

R I P S

Law Librarian

A Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

From the Chair...

Melissa Serfass

The flurry of RIPS activities surrounding the AALL Annual Meeting represents the most visible aspect of the work of this SIS. But RIPS business is ongoing. RIPS members are constantly working on projects. New ideas and plans are in the works.

Thanks to the Teach-In Committee for successfully organizing the 12th Annual Legal Research Teach-In. Committee Chair Gail Partin has worked on the Teach-In for 11 years. Karen Brunner, the coordinator for the Lexis-sponsored promotional items, is the only one of the original Teach-In founders who is still actively involved in the project. New volunteers this year are Jennifer Murray, Lynn Murray, and Julie Stuckey. The Teach-In is certainly one of RIPS' most visible projects. Who doesn't love the wildly popular notepads? They are a must-have. And who hasn't gotten an idea they can use from the Teach-In kit? It is always a wonderful resource for shared instructional materials. The Teach-In will be held in conjunction with National Library Week, April 18 - 24, 2004. See the announcement in this newsletter for more information.

The Ad Hoc RIPS AELIC Committee, chaired by Jennifer Murray, has completed its work. The AALL Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee (AELIC) developed criteria for evaluating legal and government information at government websites. RIPS was assigned the task of testing the criteria by the AALL Executive Board to fulfill an initiative of the AALL Strategic Plan. Jennifer and the RIPS committee (Jane Underwood, Gary Yessin, and Lynn Murray) tested and evaluated the criteria and submitted a final report to AELIC. Many thanks to them for their successful completion of this important task.

The bylaws election has concluded with the proposed revisions

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Winter 2004

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From the Chair...

being approved by an overwhelming margin. Thanks to those who voted. I believe the turnout was the best I've ever seen in a RIPS election! We will ask you to vote again soon. You should receive a ballot for our officer election by the end of March. Bios and statements of the candidates are included in the newsletter. Thanks to all of the candidates for their willingness to take on additional SIS responsibilities.

AALL asked Special Interest Sections to consider contributing to the George Strait Minority Endowment again this year. The RIPS Executive Board voted to make a \$600 contribution to this important effort.

While still largely relevant, the RIPS Strategic Plan (<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/strategicplan.html>) is in need of an update. If anyone is interested in working on a new two year plan, please contact me. This project could be accomplished via e-mail in the next few months, and we can work to finalize it at the Annual Meeting in July. It would be great to have a draft in place before the AALL Annual Meeting.

Rips
Silver Anniversary

I just realized a few days ago when I was looking at the RIPS website that this is our 25th anniversary year! The Reader Services SIS was established in 1979. The Research Instruction Caucus merged with Reader Services in 1995 and our name change to the Research Instruction and Patron Services SIS occurred in 1997. Happy Silver Anniversary RIPS!

Bylaws Revisions—Lee Ryan

BYLAWS REVISIONS APPROVED

Day by day the ballots poured in as the members of the RIPS-SIS answered the call to make their voices heard on revisions to the SIS's bylaws.

At the end of the day, the members endorsed the revisions by a margin of 153 to 1, in an election whose turnout far surpassed any in the recorded history of the SIS. For this, the Board thanks the members for participating in the governance of their – the members' – SIS.

Bylaw Results *And* *Nominations* Report of the Nominations Committee—Kelly Browne

Four members of our SIS have graciously agreed to run for the two available positions on the RIPS Executive Board. We appreciate the willingness of these highly qualified individuals to move into new positions of leadership in the SIS. It is with great pleasure that we announce this year's slate of candidates for office:

For Vice Chair/Chair Elect:

Deanna Barmakian. Harvard Law School Library

Lynn Murray. University of Mississippi

For Member-at-Large:

Linda Tashbook. University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Ron Wheeler. University of New Mexico School of Law Library

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Browne, Chair

RIPS-SIS 2003-2004 Nominations Committee

Vice Chair/Elect Chair Elect Candidates

Deanna Barmakian

Education:

MLS Simmons College, 1997
JD Boston University, 1993
BA Brown University, 1990

Employment:

Harvard Law School Library
Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Instruction, 2004-
Reference Librarian, Harvard Law School Library, 1997-2004
Northeastern School of Law Library
Reference Librarian, 1996-97 part time

AALL & RIPS Involvement:

