Fall 1987

Southeastern Law Librarian Fall 1987

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope each of you has had a wonderful summer and is ready for an exhilarating fall, especially in terms of the activities of the Southeastern Chapter. One of the things I want to stress this year is continuity, building upon the things which have been done in the past. Over the past few years many exciting initiatives have begun and the Chapter needs to continue to build on them. You will find new committee appointments elsewhere in this issue. In several instances persons have been reapointed to the same committee. The reapointment of committee chairs and maintaining a core of committee members is one way to continue the building process.

Among our committee activities is the Education Committee's interpretation of the education survey (summarized in this issue) and preparation of a plan for expanded educational offerings in 1988/89. The Publicity Committee plans to publicize the Chapter's activities using the materials developed by last year's committee. The Scholarship Committee will apply newly adopted guidelines and will seek a larger pool of applicants for Chapter scholarships. If you have any thoughts or suggestions on any aspect of Chapter activities, please CONTACT me or any committee chair.

The transition of officer responsibilities from year to year has sometimes not proceeded as easily as it could. To assist in that transition and to provide continuity, dues notices will be sent in January next year. This allows the new officers to begin their terms with completed financial records and a current roster. It also allows earlier appointments of committee members, helping the continuity of chapter activities.

The Chapter has always had many members who serve quietly and effectively, always responding positively when asked to perform any service great or small. This year I have appointed a Special Committee on Service to recognize those people who form the backbone of the Chapter. The first award will be presented at our annual meeting in Lexington.

At our meetings in Charleston and Chicago, the Chapter recognized the past presidents of the Chapter for their hard work and dedication by presentation of pewter Jefferson cups engraved with the Chapter's acronym. Inadvertently, the presence of Bill Younger of the Alabama Supreme Court was overlooked in Chicago. Bill served ably as President from 1974-1976 during the time when the commitment to the office was four years. We (Continued on Page 5)
EDITOR'S CORNER

The Southeastern Law Librarian is the official publication of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. It is published quarterly in September, December, March and June. Editorial comments or submissions should be sent to the editor; subscription information should be directed to the Secretary of the Chapter; and inquiries regarding advertising should be made to Doina G. Parkas, University of North Carolina Law Library, CB#3380 Van Hecke Wettach Bldg., Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514; 919-962-1207.

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DEADLINES - VOLUME 13 OF THE SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

Vol. 13, #2 - Nov. 1, 1987
Vol. 13, #3 - Feb. 1, 1988
Vol. 13, #4 - May 1, 1988

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VANDERBILT HONORS JUDGE LOONEY

Mary Miles Prince
Alyne Queener Massey Law Library

The Vanderbilt Law School and Law Library honored the family of the late Judge James Cullen Looney of Edinburg, Texas, in a private ceremony May 7. The Looney family established the Law Library's Medico-Legal Collection in 1984 in honor of Judge Looney, a frequent benefactor and distinguished alumnus of the Law School. The collection, the only comprehensive one of its kind in this section of the country, creates the opportunity for in-depth research in such inter-disciplinary fields as ethics, public policy, economics, malpractice, health costs, medical experimentation, treatment of the terminally ill, and euthanasia.

Law School Dean John Costonis and Director of the Law Library Igor Kavass greeted Mrs. James Cullen Looney, Judge Looney's daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McAllen, and two grandsons, Geoffrey and Lowry McAllen, of McAllen, Texas. The scene for the ceremony was a specially designed display area located in the Law Library reading room which included a representative part of the medico-legal collection, a commemorative brochure, and a commemorative poster commissioned for the occasion. The display area also included a facsimile edition of a plaque created in honor of Judge Looney and the Medico-Legal Collection. The permanent plaque will be hung in the Law Library later this year.
SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

********* 1987/88 OFFICERS *********

Hazel L. Johnson, President
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Mary D. Smith, Vice President/President-Elect
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************************************

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Wes Coohran
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Joseph Cross
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Reba Best
University of Tennessee

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Katherine Malmquist
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Janet Meyer
The McNaIr Firm
Columbia, SC

Mary E. Miller
Mississippi College

Janet Sinder
Duke University
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College of William and Mary
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Kentucky State Law Library
Connie Matzen
Smith Anderson Blount Dorsett et al
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Stetson University
Ray Lytle
Tulane University
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Papy Poole Weissenborn & Papy
Coral Gables, FL
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Mississippi College

Special Committee on Service to SEAALL:
Don Ziegenfuss, Chair
Carlton Fields Emmanuel et al
Tampa, FL
Clayne Calhoun
Roanoke Law Library
Robin Mills
Emory University

"You will become as small as your controlling desire; as great as your dominant aspiration."
all thank him for his service and his cup has been sent to Montgomery.

