

Technical Services Law Librarian

Volume 25 No. 3
March, 2000

<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/tsll/tsll.htm>
ISSN: 0195-4857

INSIDE:

From the Officers:

TS-SIS Chair.....	3
OBS-SIS Chair.....	4

25th Anniversary Contributions:

Phyllis Marion.....	1
Melody Lembke.....	6
Catherine Tierney.....	6
Pat Turpening.....	6
Mary Dzurinko.....	6
Evolution of OBS.....	9

Columns:

Acquisitions.....	14
Classification.....	16
Description & Entry.....	17
Internet.....	17
Miss Manager.....	19
OBS OCLC Committee.....	22
Research & Publications.....	23
Serial Issues.....	26
Serials.....	29
Subject Headings.....	30

Parting Thoughts:

Research Grant.....	32
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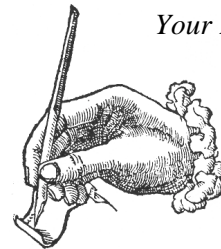


TSSL has been in print for 25 years. This issue we celebrate its inspiring and now longstanding contributions to our profession. Where would we be without it? Our thanks and admiration go to all editors and contributors past and present.

Your Editors

The Early Years

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I was the first editor of the *Law Cataloger*, which began publication in Sept. 1975 and continued in that capacity until sometime in 1977. If my memory serves me, the real impetus for starting the newsletter was the AALL Cataloging and Classification Committee's growing involvement in the cataloging code revision work of the early 1970's which resulted in AACR2. For the first time, the American Library Association was actively seeking AALL's opinions about proposed changes in the cataloging rules for legal materials. While discussions at the annual meeting about these issues were fruitful and engaging, it was clear we would not be able to act in a timely manner if we did not have some vehicle to disseminate information throughout the year. The Committee also had very active subcommittees on subject analysis and on Class K (still new to many catalogers) which needed to be able to communicate with law catalogers. And so, we started the *Law Cataloger* in 1975. It was very unsophisticated, just a few typewritten

pages a couple times of year, but it was well-received and provided a foundation for what I believe is AALL's finest special interest section newsletter, *TSSL*.

Maybe it's like my dad's memory of walking five miles to school through ten-foot snow drifts, but I remember the period around the startup of the *Law Cataloger* as a an exciting time to be a law cataloger. Change was in the air; ALA and LC were asking for our opinions; important issues were being discussed. Lasting friendships were forged. Is it different today? I don't think so. Although I'm no longer very involved in cataloging issues, I know there are very important issues being addressed and that change is still (and always) in air. I've read there is discussion of a change to a more a general cataloging code, which would leave "rules" for special materials, such as legal materials, to those organizations which have a particular interest in the materials. If this takes place, what a great opportunity and challenge for law catalogers!

*Newsletter of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the
On-Line Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries*

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Publication Schedule

Issues are published quarterly in
March, June, September, and
December.

Deadlines:

V.25: no.4 (June 2000).....30 Apr. 2000
V.26: no.1 (Sept. 2000).....15 Aug. 2000
V.26: no.2 (Dec. 2000).....30 Oct. 2000
V.26: no.3 (Mar. 2001).....31 Jan. 2001

TSLL EDITORIAL POLICY

Technical Services Law Librarian (ISSN 0195-4857) is an official publication of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries. It carries reports or summaries of the convention meetings and other programs of OBS-SIS and TS-SIS, acts as the vehicle of communication for the SIS committee activities, and carries current awareness and short implementation reports. Prospective authors should contact the editors for style information.

Statements and opinions of the authors are theirs alone and do not necessarily reflect those of AALL, TS-SIS, OBS-SIS, or the *TSLL* Editorial Board.

Subscriptions: Provided as a benefit of membership to Sections members. Non-member subscriptions: Domestic: \$10.00; Foreign: \$15.00. Contact the *TSLL* Business Manager or the American Association of Law Libraries.

Technical Services Special Interest Section

One of the episodes of *Arthur* had to do with New Year's Eve. (For the uninitiated, Arthur is an eight-year-old cartoon aardvark who is the subject of books, paraphernalia, and the star of his own PBS series.) Arthur had decided not to try to stay up until midnight because he'd always fallen asleep before 12:00 in years past. His little sister, D.W., was begging for the privilege to stay up late but to no avail. When Arthur's friends learned of his decision, each of them related what he'd be missing, such as: the green burst of light (if it doesn't happen, it's not a new year); the rush to trash the previous year's calendar before the Calendar Police come around; the wrestling match between an old guy in a diaper — Father Time? — and a baby — the New Year? — (if the old guy wins, the baby has to go live with a groundhog and there will be six more weeks of winter); and all the parents going away to a meeting of which aliens are in charge and where parents gloat about the awful things done to their kids the previous year then plan more awful things for the new year. These tales persuaded Arthur to change his mind and he was determined to stay awake. As you can guess, Arthur fell asleep before midnight. On the other hand, D.W. had wakened and convinced Grandmother Thora, who was babysitting, to let her stay up. When the clock struck midnight, D.W. cheered and danced around for a few seconds. Then her expression turned to one of confusion and she said, "Is that it?! That's all there is?" Her celebration woke up Arthur, and typical of a younger sibling, D.W. made it sound like Arthur had missed The Big Event.

Even before this airing of *Arthur*, I had recognized that I would be writing this column and anticipating that I would have something to say about the

anticlimactic passing from one millennium to the next. So, I will.

Did you feel it? Is everything totally different for you now that it's 2000? Of course, it's more difficult to date a check, having to remember to change all four digits rather than just the last one. All the years and dollars invested paid off for most persons around the world (except for the guy that didn't get a movie back to Blockbuster on time). As with each new day, some things have changed, while others haven't. In the other systems of dating around the world, it was just another day.

Did that one tick of the clock, atomic or wind-up, change anything for the Technical Services Special Interest Section? Probably not. However, what new years do for us is give us an opportunity to review, to examine where we are compared to where we've been and where we want to go. What I left out of the telling of the *Arthur*



episode is what Grandmother Thora told Arthur after D.W. finished rubbing it in. After Arthur realized he'd fallen asleep, he said to his grandmother, "It's all over?" "No, it's just beginning." She told Arthur that what makes a new year happy for anyone is to review the happy times from the year just past. Do we as a section have any "happy times" to review? Sure, we do! Well, maybe not jumping-up-and-down-with-huge-grins happy times, but certainly we have a lot to celebrate.

We still have a strong membership numbering over 600. Of those 600+, 16 serve as officers, committee chairs, or representatives on the *TSLL* Board, and dozens more serve on the committees. Joe Thomas continued in the line of excellent Chairs and still serves TS-SIS in the Past Chair position. He is my role model as I try to wend my way through the maze of Section procedure and politics. The Section co-sponsors an excellent (I dare say, the best) bulletin. There will be a full-day workshop and seven programs sponsored or co-sponsored by TS-SIS at the AALL meeting this summer. Last year, we sponsored eight programs, so I'd say we have a pretty good track record going. We have an Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee established and beginning its work. We're examining our committee structure and the duties of our Board at-large members. Our annual survey was available on the TS-SIS Web site for the first time (thank you, Alva!). There are likely other events and persons to celebrate that I'm missing; if I've offended anyone by way of omission, I apologize.

Grandmother Thora told Arthur that "it's just the beginning". Isn't that why we tend to make resolutions at the dawn of a new year, because we feel it's an opportunity to start afresh? What

opportunities await TS-SIS in 2000? We may have the opportunity to be directly involved in AALL's response to the FTC's decision to rescind the CFR's *Guides for the Law Book Industry*. One or more of us may have the opportunity to be involved with a new legal publications price index, if the AALL Board approves its publication. We definitely will have the opportunity to submit program proposals for the 2001 annual meeting, then be coordinators, moderators, or speakers. We have the wonderful opportunity, as individuals and as a section, to chart the future of the SIS

through the strategic planning process. **You** have numerous opportunities to become more involved in TS-SIS. No one knows what other opportunities may come our way this year.

Will there be challenges? I can answer that one easily – yes! As I'm writing this column at the end of January, there is a delicate situation that I need to poll the Board members on and then formulate a statement representing the Board's position on the issue. I'll be surprised (and relieved) if no other challenges like this one come along. Some people like to think of challenges

as opportunities. I have to admit that usually I don't take *that* positive an outlook, but I will admit that challenges keep life from being boring and that we do learn and grow from them.

So, here's to the opportunities and challenges that await the Technical Services Special Interest Section in 2000. I wish for each of you and the Section a New Year full of opportunities and challenges, and of course, happiness!

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O nline Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section

From the Chair

Picture in your mind an ordinary wooden chair. Your OBS Chair is sitting on this imaginary chair. Now imagine the chair not having a back and me deciding to relax a bit, but having forgotten there's no back to this chair and I begin to fall. BUT! Suddenly someone catches me mid-fall and when I look around she smiles, and in her hands is the back to this Chair. She says "Brian I think you forgot this." I reply meekly, "Yeah, I guess I did huh? Thanks Ellen!"

That's the way my OBS Chairship has gone. I had such great plans for my tenure as Chair of our OBS SIS. I have many people to thank already but I must give a "standing" ovation to Ellen McGrath now, for without her help I haven't a leg to stand on (old chair joke). So, *thank you Ellen* for all the posts you made on the OBS discussion list; all the phone calls to me for reminders; all the e-mails to the Executive Board; all the e-mails to me reminding me to do a variety of tasks that were way too close to deadlines.

There are several important things to cover for this column. So let's get to them. First is that we have a task force of volunteers to help with OBS's strategic plan. Ellen McGrath (name



familiar to the reader?) has created a strategic mission draft and the OBS Board is looking at it currently and will be involving the task force. Volunteers for this task force (we could stand a few more volunteers-contact me if interested) include: Pat Callahan (Penn), Sally Wambold (Richmond), Sue Roach (Navy JAG), Ellen McGrath (SUNY-Buffalo), Me (Nebraska), Becky Lutkenhaus (Drake), and Janet Hedin (Detroit College-at Michigan State).

I'm pleased to announce a new Co-coordinator of the OBS TS Research Roundtable. Becky Lutkenhaus will be working with LeGrande Fletcher. Hasn't LeGrande done a Grand job with all the info-packed Research & Publications columns in *TSLL*?! I am so pleased that this very important part of all our professional growth and education continues. One of the core reasons for being part of a professional organization is the sharing of knowledge through research and publications within and among our colleagues... and... — Opps. Sorry. I temporarily stepped up on one of my

most favorite soap boxes. LeGrande isn't able to attend the upcoming AALL annual meeting in Philadelphia and Chris Long (Indiana-at Indianapolis) a "Long" time participant in the Research Roundtables has volunteered to co-coordinate the RRT at Philly for LeGrande. Thanks to Chris for "Philly'ing" in. <groan> Becky Lutkenhaus will be helping out with Chris at AALL.

Speaking of the OBS & TS Research Roundtable, the new OBS representative (one of two OBS reps) for the OBS TS Joint Research Grant Committee is Ruth Patterson Funabiki (U. of Idaho). Thank you Ruth! Hey, let's put the JRGC to work!! How about submitting a proposal to the Committee to help you perform research for that article you've been wanting to do but your institution wouldn't help you with the necessary funds to complete it. Corinne Jacox is the Chair, go ahead e-mail her at <cjacox@mail.barry.edu>

Finally, OBS plans on participating in the AALL's Public Relations Committee "Time Capsules." If you don't know about this yet, read on page 22 of the February 2000 issue of *Spectrum*. We haven't a clue yet about what our historic (hysterical?) object we want to put in a medium size box. If you have any ideas of what might best "capture" the essence of our OBS-SIS, or online bibliographic services, online automated databases, migrations, MARC, ANSI, URL, interfacing, the Internet, Z39.50, EDI, Dublin Core, Metadata, Harmonization, or *whatever*, contact me or any OBS-SIS Board member. Or... post your idea on the OBS electronic discussion list <obs-sis@aall.wuacc.edu>.

Post finally, as Chair of the current OBS-SIS, I pay yet more tribute to Ellen McGrath who has worked so tirelessly and so competently on her OBS history submission for this special 25th anniversary *TSSL* issue. Kudos Ellen!!

She read through hours and hours of *TSSL* issues and e-mailed to the OBS Executive Board for their comments and contacted others to make sure the information was as accurate as possible. All I can say is "Wow!" Oh yeah, did I tell y'all that she also has a JOB and a LIFE too!!

The last finally for this column. Really. Just to let everyone know, we are working on updating the OBS Web page/s. I apologize for not acting on getting the necessary updates and changes made as I should have. Our volunteer, Sarah Andeen will be making the corrections and we should be fairly current with our Web site by the time you read this.

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Technical Services Law Librarian

A Parade of Editors



The Law Cataloger

v.1:no.1 (1975:Sept.)-v.2:no.3 (1977:May)
v.3:no.1 (1977:Oct.)-v.4:no.2 (1978:Dec.)
v.4:no.3 (1979:May)-v.6:no.3 (1981:May)

Phyllis Marion, University of Minnesota
Sonya Sasuta, Cornell
Melody Lembke, LA County Law Library

Technical Services Law Librarian

title changed with v.5:no.1 (1979:Sep.)

v.7:no.1 (1981:Sep.)-v.8:no.4 (1983:May)
v.9:no.1 (1983:Aug.)-v.12:no.1 (1986:Aug.)
v.12:no.2 (1986:Nov.)-v.13:no.4 (1988:May)
v.14:no.1 (1988:Aug.)-v.16:no.1 (1990:Aug.)
v.16:no.2 (1990:Nov.)-v.20:no.1 (1994:Sep.)
v.20:no.2 (1994:Dec.)-v.23:no.4 (1998:Jun)
v.24:no.1 (1998:Sep)-

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Patricia Denham (Turpening), University of Cincinnati
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TSLL 1979-1981
Melody Lembke, Editor



TSLL 1981-1983
Catherine M. Tierney, Editor



How could it be 20 years since I became the editor of the *Law Cataloger*? My recollections of accepting the responsibility to be the editor of this newsletter are tinged with sadness and trepidation.

Sonya Sasuta from Cornell was the editor of the *Law Cataloger* and TS-SIS chair elect; she died in a car accident in January of 1979. Phyllis Marion wrote the memorium for her in issue v.4, no.3 (May 1979), the first issue I edited. I had been working at the Los Angeles County Law Library for a couple of years, but had yet to even have the privilege of attending an AALL annual meeting. Peter Enyingi, my boss, was very active in AALL's Cataloging and Classification Committee and the newly hatched TS-SIS. Did I want to try this editor job? Knowing that he would be there to guide me gave me the confidence to say yes.

