



Message From the Chair...Marc Silverman

In reviewing these columns written by previous RIPS Chairs I have discovered a pattern. Typically the first "Message" of the year reviews the annual meeting and outlines the goals for the coming year. The mid-year piece provides a progress report on each of the projects and then in the final column the Chair sums things up and thanks everyone.

I don't have much to report on the progress front. After a slow start (I suspect the traumatic events of this past fall held everyone's attention) work has begun on the various committee projects. Melissa Serfass has begun to revamp our web page and Peggy McDermott will soon start work on a new brochure for the SIS. So instead of the traditional mid-year column I thought I would outline some of the ideas and concerns I relayed to Carol Avery Nicholson, the AALL Vice President/President-Elect, back in November.

The occasion for this conversation was a call from Carol to talk about the ways in which our members, programs, and projects are contributing to help AALL meet the objectives set forth in the latest Strategic Plan. I believe there are many ways we are doing this, from our annual programming and the Teach-In to the work of individual RIPS members on national committees. Jean Wenger and Gail Partin's participation on the Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee immediately comes to mind. I also highlighted the Core Legal Research Competencies document so many of our members have worked on and how strongly I felt that this really needs to be published.

There were two issues that I remember emphasizing. The first of these is the need for more of our members to become active in RIPS. The truth of our situation is that most of the work of this SIS is carried out by a core group of 30-40 of our 500 or so members. Carol indicated that this is a problem that many of the Special Interest Sections are facing.

The other issue we talked about was the need to recruit more people into law librarianship. From talking to Directors and middle managers in all types of law libraries over the past three years I am very troubled by the lack of new blood coming into this profession. This is also reflected in the AALL Strategic Plan and there have been a couple of articles published in the past few years that address this problem.

The important thing that this conversation did was to force me to take another, much closer, look at the AALL Strategic Plan. While I think a few of the outcomes are perhaps overly ambitious the bulk of this document is focused, realistic, and actually very impressive. I may be imagining this, but between the lines in the Plan I see some concern for the future of law librarianship. There is emphasis on controlling all aspects of legal information in our world and the issues it raises are central to law librarianship's existence. If you haven't read the document I urge you to take a look at it. If you have, read it again. Within are the topics we will be discussing for years to come. ❁

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That's Not Funny: Tiffany's, Moon River, and Memory in Legal Research Education *by Joan Shear, Boston College Law Library*

Some people remember everything they hear. A woman I went to college with knew the words of every song on the radio, even those that I couldn't understand a word of. When I'm listening I remember for a second or two. At the end of a lecture, if I didn't take notes, I doubt I'd remember the subject or who the lecturer was.

Some people remember everything they see. I work with a woman who can go to a movie and tell you what each character wore in every scene. I often don't even remember what I'm wearing without looking down at my clothes.

Some people remember everything they do. A friend of mine totally forgot the PIN to his bank account, but once he stepped up to the money machine, he was able to just punch in the numbers correctly because he had done it so many times. I'm one of those people who remember what I do, especially if it was just a little bit of a challenge to do it, and my mind is really engaged.

But it sure helps me to have some introductory explanation and illustration of how something is done before I try to do it myself. And I think our students can benefit from the same multiple layer approach. I like to introduce each topic in legal research with a talk, illustrated if possible by both visual and word pictures to help make it just a little bit more memorable. Then I show them how it works in a structured lab where they use books or computers to see how the thing operates. Finally they get a research assignment that requires them to actually do the thing illustrated in lab.

One of my favorite lessons to teach this way is the discussion of the various ways one can look for periodical articles. One thing I really like about this lesson is that it focuses the students on various types of finding tools by the data content and structure, rather than the format or interface. While I have

them briefly use the paper indexes to illustrate a little about the way the data in those indexes is structured, what I really have them focus on is the comparison between indexes, abstracts, and full-text databases.

In my introductory lecture, I try to explain the difference between an index, an abstract, and a full-text search by drawing an analogy to one of my favorite publications, TV Guide. The grid listings are a kind of an index. They include the name of the program and also an entry under the channel and time of day. They also include some kind of rudimentary classification, especially if it is a movie, of whether it is a drama or comedy. The listings in the back are abstracts of the films, containing some classified information, more names of people involved, and usually a brief synopsis of the plot. My personal favorite was the listing for *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, which I believe read: "Audrey Hepburn loses her cat and sings *Moon River*." These listings often classify the sex or violence factor in the movie as well. The script of the movie would be the equivalent of a full-text search. It contains a complete listing of every word spoken in the movie.