Hazel L. Johnson
President

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LOOKING BACK AT '86/87

Carol Billings

Three months ago I heaved what I trusted was my final sign of relief upon completing my fourth president's column. BUT ... Tim Coggins, a man without mercy, perhaps inspired by Bob Berring's wonderfully thought-provoking "Dyspeptic Ramblings of a Retiring Past President" in the spring issue of Law Library Journal, has prevailed upon me to record my "reminiscences" of SEAALL in 1986-87 and to make a few observations. I had planned on waiting until I reach 85 to do my reminiscing, hoping by that time to have something scandalous to recount, but, as a former newsletter editor, I know it is tough to fill those columns. So, here goes.

When I prepared the SEAALL annual report for AALL Headquarters a few months ago, I observed that because of our fifty-year tradition and large membership it is our obligation to find new and creative ways to fulfill our mission. All chapter presidents hope to accomplish something special during their terms. SEAALL boasts such an outstanding roster of past presidents that it becomes increasingly difficult to equal the successes of one's predecessors. I feel that I had a particularly tough act to follow in Dick Danner. The Education Committee that he created and then chaired has laid the foundation for what I predict will be one of our Chapter's most valuable undertakings ever. Providing more educational opportunities, such as institutes and workshops, at the local and regional level will surely foster the professional development of both individual members and the Chapter as a whole. As a chapter that encompasses almost a quarter of the country, we might consider following the example of the six Northeast chapters which have banded together to sponsor an ambitious regional conference in Albany, N.Y. from October 8 - 10. The program chair of that meeting, Margie Axtmann (who retains associate membership in SEAALL), has told me that one of their major objectives is to give chapter members who are seldom able to attend the AALL annual meeting a taste of the real thing, with a wide variety of sessions, speakers and events. At least four SEAALL members (Mary Cooper Gilliam, Bill James, Gene Teitlebaum, and myself) are speaking on the program and will be able to report our impressions. We might consider promoting our 1989 floating convention as a multi-chapter southern conference.

Because I place such a high value on effective communications, I consider the most notable innovation during my presidential year the launching of the new Publications Committee and the Publicity and Public Relations Committee. The Publications Committee's projects will not only (Continued on Next Page)
yield long-needed research and professional aids, but will also provide additional creative outlets for SEAALL writers and editors. Law librarians need to do a much better job of informing our colleagues and employers in the legal and library communities what we and our libraries offer. I look forward to watching this year's Publicity and P.R. Committee implement many of the ideas formulated last year as well as fresh ones of their own.

Most of SEAALL's accomplishments during 1986/87 were due entirely to the efforts of members who gave generously of their time and talent without expectation of fanfare or reward. Mike Chiorazzi labored long to produce an excellent directory; Ed Edmonds orchestrated our anniversary commemoration; Bruce Johnson and the whole University of South Carolina staff knocked themselves out to show us the best of Charleston hospitality; Bill James and Larry Wenger wrestled all year with our membership roster to make it accurate; Bill also negotiated with our 1988 convention hotel. Our Charleston program participants and newsletter writers entertained and enlightened us. All of our committees and their chairs performed yeoman service that left the Chapter in better shape.

I am grateful for the opportunities for personal growth that the past year has presented. As a nominee for AALL office, I was obliged to think and write a lot about the purpose and goals of our profession and our association. I was fortunate to be invited to observe several stimulating meetings and to meet many impressive colleagues. These experiences made me particularly aware of the importance of cooperative efforts and the sharing of information. In the face of nearly overwhelming developments in information science, we need to make the most of collegiality that our chapters foster to help shape national library and information policies and to find ways to deliver better service wherever it is needed. Our Southeastern Chapter Consortium is exactly the kind of effort that must be encouraged and supported. My past experiences in SEAALL and NOALL were surely the primary reasons for my nomination, and I thank everyone who helped to make them interesting and rewarding.

A final personal note. Two respected colleagues, my predecessor and my successor, Dick Danner and Hazel Johnson, occupy special places in my mental scrapbook of '86/87. Both provided inspiration, wise counsel and support. I am fortunate indeed to call them dear friends.