We often think of our life today as being swamped with change. But there were lots of changes happening then as well: Ballots had just become RLIN; we were discussing freezing catalogs because of AACR2. The original publisher of the *Law Cataloger* was the Cataloging and Classification Committee of AALL which would soon be subsumed into the TS-SIS, and the OCLC-SIS would become the OBS-SIS. On the other hand, one of the topics noted in a 1978 issue was a possible reorganization of the constituent groups publishing the newsletter so as to eliminate duplicate efforts. How little things have really changed!

Melody Lembke
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My two years as editor (1981-83, according to an old résumé) started with an unpleasant, unforgettable mistake – a true learning experience. To this day I can barely live with the shame, so I am relieved for the opportunity to unburden myself. I was responsible for my very first issue being printed on 8 ½ x 11 portrait paper, rather than on the stapled bifold of the previous issues. It was my first issue (I was self-assured), the deadline was considerably overdue (my own fault), the budget was fixed (at least I didn't fool with that) – and at the eleventh hour the printer said, "What? I don't do bifold." It was probably snowing, and I probably was too frenzied at my office to drop everything to scour Boston for another printer in the impossible timeframe. Yeah, something like that. I gave anguished approval to go ahead and print it, years before "Just do it!" was in vogue. I do remember feeling this was about the worst thing I could do for my inaugural issue — me, a TECHNICAL SERVICES LAW LIBRARIAN (albeit a rookie)! If I were on the receiving end of such a publication change, I'd have lambasted the inconsiderate dolt responsible. The binding challenge facing all of you haunted me. I recall apologizing in the next issue, and though I have no memories of anyone excoriating me, I burn with my own. Does anyone else remember? Do you even keep these things, let alone BIND them? Maybe I shouldn't dredge up your memories!

Catherine M. Tierney
Associate University Librarian for Technical Services
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TSLL 1990-94
Pat Turpening, Editor



My adventure as editor started with a phone call from Kaye Stoppel, the editor in 1990. I had already been a contributing editor for the preservation column for a few years at that time. She told me that someone suggested me to succeed her. She persuaded me in that phone call that I really could do it and the rest is history! (I never did find out who that "someone" was!).

I was the editor for volumes 16-19, from 1990-1994. Evelyn Gardner from Creighton University worked with me as the business manager, the second

person to serve in that capacity. Alice McKenzie was the first business manager, working with Kaye Stoppel on volumes 14 & 15.

A lot of changes were made concerning the newsletter in my four years. It was during that time that the AALL Executive Board decreed that all SIS's provide a newsletter subscription to their members. Up to that time, TSLL had only been available by subscription. (Just prior to my taking over, the subscription price was raised from \$4.00 to \$6.00.) In effect, this was an unfunded mandate since the sections

were not allocated any funds for this expense. The other SIS's already sent newsletters to their members so the decision didn't impose a burden on them. But the burden for us was huge - in one year our subscriptions dropped from 311 to 45 while we were required to send 840 copies to all the members. A special meeting on the issue was held at the Annual Meeting in 1991. The consensus of the SIS members was for each SIS to produce its own newsletter to be sent to members and for *TSLL* to continue on subscription. However, that plan didn't fly with the AALL Executive Board. We were told that

TSLL had to go to each TS and OBS member. We managed to produce volume 17 with a grant from the AALL Executive Board along with funds from several vendors. TS and OBS also contributed funds from their budgets, as they continue to do now.

At the beginning of my first term, I received copy from the contributing editors and section chairs on faxes and paper sent by mail that I had to key in. Other options for inputting the data were explored without success. Later, I received copy on disks and then via e-mail. Those improvements made a huge difference in the amount of time it took to put an issue together. One thing that didn't change was my cutting-and-pasting the newsletter title and the section logos onto the camera-ready copy of each issue. I carefully bundled all the pages of each issue and mailed them first class to Evelyn who handled all the printing and postage details.

One of the biggest changes (literally) in my editorship was the increase in the physical size of the issues. With volume 18, they went from 7" x 8 1/2" to 8 1/2"

x 11". This was required by the AALL Executive Board in order for all SIS newsletters to be consistent. I had to learn how to format the issues all over again! I can still remember how frustrated I got trying to make the columns come out just right. I was a perfectionist about the appearance of each page and each issue.

Two other changes occurred in volume 18: the months of issue and the postal method used. The issues had been published in August, November, February, and May. I thought they should be changed since there was very little turnaround time after the Annual Meetings to receive copy for an issue after the meetings were changed from June to July. The change also made it possible for reports from ALA Midwinter to be reported right away instead of 3 months later. The new months of issue were September, December, March, and June. We experimented with sending the issues by bulk rate and it worked very well. We were able to publish more pages for the same total cost with no more claimed issues than we had with first

class mail. This enabled me to encourage more members to submit reports on programs and meetings. The Editorial Board also added three new columns: Serials Issues, Internet, and Research and Publications, bringing to twelve the number of regular columns published in the newsletter.

I want to thank the staff of my library at the University of Cincinnati as well as Evelyn's staff at Creighton University for all their assistance. The latter stepped in and took over all of Evelyn's duties when she had a heart attack around deadline time in August 1992. I would like to dedicate my remarks to Evelyn Gardner, who died in 1996.

They were great years to be the editor of TSLL, one of the most professional quality newsletters in the Association. I am very glad I had the opportunity to be the editor. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way. I couldn't have done it without you!

Pat Turpening
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Speaking of 25 Years ... What About 2025?

The Public Relations Committee has a special project planned for the Philadelphia annual meeting. We are inviting all AALL Chapters, Committees, SIS's, and the Executive Board to prepare time capsules which we will then store for twenty-five years. We encourage your SIS to participate.

You can help define our time and also be a unique part of law librarianship's past and future. Our committee will supply the time capsules, and this will be an opportunity to offer a glimpse of your past to our future selves and colleagues. During this summer's Philadelphia meeting the time capsules will be sealed and tucked away for twenty-five years at AALL archives.

The objects you choose to encapsulate can run the gamut from the profound and serious to the weird, silly and sentimental. It's up to you. We'll have more details on preparing your time capsules in the coming months, but the Public Relations Committee hopes your SIS will start thinking now about what items you want included in your time capsule.



Twenty-five years isn't that long. Look how fast the millennium went by! In July, 2025 we hope we'll all still be around (it doesn't hurt to be optimistic) to attend the annual AALL meeting and watch as our time capsules are opened. For more information on how your SIS can become a permanent part of AALL's history, please call or e-mail me at the address below.

Sue Burch, Chair
Public Relations Committee
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sburch@pop.uky.edu



TSSL 1994-1998
Mary K. Dzurinko, Editor



I loathe to admit it, but when Anna Belle asked if I would contribute an article to 25th anniversary issue of *Technical Services Law Librarian*, I had one of Betty Ford's self-styled "senior moments." I suddenly realized that I've been reading *TSSL* since its inaugural issue. *TSSL* and I have aged together; time certainly has a sneaky way of bringing a person face to face with reality.

Except for my local daily newspaper, I haven't had a subscription to any publication for over 25 years and I also haven't read any other periodical as carefully from cover to cover (and now Internet page to page) as I have *TSSL*. This is my tribute to a newsletter that consistently publishes quality, in-depth articles by knowledgeable technical services and information professionals. *TSSL* was the first place I found clear and concise articles explaining the use of Internet in Technical Services areas and what metadata is, detailing the development of LC subject headings and classifications, and introducing cutting edge technical services processes. And, most importantly, the material is written by practicing colleagues whose expertise I know and value.

When I applied for the Editorship of *TSSL* in the early 1990's, I was head of technical services and library database manager in a law firm and I didn't give myself much chance to be chosen as Editor. I knew that previous Editors were academic librarians with management experience in large Technical Services departments. I pursued the position because I was attracted by *TSSL*'s distinguished history and solid scholarship. To my surprise I was selected as Editor and Lorraine Lorne was named Business Editor. For four years we shared the joys and trials of publishing *TSSL*; it was a unique experience that I'm proud to list on my resume.

In my view the success and value of *TSSL* are based on three strengths: contributors, content, and commitment.

TSSL has a dedicated group of contributors. Experts in their fields, they have a wide range of professional experience and write about issues that are relevant in today's technical services arena. They constantly monitor and alert readers to new trends and developments and willingly share "how-to-do" tips, making material accessible to both new and veteran technical services professionals. Most importantly, *TSSL* contributors are highly committed volunteers. I always secretly gloated when talking with other newsletter editors who lamented the measures they had to take to get their contributors to submit copy. The gods truly smiled on me; I was always truly amazed because I received *TSSL* copy as regularly as clockwork.

The content of each *TSSL* issue ranges from the theoretical to the practical. An issue may contain features discussing the ways upcoming trends will impact technical services workflow or research and publishing opportunities; articles on acquisitions via Amazon.com or the preservation of leather bound books published in 1902; a report on the latest ALA ALCTS/CC:DA meeting; and columns on serial titles changes/cessations or instructions on the effective implementation of new OLCL enhancements.

However, the most attractive feature of *TSSL*'s content, as mentioned above, is accessibility. Other technical services publications on the market, at least to me, do not have *TSSL*'s comfortable writing and presentation styles. These styles do not detract from *TSSL*'s scholarship and substance; they make the material "user friendly" and more pertinent to everyday work situations. Additionally, the currency of *TSSL* material also enhances its value, not only for the law library community, but also for the library community at large.

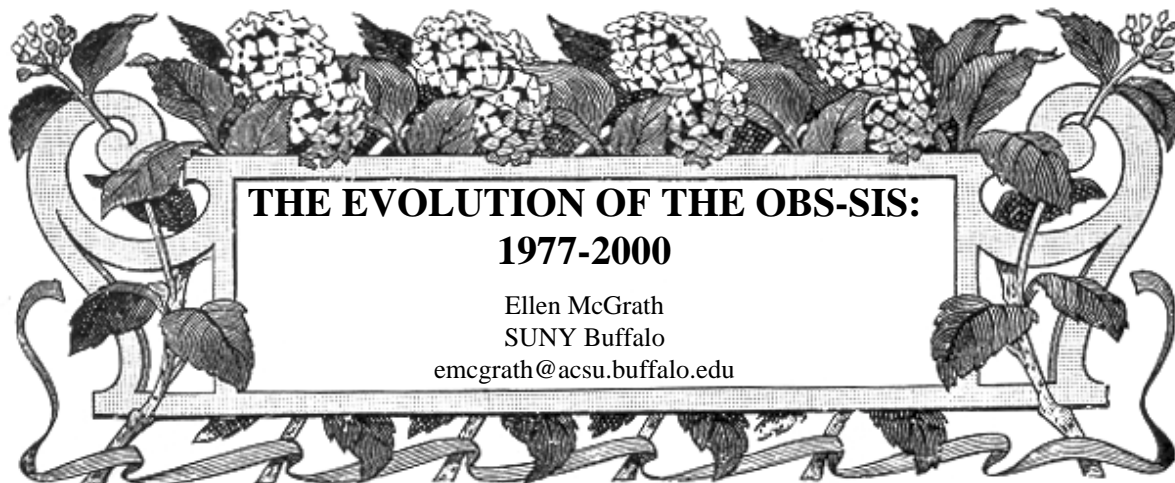
Equally vital to the success of *Technical Services Law Librarian* is the commitment which the On-Line Bibliographic Services SIS and the Technical Services SIS memberships and officers have made to the production of a quality newsletter. *TSSL* on the Internet has introduced this valuable resource to new and vast audiences and given both the newsletter and AALL a higher professional and international profile, and rightfully so. At a recent workshop on integrated online library systems I used information from several issues of *TSSL* to prepare my presentation and encouraged attendees to use *TSSL* as a resource. Hopefully, *TSSL* on the Internet will reach more library and information center administrators to assist them with management decisions which affect Technical Services departments.

For the future, there are several areas for which *TSSL* might investigate regular coverage, especially in regard to law firm libraries and information centers. One area is knowledge management. To a greater or lesser degree, an institution's knowledge management decisions touch the library or information center. *TSSL* is the perfect place for discussions about how Technical Services functions are affected by these decisions.

Another area is Intranets. Law firm libraries are very involved in developing the library services sections of firm Intranets. *TSSL* would be a useful vehicle for the exchange of Intranet information for Technical Services personnel.

My advice to all OBS and TS members: Volunteer as a contributor or editor on the *TSSL* staff.. You can't find a more challenging or rewarding way to strengthen your professional skills.

Mary K. Dzurinko
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Why a history of OBS and why now? The Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS-SIS) is not quite as old as the *Technical Services Law Librarian* (TSLL), now celebrating its 25th anniversary, but OBS is pretty close, at 23 years of age. OBS has been around long enough for some benefit to be gained from reflecting upon activities and trends during its existence. In addition, OBS is now embarking upon strategic planning. History always enters into that process, or at least it should in my opinion. Along the lines of “what goes around, comes around,” the possibility of OBS dissolving or merging into the Technical Services (TS) SIS has once again surfaced. As in the past three times when this issue arose, examination of the previous reasons for not merging is essential in order to complete a thorough investigation of all present options.

“Originating in 1977 as the OCLC-SIS, the Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS-SIS) broadened its scope to include all bibliographic utilities and local online systems.”

This is the brief, “official” version of OBS’ history found in the Section’s brochure, in the Section-sponsored publication *Law Library Systems Directory*, and on AALLNET. My hope is to delve a bit deeper, so as to flesh out the important events that have brought the OBS-SIS to where it is today. My approach was very simply to read all the back issues of *The Law*

Cataloger and *TSLL*, moving forward chronologically in time from 1975-1999. A rather daunting prospect indeed, but it provided extremely fascinating reading! Of course, there may have been activities that were not recorded in the newsletter. I would appreciate hearing from readers of this history who can add further to some of these events or correct me in my interpretations of them. I want to take this opportunity to encourage both OBS and TS officers and members to continue to faithfully record the ongoing histories of these Sections and the issues important to them in their newsletter.

Newsletter

In some ways, *The Law Cataloger/Technical Services Law Librarian* was an early version of a professional discussion/information sharing forum, maybe even sort of a forerunner to today’s electronic mail lists. How often nowadays do we complain that we do not want yet another electronic list to keep up with! We want to see the issues important to us handled on the lists to which we already belong, ideally with everything in one place. While this may seem impossible, *TSLL* has been that one place for 25 years! Of course, *TSLL* developed before there was quite so much “everything” with which to keep up. Nevertheless, the reliance upon a joint newsletter for OBS and TS was a smart move and continues to be just that, in my opinion.