The type of database search that works best in a particular situation depends on what the researcher wants to find and what he or she already knows. To find something to watch at 9:00 on a Tuesday night, the grid/index might be the best choice. To find a romantic comedy to tape and watch at a later date, the Movie summaries/abstract might work best. And to find the movie in which Clint Eastwood says, "Go ahead, make my day," then a full-text search would probably be the best.

Following this lecture is a lab where we search for some lawyer jokes. This is a great illustration of the differences between full-text and index searching. We do both using either Lexis or Westlaw (which ever one seems to be working on the day we have the lab – it pays to be flexible) because I want the

students to be comparing the data itself, not the interface. In an index database we usually start with a keyword search to try to find one or two good articles. I usually type in “lawyer and joke”. We look through the entries, many of which are unfunny articles taking about why lawyer jokes aren’t funny, until we find one that looks promising. My personal favorite is the Nova (Humor in the) Law Review symposium. One great thing about this article is it illustrates the difference between the indexing scheme of ILP (broad legal categories with the whole thing in one place) and LRI (more specific subject headings with jokes about lawyers and law schools and judges all in different places). Then, I can use the controlled vocabulary — the identified subject headings — to run searches to find lots of other funny articles. They aren’t all funny, but when they have been indexed or cataloged, we know that a human being has looked at them and classified them as something that at least the author thought would be funny.

The students are then directed to do a full-text search to find funny articles or lawyer jokes. People try using “legal humor” or “lawyer joke” and they get lots of discussions of why lawyer jokes aren’t funny. Occasionally one of these articles will contain an example of a lawyer joke or two, but this search has a very low precision rate. I remind the students that to find something in a full-text database, they need to guess what words will be used in that document. So I tell the students to change their way of thinking. I remind them not to classify the thing they are looking for as a lawyer joke, but to try to predict the words that will be used in a lawyer joke and search for those. A search for “knock, knock” unfortunately returns a lot of articles about warrantless searches, but if you modify that to be “knock, knock who’s there,” you increase your precision quite a bit. One that works remarkably well is “What is the difference between a lawyer?” Another one that meets with some success is “Did you hear the one about?”

Students are then given a research assignment where they are asked to identify databases that would have a particular type of data in them and also to perform some searches and analyze the effectiveness of the

various databases with different types of searches. I used to give a lot more open-ended exercise at this time thinking I had explained it all so clearly in class and that the assignment would naturally lead them to a mixture of full-text and index databases. But I found that, while some students used the index databases as we had in class, others still gravitated to full-text alone. So this exercise is very directive.

One of my recurring goals for my legal research students is to teach them to try to pick the best source for the particular task. I think this series of explanation, illustration, and activity helps students focus on the important task of choosing an appropriate source. It allows students to hear, see, and experience the difference between different databases. Then, no matter which way they learn, they have a pretty good chance of remembering that different types of databases operate differently. ❁

The RIPS Law Librarian is published three times per year by the Research Instruction & Patron Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Publication deadlines for Volume 24 are:

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| Number 1 | Oct. 1, 2001 |
| Number 2 | Feb. 1, 2002 |
| Number 3 | May 15, 2002 |

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

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The opinions and editorial views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS or the American Association of Law Libraries. The Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS does not assume any responsibility for statements advanced by contributors to this newsletter.

Subscriptions to the RIPS Law Librarian are included in membership dues for RIPS of \$12 per year. To become a member of RIPS, see
<https://www2.security-one.com:2001/home/aallsecu/sis_application.html>. (no space in URL)

RIPS Programs Accepted for the 2002 AALL Annual Meeting by D.R. Jones

The following RIPS-SIS sponsored programs will be presented at the 2002 AALL Annual Meeting in Orlando:

Using Online Tutorials to Teach Legal Research

Submitted By: Meg Collins, Georgetown University Law Library

This program will illustrate the development of a series of legal research tutorials for students at Georgetown University Law Center. The tutorials were developed through a cooperative effort of the Library and Legal Research and Writing (LR&W) faculty. They will be used in the 2001-2002 academic year as a supplement to classroom teaching of legal research skills. The tutorials are an answer to students' increasing reliance on the web as a research and learning tool. Both the LR&W faculty and the librarians wished to respond to the students' increasing expectation for immediate online access to information. The program will emphasize (i) collaboration with the LR&W faculty, and (ii) technological development of the tutorials.

Creating Better Connections: Access to Website Content for the Sight-Impaired

Submitted By: Bill Draper, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Biddle Law Library

How can the sight-impaired access your Web content? The program begins with a brief look at the obligations to accommodate access needs of sight-impaired patrons using library web sites. A husband and wife, each sight-impaired and technologically proficient, will demonstrate how various approaches to Web design impact the ability of the sight-impaired to access Internet information. You will get a practical list of DOs and DON'Ts for web design. You will also hear a from representative from a law school which has installed a special parsing program for the sight-impaired on its Web site.