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A LONG LIFE TO THE OPTICAL DISK ...  
WELL, MAYBE!!

Michael Lynch  
Florida State University  
College of Law Library

In the Spring 1986 issue of The Southeastern Law Librarian wrote an article entitled "A Long Life to the Optical Disk" and, perhaps, exposed my confusion as to the durability of optical disks. On the one hand, they were touted as the ultimate information storage technology; on the other a life span of only ten to twenty years was announced, usually without any acknowledgement that this was not a suitable lifespan for archival records. An explanation of the possible causes of deterioration from an authoritative source has now crossed my path.

Alan Calmes, Preservation Officer for the National Archives and Records Administration, writing in the May 1987 issue of INFORM, offers the following explanation. "Optical digital disks are too new to be accurately characterized. Probably the only sure statement that can be made about the medium is that it is an emerging technology which has not settled down into a particular configuration. The substrate for optical digital disk may be glass, aluminum, or several types of polymers. Very little is known about the aging characteristics of the various types of optical digital disks except that it is assumed that dimensional stability will be a key issue. Any material may distort with high angular velocity, or expand and contract in response to changes in temperature and relative humidity."

He continues, "... Since the risk of loss of information increases with increased packing density, optical disk with its high storage potential has a concomitant high risk of loss of information; therefore, just as with magnetic media, a backup procedure will most likely be part of the system. Manufacturers currently predict a ten year life for the medium.

"Due to the extraordinarily high density of tracks, the medium may experience tracking loss due to changes in groove integrity (swell or shrink), radial distortion from expansion or contraction, and surface perturbation from cracks and crazes. The surface tension effect, which creates the pits when the recording layer is heated by a laser, may continue to widen the holes during the lifetime of the medium. Inability to read due to focus loss may occur because of droop, tilt and reflectivity change." Calmes discusses the lack of any archival standard for optical digital disk. He also concludes that too little is known about the environmental conditions for storage. However, he suggests that a computer room environment -- dust free, 20 degrees centigrade (68 degrees Fahrenheit), 40 percent RH -- as described for magnetic disk should be appropriate.

"With so little known about the medium in its early developmental phase, optical digital disk is not recommended as a long-term storage medium at this time. Its usefulness will probably be as a supplemental copy of very active records for interactive computer search, retrieval, and display." (Calmes, Alan, "To Archive and Preserve: a Media Primer," INFORM, May, 1987, p. 14)

Apart from the professional interest, many of us may be contemplating acquisition of music recordings in this new format. The problems announced by Calmes seem to apply to all digital disks. While those of us who have collections from the 60's may be disappointed at the effects of (Continued on Next Page)
years of wear and abuse on our vinyl analog recordings, most of the sound is still there. Optical digital disks may never scratch, but it appears that they, nevertheless, don't last.

LEGAL BIBLIOGRAPHY INDEX 1986

Legal Bibliography Index 1986, compiled by Win-Shin S. Chiang and Lance E. Dickson, was published recently by Publications Institute at LSU. The Index is a comprehensive subject index for English language bibliographies on legal topics. Each annual issue includes unique material published during the past year. Some copies of the 1984 and 1985 annual indexes are still available. The 1986 edition is $40.00 plus $1.00 for postage and handling. The 1984 and 1985 editions are $35.00 each, plus $1.00 for postage and handling for each copy ordered.

Copies can be ordered from the Publications Institute, Room 310, Paul M. Hebert Law Center, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Florida Style Manual

Michael J. Lynch, the Assistant Director at Florida State University, provided the following information about the Florida Style Manual.

Florida State University Law Review has published the Florida Style Manual, a supplement to the Blue Book. The Manual provides instructions for citing those Florida sources which are not easily or suitably described following Blue Book rules. Other Florida sources not addressed at all by the Blue Book are covered. The Manual grew out of the Law Review's Annual Review of Florida Legislation and is particularly strong on publications generated by the Florida Legislature. It was originally published in volume 15 of the Florida State University Law Review. The 56 page paperback is available from the Law Review for $5.00.

COUNSEL

Kate Martin of the Law Librarians' Society of Washington, D.C. reports that COUNSEL (Consolidated Union Serials List), a 770-page (the size of a telephone book) union list of legal and non-legal serial titles is available. The directory consists of 5,867 legal and non-legal titles and contains 21,000 holdings statements. Basic information, like the author, title, edition, imprint, OCLC #, ISSN, and CODEN, is supplied for each title. The resource costs $270.00 and orders must be prepaid.