One can see the trends of technical services librarianship reflected in the pages of *TSLL*. Technical services law librarians have always been active in the general community of technical services librarians, usually as represented in the American Library Association (ALA). This participation has grown as time has gone by. It is now institutionalized in that official representatives to ALA’s CC:DA (Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access), MARBI (Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information Committee), and SAC (Subject Analysis Committee), and to SISAC (Serials Industry Systems Advisory Committee) are maintained by AALL. These liaisons are more closely identified with TS, but the MARBI representative has been recognized as having a responsibility to report directly to OBS too. This makes perfect sense since MARBI has to do with MARC and the MARC formats are standards for the representation and communication of bibliographic and related information in machine-readable form. MARC is at the very core of the bibliographic utilities and local systems that allow us to accomplish our technical services functions.

1970s

The Law Cataloger was created by Phyllis Marion, its founding editor, as a vehicle of communication between law catalogers. It began in August 1975 and was at first underwritten by the AALL Cataloging and Classification

Committee and the University of Minnesota Law Library. When AALL created the special interest section (SIS) structure in 1976, it was suggested that a technical services SIS and an OCLC SIS would be most appropriate, based partially upon the content of this newsletter. Already there were lots of questions though. Should the OCLC group be a smaller group under the TS-SIS? Or should it be its own SIS? Questions also involved the relationship between the existing AALL Cataloging and Classification Committee and the TS-SIS.

At the 1977 AALL annual meeting in Toronto, there was an informal OCLC users group meeting as well as an OCLC workshop on the schedule. So it is quite appropriate that the OCLC-SIS became official in 1977. Its focus was simple: "The exchange of information about OCLC is the major goal of the Section." (*Law Cataloger*, October 1977, p. 5) Christian Boissonnas (Cornell) was the OCLC-SIS's first president, and there was also a vice-president, secretary/treasurer, and three advisory committee members. Some of the officers' titles have undergone changes over the years. At present, the officers are: chair, vice-chair/chair-elect, past chair, secretary/treasurer, and two members-at-large.

The OCLC-SIS jumped right in and planned two programs for the following year's annual meeting in Rochester. I was amused to see that right from the start, the SIS faced those killer scheduling times: its first business meeting on June 26, 1978 was at 7:30 AM! During the Rochester convention, there were many discussions about the new structure and a major reorganization was already under consideration. The idea of creating a unified organization was put forward; one that would include all the interests of the AALL Cataloging and Classification Committee, the TS-SIS, the OCLC-SIS, and a group of BALLOTS (predecessor to the RLIN system) users. The expressed goal was to not duplicate effort, but there was concern that the specific interests of

these various groups not be buried under a new superstructure. As with any library organization worth its salt, a committee was formed to investigate all the options. At the same time, the TS-SIS was still getting organized and Phyllis Marion was its first chairperson. TS adopted *The Law Cataloger* as its newsletter and TS members agreed that the OCLC-SIS could use it for this purpose too. At various points in these early discussions, the OCLC-SIS was referred to in print as the OCLC-BALLOTS SIS and the OCLC-Law SIS. The former variation may have been the result of discussions which suggested the SIS might expand to include BALLOTS and other MARC record users. Luckily the Section was never officially renamed to include the term BALLOTS, since that system itself was soon renamed RLIN in 1978.

The report of the Merger Advisory Group in the May 1979 issue of *The Law Cataloger* focussed mainly on the discontinuation of the AALL Cataloging and Classification Committee, with its areas to be covered instead by the TS-SIS. This was separate from the possible OCLC-SIS merger issue and the new problem of how to recognize RLIN users. But this was all discussed too and the ultimate recommendation was that "there is sufficient distinction in the problems of using automated data bases that a separate SIS is preferable to formation through the Technical Services SIS." (p. 4). It was also decided that this would be discussed at the meetings to be held in San Francisco in 1979, where, incidentally, the OCLC and TS business meetings were held at the same time, representing the first of many conflicts of this sort!

In September 1979, *The Law Cataloger* changed its title to the *Technical Services Law Librarian* to better reflect the memberships of the two SISs that it represents. That issue included big news about the OCLC-SIS from its business

meeting held in San Francisco in 1979. It announced "a broadening of its membership to include RLIN/BALLOTS users (a group previously known as LAWBUG) and a change in name ... to reflect that broader membership ... [to] the On-line Bibliographic Services SIS." (p. 6).

1980s

At the 1980 OBS business meeting in St. Louis, standing committees for OCLC and RLIN were established with the intent to serve as lobbies to the bibliographic utilities. The OBS bylaws were changed to allow for the nomination and election of officers. It had also been decided that the *TSLL* editor position would rotate between being selected by OBS and TS. At the 1981 annual meeting, there was a conscious effort made not to schedule the OBS and TS business meetings at the same time. It also seemed to be the first meeting where OCLC staff attended the OCLC Committee meeting and the first meeting ever of the RLIN Committee, at which there was an RLG representative also. This equal attention to both utilities even resulted in an informal arrangement whereby the OBS chair office rotated between members representing OCLC and RLIN institutions.



At this point, this is how the “Purposes” article of the OBS bylaws read:

The purposes of the On-line Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section shall be to assist its members in utilizing the capabilities of the various bibliographic systems to the best of their abilities; to communicate their concerns to the management of those systems and provide input in their policy-making processes; to represent the member interest within AALL; to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information among the members; to concern itself with all aspects of bibliographic systems as they will affect users. (TSLL, May 1982, p. 6)

Diane Hillmann, OBS chair, was invited to a special meeting of OCLC users groups in February 1980. Later, Greg Koster, OBS chair, was invited to attend the OCLC Users Council meeting in May 1982. This illustrates the recognition of the SIS in terms of representing law OCLC users to the overall OCLC organization. Things appeared to be going swimmingly for OBS, however another group was appointed to investigate “whether the goals and purposes of both organizations would be advanced by the merger of OBS/SIS into the larger group [TS/SIS].” (TSLL, Aug. 1982, p. 1) This group “identified several major issues which would have to be resolved before such a merger could be contemplated:”

I. Program planning: The earlier merger investigation in 1977/1978 concluded that two separate SISs provided more program time for technical services topics. Were two SISs unnecessary now because AALL seemed to be more accepting of programming flexibility? On a related note, would OBS-type concerns be relegated to less frequent programs if subsumed into a super TS-SIS?

II. Finances: With only one SIS, the ability to fund programs and activities would be cut. Taking into consideration the overlap in members between the two SISs, it was clear that

combining them would result in fewer monies from dues. Further complicating this question was whether TSLL could continue to be separately funded in a manner like no other SIS newsletter.

III. Member participation: And perhaps the bottom line, “it is unclear whether having two separate groups facilitates or inhibits participation of members in the structure and activities of the SISs.” (p. 3)

IV. Public services involvement: OBS seemed at the time to be moving towards also involving public services users of the bibliographic utilities. There was a general feeling that this was a good thing, but that a merger would most likely squelch it.

V. Utilities committees: The OCLC and RLIN Committees were still defining their roles with their respective parent organizations, OCLC and RLG. This was particularly true in the case of the RLIN Committee, which was so very new.

These points were discussed at each SIS’s business meeting in 1982 at the Detroit convention and each SIS agreed to poll their membership via a merger survey. Unfortunately, the first round of the survey resulted in a poor response rate, so another was distributed. The results of the OBS-conducted survey were published in the May 1983 TSLL and included comments, some of which advocated a broadened focus to encompass local systems, readers services, and circulation needs, as well as users of LEXIS, Westlaw, and Dialog. A slight majority of OBS members favored merging with TS. However, the merger was voted down at the 1983 OBS business meeting in Houston by a count of 4 in favor of merging, 21 against, and 1 abstaining. As an aside, 65% of the TS membership surveyed had favored the merger, though TS recognized that it was up to OBS to make this decision.

So with the second bout of merger discussions apparently resolved, OBS turned to a redefinition of its purpose and an ad hoc group was formed to

accomplish that goal. Some ideas generated were: establishing its own OBS newsletter, creating a WLN Committee, and reorganizing completely to reflect module use of the bibliographic utilities (e.g. cataloging, acquisitions, ILL, etc.). The report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Future of OBS-SIS was very detailed and it was published in the May 1984 TSLL (p. 8-10). The report included suggestions for a new name: On-line Services SIS or On-line Systems SIS. It also laid out a possible committee structure including the following: OCLC, RLIN, WLN, user’s services, and publicity. The proposed user’s services committee was defined as representing the “interests of public services librarians in using online public catalogs, online circulation systems, automated ILL, LEXIS, Westlaw, Dialog, etc.” (p. 9). So interestingly enough, this foreshadowed the local systems theme that would later emerge in OBS, but it did so from a public services perspective. The proposed mission and goals of the SIS were very general in terms of online systems and a reference to “future” standing committees made it clear that the ad hoc committee was well aware of the increasingly evolutionary nature of the OBS-SIS.

At the 1984 OBS business meeting in San Diego: “It was decided to limit the focus of the section to bibliographic databases, rather than include LEXIS and Westlaw. The final decision was that the section should be concerned with local and national on-line bibliographic databases.” (TSLL, Aug. 1984, p. 11) A name change for the Section was also discussed, but that was voted down. The WLN Committee was established, as was an ad hoc publicity group. But the suggested users’ services committee was voted down. It was also decided that OBS should continue to use TSLL as its newsletter, rather than creating its own separate one. During the discussion about the newsletter, it was agreed that at least one separate mailing should go to each OBS member. The publicity group got right to work on that and sent a packet

to each member in November 1984. At this time, *TSLL* was still a separate subscription and it was determined that the majority of OBS members not subscribed to *TSLL* were private law librarians. This issue was raised as a question about whether better outreach to the firm librarian OBS members was necessary. Still on the topic of *TSLL*, an editorial board with two representatives from each SIS was established in 1985.

The 1985 business meeting in New York brought about the abolishment of the informal practice of rotating the OBS chair position between representatives from OCLC and RLIN libraries. Another important step was evidenced by the statement that "OBS intends to support local systems level groups and activities." (*TSLL*, Aug. 1985, p. 14) Later a proposal was made to expand the OBS directory to include detailed data on members' online activities. This idea was eventually incorporated into a joint OBS/TS directory mailed to all members of those two sections in 1987. Also in 1987, the OBS chair, Margie Axtmann, expressed concern that OBS had "reached a standstill." She hoped "to revitalize the membership interest" (*TSLL*, Aug. 1987, p. 10) and redefine the Section's goals through the work of the OBS bylaws revision group, which was already underway. The issue of how to deal with local systems issues was again raised as an important topic for discussion. This then resulted in OBS opening a dialogue with the Automation and Scientific Development (ASD) SIS, whose interests might be viewed as overlapping if OBS developed into the area of local systems activities. At the same time, an ad hoc group was appointed to explore the issues of local systems coverage by OBS. This group recommended that a Local Systems Committee be created within OBS:

To function as an umbrella group for the discussion of local systems issues. The [ad hoc] committee does not recommend the formation of specific users groups under the structure of the

SIS, but rather it supports the practice of various vendors to have users meetings in conjunction with the AALL conventions. In this context a permanent Local Systems Committee would be charged with examining more general issues relating to implementation of local systems in libraries, rather than focusing exclusively on particular systems. (*TSLL*, May 1988, p. 6)

This would be a discussion topic during the 1988 Atlanta meeting and a time was scheduled for the first meeting of this new Committee, in case it was approved by the OBS membership.

Atlanta proved to be a very busy convention for OBS! The Local Systems Committee was voted in and its organizational meeting held. The revised bylaws were passed and made the new Committee official, removed the hyphen from the Section's name (now Online Bibliographic Services), and turned members-at-large into officers. Also a new OBS brochure was distributed. No action resulted from the informal discussions with the ASD-SIS. This was fortunate, because another discussion of merging with TS was instigated, this time by the AALL Special Committee on Organizational Structure. That Committee recommended the merger of other SISs too. This topic was discussed at the OBS business meeting and many of the same reasons for not merging in the past were voiced once again. TS also discussed it and adopted a resolution at its business meeting recommending against the merger. The following year, AALL dropped its merger proposal, due partly to insufficient support within either OBS or TS and partly to a recognition on its part that there were indeed valid reasons for the existence of these separate Sections.

The Local Systems Committee proposed to update the library systems profile portion of the joint OBS/TS directory. This idea became a bit more ambitious as time moved on and OBS applied to AALL for funding of a

project to publish this systems information. The possibility of a separate OBS newsletter was raised again in 1989, mainly in response to a suggestion by AALL that all SIS brochures and newsletters originate from its headquarters. At the OBS business meeting in Minneapolis in 1989, it was once again agreed that OBS should stick with *TSLL* as its newsletter. The suggestion was once again made, however, that a title change might be more reflective of OBS' interests. Some of the proposed titles were: TS/OBS Law Librarian, TS/OBS News and Views, TS/OBS Chronicle, TS/OBS Record, and TS/OBS News. Members of both Sections who expressed their views to the editor in 1991 favored the retention of the name *TSLL* by a margin of 2-1, so it remained.

1990s

Meanwhile AALL had moved ahead on the plan for all SIS newsletters to be published by headquarters. As the only SISs to share a newsletter, OBS and TS were quite concerned about the cost of distributing *TSLL* to its combined memberships. So OBS and TS jointly applied for a grant from AALL to cover the publishing cost during the transition period. With this grant and the financial assistance of some vendors, there was no interruption in the publication of *TSLL*. Money became a further concern. The funding for the local systems directory was approved by AALL. But on the other hand, AALL now received half of the dues payment of each OBS member. In 1991, the memberships of both OBS and TS approved another joint project, the creation of the OBS/TS Research Roundtable. Its first meeting took place in 1992 at the San Francisco convention and was coordinated by Brian Striman. OBS' chair was a firm librarian (Elaine Sciolino) for the first time ever in 1992/1993 and there was an even bigger push to involve non-academics in the Section's activities. A procedures manual was being worked on, as was a strategic plan, at the urging of the parent organization, AALL. A round table for reference users of local systems was

suggested, and while one meeting may have taken place, it never came to full fruition. The first CONELL (Conference for Newer Law Librarians) marketplace, featuring SIS activity tables, was held at the 1993 convention in Boston and OBS gave out frisbees.