RIPS Newsletter Editor 2000-02
Annual Meeting Local Advisory Committee, 2003-
Library Tours and Excursions Subcommittee, Co-Chair
Publications Committee, 2003-
Council of Newsletter Editors, Co-Chair 2001-03
Awards Committee, 2002-04
Andrews Bibliographical Award Subcommittee, Chair 2003-04
Findlaw Excellence in Marketing Awards Subcommittee, Chair
2003-04

Publications:

Regular reviews of law-related discs and databases for Library Journal
Better Search Engines for Law, *Law Library Journal*, Fall 2000
Understanding the English Legal System (Book Review), *Law Library Journal*, Fall 1999
Bring It on Home: Adding Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw HTML Code to Your Home Page, *Legal Information Alert*, July/August 1999, with Michael Jimenez

Don't Forget to Vote



Presentations:

Electronic Law Journals: The Invisible Literature, forthcoming
AALL Annual Meeting 2004

Search Engines for Law, CALI, June 2001

Legal Resources on the Internet, NELINET Workshop, Nov. 2000
(with Michael Jimenez)

Better Search Engines for Law, AALL Annual Meeting 2000, Call for
Papers Program

Statement:

I am honored to be nominated to run for Vice Chair/Chair Elect of the RIPS SIS. Instruction is increasingly part of librarians' jobs; our rapidly growing membership is a testament to this. It is more important than ever for RIPS to serve as the primary venue within AALL to assist one another in improving the efficacy of our teaching and patron services. I would welcome the challenge of facilitating and encouraging RIPS activities. Our programming at the annual meetings, roundtable discussion series, Teach-In publications, Briefs in Law Librarianship, listserv, and newsletter all provide important education and communication opportunities for members. I have benefited greatly from these forums and publications as well as from working with RIPS colleagues. I'm very excited about the opportunity to continue these RIPS traditions as well as devise new ways to further membership goals.

Statement of Deanna Barmakian

Vice Chair/Elect Chair Elect Candidates

Lynn Murray

Education:

1992 B.A., magna cum laude, Belmont University

1997 J.D., cum laude, University of Tennessee College of Law

1998 M.L.I.S., University of Washington Graduate School of
Library & Information Science

Employment:

1999 – University of Mississippi Law Library
Public Services Law Librarian

Courses taught:

University of Mississippi

First-Year Legal Research

Professional Activities & Service:

American Association of Law Libraries

Member, 1997 –

Placement Committee, 2000 – 2002

Member, Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS, Legal

Research Instruction Committee, 2003–2004

Member, Academic Law Libraries SIS

Southeastern Chapter of AALL, Member, 1999 –

Government Relations Committee, 2000 –

Government Relations Committee Chair, 2001–

Program Committee, 2003–2004

Recipient, Lucile Elliot Scholarship

State Bar of Tennessee, Member, 1997–

Publications:

Co-author, *Resource & Citation Guide for Pre-1900 Mississippi Legal Authority*, 73 *Miss. L. J.* 195 (2004).

Mississippi author, *Permanent Public Access of State Government Information: A State-by-State Compilation and Resource Guide*. (A project of AALL, forthcoming 2004.)

Pre-Statehood Tennessee Legal Materials (Haworth Press, forthcoming 2004).

Presentations:

Computer Assisted Legal Research, Mississippi Judicial Seminar, Jan. 16, 2004.

Choosing & Using the Best Research Tools: The Best of the Net and Inexpensive Alternatives to Lexis and Westlaw, University of Mississippi Law Alumni Weekend CLE Seminar, April 27, 2001.

Basic Legal Research, Mississippi Municipal Court Clerks' Fall Statewide Seminar, Sept. 15, 2000.

Choosing & Using the Best Research Tools: Integrating On-Line and Print Sources, University of Mississippi Law Alumni Weekend CLE Seminar, April 28, 2000.

Statement:

Statement of Lynn Murray

I am honored to be nominated for Vice Chair/Chair Elect of RIPS SIS. I think RIPS, its many programs, and most of all its many creative, dynamic members make a real impact on law librarianship. With such great members, I know RIPS can offer even more services to the profession and I would love the opportunity to help make it happen. As Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, I pledge my time and energy to continuing the many fine activities RIPS sponsors. In addition, I would like to increase visibility of RIPS and the RIPS website within AALL and the community at large. I would also identify common goals and coordinate RIPS activities and initiatives with other SISs.