For further information regarding purchase or participation in the next edition of COUNSEL, contact Kate Martin, Law Librarians' Society of Washington, D.C., Post Office Box 33112, Washington, D.C. 20033, 202-789-7188.
REPORT ON SURVEY ON EDUCATION NEEDS OF LAW LIBRARIANS IN THE SOUTHEAST.

The SEAALL Education Committee survey was distributed to the entire Chapter membership as represented in the most recent membership directory and the newsletter mailing labels. Responses were due about three weeks from the mailing date. The overall response rate for the survey was 232 of 390, a 59.5% response. Although the survey reveals considerable information about the types of libraries of respondents, the years of library experience for respondents, and the academic degrees of the respondents, the most crucial part of survey was a determination of the educational activities needed by the membership.

Part II of the survey listed nine educational activities that might be sponsored by the Chapter and asked the respondents to rate the priority of each on a scale of 1 through 5, 5 indicating the highest priority, 1 the lowest. The greatest overall enthusiasm was registered for the Chapter's two ongoing programs: the annual spring meeting and the newsletter. 176 of 223 respondents (78.9%) rated the spring meeting in one of the two highest categories. 187 of 226 (82.7%) rated the Southeastern Law Librarian that highly. One respondent felt that the newsletter should be expanded; another stressed the value of the Newsletter as a source of news within the region.

The suggestions of day-long institutes on basic subjects and institutes on specialized advanced topics also were given high priorities by the respondents. One respondent noted that the day-long institutes would be especially valuable in areas where there are growing numbers of non-academic librarians. Some respondents questioned the practical difficulties of staffing the day long institutes. One questioned the level of interest in geographic areas not already served by local chapters. Staff exchange programs with Chapter funding for travel costs were seen by most respondents as a mid-range priority. The greatest enthusiasm for this idea was among academic librarians, but even with in that category, the idea rated mid-range interest. Matching grants from the Chapter for locally initiated programs garnered responses in the mid-range, indicating positive interest, but not overwhelming enthusiasm.

Respondents were asked their reaction to the Chapter serving as a clearinghouse for several varieties of national publications. Of annual meeting audio tapes, video tapes of institutes, or various types of printed material, respondents from all types of libraries showed the most enthusiasm for obtaining video tapes of AALL institutes, a project which is beginning to develop on the national level. The establishment of formal outreach programs to nonlaw librarians received some interest, but not enough interest for the Chapter to involve itself as a high priority.

An open-ended question asked members to list other projects that the Chapter should sponsor. Among the projects suggested were: union lists of serials, looseleaf services and legislative histories, publication of in-house training programs for new law librarians and assistants; sponsorship of symposia at the SEAALL or AALL annual meetings with an eye toward publishing the proceedings; publication of bibliographies by SEAALL members; supporting informal visits by members to other libraries; mentor programs at conferences; and numerous others.

The Committee report, submitted by Education Committee Chair (Continued on Page 16)
THE LUCILE ELLIOTT SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

Claire Engel
Jackson Kelley Holt & O'Farrell
Charleston, WVA

The guidelines listed below were adopted by the SEAALL membership at the Chicago breakfast business meeting. The 1987/88 SEAALL Scholarship Committee plans to use the approved guidelines for the awarding of chapter scholarships. Additionally, the Committee will implement new methods to generate more applications to consider for the scholarships.

**********

The Lucile Elliott Scholarship Fund was established to provide financial aid for any purpose reasonably designed to improve one's career in law librarianship.

Applicants must be a paid member of the Southeastern Chapter of AALL at the time the application is completed.

Scholarship Committee members are ineligible to receive scholarships during their tenure on the Committee.

Applicants who have received a Lucile Elliott Scholarship within the previous three years are ineligible to receive a scholarship.

In selecting the scholarship recipients, the Committee will consider the following factors:

1. Length of membership in SEAALL: The Chapter wishes to encourage the participation of its newer members (3 years or less). Therefore, when the applicant pool permits, scholarships will be awarded on a 70:30 newer members to older members ratio.

2. Participation and service to the library profession: This is demonstrated by participation in committees, sections, programs, projects, etc. of professional associations.

3. Intended use of scholarship. Scholarships may be used to provide financial aid for any purpose reasonably designed to improve one's career in law librarianship. Preference shall be given for attending any activity sponsored by the Southeastern Chapter or an AALL Institute.

4. Lack of financial assistance from employer.

5. Potential for staying within law librarianship: This is demonstrated by employment record and/or educational preparation.