A news release in the Sept. 1993 issue of *TSLL* (p. 5) announced the availability of *The Directory of Law Library Systems!* This had been a huge undertaking within OBS, involving a detailed survey, the compilation of an enormous amount of data, and the eventual publication by AALL/Rothman. It was well worth the wait and was hailed as an excellent resource for librarians looking for assistance in dealing with their local system or in the market for a new system. Within a year, work on the next edition was well underway by OBS members and the Section bought software to facilitate this effort. The revised edition, the *Law Library Systems Directory*, was published in 1996. Discussions took place at the 1999 convention in Washington, D.C. concerning the next version, perhaps greatly to be revamped and with the survey undertaken on the Web. Only time will tell what develops on this front!

By 1994, the WLN Committee had been languishing for a while, so bylaws revisions were undertaken to dissolve this Committee. In addition, the Education Committee was formalized with the vice-chair/chair-elect officially at its helm. The popular paperback swap at the OBS table in the convention exhibit hall was first held in 1996 in Indianapolis. Food and beverages were also provided for the first time at Committee meetings there, a definite plus for dedicated attendees, especially at those early morning and late afternoon times. The OBS Web page came into existence in 1996 too. At the Baltimore meeting in 1997, a research grant was approved. It is jointly sponsored by OBS with TS and a Joint Research Grant Committee was established. The OBS electronic list was announced in March 1998. The Anaheim convention in 1998 was

notable in that only 13 people attended the OBS business meeting, which was held at the same time as the TS business meeting on the very last day of convention.

2000 and Forward

OBS has been very active in program planning for the AALL annual meeting all throughout its history. For the upcoming 2000 meeting in Philadelphia, its sponsorship or co-sponsorship of seven programs reaches a high surpassed only by eight at the 1995 meeting in Pittsburgh and equaled by the 1994 meeting in Seattle.

At this point in time, this is the way the object of the Online Bibliographic Services SIS, as recorded in its bylaws, reads:

1. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on the use and capabilities of various interactive online bibliographic services, including (but not limited to) OCLC, RLIN, and local systems; and
2. To communicate the concerns of its members to the governing bodies of those systems; and
3. To concern itself with all technical services, public services, and administrative aspects of such bibliographic systems as they affect users; and
4. To represent its members' interests and concerns within the AALL.

The most recent history of OBS revisits old territory. Both the OBS and TS vice-chairs (Brian Striman and Janet McKinney, respectively) included the topic of merging the two SISs on the annual surveys they conducted of their memberships in 1998/1999. At the 1999 OBS business meeting, bylaws revisions were passed to include the Joint Research Grant Committee and the Web Advisory Committee. As I write this in January 2000, parallel OBS and TS strategic planning efforts are underway. So it is evident that history certainly does repeat itself!

A Personal Reflection

From my particular perspective, I compare the OBS-SIS to what I know: cataloging. As a cataloger, I train staff to always look to the bibliographic record for information. After that lesson has been ingrained, the day inevitably comes when they look to the bibliographic record and the information they need is not there. They may have a supplement by a different publisher or a looseleaf release with a different title, you know, all that fun legal publishing stuff! So they come to me, saying the bib record is wrong! I explain that when we cataloged it, we did a good job of creating the bibliographic record with the information we had at the time. Since then, that information has changed and it will probably continue to change. We will keep tweaking the bibliographic record to fit the current information that we have. We do this because it is impossible to know what piece of the data puzzle the users of our record will need to locate it. There is no sense wasting much time trying to predict what will change next. We should simply focus on reacting to the change and incorporating it into our bibliographic record as quickly and as accurately as we can. We should not look at it as righting wrongs, but as assisting evolution.

Now maybe assisting evolution is an ambitious goal for a bibliographic record. But that is sort of the goal I see for the OBS-SIS. We should not try to make it a static structure that will never change. It already has changed, it will continue to change, and, in my eyes, that is its special role. I do not think this means that OBS should not exist. It means that there is an outlet for people interested in this evolution of the impact of automation upon technical services, and by extension, public services and end users of our systems. The number of people interested in OBS membership may well drop and in fact it has somewhat over the years, though not alarmingly. But until there is no core left within the 316 OBS members that will step forward to plan programs,

to run for office, to work on the *Local Systems Directory* or whatever, I believe that OBS will continue to play a vital role in the life of law librarians. For OBS melds traditional technical services functions with automation, just as technical services law librarians do in their daily work life.

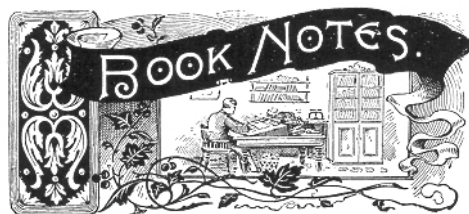
As one of those law librarians, I am grateful for this outlet that contributes to what I see as my evolution as a growing professional. I too feel overwhelmed at times by the pace of change. But I sincerely believe that the alternative of staying always in the same place is worse. So what I need is some help in adjusting to change. For me, personally, that is OBS—and TS! The combination works best for me and I

would not like to have to choose one over the other or mush them together in some way. In my opinion, the interconnectedness of OBS with TS has been inevitable and valuable. OBS and TS working together on program planning, establishing a joint roundtable and committee, and sharing a newsletter over the years has benefited each of the members of both Sections.

Of course this too may change. That is why this history of OBS, with its constant reinvestigation of the possibility of merging with another SIS, makes perfect sense. If OBS were not committed to the inevitability of evolution, it would not so frequently seek to reexamine its purpose. For even

when the merger possibility was raised from outside of OBS, the Section rose to the possibility and conducted a thoughtful and thorough investigation.

I hope that this look back at the OBS-SIS' history can play some small role in the current effort to examine its mission and goals. This OBS history reveals a true willingness on the part of the SIS's leadership to listen to and respond to the needs of its members. I know this will continue in this current initiative, so in my role as current OBS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, I implore the members of OBS to speak their minds. After all, with such a distinguished history, it would not do to rush into a decision about the future of OBS!



Acquisitions

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This month we belatedly bring you the minutes of the Acquisitions Committee and the Acquisitions Roundtable meetings of July 1999, with thanks to Cynthia Aninao for recording both meetings. In looking over minutes of some past meetings, I see that some of these issues never go away and will no doubt continue to be discussed at future meetings. It is worth noting that of the program proposals mentioned below, the workshop on Electronic Licensing Agreements will be held in Philadelphia. Another program to look forward to in Philadelphia is *Acquisition and Control of Electronic Legal Resources in the 21st Century*.

ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING, July 19, 1999

In attendance: Carmen Brigandi, Cynthia Aninao, Ajaye Bloomstone, Mary Ertl, Dick Vaughan, Jo-Anne Giammattei, Cecily Giardina, Mary McKee, Sandy Sadow, Ann Kolodzey, Lisa Arm, Bonnie Geldmacher, Erica McKessy, Theodora Artz, Jo Ann

Hounshell, Jim Mumm, Nancy Westcott, Karen Douglas, Mary Miller, Rob Richards, H.C. Singh.

Carmen Brigandi, the current Acquisitions Committee chairperson, called the meeting to order and introductions were made around the table.

The Committee's Program submitted for this year's meeting, *Collection Development for Electronic Materials*, will be held from 1:30 to 2:45 with Carmen moderating.

Legal Publishers' List and Collection Development List on the Web – Rob Richards reported that use of the Publishers List is growing and more independent publishers are requesting to be added. The Collection Development List is used less often and still needs more contributors. Thanks to Rob for all his fine work.

Programs & Workshops for Philadelphia 2000 Meeting - Suggestions included an Acquisitions

Workshop; the changing role of the acquisitions librarian with new technology; jobbers; practical tips for migrating to a new integrated online library system; cancellations; managing collections in "flush year" budgets; licensing. The group decided to formulate a proposal for a workshop on licensing. Suggested aspects to discuss: phraseology, law of licensing, negotiation, assessing institution's needs, consortial agreements, monitoring compliance, practical exercise with a license. Speakers from the SLA and ALA licensing workshops were also suggested. If a workshop format is not accepted by the Annual Meeting Program Selection Committee (AMPSC), then a program will be submitted. A task force will formulate a proposal right after this meeting--Lisa Arm, Ajaye Bloomstone, Carmen Brigandi, JoAnn Hounshell, Mary McKee, and Jim Mumm. Lisa will talk to Anne Myers, her co-worker and AMPSC member, about the feasibility for this program.

CRIV Best Practices Committee - Teddy Artz will check with Elizabeth Edinger about any plans for this group. The Acquisitions Committee would like to work with CRIV on this.

Technical Services Law Librarian Acquisitions Column - Thanks to Jo Ann Hounshell and Marla Schwartz for their fine work. They will continue for 1999-2000.

Acquisitions Committee Chair - Carmen will continue for 1999-2000. However, the group was asked to start thinking about a new chair for 2000-2001.

LAWACQ - Cynthia Aninao will ask the University of Cincinnati Law Library systems staff if there is a way LAWACQ members can post messages directly to the list instead of going through her email address.

Profiling for Legal Titles - Ajaye Bloomstone asked if there is a way to profile using RLG's four levels: minimal, basic, instructional support, and research. The group suggested that the major jobbers--Midwest Library Service, Yankee Book Peddler, Blackwell--might be able to do this.

AALL Price Index - Dick Vaughn reported he is part of a group charged to give recommendations on the next edition. He will get input through LAWACQ.

AS Pratt and Butterworth Tolley - there were general comments and frustrations shared. A good contact at Butterworth is Clara Busbridge. These tips are good to share on LAWACQ.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Aninao, Recorder

ACQUISITIONS ROUNDTABLE July 20, 1999 held from 5 to 6 pm

In attendance: Jim Mumm, Cynthia Aninao, Becky Lutkenhaus, Mary Ertl, Corinne Jacox, Ajaye Bloomstone, Elaine Moore, Mary Lou Corbett, Lorna Tang, Margaret Cianfarini, Stephanie Edwards, Jeannine Uppgard, Ismael Gullon, Melodie Frances, H.C.Singh,

Clement Lau, Kent Milunovich, Gretchen Wolf, Maria Cap, Jo-Anne Giammattei, Lisa Arm, Mary McKee, Suzanne Kaufman, Erica McKessy, Patty Horvath, Sandy Sadow, Carmen Brigandi, Richard Vaughan, Needra Jackson, Claudia Dansby.

Jo-Anne Giammattei called the group to order and introductions were made around the table.

A.S. Pratt - complaints were numerous including price increases of 150% resulting from the company's conversion to subscription base and lousy binders. It was suggested that everyone review their subscriptions and cancel to send a message of non-approval to the company. Carmen Brigandi, Acquisitions Committee Chairperson, will contact Christine Graesser of CRIV about Pratt.

West Group - one rep for accounts and one rep for sales would be ideal; PO numbers can be printed on the monthly statement by faxing your list to Mary Ellen Marlowe, Head of Customer Service; other suggestions can be sent to Anne Ellis, Director of Library Relations, (651-687-5019), (fax 651-687-5614); a standing order for all student hornbooks is available.

There are rumors that West is considering a new accounting system.

CIS Congressional Universe - one member noted that her law library's cost was much higher than the main library at her university. Subscription through a consortia may be available through INCOLSA, or other regional networks.

Electronic Acquisitions - one member related her experience of not being informed by the reference staff when a new electronic product was obtained by them. This is another indication of the need to work closer with other library staff with new technology.

Ambassador Books - members were cautioned about calls from a former Aspen Law and Business employee offering to handle their Aspen orders.

Aspen Law And Business - complaints included disproportionately high shipping charges, duplicate shipments, and accidental cancellations. A 10%

discount may be obtained, depending on the sales rep.

Collection Notices - some members reported that Aspen, RIA, and Lexis were sending collection notices even though libraries were sending payments. Sometimes the monies are not applied correctly to accounts. Other times, the problem can be with a university accounts payable office.

Procurement Cards - many members are successfully using credit cards for prepayments. A problem may occur with backorders, which are oftentimes ordered the previous fiscal year.

Online Ordering - many prefer to order from legal publishers on their Web sites. However, sales reps do not get commissions from these orders. Sometimes going through a rep can result in a discount.

Duchemin - the email address of this French publisher was requested. Margaret Cianfarini of Harvard will share her contact information.

Bureau Of National Affairs - this looseleaf publisher was praised for its customer service.

Serials Acquisitions - many use Hein for their law serials in conjunction with Faxon or Ebsco. Hein's periodicals department was highly praised for its service. The few problems which occurred when Hein bought Rothman are being resolved. It is cheaper to buy newspapers and popular magazines direct than going through a serials vendor.

Butterworth Tolley - a good rep to contact is Clara Busbridge. Carmen will send her contact information to the group.

Acquisitions Committee Program - the group was reminded to attend *Collection Development Policies for Electronic Products* moderated by Carmen Brigandi.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Aninao

Classification

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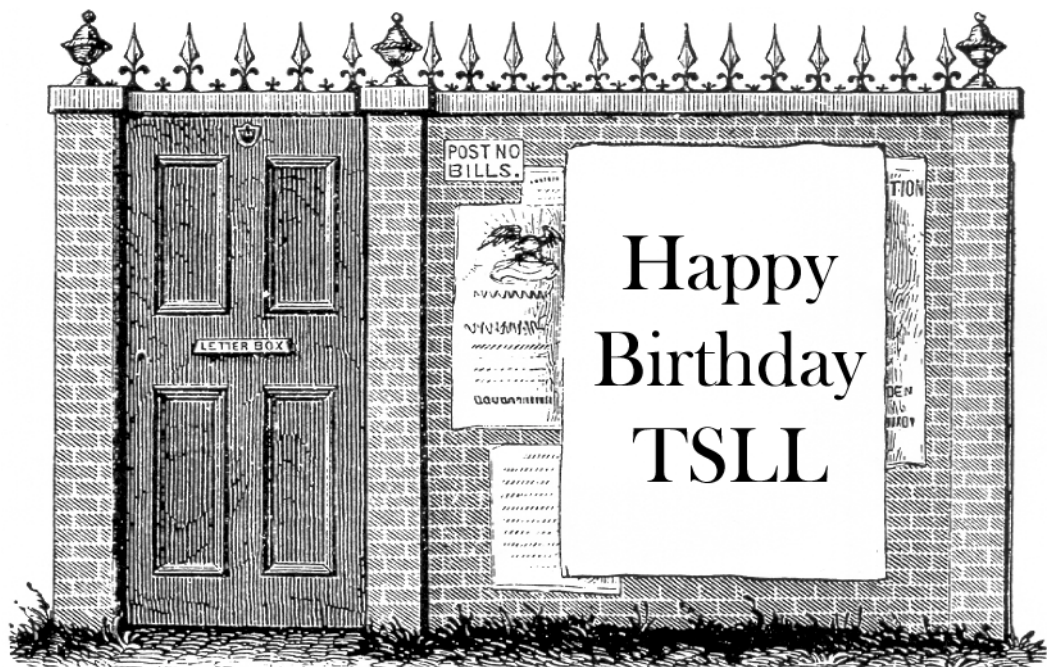
I have asked Jolande Goldberg to help us figure out where to class international claims. This has stumped many of us. International claims used to class in JX5483 under remedies which was under international responsibility. In KZ, there is a number for responsibility of the state, 4080, and government liability is referred to K967. K967 is for government torts and has an including note for the Calvo doctrine. The best description of the topic I have found is in *The Changing Law of International Claims* by F. V. Garcia-Amador. International claims is the area of international responsibility that deals with state responsibility for injuries caused to the person or property of aliens. It is sometimes called diplomatic protection of citizens abroad. The Calvo doctrine is a Latin American example of diplomatic protection in which aliens are accorded no more protection than nationals. *Encyclopaedic Dictionary of International Law* by Parry and others gives definitions of diplomatic protection and the Calvo doctrine. These definitions lead me to believe K967 is the area for international claims but I may be completely

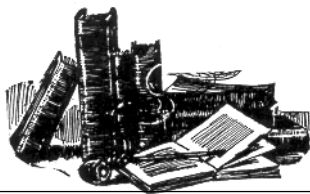
wrong. I hope Jolande can solve this issue by the next column.