Practical Legal Research Exams: The Connection Between Theory and Practice

Submitted By: Pamela Melton, University of South Carolina, Coleman Karesh Law Library

Many law students find legal research instruction abstract and confusing, often because they don't have any need to use those skills at the time they are taught. Legal research exams can make the connection between theory and practice. What are the obstacles to creating a practical exam? How can they be overcome? First, a 20 minute "reality-based" (think *Survivor*) video follows a librarian as she creates, schedules and administers a practical exam. Then the first panelist will discuss her institution's experience with practical legal research exams. Finally, the second panelist will discuss incorporating practical elements into standard legal research exams.

Thanks to everyone who submitted program proposals. Watch for the preliminary program to see when these programs will be offered.

It is not too early to be thinking about program proposals for the 2003 Annual Meeting on Seattle. More details regarding program proposal submission for that meeting will be forthcoming. ❁

2002 AALL Annual Meeting Information Now Available

See <http://aallhq.org/database/meeting_annual_events.asp> for the dates and times of educational programs, workshops, meetings and events. Room assignments will be available in mid-June.

RIPS ELECTIONS 2002

Report of the Nominations Committee

This fall the Nominations Committee undertook the rewarding challenge of identifying RIPS members who were ready and willing to move into new positions of leadership in the SIS. Having so great a selection of qualified members from which to fashion a slate made our work proceed quickly and pleasantly. Mindful of our charge to try to present a slate of candidates from diverse types of libraries, we approached RIPS members from academic, firm, court/county, and government libraries. Unfortunately, our non-academic members had already committed to serve the profession in other areas, and were not able to run for RIPS office this year. Nonetheless, we believe that the candidates on this strong slate will effectively represent the interests of all RIPS members.

We are therefore very pleased to announce this year's slate of candidates for office:

For Vice Chair/Chair-Elect:

Deanna Barmakian, Harvard Law School Library

Melissa Serfass, Univ. of Arkansas, Little Rock, William H. Bowen School of Law/Pulaski County Law Library

For Newsletter Editor:

Lynn Hartke, St. Louis University Law Library

Linda Tashbook, University of Pittsburgh, Barco Law Library

For Member-At-Large of the Executive Committee:

Terry Cullen, University of Nevada - Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law

Bill Draper, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Biddle Law Library

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ryan, Kristin Gerdy, and Gail Partin

RIPS-SIS 2001-2002 Nominating Committee ❁

Meet the Candidates

Deanna Barmakian: Candidate for Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Education:

B.A. Brown University

J.D. Boston University School of Law

M.S. Simmons College, Grad. Sch. of Library & Info. Science

Employment:

Reference Librarian, Harvard Law School Library 1997-

Relevant Professional Activities:

AALL: Awards Committee Member, Co-Chair of the Council of Newsletter Editors

RIPS: Newsletter Editor

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Barmakian...continued.

Publications:

- Better Search Engines for Law. *Law Library Journal*, Fall 2000 v. 92, n. 4, pp. 399-438.
- Bring It On Home: Adding Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw HTML Code to Your Home Page. *Legal Information Alert*, 18:7 July/Aug. 1999, with Michael Jimenez.
- Regular Disc & Database reviews for *Library Journal*.

Selected Presentations:

- Search Engines for Law, CALI, June 2001
- Legal Resources on the Internet, NELINET Workshop, Nov. 2, 2000 (for New England Librarians)
- Better Search Engines for Law, AALL Annual Meeting Call for Papers Program, July 18, 2000
- Legal Reference Questions, Which Tools to use When, March 30, 2000 (for Harvard Librarians)

Statement:

I am excited about the potential opportunity to serve as the Vice Chair/Chair Elect of RIPS. Serving as the RIPS newsletter editor the past two years has allowed me to become familiar with our projects, plans, and committee work. I value this SIS as a vibrant community that shares my enthusiasm for legal research instruction. If elected, I would strive to keep our existing projects going strong, encourage even more member participation, support our existing committees, and be open to any and all suggestions from members about new directions for RIPS. ❁

Melissa Serfass: Candidate for Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Education:

- B.A. Harding University
- J.D. University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law
- M.A. University of South Florida

Employment:

- University of Arkansas at Little Rock/Pulaski County Law Library
 - Computer Services/Reference Librarian 1992 to 1999
 - Electronic Resources & Reference Librarian 1999 to present

Professional Association Memberships:

- AALL, MAALL, SWALL, Arkansas Library Association

RIPS Activities:

