

NEWSLETTER

State, Court, and County Law Libraries Section

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PROGRAM PLANS WELL UNDERWAY FOR ANNUAL MEETING IN CHICAGO

"Coordinating Court and County Law Libraries . . . Equal Access for All" is the tentative title for the program being planned for the SCCLL annual meeting next July 5 in Chicago. Program chair Carol Billings, of the Law Library of Louisiana, has announced that Barbara Golden, of the Minnesota State Law Library, and Erick Low, of the National Center for State Courts, will be coordinating the session with assistance from the Program Committee. Committee members are Ann T. Fessenden, of the U.S. Eighth Circuit; Marcia Koslov, of the Wisconsin State Law Library; and William Powers, of the Cook County Law Library.

Barbara Golden, who proposed the topic, envisions that the program will include a survey of court and county library structures, addressing such issues as governance, automation, and networking. Speakers representing different types of structures will describe their situation and discuss how the organization impacts upon the clientele served, statewide access, and implementation of new information technology. The questionnaire enclosed with this newsletter is designed to elicit information to assist the speakers.

The coordinators are in the process of selecting speakers and still have several necessary slots open. If you are interested in possibly participating, please contact Barbara Golden or Carol Billings, and the committee will attempt to balance the panel with members from representative libraries.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings. Can it be true that summer came and went and Christmas is just around the corner? Where did the time go? I hope that you have had a wonderful and relaxed summer and are back at the old salt mine refreshed and invigorated. Well, fun time is over and it is time to think about things of a more serious nature, namely, SCCLL business.

I think that you will agree when I say that the work of the SIS falls mainly on the shoulders of the committees. The committees that were appointed in 1985-1986 did a splendid job and much was accomplished. At our Section's 1986 business meeting, the Committee on County Law Library Standards, chaired by Barbara Golden, submitted their proposed standards for the county law libraries. These standards were discussed and then adopted, in their entirety, by the members of the Section. While we want to thank Barbara and her committee for a job well done, at the same time, the work to publicize the existence of these standards and to encourage their implementation by the concerned libraries has just begun. In order to promote the awareness of these standards for their implementation by as many libraries as possible, Joel Fishman, the current chair of the Committee on County Law Library Standards, is writing an article entitled County Law Library Standards Revisited in an effort to explain and describe the usefulness of these standards. This article will be submitted to the Law Library Journal for publication. Furthermore, the Committee on State Law Library Standards also voted to recommend the adoption of these same standards to be used as guidelines by the state law libraries. If you have not had a chance to look at it, I urge you to do so.

Our Program Committee, chaired by Carol Billings, is already at work on the program for the 1987 SCCLL annual meeting. Additionally, SCCLL will again sponsor a program during the AALL annual meeting in Chicago. I am sure you'll remember the very interesting article in the May 1986 issue of the SCCLL Newsletter written by Ken Svengalis on cost effective acquisition. That article has generated so much interest and discussion that he was encouraged to expand the article into a program for the coming year. In pursuing it as a program idea with the 1987 AALL Program Committee, Ken was informed that both the Technical Services SIS and the Relationship with the Publishers SIS are also considering presenting a program on this very topic. Consequently, State, Court, and County Law Libraries SIS will join the other two SIS in sponsoring a program entitled Cost Effective Acquisition; Where Do We Go From Here. Since the subject matter affects all libraries significantly, I doubt that many people will want to miss this program in Chicago.

As you can see, we are off to a very productive year. This coming year promises to be a busy one for SCCLL. I am looking forward to working with all the committees. There is much work to do to continue SCCLL's growth and progress. I encourage members of our Section to take on an active role in participating on committee work.

Best wishes to all of you for the coming holidays.

Kai-Yun Chiu