This is the 25th anniversary issue of the *Law Cataloger/Technical Services Law Librarian*. Yes, I remember when. At that time we had two *K* schedules—*KF* written by Werner Ellinger and *KD* written by John Fischer. At the Library of Congress, John Fischer was working on *K*, Ann Rae on *KE* and Jolande Goldberg on *KK*. The first issue dated August 1975 had 2 classification questions and answers. These were questions posed by Cecilia Kwan to the Library of Congress. There is a LC disclaimer and I quote: “Readers should be alerted to the fact that such policies are subject to change, and they should always supplement their knowledge with personal observations as gleaned from LC proofslips and other sources.” The answers were LC policy statements. The first question dealt with classing law reports issued in the form of periodicals containing both decisions

and articles and LC said that if a work was predominantly law reports, it should class with law reports. The second question dealt with British works with American annotations. The answer is that British treatises with American annotations class in *KF* while British law reports, abridgements and digests with American annotations should class in *KD*. Guess what – the answers are both correct for today’s materials. The questions from Cecilia, who did the classification columns so ably for many years, were sent to the Office of Principle Cataloger in the Subject Cataloging Division which forwarded them to the Law Team headed by Joe Feldman to answer.

It is now 2000 and the *K* schedules are almost done. Jolande is busy finishing the religious law schedules. It will be wonderful to have them done. Here is hoping that in the next twenty five years we sharpen our classification skills and continue to share our *K* expertise.





Description & Entry

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You knew they were coming. Now they are here. The title pages with the latest merger blasted across them (well at the bottom in the imprint area anyway) have arrived. LEXIS Publishing is starting to appear on the chief source of replacement volumes for titles that were previously published by Michie and briefly by LEXIS Law Publishing. I have also noted the change on a recent Matthew Bender annual title.

LEXIS Publishing

LEXIS-NEXIS § MARTINDALE-HUBBELL
MATTHEW BENDER § MICHIE § SHEPARD'S

The brand has yet to appear on the chief source of any of the Bender loose-leaf titles, but I expect the change will be appearing there soon as well. However, just to make your life interesting, even though the name LEXIS Publishing appears above its various component publishers on the former Michie/LEXIS Law and Matthew Bender titles, the imprint areas for Shepard's and Martindale-Hubbell publications are to retain these names in prominent locations with LEXIS likely to appear only on the spine.

As far as bibliographic description is concerned, I don't think we need to worry about the legal issues involved with this merger. Regardless of who holds the copyrights on the intellectual content, the new brand configuration appears on the title pages in a publisher imprint area. Recording this publisher change in the bibliographic records for the two

title pages that I have in hand for the *General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956* and *Bender's 2000 Tax Return Manual* would involve two different approaches. The volume for the *General Laws...* is a replacement volume. Thus the 260 itself should be corrected with the new name and a note made about the old publisher name.

260 Charlottesville, VA : Lexis Pub., \$
500 Previously published: Indianapolis : Bobbs-Merrill
(1957-1981) ; Michie (1982-1994) ; Michie
Butterworth (1995-1998)
500 Description based on: t.p., v.2, pt.2 (1999)

This is basically the same technique to use on any of the Bender loose-leaf titles that start appearing with LEXIS Pub.

The Bender title I mentioned above is a serial and would have only a note to reflect the publisher change.

500 Published: New York : M. Bender (197-1998) ;
LEXIS Pub. (1999-)

The editorial department didn't change the title even though the publisher changed. Guess we'll get to do maintenance for that change next year!

If Shepards and Martindale-Hubbell remain in the imprint areas on those publications we'll have to decide whether or not LEXIS Pub. warrants a note in the bibliographic record, but my thought currently is to avoid maintenance whenever possible!

The Internet

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XML and Legal Publications: Another day, Another Markup Language.

Whenever we finally get a handle on one, another faster, better, new and improved one pops up. Extensible Markup Language (XML), a standard under development by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), is the latest entry into a crowded field.

When placed upon the markup language continuum, it provides a simpler set of rules for markup than SGML, but more flexibility than HTML. To put it in less cryptic terms, using XML requires a different focus, demanding that text encoders examine the components of documents rather how they should look. XML emphasizes the importance of such structural information by making it possible for text encoders

to create and manage their own sets of tags. Designers can apply these tags in concert with Cascading Style Sheets to create documents that produce formatting if they like, but the main emphasis of XML is on managing content.

When we speak of encoding a documents structure, we mean that XML tags can be used to encode information by identifying titles, sections, subsections, paragraphs, citations, lists, figures, etc. This differs from HTML. HTML is largely concerned with how a document is formatted for presentation via a browser. It has little regard for the structure of the document. For instance, a legal case encoded in HTML could include structure reflective tags such as title <title> and

paragraph <p>, as well as more format reflective tags such as strong, emphasis or tables <table> to align text. Many of these tags have and should be replaced by style sheets, but may be still in use.

The same case encoded in XML might have tags such as <Caption>, <Plaintiff>, <Defendant>, <Appellant>, <Respondent>, <DocketNo>, <Syllabus>, <Attorneys>, <Opinion>, etc. Rules for using these tags would be set out in a Document Type Definition (DTD). In much the same way the MARC21 format guides catalogers in using MARC tags, these rules would include what XML tags can be used, what order they must be used in, whether they are optional or required, and much more. As opposed to the case encoded using HTML, the XML tags give no instructions as to how the content should look. Using a style sheet would do this. Simply put, a style sheet exists as a separate document linked to the encoded text. It relates styles to specific tags. For instance, using the above example, the style sheet may say that anything appearing within the <Appellant> tags appear in bold, aligned center using the font Times New Roman or that text appearing within the <Attorneys> tag appear italicized and aligned to the left. Using style sheets thus keeps separate content markup from presentation markup and creates a more reusable, portable document.

Bibliographic, rights, and other information associated with an XML encoded document can be stored as a part of the document by using the Resource Description Framework (RDF). RDF provides a model for describing resources. Also developed under the auspices of the W3C, it enables the encoding, exchange and reuse of structured data. This data could be bibliographic data, rights management data, or other information integral to its use. Since the data is stored as a part of the document it describes, it could be said it functions like an electronic title page. RDF does not stipulate exactly how it must be used for each resource description community, but rather provides the ability for these communities to define data elements as needed. RDF uses XML as a common syntax for the exchange and processing of data. The XML syntax provides vendor independence, user extensibility, validation, human readability, and the ability to represent complex structures. By exploiting the features of XML, RDF imposes structure that provides for the unambiguous expression of semantics and, as such, enables consistent encoding, exchange, and machine processing of data.

One of the more prominent instances of XML use in a legal context is Legal XML. Founded in November 1998, Legal XML is a non-profit organization comprised of volunteer members from private industry, non-government organizations, government, and academia. The mission of Legal XML is to develop open, non-proprietary technical standards for legal documents and related applications. The organizations scope seeks to develop these standards for items such as court filings, case law, public and private law, legal books and law journals.

Legal XML states that its mission is not to standardize the internal format or functioning of applications (e.g., databases,

database elements). Instead, it is to standardize the interchange format that exists in between applications. For instance, one of the standards creating efforts of the group involves creation of tag names. Examples are <CourtFiling>, <FirstName>, <Jurisdiction>, and <CivilActionNumber>.

Other organizations and projects using XML with legal documents include the Utah Electronic Law and Commerce Partnership, the National Center for State Courts, and the Washington State Bar Association Electronic Communications Committee XML Study Group. There are few professions better suited than ours to implement XML given the ubiquitous use of structured documents in the legal world.

As vendors, publishers and projects such as Legal XML bring XML into the mainstream of legal publishing, understanding the basics of these markup languages becomes more and more important for technical services librarians charged with acquiring, cataloging and preserving electronic resources. As with all such initiatives, there will come a time when it ceases to be a project and must move into production. Vendors if they have not already, will begin selling electronic resources encoded in XML. Both Microsoft Word and WordPerfect now include options for saving documents in XML. Whether the documents are created locally or purchased from a vendor or publisher, understanding their structure factors heavily into the acquisitions process. Were they created using a standard DTD? How were they encoded? Were they created using proprietary tags/standards that will only allow them to be viewed using specific types of software or open standards? The answers to these questions and more are important for each of us to consider as we begin collecting, preserving and providing access to more and more encoded electronic texts.

Resources:

Legal XML

<<http://www.legalxml.org>>

WSBA XML Study Group

<<http://www.wsba.org/c/ec2/xml/links.htm>>

Concepts for a Judicial XML Namespace & Data Tag Dictionary

<<http://ctl.ncsc.dni.us/xmlconcept2.htm>>

Utah Electronic Law & Commerce Partnership XML Work Group

<<http://www.uelp.org/xmlpg.html>>

An Introduction to the Resource Description Framework / Eric Miller

<<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/may98/miller/05miller.html>>

XML : A Primer / by Simon St. Laurent
2nd ed. IDG Books Worldwide; 1999



Miss Manager, March 2000

Miss Manager

*To contact Miss Manager, please
write in care of the TSSL Editors*

Dear Miss Manager:

Is there anything I can do about a paraprofessional who does good work but doesn't accomplish as much as I'd like? This worker is not lazy, just a tad slow.

Sincerely,

Stymied

Dear Stymied:

This is a hard case. It is always easier to deal with workers at the extremes: exceptionally good workers present almost no management problems, and exceptionally bad workers present problems that can be addressed directly and forcefully. But what about all of those workers who occupy the wide spaces in between? The fact that we are talking about workers who are not at the extremes means that we are talking about the majority of workers. Your good but slow worker is right in the bulgiest part of the bell curve along with the fast but inaccurate worker, the smart but lazy worker, the worker who is great on the phone with vendors, but an inveterate gossip, the worker who works intently and well, but whose stress level drives her colleagues crazy, the worker who will volunteer to do the grungiest temporary assignment, but who can't seem to get through the normal daily tasks.

What we should notice about these "average" workers (and, Miss Manager regretfully must include average managers in this analysis) is that they are a mixture of good and bad qualities. The thing that keeps your good worker from being a great employee is slowness; the thing that keeps the exemplary volunteer from advancement is his slackness at his regular job. But also remember that the thing that keeps the office gossip from ruining the department is that she can procure anything with a couple of phone calls. The person whose angst spreads everywhere is also a nose-to-the-grindstone

workhorse. And that is the hopeful quality about all of us who fall in among the great unwashed in the average pool: there is something positive to start with. An exceptionally bad employee would be the slacker who gossips or the stressed-out lazy worker. These people need to be approached in an entirely different way. But with most workers, there will be a positive foundation on which to build.

The question then is what can I do to make the good-but-slow worker work faster? Or the procurement whiz less gossipy? This leads to the tricky issue of motivation. There is no question that we all respond to carrots and sticks, and most people would much rather be motivated by carrots. Unfortunately, we are often limited in our ability to provide positive incentives. Bureaucracies great and small (not to mention tight budgets) rarely allow us to say, "If you work faster, I will get you more money." Those same circumstances also make it difficult for us to wield big sticks: "If you don't work faster, I will fire you." But such extremism is not an appropriate solution to the sorts of problems we are encountering. We don't want to lose the decent-enough-employee's good qualities as the only way of getting rid of the bad ones. And besides, the world (outside Lake Wobegon) is populated with average people, and they are the ones who will be applying for your openings when you do lose your current crop of average workers. So it is undoubtedly best to develop those motivational skills now, because there will always be a need for them.

Miss Manager believes that one reason there are so many seminars and books about the management of people and so much variety of opinion is that there are no perfect solutions that can be generally applied to specific human beings. Like the "economic man" who inhabits some theories of law and who (in those theories) is motivated exclusively by concerns of the pocket book, the employees depicted in most of the management literature are idealized characters. They seem always to be calmed by soothing words and persuaded by reason. But we have all encountered employees who defy logic. If your mixed-quality worker responds to common sense and gentle reminders, you should be able to have a discussion where your concerns are introduced (along with much praise for the positive contributions the employee makes.) Your employee will take your suggestions into account and, with an occasional pat on the back, work better than he did before. But, clearly, not everyone will respond this way. Is there some advice that will work for employees who do not take criticism well, who never seem to improve

no matter what you say, who are offended by the idea that their work isn't perfect?

There are many cases, I believe, that require merely some attention being paid to the individual in question. Those managers who consider themselves to be "hands-off" are very likely at some point to face the rise of the individual employee's "bad" qualities. Left unchecked, don't we all allow our natural propensities to come through? So, for some managers, a more active involvement in an employee's work will help to alleviate the problem. Perhaps the slow employee will learn to work more quickly when he realizes that the manager will be coming by every day to see how things are going. If you wait for monthly or annual reviews and compilations of statistics to inform you of an employee's progress, you have less chance to engage the problems actively. One supervisor I know explains her work like this: "my job is to make sure other people do their jobs." That is personnel management in a nutshell; and it implies more than sitting separately off for most of the day hobnobbing with fellow managers (although there is undoubtedly a need for that kind of thing on occasion). And while it is quite possible for a manager to be *too* hands-on, to be interfering, stifling, and bothersome to such a degree that she inhibits work, the greater danger lies in managing people at too great a distance. Meetings as a solution to the need for manager and staff member to get together are useful under some circumstances, but they are not a substitute for working alongside a staff person to some extent. "But," the objection speaks almost by itself, "I have too much of my own work to do – I'm the only person who does original cataloging [or collection development or system administration or whatever particular thing or things apply] and I don't have time to sit with the order clerk or the check-in clerk and suggest improvements." This lament or one like it is undoubtedly true enough. But I think it can also be stated thus: "I have numerous tasks assigned to me, including the management of staff. I work more purposefully at the tasks specifically assigned to me, and choose to let the staff operate on their own, without much direct input from me."

