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Draft letters to Library School Deans, 1992

Ebba Jo Sexton

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May 1992

Dear Dean -

I hope you and your students have had a successful school year and that you found the information sent to you on law librarianship and its national and Southeast chapter organizations interesting and useful. Registration for the American Association of Law Libraries annual meeting in San Francisco on July 18-23, continues until June 18, 1992.

No doubt you and your faculty are planning extensively for your coming semester's work. We in the Southeastern Chapter of AALL would like to assist you in the introduction of your students to different forms of librarianship. Perhaps your college has a "career day" or a class in Special Librarianship that could include guest speakers from the various library specialties. We would like to arrange for one of our members to participate in your program. We believe law librarianship is among those library specialties to be on the cutting edge of information management. Law librarians were among the first to perform full-text database searching with the Lexis system in the early 1970s. Also, in response to the computerization of law firms, many law schools are establishing computer labs for their law students. The labs are usually located in the law library and supervision and training is performed by law librarians. Many law firm librarians are assuming additional responsibilities in the management of the law firm, such as that of Records Manager or Informations Systems Manager. Ours is truly a diverse and challenging specialty.

Specific knowledge of legal materials is often a result of "on the job training," and should in no way limit anyone from becoming a law librarian. Actually, a good background in general reference sources and management techniques can be as valuable. Our chapter includes all types of law librarians. I look forward to hearing that we can coordinate a speaker for your students in the next school term. Please do not hesitate to call me if I can be of any other assistance. My telephone: 606)257-8351; FAX: 606)258-1061.

Sincerely,

SEAALL Publicity/Public Relations Committee
February 10, 1992

Dear Dean,

The Southeastern Association of Law Libraries (SEALL) Publicity/Public Relations Committee is again contacting you this year to inform you and your students of our programs and activities in 1992.

I am enclosing a brochure and fact sheet about the American Association of Law Libraries. SEALL is a regional chapter of this national organization. Our chapter membership brochure is also enclosed. We hope you will encourage students to consider law librarianship as a career. We are interested in qualified, talented individuals.

The SEALL annual chapter meeting and a management institute will be held April 9-11 at Callaway Gardens Resort in Pine Mountain, GA. Callaway Gardens Complex is an hour south of Atlanta. The subject of the institute is "Negotiating the Management Maze" and will feature Maureen Sullivan, an independent consultant. The program deals with issues of organizational and staff development and organizational change. The chapter meeting theme is "Discovering New Worlds - the State of Law Librarianship in 1992". Please refer to the enclosed program and registration packet for more information about this meeting.

Later this Spring you will receive more information about the AALL annual meeting in San Francisco, July 18-23. Preceeding the meeting will be two institutes: "Law for the Non-JD" on July 13-16, and a Cataloging Institute for both beginning and advanced catalogers on July 14-17.

Please share this information with your students. They may photocopy any of the enclosures, but don't hesitate to contact me for additional information and/or forms.

Sincerely,

Ebba Jo Sexton, Chair
SEALL Publicity/Public Relations Committee
April, 1992

Dear State Library Association Director/President,

The agenda and registration information for the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries is completed. I am enclosing this information for you and your colleagues. For several years my organization, the Southeastern chapter of the AALL, has informed library schools and state associations in the Southeast of our regional and national law librarian meetings. We believe law librarianship is on the cutting edge of information management. Law librarians were among the first to perform full-text database searching with the Lexis system in the early 1970s. Specific knowledge of legal materials is often a result of "on the job training" and should in no way limit anyone from becoming a law librarian. A good background in general reference sources and management techniques can be as valuable.

If you or your colleagues would like more information about our organizations, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ebba Jo Sexton, Chair
SEAALL Publicity/Public Relations Committee
April 30, 1992

Dear Dean -

Recently the American Association of Law Libraries headquarters mailed to your library school a packet containing program and registration information for the Association's annual meeting which will convene in San Francisco, CA, July 18-23, 1992. I hope you had an opportunity to look at the material and to share it with your faculty and students. In February I wrote you about SEAALL, the Southeastern Chapter of AALL, of which I am a member. At that time I sent materials about our chapter meeting which was held in Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA on April 9-11, 1992. Included in that letter was membership information for both SEAALL and AALL.

I would like to briefly describe the AALL annual meeting activities once again and will also include a registration form. The registration for students is $100 and for regular members is $205. The meeting headquarters hotel is the San Francisco Hilton and the San Francisco Marriott will be the site for some special events. The theme for the meeting is: "Law Libraries: Pass the Word". There are programs on nearly seventy topics that are diverse, comprehensive and timely. Experts from both within and without the Association have been recruited for the presentations.

The range of program offerings clearly serves to validate our teaching role. There are programs about how we can effectively reach out to others, programs about the law, programs about things that we as law librarians need to know in order to take on a leadership role and serve the broader society of which we are a part. To emphasize this, Robert Wedgeworth, President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and Dean of the Columbia University School of Library Service will deliver the keynote address on July 20.

I hope you will remind your faculty and students of this opportunity. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need added information. My telephone: 606)257-8351; FAX: 606)258-1061.

Sincerely,

Ebba Jo Sexton, Chair
SEAALL Publicity/Public Relations Committee