- Program Committee 1997-1998
- Program Committee Chair 1998-1999
- Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor 1999-2000
- Bylaws Revision Committee 1999-2000
- Strategic Planning Task Force 1999-2000
- Secretary/Treasurer 2000-2001
- Web Committee Chair 2001-2002

Presentations:

- Mid-America Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting:
 - 1994 Successful Strategies for Local Area Networks.
 - 1996 Introduction to Web Page Design: A Beginner's Guide, or, Dragged Kicking and Screaming into the New Millennium, HTML and Web Page Authoring for the Luddite.
 - 1997 Lay Patrons: Who Are These People, What Do They Want From Us, and What Can We Do For Them?
- American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting:
 - 1998 Origin of A Species: Electronic Services Librarians.
 - 2000 Greeting Our Lay Patrons at the Gateway: Who Are They and How Can We Help Them.

Publications:

“Standards for Certification of Appellate Specialists”, 2 *Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* 381-400 (1999).
 “Finding Legal Materials” a chapter in *Legal Foundations for Arkansas Educators*, Center for Applied Studies in Education, 2000.
 Co-authored with Jessie L. Cranford, “Federal and State Court Rules Governing Publication and Citation of Opinions,” 3 *Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* 251 (2001).

Statement:

My involvement with RIPS activities has been professionally and personally rewarding. I have had the opportunity to work with officers and members who are committed to our profession and to making RIPS an outstanding SIS. If elected, I will strive to continue in the same spirit of excellence and professionalism. ❁

Lynn Hartke: Candidate for Newsletter Editor

Education:

BA Eastern Illinois University
 JD George Mason University School of Law
 MSLS Catholic University of America

Employment:

2000- present Saint Louis University Law Library, Reference/Educational Services Librarian
 1997-2000 Marquette University Law Library, Reference Librarian
 1989 – 1997 Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen, & Hamilton, Washington, D.C.
 1991 – 1997 Assistant Librarian
 1990 – 1991 Senior Library Assistant
 1989 – 1991 Library Assistant

Courses Taught at Marquette:

Legal Research
 Topics in Advanced Legal Research: Business Associations

Professional Activities and Service:

American Association of Law Libraries 1995 to date
 Mid-America Association of Law Libraries 2000 to date
 Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin, Inc. 1998-2000
 Law Librarians Society of Washington, DC, Inc. 1989 –2001

LLAW Served on Publicity committee for Midwest Library Fest, 1998
 MAALL 2001 Annual Meeting Hotel Liaison Chair
 AALL Member of ALL-SIS, Education Committee; 2002 AALL Program Coordinator, Moderator, and Speaker
 RIPS-SIS CONELL Representative 2000, 2001

Bar Memberships:

Pennsylvania Bar – 1988 to date

Publications:

Book Reviews:

“The Workplace Law Advisor: From Harassment and Discrimination Policies to Hiring and Firing Guidelines, what Every Manager and Employee Needs to Know” *Law Library Journal*, Fall 2001
 “The Burger Court: Justices, Rulings, and Legacy” *Law Library Journal*, Fall 2001
 “The Librarian’s Quick Guide to Internet Resources” *Law Library Journal*, Fall 2000
 Forthcoming: “The Warren Court: Justices, Rulings, and Legacy” *Law Library Journal*

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Hartke...Continued.

Statement:

I am truly honored and amazed that I was asked to run for Newsletter Editor. Since becoming active in RIPS I have enjoyed working with and getting to know the members of the SIS. RIPS has given me an opportunity to strengthen friendships and meet more librarians, especially newer law librarians as I worked at the RIPS table for CONELL the past two years. RIPS is a very powerful organization/SIS for librarians in all law libraries, whether they be academic, private, or court. RIPS is a tool for librarians to become better librarians, to share knowledge, and learn new methods of aiding our patrons. The annual programs and the newsletter help encourage and promote librarianship and, in turn, assist librarians instruct their patrons more effectively and efficiently. ✿

Linda Tashbook: Candidate for Newsletter Editor

I am the Electronic Services Librarian at the University of Pittsburgh's Barco Law Library. I serve as the Webmaster for WPLLA, the Western Pennsylvania Law Library Association and have published two professional pieces this past year: "A Legal Research Orb Begun With Yahoo Spinnerets" the October 2001 Lessons from the Web article on JURIST: The Legal Education Network and "Collaboration: A bibliography of Instructional Sources" in v. 20 No. 3 of Legal Reference Services Quarterly. Any week now, I think, I expect to send the results of my Briefs in Law Librarianship licensing survey to press. On the side, I work as a private practice attorney and children's librarian and volunteer with the blind and my regional Girl Scout council.