Choosing to manage in the extremely popular "hands off" mode is the perfect arrangement for those employees over on the excellent edge of the spectrum. At the other end, where the truly bad employees congregate, an uninvolved approach will produce either workplace disasters or, more commonly, the deadwood employee who has broken so many dishes that she is no longer allowed to do dishes, or anything else. Average employees require an average amount of direct involvement. You do not need to hang over the bindery clerk every second of the day to prevent him from surfing the web or composing chat room ripostes. You need to spend enough time with him to understand how much work might reasonably be expected from a person in that job, how the particular employee might work better, what kinds of approaches and projects work best with him, and come by of

ten enough to make the idea of blatant goofing off at least an occasion for potential embarrassment, if not outright fear.

This analysis may be criticized as not saying enough about positive reinforcement as a good motivational carrot. People really do respond to the encouraging word and the "job well done" expressed in one form or another. But this cannot work effectively unless that encouragement comes somewhere near the point of performance. An employee will no doubt be pleased to hear a month after the fact that his work in rearranging the binding shelves was appreciated, but in order for the positive comment effectively to reinforce the pleasing action, it ought to come in closer to the time of performance. By overseeing more (even, in many cases, just slightly more) closely the direct work of employees, the chances for such reinforcement are much greater and much more efficacious.

This is all terribly unsatisfying if a more perfect answer was anticipated. One may reasonably claim that the individualized analyses of personalities necessary for such close work is not the proper purview of a librarian. Alas, the number of things librarians do that were not covered in library school are legion. I remember no courses that touched on moving microfiche cabinets or providing counsel to weeping staff members who have just broken up or how to take care of the computers in those pre "systems librarians" days. What we were taught was to think about the link between the individual task and the larger work of the library; to see how good searching begets good cataloging which begets good reference (if you will pardon the indiscrete analogy); to know why we are doing the work we do and to make that knowledge part of everyone's work. One thing that will help all employees and managers, whether they are ideal, awful, or somewhere in between, is a clear sense of the larger importance of the work being done.

Dear Miss Manager:

I'm supposed to come up with a mission statement for my technical services department in a sort of mediocre, run-of-the-mill, academic law library. I need something that won't commit me to spending any more money, won't insult any of the current staff, won't raise hackles in other departments, won't offend any patron or donor who might read it, won't draw any attention to our bad qualities, and won't make my director think she has to do anything different. Got any suggestions?

Sincerely,

Don't have the time

Dear Don't:

Miss Manager is sympathetic with the reluctance you may feel about writing a mission statement. Not everyone shares in the fervor of those who revel in the cultic atmosphere of habits of people who may or may not be highly effective, but who know how to sell ideas. Still, since someone, presumably your boss, has asked for such a statement, you could make something positive out of something unpleasant that you need to do anyway. If your goal is to remain safely obscure, to neglect this opportunity to discuss your department's needs with your director and colleagues, and to rattle off inanities in lieu of producing something that might lead at the very least to an awareness of your department's presence, then any sort of yadda-yadda-yadda will do the trick. But if you want to put out just a bit of effort – Miss Manager is ignoring your contention that you don't have the time – you can help yourself in at least two ways. First, by discussing your "mission" with your director and your colleagues both in and out of your department, you can get some input from them about their expectations and their vision of what you do. This may actually get you to rethink some of the things you do or don't do, leading, if all goes well, to an improvement in the work that goes on in your department. Secondly, this gives you an opportunity to write an anti-mission statement; that is, to write a mission statement that counters the worst offenses of the genre – the convoluted phrasing, the inane platitudes, the self-important posturing, and the business-memo jargon, all of which serve mostly to make mission statements unread, or if read, unheeded. If you write a mission statement in clear, unambiguous language, setting forth a true sense of the work you do (however humble that may sound when simply stated), you will have a much better chance of being useful to all of those constituencies you named: your staff, other departments, patrons, donors, and administrators. Don't let your perhaps justifiable disdain for some administrative trends override the common sense opportunities you are being offered.



Dear Miss Manager:

I've been reading books that contend that emulating Shakespeare's kings will make me a better leader of people. Who is the great example from Shakespeare for a technical services manager?

Sincerely,

Bardophile

Dear Bardophile:

Miss Manager is such an awful snob about literature. She resents the idea of corporate boobies hopping around delivering bad readings of Henry V's St. Crispin's Day speech to a roomful of minions who must feign inspiration. Shakespeare, or any other great writer you care to read, is an artist, a maker of works that are admired insofar as they are well wrought. It somehow seems debasing to make use of such things of beauty in order to squeeze another percentage point of profits out of the northeast quadrant sales division. Still, great artists do create vivid characters, and some of them have traits suited to our line of work. Shakespeare is most notable for those at the "Department Head" level who are in one way or another angling for the "Director" job. Here are a few suggestions:

1. King John, Department Head serving as Acting Director, never quits the post
2. Puck, Department Head for a Director feuding with another Director
3. Goneril and Regan, the power-grabbing Department Heads
4. Hamlet, the indecisive Department Head, really mad at the Director
5. Romeo, immature Department Head, prone to make bad choices based on emotion
6. King Lear, the Director who lets everyone else do his work
7. Prospero, the wonder-working Department Head, but treats his staff a bit harshly
8. Richard III, the Department Head who will do anything to be Director
9. Benedick and Beatrice, Department Heads who would rather fight than work
10. Falstaff, not a great Department Head, the Director's pal from Library School



OBS OCLC/WLN Committee

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Correction to last issue's article

David Whitehair of OCLC Product Management & Implementation Division contacted me after he had received the last issue of *TSLL* with a correction. In the OCLC column, I stated that a keyword search was the most expensive OCLC search. While this is still the case for Interlibrary Loan and Union List, OCLC has changed the searching prices in its Cataloging module so that keyword searching and derived/numeric searching are priced the same. As in the game of Monopoly, this was definitely an error in my favor! And yours as well.

Add your examples to *Bibliographic Formats and Standards*

OCLC is soliciting examples for its *Bibliographic Formats and Standards*. If you have that one special example that you feel best illustrates a particular cataloging rule, format, or input standard, send it to the Documentation Dept. at <http://www.oclc.org/oclc/forms/doccom.htm> or mail it to: OCLC Documentation Department, mc123, 6565 Frantz Road, Dublin, Ohio 43017-3394.

OCLC Cataloging Service User Guide, Third Edition

By the publication of this issue of *TSLL*, you should have received the third edition of the *OCLC Cataloging Service User Guide*. It includes information about such new topics as cooperative cataloging, cataloging agents, and the Bibliographic Record Notification service. It supersedes the cataloging information in eight Technical Bulletins (209, 210, 212, 213, 214, 217, 218R, and 221). Please be sure to return the

Reader Comments sheet with your critique of the new edition.

Library of Congress Joins CORC

After careful deliberation, the Library of Congress has decided to participate in OCLC's CORC project. In the *LC Cataloging Newslines* (v.7, no. 13, Nov. 1999), LC lists several advantages of joining the project. These include:

1. Cost-effectiveness (no major time of systems staff, less cataloger staff time, more technician involvement);
2. Automatic Dewey assignment;
3. Possible URL maintenance assistance;
4. User friendly (minimal staff training required);
5. Suggested subject terminology;
6. Automatic searching for previously created records for the same resource;
7. Participation in and contributions to an international effort with opportunity to influence product development;
8. Opportunity for the directorate to learn more about alternate techniques for managing electronic resources;
9. Availability of records for copy cataloging;
10. More efficient method of creating pathfinders.

Not only will LC catalogers submit MARC or Dublin Core records to the CORC database, reference librarians will have the opportunity to experiment with CORC's pathfinder functionality. OCLC is still seeking more participants for the CORC project. For more

information, see:
<<http://oclc.org/oclc/corc/index.htm>>.

OCLC WorldCat Collection Sets (formerly OCLC Major Microform Service)

OCLC Major Microform Service has been enhanced with the addition of bibliographic records for electronic databases and renamed OCLC WorldCat Collection Sets. Cataloging records for netLibrary, Project Muse, Academic Press IDEAL, JSTOR, Kluwer, Documenting the American South, and Elsevier are now available; in process are sets of records for items in Springer, Wiley, MCB Press, Royal Society of Chemists, Institute of Physics and American Physical Society. The enhancement also includes the option for automatic periodic updates containing new records that have been added to the set.





Research & Publications

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A rose looks beautiful as a bud or in full bloom. In the same way, our profession of technical services law librarians looked beautiful twenty-five years ago at its infancy, and looks wonderful today at its full flowering. Why do I know what we do is now blooming? Because our work has evolved to the point where we can talk about *the history* of professional development within technical services law librarianship. We are at the stage of our profession's growth where we are talking not only about researching and writing about our profession, but also *talking about the history* of talking about researching and writing about our profession. Such a stage is one sign that our flower—our profession of technical services law librarianship—is mature, growing and very beautiful.

I realized our day-to-day work had evolved when I began to ponder the history of the *Technical Services Law Librarian (TSLL)* (and its predecessor *The Law Cataloger 1975-79*), and particularly the history of research and publications in *TSLL* during the past twenty-five years. The old newsletters show that we progressed in the 1970s past the first stage of just being glad we can communicate with others who do our same work. Our profession also passed the next stage of beginning to communicate about our work in a more analytical, theoretical and research-based way.

During the late 1980s, we began the third stage where discussion began *about* how we communicate with each

other (which we normally call discussing our professional development).¹ We started evolving through that stage when this Research & Publications column began in *TSLL* in 1992. And now, we're on to our profession's fourth stage, as it seems very natural to talk in the year 2000 about *the history* of professional development within the technical services law librarian profession.

Professional development (p.d.) is a barometer of our profession's growth. The following cursory look back at law library technical services professional development shows our profession's own development during the past twenty-five years.² This is more than a retrospective look back due to *TSLL*'s twenty-fifth anniversary, and more than a thank you to Ellen McGrath as she departs this column to be OBS-SIS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. I want you to *celebrate* with me how technical services law librarianship reached its current stage of growth, a celebration possible as we jointly take a trip in history and smell some roses along the way.

P.d. was not a concern twenty-five years ago during the first stage of technical services law librarianship. The emphasis was on communication among fellow librarians via the technical services newsletter or via the annual conference programs. The newsletter was primarily viewed as a "clearinghouse" on the "practical aspects of our profession,"³ not a place for "substantive articles."⁴

The second stage of our profession's growth, that of researching and writing about technical services law librarianship, started shakily. In fact, *The Law Cataloger* in 1976 included one librarian's assertion that writing about "personal research projects is

pure fantasy, especially at a time when every processing department in the country has backlogs."⁵ Such a view did not last long, as "the need for more cataloging and classification publications" grew,⁶ a concern that would later turn into a "crucial need" as we're "dancing as fast as [we] can ... in the fast lane of technical services."⁷ The editor of *Law Library Journal* begged for technical services articles in AALL's flagship journal in 1983,⁸ *Cataloging Legal Literature* was published in 1984,⁹ and *Cataloging Rules for the Description of Looseleaf Publications* followed in 1986.¹⁰ Research and publishing did not become the dominant focus of our profession, but such activity did increase in relative importance.

Stage three began in 1988 when technical services law librarians began to write and talk about professional development.¹¹ That year, TS-SIS Chair Renee Chapman appointed the Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Publishing Opportunities for Technical Services Law Librarians.¹² The chair of that committee, Brian Striman, started the OBS-SIS and TS-SIS Research Roundtable at the 1992 annual conference (later joined by Ellen McGrath),¹³ and—the part of this history you've been waiting for—founded *TSLL*'s Research & Publications column in September 1992. From the start, Brian saw the column as a "research 'ideas pool'" on technical services professional development issues,¹⁴ and served as its catalyst and editor/co-editor for six years from 1992 to 1998.

Another way to illustrate the third stage of our profession's growth is to look at the work of Ellen McGrath with *TSLL*'s Research & Publications column during the past seven years. Ellen emphasized

the practical nature of the column as a constant source of p.d. information for technical services law librarians. Her first column in 1993 included the poetic line, "If you have ever wanted to do research, but could not figure out what topic to pursue, the sources cited in this column should provide some help for you."¹⁵ Ellen stayed true to her slogan, and filled her next sixteen columns with 45 research and publishing ideas, 45 kudos to TS-SIS and OBS-SIS authors on their publications and presentations, and an incredible **135** opportunities for publishing technical services related articles. (Note: these statistics are in addition to Brian Striman's contributions that I highlighted a year ago.)¹⁶ Ellen (and Brian) constantly fed the growing p.d. movement within technical services law librarianship, making certain you had a Research & Publications column in every issue of *TSLL* during her tenure from 1993 to 1999 (and an OBS-SIS and TS-SIS Research Roundtable at every AALL conference during the same time period).

And now, Ellen is hoping to assist with our profession's growth to its next stage, which is looking at the recent history of research and publishing in technical services law librarianship. She's been interested in the topic for some time, and is currently working on a submission for *Law Library Journal*. I think she will agree that the three prior stages of our profession continue to this day—communicating with each other, researching as part of such communication, and talking about such research (or in other words, professional development). *TSLL* continues, substantive scholarship is being carried out regarding technical services law librarianship, and we're still discussing p.d. I look forward to her *LLJ* contribution, knowing it will plant the seeds leading to the next stages of our profession's development. I also look forward to the continued contributions by other OBS-SIS and TS-SIS authors interested in communicating, researching and writing about our profession. There's room for many flowers, no matter what stage of growth they are in.

Library History Research Opportunities
The literature devoted to historical analysis of libraries, printing and books is increasing in the United States and elsewhere. There are many calls for papers, conferences, newsletters, journals and organizations devoted to various aspects of book history. Highlighted here are two organizations and two journals concerned with the general history of libraries and publishing.

American Library Association, Library History Round Table (LHRT) <<http://www.spertus.edu/library-history>>. Your library history research is incomplete if you ignore this Web site. In addition to calls for papers, newsletter issues, awards, guides to local library research, and links to related Web resources and discussion lists, LHRT's Web page includes an extensive "Bibliography of Writings on the History of Libraries, Librarianship, and Book Culture" compiled by Ed Goedeken, Iowa State University, <edgoed@iastate.edu>. This must-see bibliography has *thousands* of citations to U.S. and international library-related history books and articles.