Member at Large for the Executive Committee Candidates

Linda Tashbook -

EDUCATION:

BS Texas Woman's University 1986

MLS University of Pittsburgh 1987

JD University of Pittsburgh 1996

EMPLOYMENT

University of Pittsburgh School of Law,

Foreign-International-Comparative Law Librarian, 2003-present

Electronic Services Librarian - 1998-2003

Private Practice Attorney 1997-present

Independent Legal Researcher 1996-2000

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Substitute Librarian 1996-present

Young Adult Specialist 1991-1993

Children's Librarian 1987-1991

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION WORK

Western Pennsylvania Law Libraries Association

Secretary- current

Webmaster - 2002-present

International Association of Law Libraries

American Bar Association

PUBLICATIONS

WEST'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN LAW - Member of the Editorial Advisory Board. (Edition to be released September, 2004).

LICENSING ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIPTIONS: A SURVEY OF LAW LIBRARIES (Completed but not yet printed in the Hein Briefs in Law Librarianship Series).

*Having Books With No Shelves, CILE Newsletter, Center for International Legal Education University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Fall 2003.

*I Saw Slobodan Smirk, CILE Newsletter, Center for International Legal Education University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Spring 2003.

*A Legal Research Orb Begun With Yahoo Spinnerets, Published on JURIST : The Legal Education Network, October 2001.

<http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/lessons/lesoct01.htm>

*"Collaboration in Libraries: A Resource List" Published In SILVERMAN MARC, TEAMWORK AND COLLABORATION FOR LAW LIBRARIERS, Hawthorne Press, 2001.

PRESENTATIONS

*"Alliances Between IT & Libraries: Disseminating the Law School's Technology Information to Faculty" CALI Conference - Durham, North Carolina. June 2003. <http://www.cali.org/conference/2003/agenda.htm>

*"Around The World in 800 Megahertz: A Distance Learning Model For Teaching International Law Research To Foreign Lawyers" The Legal Writing Institute - Knoxville, Tennessee. May 2002.

Teach regular semester-long courses in Foundations of Legal Research, Electronic Legal Research, International Legal Research, and Law Librarianship.

Statement:

Statement of Linda Tashbook

I think that the Executive Board is the body that provides all of RIPS itself with research instruction and patron services—that wonderful combination of helpful and investigative effort that resolves information needs. Satisfying the membership's educational interests, harnessing the power of professional trends, and connecting people with resources are the important work to which I will dedicate my imagination and energy if I am elected to serve.

Ronald E. Wheeler, Jr.,

wheeler@law.unm.edu

EDUCATION

B.B.A. University of Michigan – Dearborn

J.D. University of Michigan Law School

M.L.I.S. Wayne State University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of New Mexico School of Law Library, Albuquerque, NM

Interim Co-Director of the Law Library, July 2003 – June 2004

Reference Librarian and Lecturer III, July 2001 – Present

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & ACTIVITIES

American Association of Law Libraries

Treasurer, Standing Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues, 2002–2004

Research, Instruction and Patron Services Special Interest Section, 2001 – present

Patron Services Committee 2002

Program Committee 2002–04

Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section 2001 – present

Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section 2001 – present

Southwestern Association of Law Libraries 2001 – present

Chosen as participant in Teaching Research in Academic Law Libraries (TRIAL) 2002

AALL HONORS

Alan Holoch Memorial Travel Grant 2002

American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting Grant 2002

PUBLICATIONS

* *Where to Find Ordinances Online*, 9 Bar J. (State Bar of N.M.), Summer 2003, at 54.

* *Legal Writing: Some Useful Online Reference Sources*, 8 BAR J. (State Bar of N.M.), Winter 2002, at 11.

* *Vendor Neutral Citation in New Mexico*, 8 Bar J. (State Bar of N.M.), Summer 2002 at 11.

* *Ruminations on Tenure*, 24 RIPS Law Librarian, Spring 2002, at 4.

* *Researching New Mexico State Administrative Materials*, 8 Bar J. (State Bar of N.M.), Spring 2002, at 15. (Co-authored with Barbara Lah)

* *Legal Research on the Internet: Explore a World of Resources at Your Desk(top)*, (CLE Presentation), Sponsored by the State Bar of New Mexico's Center for Legal Education, February 23, 2002

* *Researching International Environmental Law*, 7 BAR J. (State Bar of N.M.), Winter 2001, at 6.

Statement:

*Statement of Ronald
E.
Wheeler, Jr.*

I consider it a great honor to be nominated for the position of Member-at-Large on the Executive Board of the RIPS-SIS. RIPS has always been at the very center of my AALL involvement. As a teacher and reference librarian, my mentors, much of my professional development, and my primary peer support all come from RIPS activities and the RIPS membership. Both my excitement and my enthusiasm make me ripe for the challenges presented by the office of Member-at-Large. I like challenges, and I'm eager to become more involved. I welcome the opportunity to give back to RIPS by serving as a Board Member-at-Large.