As I rush between activities, I count on quick clear publications like newsletters to keep me up-to-date. I love a well crafted succinctly written summary of professional news, scheduled events, and new ideas. Of course, if it's at all entertaining I'm even more likely to finish it. There's a lot to write about RIPS that's exciting. The notes we read on listservs, the contents of AALL short courses, and the personalities among us are all great sources of inspiring and useful material for the RIPS newsletter. I believe I have the energy and enthusiasm to collect from all those sources and compile a year of terrific newsletters. ✿

Theresa (Terry) Cullen: Candidate for Member-At-Large of the Executive Committee

Education:

- 1995 M.L.I.S. The University of Texas at Austin
- 1993 J.D. The University of Texas School of Law, Austin, TX
- 1985 B.S. Pharmacy, The University of Texas at Austin

Experience:

- 2001-present Access Services Librarian, UNLV Law Library, Las Vegas, NV
- 1997-2001 Electronic Services Librarian, Seattle University Law Library, Tacoma/Seattle, WA
- 1995-1997 Reference/Computer Services Librarian, University of Colorado Law Library, Boulder, CO

Presentations:

- "Best Practices in Delivering Government Information on the Web." Presented at GTC2000, Austin, Texas, February 2000.
- "Copyright Update 1998." Prepared for Seattle University School of Law Intellectual Property/Internet Law Conference, March 28, 1998.
- "Current Issues in Copyright: Challenges for Law Libraries in the Digital Age." Presented at 30th Annual WESTPAC Conference:
- "Use and Control of Information: Whose Information is it Anyway?" Sacramento, California, October 25, 1997.
- "HTML How-To: Creating a Home Page on the World Wide Web." Presented at Colorado Association of Law Libraries Legal Institute, February 22, 1997.
- "Networking Services and Planning for Technology." Presented at Colorado Association of Law Libraries Legal Institute, March 17, 1996.

Publications

Editorial Work:

Family Law Deskbook. Tables of Cases, Statutes and References. Prepared for Washington State Bar Association. Summer 2000.
 Real Property Deskbook (Supplement). Tables of Cases, Statutes and References. Prepared for Washington State Bar Association. Summer 2000-.

Book Reviews:

- 18 (1) Legal Reference Services Quarterly (Winter, 1999) (reviewing Boackle, Kenneth F. Real Estate Closing Deskbook: A Lawyer's Reference Guide & State-By-State Summary. ABA, 1997.)
- 16 (2) Legal Reference Services Quarterly 86 (Spring 1997) (reviewing Patton-Hulce, Vicki. Environment and the Law: A Dictionary. ABC-CLIO, 1995.)
- 16 (1) Legal Reference Services Quarterly 85 (Winter 1997) (reviewing Gasaway, Laura and Michael Chiorazzi, eds. Law Librarianship: Historical Perspectives. AALL, 1996.)
- 27(3) SWALL Bulletin 32 (May 1996) (reviewing Kaser, Dick, ed. Document Delivery in an Electronic Age. Philadelphia: NFAIS, 1995.)

Articles:

- "Beef Up Your Browser: Using Helper Applications and Plug-ins." Adapted for 1(10) AALL Spectrum (July 1997) from 7(2) CoALL Scuttle (January 1997).
- "Adaptive Technology for Law Library Computing" 15(1) Automotome (Summer 1997).
- "Planning for Technology." 1(6) AALL Spectrum (March 1997).
- "Beef Up Your Browser: Using Helper Applications and Plug-ins." 7(2) CoALL Scuttle 10 (January 1997).
- "From Netiquette to Web Page Design: Marketing Your Law Firm or Library on the Internet." 7(1) CoALL Scuttle 3 (October 1996).
- "Non-Legal Resources on the Internet." 6(4) CoALL Scuttle 14 (July 1996).
- "The Trouble with Neutrality: An Analysis of the ABA Special Committee on Citation Issues Draft Report." 27(3) SWALL Bulletin 22 (May 1996).
- "Cybersearch: Tools for the World Wide Web." 6(3) CoALL Scuttle 4 (April 1996).