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading & Publishing (SHARP) <<http://www.indiana.edu/~sharp>>. SHARP's Web site features links to many calls for papers; publisher, researcher and exhibitor's Web pages; and teaching resources. In addition, SHARP publishes *Book History* <<http://www.indiana.edu/~sharp/bookhist.html>>. This newer journal has an annual submission deadline of August 1. The Web page includes guidelines for submission.

Libraries & Culture <<http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/journals/jlc.html>>. Consider publishing your library-related historical article(s) in this inter-disciplinary quarterly journal, especially if you are relating a topic such as professional development within technical services law librarianship to broader societal issues.



Footnotes:

1 I use the term "professional development" here to mean "research and publications" as I do not want to constantly repeat the phrase "research and publications" while talking in this column about the stages of our profession's growth. I recognize professional development typically includes more than research and publishing, and that library association membership, committee work, and office holding contribute to all of our professional development.

2 Some sources I find useful for analyzing the history of technical services law librarianship include the following: Christine A. Brock, "Law Libraries and Librarians: A Revisionist History", 67 *Law Library Journal* [hereinafter *LLJ*] (1974): 325; Elizabeth Anne Carlson, "Bibliography on Cataloging and Classification of Legal Materials", 61 *LLJ* (1968): 259; Nancy E. Miller & Marie Whited, "Bibliography on Cataloging and Classification of Legal Materials—A Supplement, 1968-74", 68 *LLJ* (1975): 307; Alva T. Stone & Jessie Tam, "Cataloging and Classification of Law Materials: A Survey of Recent Literature", 83 *LLJ* (1991): 721; Helen W. Tuttle, "From Cutter to Computer: Technical Services in Academic and Research Libraries, 1876-1976", 37 *College. & Research. Libraries* (1976): 421; John Fiske, "A Librarian's Work", 38 *Atlantic Monthly* (1876): 480 (describes Harvard University Library technical processing); *Technical Services Special Interest Section History* (last modified Aug. 16, 1999) <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/sishist.htm>>. For general U.S. law library history sources, see my Feb. 3, 1999 post to *Law-Lib* "Re: Law Library History (15 sources)", archived at: <<http://lawlibrary.ucdavis.edu/LAWLIB/Feb99/0123.html>> (last modified Mar. 1, 1999).

3 Phyllis Marion, "What It's All About", *Law Cataloger* (Aug. 1975): 1 (editor's remarks in vol. 1, no. 1).

4 "Editorial Policy", *Technical Services Law Librarian* [hereinafter *TSLL*] (Sept. 1980): 2.

5 Paul Glavin, "Book Review", *Law Cataloger* (May 1976): 5 (reviewing Donald LeRoy Foster, *Managing the Catalog Department*).

6 Diane Hillmann & Gayle Edelman, "Continuing Education for Law Catalogers", *TSLL* (Aug. 1985): 13.

7 Margaret Maes Axtmann, "I'm Dancing As Fast As I Can: Life in the Fast Lane of Technical Services", in *Towards a*

Renaissance in Law Librarianship 117, 119, ed. Richard A. Danner (1997).

8 "As editor of the *Law Library Journal*, I would like to make a special request to readers of the *Technical Services Law Librarian* that they consider authorship in *LLJ*. Good articles on technical processes are hard to get because technical services librarians are always so busy—either reading to keep up with the latest developments or implementing them." Charles R. Dyer, "[LLJ Article Solicitation]", *TSLL* (Aug. 1983): 20. Other *Law Library Journal* editors made similar requests. "Dick Danner (Duke), editor of the *Law Library Journal*, wanted the members to be reminded that *LLJ* needs material for publication." Pat Callahan, "On-Line Bibliographic Services SIS Business Meeting", *TSLL* (Aug. 1984): 11; "Frank Houdek, editor of *Law Library Journal*, attended the meeting as a guest speaker and ... [said] he would like to see the number of technical services articles increase." Rebecca Lutkenhaus, "OBS-SIS & TS-SIS

Research Roundtable", *TSLL* 24 no.1 (Sept. 1999): 18.

9 Peter Enyingi et al., *Cataloging Legal Literature* (1984).

10 Adele Hallam, *Cataloging Rules for the Description of Looseleaf Publications: With Special Emphasis on Legal Materials* (1986).

11 Many association-wide initiatives relating to research and publications coincided with the technical services law librarians' emphasis on professional development. See, e.g., Dennis C. Benamati & Evelina E. Lemelin, *Publication Opportunities for Law Librarians* (1996); Richard A. Danner, "From the Editor: Supporting Professional Research", 83 *LLJ* (1991): 615; "The Strategic Plan 1990-94 of the American Association of Law Libraries", 22 *AALL Newsletter* (1990): 201, 209 (association objective: "support research in law librarianship").

12 Renee D. Chapman, "Technical Services SIS Message From the Chair", *TSLL* (Aug.

1988): 16. See also Brian Striman, *Publishing Opportunities for Technical Services Law Librarians: A Report of the Technical Services Special Interest Section Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Publishing Opportunities for Technical Services Law Librarians* (1991).

13 Brian Striman, "TS and OBS Research Roundtable", *TSLL* (Sept. 1992): 16. Alva Stone helped start the idea of a joint OBS-SIS and TS-SIS Research Roundtable. See Alva T. Stone, "Online Bibliographic Services SIS Message From the Chair", *TSLL* (Nov. 1991): 5.

14 Brian Striman, "Research and Publications", *TSLL* (Sept. 1992): 8. Brian also saw the column as a forum for "nagging angels in your subconscious." Brian Striman, "Research and Publications", *TSLL* (June 1998): 7.

15 Ellen McGrath, "Research and Publications", *TSLL* (Sept. 1993): 13.

16 G. LeGrande Fletcher, "Research & Publications", *TSLL* (Sept. 1998): 6.

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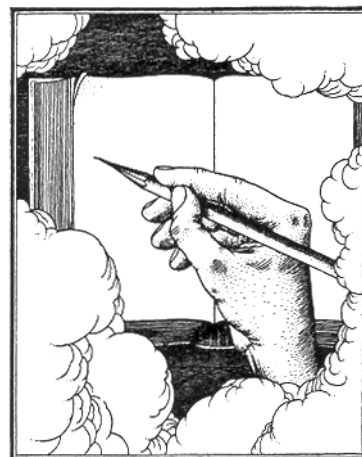
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Chair

AALL Publications Committee
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International Developments in the Serials World

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Editors' note: We are delighted to introduce both a new column and new columnist to TSLL. You have been clamoring for articles on serial issues (so to speak) as well as title changes, and we're off to a fabulous start.

After twenty years, we have a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" to harmonize the major serials cataloging guidelines used throughout the world, said a member of the ISBD(S) Working Group, Karen Darling, during ALA Midwinter in January 2000. Perhaps the first fruits of the 1997 Toronto International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR <www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc/confpap.htm> are the changes to serials cataloging.

Over 50 countries use AACR2, one of its 18 translations, or an adaptation of AACR2 to catalog serials. Cataloging records from many countries are shared — 67 countries using OCLC alone. And of course, the Internet allows access to library catalogs worldwide. It's becoming more crucial than ever to catalog our serials consistently.

Discussion of the 1997 Toronto paper on serials cataloging (one of nine papers in the set) led to the April 1999 paper "Revising AACR2 to Accommodate Seriality." <www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc/ser-rep0.html>. This paper explained the background, again revised the proposed



concept of seriality, and made specific recommendations for changes to AACR2 rules. Various organizations, including ALA's CC:DA, reviewed and commented on it. In Brisbane, Australia in October 1999, the Joint Steering Committee for Revision of Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (JSC) endorsed most but not all the recommendations of the April 1999 paper <www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc/index.htm>.

To start with, JSC approved the model of finite and continuing resources, rather than the existing model of monographs and serials. We will use the term "resource" rather than "publication" because it is less biased toward print. The term "continuing resource" will replace today's broad category of "serial."

Finite resources are complete when they are first issued, or they are intended to be completed. Continuing resources are intended to be continued for an indeterminate period, for example, serials, loose-leaves, databases, etc. Continuing resources may be described as having "successive issuance" or "integrating issuance." A resource that is issued successively has a succession of discrete parts, for example printed serials, electronic journals with distinct issues, multi-part items issued over time, and monographic series. An integrating resource is added to or changed by updates that are integrated into the whole and do not remain

discrete. The updates may be separately issued (for example, releases into a loose-leaf), or integrated by the publisher (for example, an electronic database, a Web site, or an electronic journal which is not issued with numbering or dates).

The following recommendations from the April 1999 report were among those endorsed.

- Rules will be added to Chapter 12 for the description of integrating resources. Integrating resources will be identified by their most recent title, not by the earliest title. This approach will be called "integrating entry" for which a new MARC value (now successive/latest entry - 008/byte 34) will be proposed. Of course, we have long cataloged loose-leaves this way, according to Hallam's rules. The rules for integrating entries will be based on Hallam, which will minimize disruption for law libraries.

- A serial whose numbering begins again will no longer require a new bibliographic record; the cataloger will distinguish the new sequence by chronological designation or by supplying "[new ser.]" For example: Vol. 1(1981)-v. 19(1999); v. 1(2000)- This is one of several initiatives to reduce the number of new bibliographic records, which will unclutter our OPACs, reduce our workload, and simplify holdings statements. This change also harmonizes AACR2 with the ISSN/key title rules.

- Eventually (probably not in the first revision of Chapter 12), the concept of a "chief source of information" which requires the use of a single issue for cataloging will be eliminated for continuing resources. This may allow broader description based on



multiple issues or iterations, which may allow fewer title changes, and would better accommodate integrating resources.

- If the cataloging of a continuing resource is not based solely on the first issue, the cataloger will provide a note to indicate which issues were

the basis of the description. The note may read: "Latest issue consulted:"

- Rules will use the phrase "issue or part" to accommodate serials which don't have discrete issues.

- Obvious errors in a title will be corrected rather than transcribed with "[sic]" as they are today. A variant title will be added containing the error. This should improve browsing and sorting in OPACs.

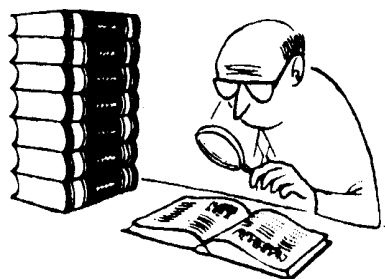
- The cataloger will have the option to omit certain introductory words in a title, such as "Welcome to" or "The ABC Association presents...." The cataloger will either catalog from another source of the title proper, or omit the introductory words and explain in a note. This change will be applied to bibliographic resources in all formats, not just to serials, and will be particularly important for electronic journals which often have such introductory phrases at the top of the first screen.

- For serials which lack numeric, alphabetic, chronological or other designation, the cataloger will be allowed to supply a chronological designation or "[No. 1]" as now instructed in 12.3D1. This rule change will allow JSC to broaden AACR2's present definition of a serial (which now must have a designation) to a definition which says that a serial usually has a designation.

Perhaps the most significant changes are those which will allow us to create fewer new bibliographic records for changes. JSC will revise some parts of rule 21.2A1 (which specifies when a

new bibliographic record must be created for the change of a title). Rather than responding to all title changes, we will look for major and minor changes — to the title, to the corporate body main entry and to physical format. These are concepts which have been proven in their use by *ISBD(S)* and by the *ISDS Manual*. A major title change will require a new bibliographic record, but a minor title change will not. CC:DA is to draft a new appendix to AACR2 which will define what constitute major and minor changes.

If a major change requires a new bibliographic record, what do you do with a minor change? It is proposed that you retain the bibliographic record, change the title to the new title and record the earlier title as an added access point. To tie the earlier version of this record to the later version, the ISBD(S) Working Group, the ISSN Manual Revision Working Group and the April 1999 JSC paper are proposing a new form of identifying title: the International Standard Title or IST. It would provide a stable title when a title undergoes a minor change. It would partly take over the role of the key title, and would use the same tag, 222. Draft guidelines for the IST will be developed for the May 2000 Meeting of Experts.



The next steps include:

- February 2000 — draft of revised rules
- March 2000 — JSC review of the revised rules
- Late May 2000 — a "meeting of experts," followed by further revision

- June and July 2000 — comments to JSC
- September 2000 — JSC meets to review final version
- Publication by ALA/CLA/LA of a revised Chapter 12 and some other changes

You can participate in this process by looking for drafts at the JSC Web site <www.nlc-bnc.ca/jsc> and at ALCTS' CC:DA Web site <www.ala.org/alcts/organization/ccs/ccda/ccda.html>.

* * * * *

In addition to AACR2, two other international standards for the description of serials: *ISBD(S): International Standard Bibliographic Description for Serials* and the *ISDS Manual* are being reviewed at this time. Committees revising the three documents are working together.

ISBD(S) had its roots in the 1969 International Meeting of Cataloguing Experts, which recommended an approach meant to encourage universal bibliographic control, including the use of a standard bibliographic description with data elements in a prescribed order, set off by certain marks of punctuation. The aim was to enable you to identify the parts of a bibliographic record by the punctuation that preceded it, whether or not you could read the language or even the alphabet. MARC coding, first published just a year earlier, has largely taken over this labeling function in machine-readable bibliographic databases. Without thinking much about it, today's catalogers code ISBD punctuation and MARC subfield codes side by side. But the ISBD rules for description of various formats have endured. Most countries today either use the ISBDs directly as a standard for cataloging, or incorporate ISBDs into their cataloging rules, as in AACR. The ISBDs are reviewed periodically, and continue to develop — the newest is *ISBD(ER)* for electronic resources, published in 1997.



ISBD(S) was developed in 1977; the revised edition issued in 1988 is now being revised by IFLA's *ISBD(S)* Working Group, which was charged to work cooperatively with the groups revising *AACR2* and the *ISDS Manual*. The *ISBD(S)* Working Group met in November 1998 and again in January 2000, just before Midwinter. The name of the document has been changed to *ISBD(CR): International Standard Bibliographic Description for Serials and Other Continuing Resources*. Its scope has been expanded to include integrating resources: loose-leaves, in this document, are no longer monographs! It defines "continuing resource" as a bibliographic resource issued over time with no predetermined conclusion. Continuing resources include serials and most integrating entities. It defines a serial as a continuing resource in any medium issued in a succession of discrete parts, usually bearing numeric or chronological designations and usually having no predetermined conclusion. With the word "usually," the *ISBD(CR)* definition of serial is broader than today's *AACR2* definition. Going back to the 1970s, *ISBD(S)* and the *Guidelines for ISDS* (predecessor to the *ISDS Manual*) have said "usually."