The 12th National Legal Research Teach-In: The Second Decade 1993–2004—Gail Partin

The 12th National Legal Research Teach-In.

Isn't it reassuring to know that for over ten years there has been an AALL/RIPS project that has remained relevant and responsive to the needs of legal research instructors? And this year is no exception. The 2004 Teach-In campaign is under way and sailing into "The Second Decade."

The 12th National Legal Research Teach-In, organized by the Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS (RIPS-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 decade of highly successful Teach-Ins, Teach-In 2004 is scheduled in conjunction with National Library Week (April 18–24, 2004). As in previous years, the Teach-In committee has worked with West and LexisNexis to prepare unique instructional and promotional materials. Thanks to generous donations from the two companies, 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 and LexisNexis continue to underwrite this activity, as they have since its inception twelve years ago

RESEARCH TRAINING KITS

Our spiral bound Training Resource Kits topped the BESTSELLER list last year! -- West distributed approximately 750 kits to law librarians all over the country! The 2004 Teach-In resource kit tackles emerging topics for legal research instruction, 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

Teach-In

free of charge from West. Contact West Marketing Support, by fax 1-800-854-1597 or email west.mkgssupport@thomson.com by March 22, 2004. Be sure to provide your name, address, institution, telephone number, and, if available, your West account number.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

A BIG HIT from last year is back by popular demand! Over 20,000 notepads were sent out to locations around the United States. Colorful notepads designed with Teach-In committee assistance and produced by LexisNexis, can help you promote your 2004 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.lexisnexis.com/infopro/> beginning February 2nd and ending March 15th or until quantities are depleted. If you are unable to access this online form, please contact via fax (937-865-1585) Sandie Weber, Marketing Specialist, LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group with your name, organization, full mailing address, email and quantity required. If deemed necessary, a limit will be imposed in order to accommodate as many requests as possible.

Notepads and Resource Training Kits will begin shipping the end of March, 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 2004. With the vast amount of materials available to you, it is 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

**2004
Teach In**

years' kits can be obtained through AALL Headquarters. Contact: AALL, 312-939-4764.

Questions or comments about the 2004 Legal Research Teach-In should be directed to the coordinators for the event, Gail A. 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.

Publication deadlines for Volume 26 are:

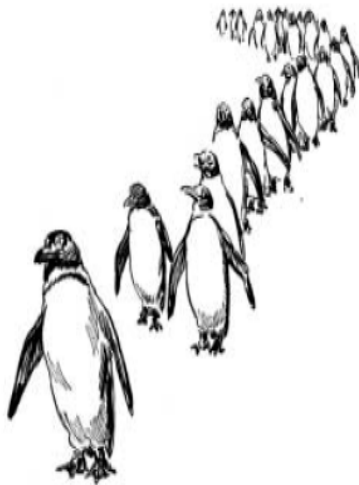
Number 1	October 11, 2003
Number 2	February 29, 2004
Number 3	May 15, 2004

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

Lynn K. Hartke
Saint Louis University Law Library
3700 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108
(314) 977-2756
hartkelk@slu.edu

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 Instructions & 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 the membership dues for RIPS of \$12 per year. To become a member of RIPS, see https://secure.aallnet.org/sis_application.asp (no space in URL).



The AALL Mentor Project Wants You!

The AALL Mentor Project:

- Provides an informal, personal source of information for newer members
- Provides an avenue by which experienced law librarians may meet promising new members of the profession
- Provides a network for members who are contemplating a move to another type of library

Who should participate?

- All experienced law librarians willing to share their time and wisdom
- All enthusiastic newer members
- AALL members considering a move to another type of library

Comments from the 2003 mentee survey:

- *It was a wonderful opportunity to meet an interesting and enjoyable person in the profession.*
- *I feel that [my mentor] will be a good resource in the future.*
- *I was delighted to have [my mentor] and think he was just the perfect match.*
- *Overall, spending time with my mentor was one of the highlights of the AALL convention.*

**AALL
Mentor
Project**

RIPS-SIS members who served as mentors in 2003 recommend the experience:

- *For the past two years, I have had wonderful mentees who are interested in foreign, comparative and international law librarianship. As many times a newer FCIL librarian is the only subject specialist at his or her workplace, a mentor and professional connections are vital. – Stephanie Burke, Senior Reference and International Law Librarian, Pappas Law Library, Boston University School of Law*