Professional Library Association Activities:

- American Association of Law Libraries, 1994-
 - Special Committee to Promote Librarians as Legal Research Trainers, 2001-2002
 - Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee, 1999-2001
 - Public Relations Committee, Webmaster, 1997-2001
 - Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section, 1996-
 - Education Committee, 1996-1997
 - Computing Services Special Interest Section, 1996-
 - Adaptive Technology Committee, 1996-1999; Chair, 1997-1999
- Research Instruction and Patron Services Special Interest Section, 1996-
 - Western Pacific Chapter, American Association of Law Libraries, 1997-
 - Webmaster, 1998-2001
- Law Librarians of Puget Sound, 1997-2001
- Southwestern Association of Law Libraries, 1994-1997
 - Program Committee, 1996-1997
- Colorado Association of Law Libraries, 1995-1997
 - Chair, Long Range Planning Committee, 1996-1997
 - Webmaster, 1996-1997

Personal Statement:

The opportunity to contribute to RIPS is very exciting to me. I am thrilled to be considered for the Member At Large position on the Executive Board. My library experience includes teaching legal research, reference work, inter-library loan and document delivery, as well as supervision of circulation services. I have also had substantial involvement with AALL committees, other Special Interest Sections, and at the chapter level. These experiences would allow me to bring to the position a perspective that includes all aspects of Research Instruction and Patron Services and an understanding of the challenges, opportunities, and concerns faced by all RIPS members. I would be honored to have the opportunity to contribute to RIPS as a Board Member At Large and to help further RIPS initiatives and programs. ❁

J. William (“Bill”) Draper: Candidate for Member-At-Large of the Executive Committee

Education:

- 1980 B.A. High Honors, Western Illinois University
- 1983 J.D., University of Illinois College of Law
- 1987 M.S., University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science

Law Library and Related Professional Employment:

- 1987-1990 Reference Librarian, Bloch Law Library, UMKC School of Law
- 1990-1992 Head of Information Services, Bloch Law Library, UMKC School of Law
- 1992-1999 Head of Circulation Services and Reference Librarian, Biddle Law Library, University of Pennsylvania Law School
- 1993, 1994 Adjunct Associate Professor, College of Information Studies, Drexel University (team-taught legal bibliography to graduate library school students)
- 1999-date Reference Librarian (and unofficial Webmaster), Biddle Law Library, University of Pennsylvania Law School
- 2000-date Lecturer, University of Pennsylvania Law School

Professional Associations:

AALL, RIPS, GPLLA, Illinois St. Bar Assn, ABA, ABA Sect. on Legal Educ. & Adms. to the Bar

Professional Activities:

After 14 years in the profession, it is about time I ran for something. I would like to participate and give something back to the SIS as RIPS has helped me. I have done a few things. I coordinated and moderated a program at a convention (MAALL 1989), and I was a speaker once (AALL 1992). RIPS and I proposed a program for the 2002 Annual Meeting in Orlando. “Creating Better Connections: Access to Website Content for the Sight-Impaired” was accepted, and I thank D.R. Jones and Jessie Cranford for their kind support. For the last two years, I have taught a course, U.S. Legal Research, to LL.M. students. It is a joy.

Selected Publications:

- Co-Editor, *ALEA Newsletter* (Am. L. & Econ. Ass’n.) 1995-1998 (with Jason S. Johnston).
- Bibliography of Community Legal Education Materials for the Disadvantaged* 353 p. (1990) distributed as document number 46,300 by the National Clearinghouse for Legal Services, Inc. (see 24 *Clearinghouse Rev.* 1411 (April 1991)).
- Teaching Legal Research: Picking the Pearls and Avoiding the Barnacles*, 2 *Integrated Legal Res.*, Wint. & Spg. 1990, at 16 (with Patricia Harris).
- Benjamin N. Cardozo: A Bibliography of Works at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Law Library* 18 p. (UMKC L. Libr., 1988).

Statement:

We often share library guides. Why not find a way to share instructional PowerPoint presentations? Are there other ways to help members avoid “re-inventing the wheel?”

I would like to get more involved in RIPS. In order to do so, I thought I might “get my feet wet” by being on the Board, by helping out more, and by learning more about how the SIS works. I did the same when I joined my local Lions Club, and after a few years I was elected president. The year I was president, our very small club raised over \$10,000 for the sight-impaired. I am not shy about asking people for money or about asking them to do things. And I believe I must demonstrate my commitment by making my own effort first. Those are some characteristics about me that I regard as relevant. Thanks for considering my candidacy. ❁

Please take a moment to vote. The election ballot is on the last page. It must be mailed by April 30th. Thank you for participating!

Celebrating Ten Years of Success: The National Legal Research Teach-In, 1993-2002

Can you remember your favorite AALL programs or publications from ten years ago? Or even where we held the annual meeting (without looking it up!) in 1993? How about the best selling books that year? TV shows? Movies? Maybe some of us have a fuzzy recollection or two, but ten years is a long time! Wouldn't it be reassuring to know that after ten years there is an AALL/RIPS project that still remains relevant and responsive to the needs of legal research instructors? You will be pleased to know that there is something in our fast-paced world of legal research that has remained steadfast over the last decade — the **National Legal Research Teach-In!** It is returning in 2002 for its **tenth** consecutive year!