Writing courtesy of LAW BOOK EXCHANGE
MINUTES OF CHARLESTON SEAALL MEETING
April 4, 1987

The annual meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of the American
Association of Law Libraries was called to order at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday,
April 4, 1987 in Charleston, South Carolina by President Carol Billings.
It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the last meeting, held in
Washington, D.C., on July 7, 1987, and printed in Southeastern Law
Librarian, volume 12, number 3, be approved without change.

Carol Billings introduced Laura Gasaway, President of the American
Association of Law Libraries, who reported on activities of the national
organization. In the absence of Treasurer William James (University of
Kentucky), Carol Billings gave the treasurer's report, indicating that the
chapter had a balance on hand of $7,406.27.

Dick Danner (Duke University) reported on the work of the Education
Committee and the survey of educational needs of law librarians in the
southeast. A written report detailing the responses was distributed, and
will also be published in the Southeastern Law Librarian. Carol Billings
noted that since both the national meeting and a number of AALL institutes
will be held in the southeast in 1988, new educational programs offered by
the Chapter would not begin until 1989.

Carol Billings described local arrangement plans for upcoming meetings.
The 1988 annual meeting will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, April 14-16,
and Bill James will be the local arrangements chair. Wes Daniels
(University of Miami) has agreed to serve as local arrangements chair for
the 1989 convention in Miami.

Hilary Burg (Fairfax Law Library) reported on the work of the Membership
Committee and their plans to restructure the recruiting process to obtain
more feedback on new members for the Committee. Tim Coggins (University of
North Carolina) reported on the Newsletter, and asked for suggestions for
further improvements. Wes Cochran (University of Mississippi) gave the
report of the Nominating Committee. Because the positions of Secretary
and Treasurer are for two year terms, the only position for which
nominations were needed was for Vice President/President-Elect. Ed Edmonds
(William and Mary) and Mary Smith (Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson) were
nominated. Ballots for this election will be distributed in May.

Carol Billings gave the report of the Placement Committee for Mary Cross
who could not attend. Placement files of individuals looking for work and
of available positions were located in the exhibit area, and the Committee
has established a placement contact for each state in the Chapter. Hazel
Johnson (Smith & Hulsey) reported for the Program Committee, and noted that
this was the first time that concurrent programs had been offered at our
meetings. Steve Thorpe (Mercer University) gave the report of the
Publications Committee for Wes Daniels. He indicated this was a new
committee, with a variety of projects. One is to serve as a clearinghouse
for in-house publications, such as staff manuals. Others are to undertake a
salary survey and to update the bibliographies of state practice materials
that have appeared in the Newsletter. Wes Daniels has also agreed to
complete the Chapter's procedural manual as a committee publication.

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee Claire Engel (Bowles, McDavid,
Graff & Love) indicated that six scholarships had been awarded this year,
and that the Committee has developed draft guidelines for making awards in
the future. The full text of this draft will be published in the
Newsletter, and will be discussed further at the AALL meeting in Chicago.

(Continued on Next Page)
Under new business, Jewell Miller (Papy, Poole, Weissenborn & Papy) described the decision of the Government Printing Office to offer the Code of Federal Regulations and the Federal Register only in microfiche and asked that the Chapter go on record in opposition to this. She also urged members to write their congressional representatives to oppose this change. It was moved and seconded to draft a motion to express the Chapter's concern and to send this to the Government Printer.

Anne Butler (Alston & Bird), the local arrangements chair for the 1988 AALL annual meeting, described preliminary plans for the convention and indicated that anyone who wanted to assist should contact her. Claire Germain (Duke University) urged libraries within the Chapter to join ABA/net, and described its advantages for interlibrary cooperation.

There being no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry B. Wenger
Secretary, SEAALL

SEAALL FINANCIAL REPORT
June 30, 1987

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**ENDING BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 1987** $ 8,455.15

WILLIAM JAMES
SEAALL Treasurer
VU/TEXT: AN INTRODUCTION

Kathy Santilli Heberer
Rumberger, Kirk, Caldwell, Cabaniss & Burke
Orlando, Florida

Vu/Text is an online system of over fifty business and newspaper data bases. Some of the business files can be searched elsewhere (Dialog, Nexis), but the full-text regional newspaper files are unique to Vu/Text and make the system a valuable resource for legal practitioners and law firm librarians.