*Help a
New Law Librarian
Become a Mentor
Volunteer Today*

AALL Mentor Project

▪ *I initially got involved in the mentoring program as a mentee. I was encouraged to participate by my colleagues at Columbia Law Library when they sent me to my first AALL meeting in 1998. I enjoyed meeting another experienced law librarian, and drew upon his expertise several times in my first year as a full-time librarian. I have been a mentor at the last two AALL conferences, and it was a great experience. In addition to sharing my knowledge and experience with others, I believe that I can always learn something new by listening to my colleagues, regardless of their level of experience. I find it refreshing to hear how other libraries approach common issues. Moreover, frequently we come to law librarianship after many years in other professions. Often these new librarian colleagues have experience and knowledge of their own that enriches me. Finally, I enjoy teaching and helping (that is, after all, why I do what I do for a living!), want to give back to the profession what I can, and never pass up the opportunity to network.* – Barbara Traub, Head of Reference Services, Rittenberg Law Library, St. John's University School of Law

How can you join the Mentor Project?

To learn more about the AALL Mentor Project and to become a mentor or mentee, visit our website at: http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor_project.html

Mentors and mentees will be matched as closely as possible based on submitted applications

RIPS Executive Board 2003 – 2004

Chair

Melissa Serfass

University of Arkansas at Little Rock/Pulaski County Law Library
mmserfass@ualr.edu

Immediate Past Chair

D.R. Jones

Case Western Reserve University
drj5@po.cwru.edu

Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Pamela R. Melton

University of South Carolina School of Law

Coleman Karesh Law Library

melton@law.law.sc.edu

Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Ryan

University of San Francisco

Dorraine Zief Law Library

RyanL@usfca.edu

Executive Board Members

Bill Draper

University of Pennsylvania

Biddle Law Library

bdraper@law.upenn.edu

Sheri H. Lewis

University of Chicago D'Angelo Law Library

shl@midway.uchicago.edu

Newsletter Editor

Lynn K. Hartke

Saint Louis University Law Library

hartkelk@slu.edu

Committee Chairs 2003-2004

Patron Services

Gary Hill

Brigham Young University

Howard W. Hunter Law Library

hillg@lawgate.byu.edu

Nominations

Kelly Browne

University of Connecticut School of Law Library

kbrowne@law.uconn.edu

Research Instruction

Ann-Marie Berti

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law Library

amberti@email.unc.edu

Web Page

Vacant

Legal Research Teach In

Gail A. Partin

Pennsylvania State University; Dickinson School of Law Library

gap6@psu.edu

Listserv

Coral Henning

Sacramento County Law Library

chenning@saclaw.lib.ca.us

**2003-2004
Committee Chairs**

Public Relations and Recruitment

Peggy McDermott

Saint Louis University Law Library

mcdermmh@slu.edu

AELIC Liaison Committee

Jennifer Murray

Arizona State University

Ross-Blakley Law Library

Jennifer.Murray@asu.edu

Make Way! AALL 2004 Book Drive

Spring is almost here! Help a child blossom by donating a book today!

Plans are being made for the 2004 book drive in Boston. The theme for 2004 is "Make Way!" based on Boston's beloved children's book "Make Way for Ducklings" by Robert McCloskey (The Viking Press, New York, 1941).

This year's efforts will benefit Read Boston (<http://www.cityofboston.gov/bra/ReadBoston/JCSRB.asp>) - a city education support initiative whose mission is to ensure that all Boston children are able readers by the time they complete third grade. The programs include: the Family Literacy Program which provides books for classroom libraries and teacher training; the Reading Trail, a family-focused reading program which allows families to borrow books; and the Storymobile which lends books to kids camps and summer programs.

Think about how you would like to donate this year. Donating is easier than ever beginning in March 2004 you will be able to go directly to Amazon.com to view the AALL Make Way Book Drive for Read Boston Wish List (http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/registry.html/ref=cm_wl_topnav_gateway/002-6465435-0354402?type=wishlist) and your donation will be shipped directly to the Book Drive team! Other options include bringing your donation with you to the conference, donating at the Luncheon or by sending your donation, money order, or check payable to AALL beforehand to:

*Make Way! Book Drive
c/o Annette Demers
Harvard Law School Library
1545 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
1-617-495-4531
ademers@law.harvard.edu

Thanks for your continuing support of this important project to benefit READ BOSTON!

**2004 AALL
Book Drive:**