The 2002 Legal Research Teach-In, organized by the Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS, offers the opportunity to improve the skills of your patrons and showcase your skills as a teacher and information provider. Following the pattern of the past nine years of highly successful Teach-Ins, Teach-In 2002 is scheduled in conjunction with National Library Week (April 14-20, 2002). As in previous years, the Teach-In committee has worked with the West Group and LexisNexis to prepare unique instructional and promotional materials. Thanks to generous donations from both, the materials will again be available **at no charge**. It is a true measure of their commitment to the law library community that both West Group and LexisNexis continue to underwrite this activity, as they have since its inception ten years ago.

Research Training Kits

New spiral bound kits topped the “bestseller” list last year! — West Group distributed approximately 750 kits to law librarians all over the world! The 2002 Teach-In resource kit will revisit classic areas of legal research integrating traditional legal resources and the newest electronic sources in one convenient package. The kits are designed to provide that extra assistance to get an instructional program off the ground. They may include pathfinders, research guides, posters, lesson plans, lecture notes, research exercises; a myriad of instructional materials developed by law librarians for use by law librarians. One kit per institution is available free of charge from the West Group. Contact Marketing Support, West Group, by fax 1-800-854-1597 or email mkgssupport@westgroup.com. Be sure to provide your name, address, institution, telephone number, and, if available, your West Group account number.

Promotional Materials

A big hit from last year is back by popular demand! Over 20,000 notepads were sent out to approximately 525 locations around the United States, Canada, and Australia, setting another new record! Colorful notepads designed with Teach-In committee assistance and produced by LEXIS-NEXIS, can help you promote your 2002 Teach-In activities. These notepads can be used by library staff or given away to patrons as an incentive to participate in your library events. An online order form will be available at <http://www.lexis-nexis.com/infopro/> beginning February 1st and ending March 22nd or until quantities are depleted. If you are unable to access this online form, please contact via fax (937-865-1585) Melissa Engler, Marketing Manager, LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group with your name, full mailing address, email and quantity required. If deemed necessary, a limit will be imposed in order to accommodate as many requests as possible.

Orders for training kits or promotional materials should be placed by March 15, 2002, so you will receive them in time for your National Library Week events.

Now is the time to make the commitment that your library will conduct some sort of event involving legal research during National Library Week 2002. With the vast amount of materials available to you, it's easy to plan an educational event. If you need more ideas, descriptions of Teach-In kits from previous years can be found on the RIPS-SIS web page at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/>. Past years' kits can be obtained through AALL Headquarters. Contact: AALL, 312-939-4764.

Questions or comments about the 2001 Legal Research Teach-In should be directed to the coordinators for the event, **Gail Partin**, Associate Law Librarian, Dickinson School of Law, Penn State University, 717-240-5294, gap6@psu.edu; or **Karen Brunner**, Library Manager, Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti, 973-538-0800, kbrunner@riker.com. ❄

Submitted by Gail Partin.

Call For Papers

Have you been thinking about writing an article about law librarianship? Or are you already writing an article and just need an incentive to finish? If yes, read on! The AALL/LEXIS Publishing Call for Papers Committee eagerly solicits your articles for its annual competition. Up to three winning authors will receive a prize of \$750, generously donated by LEXIS Publishing, and the opportunity to present their papers to their colleagues at the Annual Meeting. Winning papers also are considered for publication in the Law Library Journal, the scholarly journal of the law library profession. Visit AALLNET at http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_call_for_papers.asp for more information, including selection criteria and application procedures. Submissions are due by March 1, 2002. Good luck!

Questions? Contact a member of the Call for Papers Committee: Maria Protti (chair) at maria_protti@ci.sf.ca.us, Karen Beck at beckka@bc.edu, or Marie-Louise Bernal at mber@loc.gov. ❀

Grants to Attend the AALL Annual Meeting

The AALL Grants Committee is now accepting applications for grants for the 2002 AALL Annual Meeting/Workshops. The AALL Grants Program provides financial assistance to law librarians or library school students who hold promise of future involvement in AALL and the law library profession. Funds are provided by vendors, AALL and AALL individual members. Grants cover registration costs at either the Annual Meeting or Workshops. Preference is given to newer, active members of AALL or of its chapters. For additional information, including the application form, see http://www.aallnet.org/services/grant_application.asp. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2002. ❀

LONELL Listserv Geared To New Law Librarians

Calling all new law librarians. Connect with your peers by signing up for a new discussion listserv aimed at new members of the profession: the List of Newer Law Librarians, or LONELL.

Launched by the AALL Mentoring Committee this year, LONELL offers participants a convenient opportunity to meet others new to the field and share experiences unique to new law librarians. Discover how your colleagues handle job searches, continuing education and networking events, among other topics. Share your ideas and learn from each other!