The newspaper files may be used, for instance, to retrieve accounts of an accident or an arrest, to monitor the progress/popularity of a bill in another state's legislature, or to assist in determining what prospective jurors may know about dalkon shield problems. A search of an expert's name may infer how prominent that individual is in his own community and how often he or she is quoted. A judge search might reveal the judge's judicial style. What about opposing counsel - has she handled similar cases and did she win?

Using the newspaper files on Vu/Text can help supply a few answers, although not a complete or systematic picture. Reading some recent newspaper articles is a great way to do client development homework, especially if the company is a privately-held company and information is otherwise difficult to find. Perhaps you need to review the activities of a certain union in your community, or you want to keep on top of mergers and acquisitions. Refer to Vu/Text. If a law librarian's local newspaper (i.e., Charlotte Observer, Lexington Herald-Leader, Miami Herald) is included on Vu/Text, then clip files can be tossed. Vu/Text is faster, easier to use, and cheaper to search!

Vu/Text offers many customer support features librarians have learned to value - a toll-free help line, a concise newsletter containing practical search tips, a user's guide, free time on new files, and the ability to enter a client code to facilitate billing. There are, however, some suggestions for improving Vu/Text. For example, the newsletter should be published monthly rather than bi-monthly and an index of newspapers by location would be helpful. In general, Vu/Text is an excellent system, reasonably priced, easy to search, and responsive to its users. Call Vu/Text at 1-800-323-2940 for further information.

(NOTE: This is Kathy's last column as a member of the ONLINE UPDATE team. Thanks, Kathy, for all your help. Kathy's replacement is Linda Jackson of Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy in Atlanta.)

SUMMER ASSOCIATES AND THEIR WORK WITH LEXIS AND WESTLAW

Sally Anne Irvin
Wake Forest School of Law

I never cease to be amazed and delighted at the reactions and stories returning students tell about using computer-assisted legal research during summer clerking experiences. Wake Forest students return full of stories about showing senior partners how to use WESTLAW and LEXIS, or finding a case on point in six minutes for a lawyer who had already spent some twenty hours of manual research. Then, there are the tales of Shepard's, which is far faster, more comprehensive and more correct when done by computer, not to (Continued on Next Page)
mention the fact that users do not have to deal with the problems of fellow students reshelving the Shepard's volumes in the wrong place in the library.

Both WESTLAW and LEXIS allow accurate updating of cases through their citator abilities. In WESTLAW one simply enters the name of the case and restricts the search to the time period from the date of the last Shepard's supplement to the present. For instance, "Miranda & date (aft 6/1/87)" retrieves all cases in that particular database which mention Miranda since June 1st.

Legal researchers should not rely on instincts or hearsay in citing a case. Yet, one only has to read articles in legal publications or listen to a group of lawyers talk about their research habits to know that this is what a lot of lawyers do. We have an obligation to teach the lawyers of the future the best research skills so they can provide top quality assistance for their clients. Cases do get overruled or reversed after briefs have been written. Use of either one of the two CALR services in the above manner will prevent nasty shocks for the lawyer who relied on a case and the client who relied on the attorney.

A further importance of shepardizing and using the citator capabilities of either service is Moot Court and Law Review. There are horror stories about Moot Court teams that did not fully shepardize and cite check their briefs before submission, virtually sealing their failure in competitions. The same is true for law review staffs, especially since several months often pass between submission of an article and actual publication. Up-to-date shepardizing is essential to the integrity of the publication.

It is so easy to not shepardize or further cite check, but no one ever said the practice of law would be easy. We all need to be aware of a growing trend to hold lawyers liable for failure to fully research, including the failure to use CALR resources. Our returning students have learned many valuable lessons this summer, not the least of which is the fact that they really CANNOT PRACTICE law in the future without CALR.

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SECOND SMALL COMPUTERS IN LIBRARIES (SCIL) CONFERENCE: A REVIEW

Wes Cochran
University of Mississippi

It is simpler for librarians to learn to write computer programs than to teach programmers about libraries. In a sense, that was the theme of the second SCIL conference. Two assumptions flow from that theme: 1) computer programming is not so overwhelmingly difficult that librarians with little background in computers cannot hope to write good, effective programs, and 2) explaining the details of library operations to professional computer programmers so that they can write good programs is rarely successful. The conference is proof that the first assumption is true. Many sessions concerned programs which librarians had written and which are used with great success in major academic, corporate, and government libraries.