The ISSN Network has convened a working group to revise the 1983 *ISDS Manual* (International Serials Data System, since 1993 called the ISSN Network). They intend to be compatible with the changes to *ISBD(S)* and to *AACR2*, to add rules for the identification and cataloging of electronic publications, and to change the ISSN rules to cause fewer major title changes. If the ISSN records become closer to cataloging rules, they can be used for cataloging with fewer changes. The working group plans to meet three times during the next year and to publish the manual by the end of 2000.

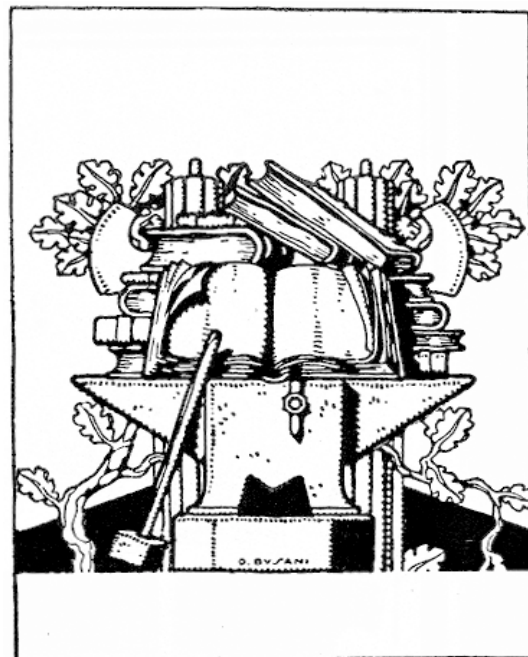
All three groups seek to minimize the number of titles changes required. At the same time, it's essential to agree worldwide, and for all three systems, on what title changes require a new bibliographic record. In order to share bibliographic data effectively throughout the world, we need

compatible rules. It's wasteful to have to catalog a serial in one way to comply with one's national cataloging code, another way to request a key title and ISSN.

* * * * *

Another project that has been under consideration for many years is finally going to happen — the Publication Pattern Database. Under CONSER's lead, a two-year experiment in creating shared publication pattern information will begin soon. A small group of libraries will be given authorization to add publication information to CONSER records in the OCLC database; the records will be distributed as are other CONSER records. Any OCLC cataloger, whether or not a CONSER member, can add the pattern fields to a new original-cataloging serial record. The pattern records will contain captions (for example, volume and number), what kind of date appears on the piece (month, date and year? season and year?), how many issues per volume, frequency, and predictable irregularities (and any other variations that can be coded in the MARC holdings fields 853/854/855). They will also contain a field which indicates when the pattern begins, and if changed, when it ended.

The information will be in the MARC Format for Holdings Data, stored within a special tag in OCLC. With cut-and-paste or some new programming, local systems may be able to use the information for their serials control systems. Various committees have been appointed, planning has begun, documentation has been drafted and will be available on the Web. OCLC will issue information about the 891 field in an OCLC Technical Bulletin. The project is seeking a few more participants to provide broader representation of local integrated library systems. For more information, see lcweb.loc.gov/acq/conser/pathhold.html.





The following serial title changes were recently identified by the University of San Diego Legal Research Center serials staff and the University of California, Berkeley Law Library cataloging staff:

American Bar Association.

Directory
-1998-1999
(OCoLC 1479463)

Changed to:
American Bar Association.
Leadership directory
1999-2000-
(OCoLC 42706319)

California.
California corporations code and corporate securities rules
-1999 ed.
(OCoLC 26177779)
Changed to:
California.
California corporations code and commercial code with securities rules and releases
2000 ed.-
(OCoLC 43256730)

Circles (Buffalo, N.Y.)
Vol. 1 (spring 1992)-v. 6 (1998)
(OCoLC 27272457)
Changed to:
The Buffalo women's law journal
Vol. 7 (spring 1999)-
(OCoLC 40718641)

Human rights in developing countries
1985-1997
(OCoLC 14813754)
Changed to:

Margaret McDonald
University of San Diego
maggiemc@ucsd.edu

Serials

Christina Tarr
University of California, Berkeley
ctarr@library.berkeley.edu

Human rights in development yearbook.
1998-
(OCoLC 43083795)

Immigration law report
Vol. 1, no. 1 (May 1981)-v. 18, no. 13 (July 1, 1999)
(OCoLC 7586705)
Changed to:
Immigration business news & comment
Vol. 1, no. 1 (Sept. 1, 1999)-
(OCoLC 42425629)

In the public interest (Amherst, N.Y.)
Vol. 1, no. 1 (Apr. 1980)-v. 16 (1997-1998)
(OCoLC 6365424)
Changed to:
Buffalo public interest law journal
Vol. 17 (1998-1999)-
(OCoLC 42843133)

Michie's West Virginia code, annotated : court rules
1987-1999
Split into:
Michie's West Virginia code, annotated : state court rules
1999-
(OCoLC 42901461)
And:
Michie's West Virginia code, annotated : federal court rules
1999-
(OCoLC 42901567)

University of Miami yearbook of international law
Vol. 1 (1991)-v. 6 (1997-1998)
(OCoLC 25534024)
Changed to:
International and comparative law review
Vol. 7 (1998-1999)-
(OCoLC 43210184)

The Vermont bar journal & law digest
Vol. 9, no. 3 (June 1983)-v. 25, no. 2 (June 1999) = 47-138
(paper: OCoLC 10043810;
microform: OCoLC 14585166)

Changed to:
The Vermont bar journal
Vol. 25, no. 3 (Sept. 1999)-
(Microform: OCoLC 42710866; no OCoLC record for paper copy by TSSL deadline)

Washington University journal of urban and contemporary law
Vol. 24 (1983)-v. 55 (winter 1999)
(OCoLC 9588381)
Changed to:
Washington University journal of law and policy
Vol. 1 (1999)-
(OCoLC 42771015)

The following serial cessations were identified by the University of San Diego Legal Research Center serials staff and the University of California, Berkeley Law Library acquisitions staff:

China law reporter
Ceased with: v. 8, no. 3-4 (1999)
(OCoLC 7357165)

Financiero (Mexico City, Mexico : weekly international ed.)
Ceased with: v. 9, no. 25 (Dec. 6, 1999)
(OCoLC 26614306)

Mexico newspak
Ceased with: v. 7, no. 20 (Nov. 29-Dec. 13, 1999) = -issue 178
(OCoLC 27468845)



Subject Headings

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For those of us who deal with catalog maintenance, subject headings revision can be a real challenge. On the one hand, we'd like our subjects headings to reflect current usage, to match the popular or "natural" language of our end-users. On the other hand, not all of our online systems have global-change capabilities for making these revisions automatically. Cataloging staff must somehow find the time to execute the more complex revisions, while we are trying to keep up with regular cataloging of new titles. It would be a great disservice to our clients or patrons to leave the old works under the outdated headings, thus creating split files which runs counter to the principle of collocation that is so fundamental to effective subject access. (Keyword access would be negatively affected too!) However, because our new-title cataloging statistics may decrease when we work on major subject heading revisions, it may be a good idea to make certain that our library administrators know that we have accomplished these tasks. As with a reclassification project, we need to let others know (through announcements at staff meetings, notices in the library newsletter, or in written annual reports) that some cataloging time was spent on making these improvements. Rather than feeling burdened by the changes, let's turn this around to an opportunity to promote what we do, and let others see that we are committed to making the library's catalog easier to use.

Two recent subject heading changes that affect law libraries are the 1999 revision of "Trade-unions" to Labor unions, and the establishment in 1998 of the heading "Drugs of abuse—Law and legislation." In the first instance, it is not just a matter of changing the word "trade" to "labor" and omitting the hyphen. No, some other revisions took place as well. For example, in the first heading listed below an inverted heading was changed to direct-phrase (or *natural language*) heading. And, in all of the headings which formerly were constructed in the style, "Trade-unions—[Class of persons]," the order has been reversed so that the correct heading now is [Class of persons]—Labor unions. Sometimes it was necessary to *add* another topical subdivision to change the topic into a class of persons, as in Postal service—*Employees*—Labor unions. There are other exceptions, such as the change from "Welfare funds (Trade-union)" to Labor union welfare funds. Because of all these variations, I thought it would be helpful to list the specific changes—for those law catalogers who have not yet made the revisions. Note that the following list only includes *law-*

related "labor union" headings; your library may have some other headings that are affected by the revision.

- Business enterprises, Trade-union
Changed to Labor union-owned business enterprises
- Trade-unions—Accounting—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Accounting—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Agricultural laborers—Law and legislation
Changed to Agricultural laborers—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Artists—Law and legislation
Changed to Artists—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Building trades—Law and legislation
Changed to Building trades—Employees—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—College employees—Law and legislation
Changed to University and colleges—Employees—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Construction workers—Law and legislation
Changed to Construction workers—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Elections—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Elections—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Entertainers—Law and legislation
Changed to Entertainers—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Finance—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Finance—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Fire fighters—Law and legislation
Changed to Fire fighters—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Fishers—Law and legislation
Changed to Fishers—Labor unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Government employees—Law and legislation
Changed to Government employee unions—Law and legislation
- Trade-unions—Health facilities—Law and legislation
Changed to Health facilities—Employees—Labor unions—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Hospitals—Law and legislation
Changed to Hospitals—Staff—Labor unions—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Journalists—Law and legislation
Changed to Journalists—Labor unions—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Jurisdictional disputes—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Jurisdictional disputes—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Law and legislation
 Trade-unions—Lawyers
Changed to Lawyers—Labor unions

Trade-unions—Political activity—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Political activity—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Postal service—Law and legislation
Changed to Postal service—Employees—Labor unions—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Private security service employees—Law and legislation
Changed to Private security services—Employees—Labor unions—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Recognition—Elections—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Recognition—Elections—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Recognition—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Recognition—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Records and correspondence—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor unions—Records and correspondence—Law and legislation

Trade-unions—Sheltered workshops—Law and legislation
Changed to Sheltered workshops—Employees—Labor unions—Law and legislation

Welfare funds (Trade-union)—Law and legislation
Changed to Labor union welfare funds—Law and legislation

The other aforementioned subject heading change, Drugs of abuse—Law and legislation, is one that was brought to my attention by Aaron Kuperman via a posting made by him to the TS-SIS Listserv in Dec. 1999. According to the scope note for the main heading,

Drugs of abuse are ...”those mind-altering drugs, such as alcohol, hallucinogens, marijuana, narcotics, sedatives, and stimulants, that governments seek to control because they are liable to be abused.”

Previously, works we cataloged dealing with *legal* aspects of such drugs collectively were assigned the subject heading, Narcotic laws. That heading is still valid, but only for works limiting their coverage to narcotics (such as opium, morphine and heroin). This means that many—but not necessarily all—of the works with “Narcotic laws” will need to be changed to Drugs of abuse—Law and legislation. Particularly those works that deal with more than one of the street drugs (cocaine, marijuana, LSD, roofies, etc.) or include alcohol *and* narcotics (or some other combination) should be revised to the newer heading. (Note that prescription drugs, which may also be abused or misused, will continue to be assigned the heading, Drugs—Law and legislation.) Since this is not a one-to-one change, each existing bibliographic record currently under Narcotic laws will need to be examined to determine if the revision is needed. Aaron reported that only the older, more historical works at the Library of Congress were able to keep the heading “Narcotic laws.”

Please let me know if further information is needed on either of these major changes, or if you have other topics you would like to see addressed in this column.

Local Systems Committee Open Discussion: “Alpha & Beta Testing”

The Local Systems Committee of OBS/SIS is pleased to announce an informal “program” at AALL. You are invited to come to their Open Discussion at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, July 19, 2000. Learn why Adrian White recommends the beta experience as a result of beta testing Innovative’s Millennium Circulation and Serials at Howard University. Find out from Regina Wallen how Stanford University handled alpha testing of SIRSI’s Serials and Acquisitions modules. Join in a discussion about the relationship between libraries and their system vendors. This is your chance to learn about system testing, ask questions, and share your opinions. Anyone with an interest in the topic is invited. You are welcome to bring your lunch.

Susan Goldner
 Chair, Local Systems Committee



Research Grant Available

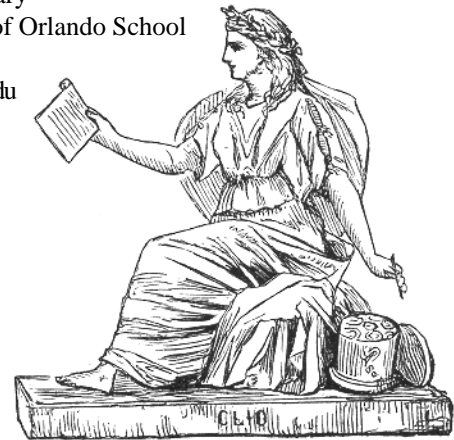


Do you have a research project you've been thinking about starting, but one of the hurdles in your way is a lack of money? There is a source of money available to help you jump this hurdle. The OBS/TS Joint Research Grant Committee (JRGC) is now accepting applications until June 15th for its 2000 research grant.

Since this is the 25th anniversary issue of *TSLL*, here's a little bit about the history (although short) of the grant. It was proposed by Brian Striman (University of Nebraska) and Ellen McGrath (University of Buffalo) at the 1997 AALL annual meeting. The OBS-SIS and TS-SIS members approved it unanimously that same year. The grant was established to provide support necessary for technical services law librarians to perform research that will enhance law librarianship in service to our clients. Applicants must be members of AALL and must show evidence that the research will benefit technical services law librarianship. The committee has \$1000 to be awarded each year. The OBS-SIS and TS-SIS each contribute \$500 towards the grant. In 1998, two grants were awarded. G. LeGrande Fletcher was awarded \$130 for his research on "Nevada Practice Materials: A Selective Annotated Bibliography" and Christina Tarr was awarded \$231 for her research on "Alternative Cataloging: Cataloging at Amazon.com Online Bookstore."

There were no grants awarded in 1999 because there were no applicants. Let's not let this resource go unused. An application form and information about the grant guidelines are available on the OBS Web site <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/>> or the TS Web site <<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/tssis.htm>>. If you are interested in applying for the grant, please contact the current Chair of JRGC, Corinne Jacox (Barry University of Orlando), by email <cjacox@mail.barry.edu> or by phone at 407-275-2100.

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