To join the LONELL discussion, participants must be members of AALL for three years or less. Please visit the AALLNET Online Discussion Center at <http://aallnet.org/mailman/listinfo/lonell> to subscribe to the listserv. LONELL will be moderated by Anne Klinefelter of the University of North Carolina, who is a member of the AALL Mentoring Committee.

For more information about LONELL, please contact Suzanne Thorpe, chair of the AALL Mentoring Committee, at s-thor@umn.edu. ❀

Interested in Publishing? The Publications Committee Wants to Hear From You.

The Publications Committee invites and encourages authors and potential authors to submit their publication proposals to the Committee. The Committee is ready to listen to any ideas and to provide outreach to potential authors among the members of the special interest sections and the chapters. Members can choose to write for AALL publications and AALL-sponsored publications, among which are: AALL Spectrum, Law Library Journal, AALL Publications Series, professional development materials, bibliographic and research guides, management and public relations resources, educational program materials, and occasional papers on various topics.

For further information about the Publications Committee and its activities, to contact the Committee's members, and to find a proposal form, please go to <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/publications/>. ❀

Member News

Pamela Melton, Reference Librarian at the Coleman Karesh Law Library of the University of South Carolina was appointed last August to a four year term as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Richland County Public Library here in Columbia. The RCPL was named the Library Journal Library of the Year in 2001. She writes that she has found it very interesting so far, and anticipates that it will continue to be so.

Joanne P. Dugan is the new Head of Public Services at the University of Colorado Law Library. Joanne was formerly Manager of Librarian Relations with West.

Nancy L. Strohmeier is the new Head of Public Services at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. She was formerly the Associate Law Librarian for Public Services at Loyola University New Orleans.

Warm congratulations to **Celeste Feather**, Associate Law Librarian for Library Services at the University of Connecticut Law Library, who gave birth to Erin Laurel Murray on November 15 at 2:58 am. She weighed in at 8 pounds and 15 ounces. Celeste writes, "Professionally, when I return to work after maternity leave, I will be in an expanded position as Associate Law Librarian for Library Services, supervising both the public and technical services operations of the UConn Law Library."

Colleen Manning is a Reference Librarian at the Florida Coastal School of Law. She was formerly Law Reference Librarian and Associate Professor at Ohio Northern University Taggart Law Library. ❁

AALL Offers \$5,000 in Research Grants

The Research Committee of the American Association of Law Libraries is accepting applications through May 1 for grants from the AALL Research Fund. The committee will award one or more grants totaling up to \$5,000 to library professionals who want to conduct research that affects librarianship.

Established with an endowment from LexisNexis™ in July 2000, the annual grants fund projects that create, disseminate or use legal and law-related information. The Association's Research Agenda offers suggestions for research projects that cover the profession of law librarianship, law library patrons, law library services, legal research and bibliography, legal information resources and law library facilities. However, projects are not limited to those described in the agenda; the committee will consider all applications and research projects. To review AALL's complete Research Agenda, please go to http://www.aallnet.org/about/research_fund.asp.

To apply for the grants, all applicants must provide resumes and statements of their qualifications for carrying out their projects. The applications must demonstrate experience with research projects and an understanding of the dissemination and use of legal and law-related information. Priority will be given to practicing law librarians and AALL members, working individually or in partnership with other information professionals. The grant application and complete guidelines are available at http://www.aallnet.org/about/research_fund.asp.

The submission deadline for applications is May 1. Grants will be awarded and announced by June 1. Allocation of the research grants will be at the sole discretion of the AALL Research Committee.

For more information about the grants, please contact Kevin Butterfield, chair of the AALL Research Committee, at butterfi@law.uiuc.edu. ❁

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Research Instruction and Patron Services Election Ballot 2002

Please vote for one candidate for each of the following: Vice Chair/
Chair Elect; Newsletter Editor; and Member at Large of the Executive
Committee.

Vice Chair/Chair Elect:

Deanna Barmakian

Melissa Serfass

Newsletter Editor:

Lynn Hartke

Linda Tashbook

Member at Large of
the Executive Committee:

Terry Cullen

Bill Draper

Ballots should be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer of RIPS by **April 30, 2002**.

Pamela Melton
Coleman Karesh Law Library
University of South Carolina
Main & Greene Streets
Columbia, SC 29208

Please do your best to keep the election anonymous. Obscure the mailing label on reverse,
and use a blank envelope to mail your ballot.

**RIPS Law Librarian
Deanna Barmakian
Reference Librarian
Harvard Law School Library
521 Areeda Hall
Cambridge, MA 02138**

To