The conference, sponsored by Meckler Publishing Company, ended just before the SEAALL Annual Meeting. I was fortunate enough to be able to combine travel plans and attend both meetings. Next year's SCIL meeting is in Chicago, and I hope that I can attend. One of the good things about the conference was the registration fee of $95.00 for a full three days. A fee that small would not gain admission in many other computer conferences. From a strictly financial viewpoint, I got much more than my money's worth.

I left SCIL with some good ideas about writing some computer-assisted instruction (CAI) exercises for both students and staff, creating a microcomputer lab, and using local area networks and overcoming the problems that they create. I plan to put the lessons that I learned on computer-assisted instruction to work very soon.

One of the hardest times of the year for most academic law libraries is the beginning of the school year because many student workers are not yet trained and the law student population generally needs more personalized attention from the staff. I believe that a CAI training program for our student workers and my students in research and writing might help relieve the extra pressure, so I will spend my summer "vacation" writing some CAI exercises to use in my first-year legal research and writing course and to use in training library staff.

The advantages of using CAI are many. Learning takes place at an individual rate, making it particularly attractive to professors facing first-year classes which number 200 and more. The instruction given by this method is consistent. Each student will receive the same information in exactly the same way. CAI can be very flexible, and it can save librarians' time. The exercises are easy to revise, and they can, generally, increase a student's "computer literacy" and decrease "terminal shock". The disadvantages, of course, are major. Writing CAI exercises takes a major investment of time. Administration of the exercises requires some rather expensive equipment. A class of 150 students, for example, needs access to more than one or two microcomputers to complete an exercise in any

(Continued on Next Page)
kind of realistic time-frame. CAI limits personal contact, but what about the first year of law school is personal? And, generally, few "off-the-shelf" programs exist.

Those of us who are considering integrating this method of instruction should realize the limitations of CAI. It does have a point of diminishing return. If the exercise amounts to electronic page-turning, students would spend their time more wisely by reading a printed guide. On the other hand, writers should also avoid "video game-itis," making the program more entertaining than instructive. Often, we are enamored with graphics for graphics' sake.

Some librarians may hesitate to consider CAI because they believe that some knowledge of computer programming is necessary to write good exercises. While that may have been true when CAI was exclusively limited to mainframe computers, today many good "authoring" programs exist. These programs allow virtually anyone to write a CAI exercise because the "authoring" program in turn writes the CAI exercise program.

The major limitation to CAI authorship is time. Of course, writing the script and keying in the material takes time, but evaluation and revision takes almost as long. The key to a good CAI exercise, it seems to me, is evaluation. Before using an exercise with my students, I plan to seek comments from other instructors and from my staff. Accordingly, my time frame for completion of the exercises must accommodate this.

Overall, I am excited about what CAI could mean for me, and, to a large degree, the SCIL Conference is responsible for my excitement. I saw only a few law librarians there, but I have a feeling that next year we will be better represented.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT
(continued from page 9)

Richard A. Danner of Duke University, concluded that "the challenge for the SEAALL Executive Committee, then, is to meet the membership's needs, both by maintaining and expanding successful existing programs, such as the annual meeting and institute, and by finding ways to bring programs to the local level."

(Editor's Note: Any member who would like a copy of the complete report may contact me.)
NOTE: Please send news items about membership and law libraries to Joe at the following address:
Joseph Cross, BRIEFS Editor
Law School Library
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208

FLORIDA

E. J. YERA has been appointed to a recently-added additional reference librarian position at the University of Miami Law Library. He holds B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Miami and has worked in the Law Library there since 1981, most recently as a part-time reference librarian.

LINDA MARIE GOLIAN is the first incumbent of the newly-created position of Serials-Control Librarian at the University of Miami. She has worked in the University's Richter Library since 1980 in a series of increasingly responsible positions. Linda holds a B.A. from the University of Miami and is completing master's degrees in Library and Information Studies and in Education.

WES DANIELS, Law Librarian at the University of Miami, has been promoted to Professor of Law and awarded tenure.

LOUISIANA

New member NONA K. BEISENHERZ joined Loyola University Law Library as Circulation Librarian on August 19, 1987. She received her M.L.S. degree from the University of Washington in 1970 and has experience as a French teacher, librarian, and media specialist.

PATRICIA M. MUSSO, Librarian for Barham & Churchill in New Orleans for the past five years, is a new member.

