research Instruction Roundtable this year.

RIPS-SIS Interlibrary Loan/ Document Delivery Roundtable (Tuesday, July 15th, 5:30 – 6:30)

We have all tried different methods to help student publications work more efficiently with our interlibrary loan department. In this Roundtable, sponsored by RIPS and the Academic SIS Task Force on Support for Law Journals, we will share successes and new ideas on how to make these groups work better together. One of the efforts of the Task Force will be to create a web page with common challenges and ways to address them. The ideas discussed at this Roundtable will be incorporated into the web page.

Lisa Peters and Robin Shard will be leading this roundtable.

ALPHABET SOUP RECEPTION

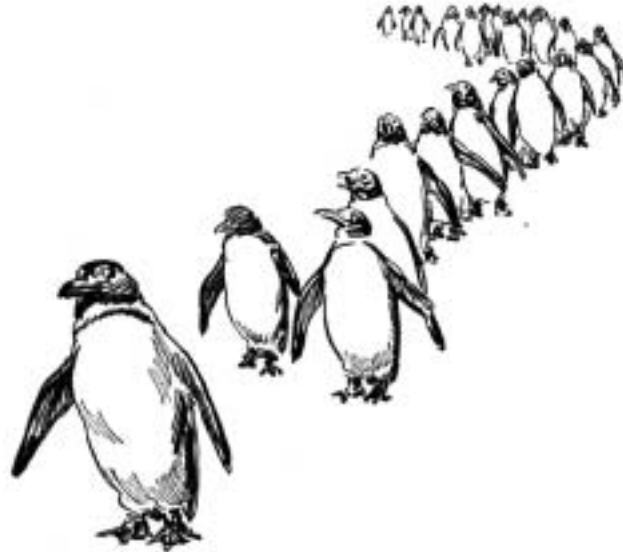
You Are Cordially Invited To The TS/OBS/RIPS/CS Joint Reception

Who: Members of the Technical Services, Online Bibliographic Services, Research Instruction and Patron Services and Computing Services Special Interest Sections

Where: Sheraton Hotel and Towers:

When: Saturday, July 12, 2003 6:00 P

Sponsor: Innovative Interfaces, Inc.



Come join us as we celebrate AALL 2003 with delicious hors d'oeuvres and sparkling conversation

RIPS Election Results are IN:

Here are the election results for the Research Instruction and Patron Services ("RIPS) SIS:

Incoming Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Pamela Melton

Incoming Secretary/Treasurer: Lee Ryan

Incoming Executive Board Member: Sheri Lewis

I want to thank all the candidates for running. I would also like to thank Judy Kaul, the RIPS-SIS Nomination Chair, who not only put together the slate of candidates, but prepared the mailing and totaled results. I would also like to thank Myrna Hardy and the staff at the law library at Case Western who prepared the ballot mailing.

RIPS Programs in Seattle

The following programs are being sponsored by RIPS. RIPS also had a workshop that was accepted, but will not be held. Please show your support for RIPS by attending our programs.

Envisioning a Bolder Tomorrow: Hot to Get to "Yes" by Saying "No" More Often

H-1 Tuesday, July 15 at 2:15 p.m.

Proposed by Kelly Browne

Description: A professor calls and asks if you can lecture her class on legislative history, administrative law, and loose-leaf research the day after tomorrow. Do you drop everything, scrambling to try and please everyone and in the end pleasing no one, least of all yourself? Are we as librarians, by our very service-oriented nature, doomed to being wimps? Join three law librarians as they appear on an Oprah-like talk show to discuss their assertiveness issues with "Dr. Phil." Then another expert will discuss behavior modification techniques that can help you become more assertive. At the end of the show you can ask the experts your questions!

***Envisioning Virtual Reference: Cooperating to Maximize Service**

J-2 Wednesday, July 16 at 9:00 a.m.

Proposed by Tracy Thompson and Scott Matheson

Description: Twenty public, state and academic law libraries joined forces last year to create www.librarylawline.org, and experiment in providing virtual reference services to their patrons. After almost one year, participants will meet to discuss the pilot. A review of how the Library Lawline virtual reference service is structured will provide context for the in-depth discussion of one service model and collaboration issues encountered by the participants. The panel will discuss policies, technology issues, and patron reaction as well as such nitty-gritty details as holding meetings with participants scattered across a region and how to schedule staff from many different libraries.

***A Legal Research Survey: Maximizing Legal Research Instruction Relevance**

M-3 Wednesday, July 16 at 3:15 p.m.

Proposed by Pamela Melton

Description: (30-minute program) Those who teach legal research decide what skills and resources their students must be familiar with. Frequently, these decisions are based either on outdated information, the latest pitch by a vendor, s rep or simply on the gut feeling of the teacher. But what kinds of research do real lawyers do? The presenter will discuss the results of a survey of the legal research habits of the members of a practicing state bar, and its implications for how legal research and writing are taught. The presenter will also share nuts and bolts advice on doing similar surveys elsewhere.

***Maximizing Career Success by Evaluating Emotional Intelligence**

A-1 Sunday, July 13 at 10:00 a.m.

Proposed by Kelly Browne

Description: In the past 26 years, studies have shown that emotional intelligence is not only the most important factor in being successful in life, but that certain patterns of the thirteen qualities that make up your "EQ" contribute to success in specific career areas. Because of this many employers, including law firms, now use "EQ" tests to make hiring and promotion decisions. Job seekers use "EQ" assessments to determine which careers would best suit them or to identify skills that need to be developed to succeed

in a desired position. An expert on emotional intelligence will discuss the value of "EQ" surveys, describe profiles of successful law librarians in various positions, and suggest techniques for bridging the gap between current and desired ranges in each of the thirteen areas of emotional intelligence.

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Who is watching Puron?

It could be you!

Have some free time while at the conference? Why not help staff the RIPS table? To volunteer contact Peggy McDermott at 314-977-2739 or email her at mcderrmmh@slu.edu

Membership News

Donald L. Ford recently joined the University of Colorado Law Library as Reference Librarian. Formerly of richmond, Virginia where he was in private practice, Donald earned his MLIS at the University of Pittsburgh.

David Kullman will be joining the staff at St. Louis University Law Library on July 1, 2003. David has been a practicing attorney for nearly 20 years. He received library degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia.

Patricia Cervenka will become the Director of the Marquette Law Library on July 1, 2003.

Librarian Visitation Program - Poll

I am conducting a very brief poll of law firm and academic law librarians to learn about the general level of interest in an exciting new initiative. It is being sent simultaneously to PLL and ALL SIS,s under the auspices of a special committee of the ALL-SIS.

Some time ago, it occurred to me that reference librarians in academic settings could benefit from spending some time doing reference in a law firm setting. (I have had about six years experience as a law firm librarian and realize the differences.) Since most academics have never worked in a law firm, two things can be said: they don't appreciate the level and quality of reference assistance that is provided to and demanded by lawyers and law clerks on a daily basis; and, they have limited „real life%oo experience on which to draw when they teach legal research classes in law schools.

It also occurred to me that summers would be an excellent time for academic law librarians to spend time working in law firms. Law firms are usually swamped with summer clerks and the reference desk tends to get a little slower in the summers in law schools.

So my question is this: How many librarians out there are interested in participating in a program like this?

If you are interested, do you need help contacting a library or librarian to make it happen?

Please contact me with your ideas and feedback about this concept. Don,t worry, I can take it both ways: positive or negative. I,d love to hear from you all. Thanks.

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Submissions from RIPS members are highly encouraged. Please send submissions as an email attachment, or on disc to the editor:

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