NORTH CAROLINA

B. DAWN HALL has been a legal specialist with Carolina Power & Light Company in Raleigh for four and one-half years. She has a B.A. in English from Meredith College and is a certified paralegal. LOU LAMM has been librarian for Poyner & Spruill in Raleigh for over a year, taking over the library duties after a merger. Dawn and Lou are both new members.

GLEN P. AHLERS was recently appointed Head of Public Services North Carolina and Washington, D.C., and she is a new member of SEAALL.

PEGGY MARTIN and ELIZA CAMPBELL are now working at the law firm of Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker in Atlanta. Peggy was the Head Librarian at Kilpatrick & Cody and is a past president of the Atlanta Law Libraries Association. Eliza was formerly with Alston & Bird as a cataloger.

CHRIS (JOHNSON) WOLF had a baby boy, Jonathan Thompson, on June 30, 1987. Chris is a former librarian of the Coca-Cola Company.

ANNE BUTLER of Alston & Bird is the Local Arrangements Chair for the 1988 AALL Convention in Atlanta. CONTACT her if you wish to volunteer your time.
at Wake Forest University Law Library. He holds a J.D. from Washburn University of Topeka and the M.A. in Library Science from the University of South Florida. Glen was formerly Assistant Director and Head of Public Services at Washburn. MIRIAM A. MURPHY has accepted the position of Reference/Technical Services Librarian at Wake Forest University. She holds the J.D. and the M.L.S. degrees from Indiana University.

A new computer laboratory for students, faculty and staff was installed this summer in the Law Library at the University of North Carolina. The new laboratory is equipped with microcomputers, printers, and software for word processing, cite checking, and accessing LEXIS and WESTLAW.

Technical Services Librarian CAROL A. NICHOLSON of the University of North Carolina is serving as the Co-Director of the 1988 Basic Cataloging Institute to be held June 21 - 24 at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Carol's co-director is Jamie Niss Dunn of Faegre & Benson in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

TENNESSEE

MARJORIE A. CALDWELL is Librarian at Wagner, Myers & Sanger in Knoxville. She has the B.S. in English/Education and the M.S.L.S. from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. This is Marjorie's first law library job and she is a new member of the chapter.

VIRGINIA

CAROL F. ALLEN, Law Librarian of the Public Law Library in Richmond, is a new member. She has the B.A. from Wells College, the M.L.S. from Columbia, and the J.D. from Virginia. Carol has prior experience in both academic and firm libraries.

The Court Librarian for the United States Courts Library in Norfolk has been KAREN J. JOHNSON for almost two years. She was previously a librarian at Willcox & Savage. Karen is a new member.

Two more new members from Virginia are BOB MILLER and TERRY R. MATHIESON. Bob has been Librarian for the Wahab Public Law Library in Virginia Beach for six years. He holds the B.S. from Western Carolina University and the M.S.L.S. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Terry is a Library Information Specialist II at the Wahab Public Law Library.

WEST VIRGINIA

ANN SHETZER has been Librarian of the U.S. Courts Library in Charleston for more than three years. A new member, she has prior experience with the West Virginia Supreme Court Law Library and the Arizona State Law Library and Archives. Ann holds the B.A. from Kalamazoo College and the M.L.S. from the University of Arizona.
PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Compiled By

Mary F. Cross, Chair
Placement Committee
Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, Miami

LOUISIANA

Law Library Director: 12-month contract, tenure track faculty appointment. Requirements: JD and MLS degrees or equivalent from ABA/AALS and ALA accredited school, and a minimum of 3 years of law library experience, with demonstrated management responsibilities. Duties: Responsibilities include collection development and policy planning, technological innovation, budget control, and staff supervision. Available: Immediately. Salary: Highly competitive, with comprehensive fringe benefits. Send resume, cover letter and a list of three references by October 1, 1987 to: Professor R. J. Rabalais, Loyola University School of Law, 7214 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118. Loyola University is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer.

Government Documents/Microforms Librarian: Requirements: MLS from an ALA accredited library school; strong public service orientation essential; experience with government documents preferred. Duties: Documents/microforms provides extensive research assistance to the law school community and is primarily responsible for selecting and managing the government documents collection and secondarily responsible for maintenance and use of a growing microforms collection. Also provides general reference service during some weekend and evening hours and supervises one library assistant and two part-time student workers. Available: September 1, 1987. Salary: Negotiable and will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Send resume and names of three references to: Ray Lytle, Head of Public Services, Tulane Law Library, 6801 Freret, New Orleans, LA 70118. Deadline for applications: August 15, 1987. Tulane University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

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