Summer 2004

Southeastern Law Librarian Summer 2004

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RAMBLINGS BY YOUR PRESIDENT

by Michael J. Petit

The Chapter took care of a great deal of business at the AALL Annual Meeting in Boston. I would like to thank all the members who participated in the Board Meeting and the chapter business meeting and reception.

The Chapter has created a new scholarship beginning this fiscal year. We will be offering a scholarship to a library school student residing in the geographic area of SEAALL. The Board decided to initially grant a single scholarship of this type for $1,000. The intent is to give the scholarship to a student interested in the profession of law librarianship. The Scholarship Committee hopes to have the applications received this Fall with the Committee review completed by Thanksgiving.

SEAALL has also created a grant to pay for a newer law librarian to attend CONELL at the AALL Annual Meeting. The grant would include payment for the registration plus one night’s stay in a hotel. Any newer librarian who is a member of SEAALL may apply for the grant.

Other news includes choosing Washington, D.C. as our meeting site for 2008. We have also agreed in principle to make it a joint meeting with the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C. This meeting will involve a lot of work and we hope to beginning planning at the beginning of the 2005 fiscal year. As a reminder, our meeting sites leading up to Washington are Montgomery, AL (2005), Baton Rouge, LA (2006), and Raleigh, NC (2007).

There were several new appointees at the AALL Meeting. Colleen Manning of Florida Coastal School of Law took over as Placement Committee Chair. Also, Sonia Luna-Lamas of St. Thomas University was appointed the new legal agent for SEAALL. Since SEAALL is incorporated in Florida, the agent must be a Florida resident. This action became necessary when our previous agent Paula Tejeda moved from Florida to South Carolina.

Finally, I would like to thank our webmaster, Roy Balleste, for mounting the SEAALL directory on our website.
SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

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Submissions may be sent in hardcopy or electronic format. Direct transmission via electronic mail is preferred, but all standard size diskettes are acceptable, if delivered in IBM-based Wordperfect, Word, or plain ASCII format.

Newsletter Deadlines are:
Winter January 30, 2004  
Spring April 30, 2004  
Summer July 31, 2004  
Fall October 30, 2004

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Florida Coastal School of Law

Maryellen O'Brien, Reference Librarian at Florida Coastal School of Law, has been accepted to the Sunshine State Leadership Institute. The Institute is a comprehensive series of learning sessions that focus on developing an understanding of leadership, within a conceptual framework and with practical applications.

Joey Hernandez, Reference Librarian at Florida Coastal School of Law, has been listed by the Army to be crossed trained into a job that can be utilized in Iraq. She is attending 31B training (Military Police). The school will be held at Ft. Leonard Wood MO, and will be conducted in two phases to last a total of 30 days. She will most likely return to Florida for a short period to anxiously await deployment orders (currently the tour of duty is 18 months).

Mary Ann Hyatt, Director of the Florida Coastal School of Law Library in Jacksonville, Florida, has accepted the directorship of the Jaqua Law Library at the University of Oregon.

Florida A&M University Law Library

Florida A & M University College of Law has been granted ABA Provisional Accreditation. This will allow their students to take the state bar examination to become attorneys.

Georgia

Emory University School of Law

On August 1, Vanessa King joined the MacMillan Law Library of Emory University School of Law as Assistant Law Librarian for Reference. She has her JD from the University of Tulsa College of Law and MLS from Clark Atlanta University. In her legal studies, she specialized in law and public policy and in women's studies.

Georgia State University Law

Georgia State University Law Library proudly welcomes Trina Holloway as our new Acquisitions/Serials Librarian. Trina is a recent graduate of Clark Atlanta Library School who boasts 12 years of experience in Technical Services.
North Carolina

Duke University

We are extremely pleased to introduce two new hires in the reference services department at Duke Law Library.

Donna Nixon, who was Reference and Access Services Librarian at the UNC-Chapel Hill Law Library, accepted an offer to join our staff July 16 as Head of Reference Services. Donna holds a law degree from Stanford and an MSLS from UNC-CH. She practiced with Pillsbury Madison & Sutro in Palo Alto before moving to North Carolina.

Joy Hanson, who holds degrees from the Indiana University-Bloomington Law School and School of Library and Information Science, joined the library staff as a reference librarian on June 7. Joy was managing editor of the Federal Communications Law Review while at IU and interned at the US Supreme Court Library last summer.

University of North Carolina

The Kathrine R. Everett Law Library recently welcomed three new reference librarians:

Nick Sexton is a 1999 graduate of Carolina Law. He is just finished his M.S.L.S. degree at UNC and has worked in our Faculty Research Service and at our Reference Desk.

Megan Garton, J.D., University of Missouri, 2003, M.L.I.S., LSU, 2004 joined on August 9. Megan clerked for Federal District Judge Ortrie D. Smith in Kansas City and has served as Graduate Assistant at the LSU Law Library for the past year.

Margaret Hall received her M.L.I.S. degree from Dominican University in 2001 and has just finished law school at William Mitchell. Margaret completed internships in state, county, law school, and law firm libraries in Minnesota. She joined us on August 16.

Puerto Rico

University of Puerto Rico Law Library

After some time as Acting Director, Maria M. Otero has been appointed Director of the University of Puerto Rico Law Library.

Virginia

Washington and Lee University

The Spring meeting of the Virginia Association of Law Libraries was held May 14 at Washington and Lee University School of Law, in Lexington. The featured speaker was W&L Law Professor Brian Murchison, whose topic was “The case of the eccentric ex-prodigy,” the true tale of William James Sidis. Sidis was the unwilling subject of a brief biographical sketch and cartoon printed

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in The New Yorker weekly magazine for August 14, 1937. Led by Prof. Murchison, the attorneys from China, Lithuania and the Republic of Korea, who came to W&L last year to study American law and the U.S. legal system.

Washington, D.C.

Washington and Lee University

Billy Jo Kauffman is pleased to announce Adeen Postar has accepted the position of Associate Law Librarian & Deputy Director for WCL. Adeen currently works at Blank, Rome, LLP in DC and formerly served as Coordinator of External Services for Edward Bennett Williams Law Library, Georgetown University Law Center.

The Washington and Lee University School of Law has established an exchange program with the Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, Germany, Germany’s first private law school. Each Fall, three Bucerius students come to Lexington, while three W&L students spend the Fall semester in Hamburg. In Hamburg, the American students take courses that focus on international business and comparative law. The program is open to second- and third-year students. Washington and Lee also hopes to establish similar exchange programs for 2004-2005 with University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, and with Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.

This May, Washington & Lee awarded its first LL.M. degrees to five foreign-trained attorneys.
IT'S TIME FOR NOMINATIONS!

The Nominations Committee seeks your nominations for the following SEAALL positions:

**Vice President/President-Elect**

**Treasurer**

**Member at Large**

We encourage SEAALL members to contact any member of the Nominations Committee by October 15 with the names of colleagues you think would be qualified candidates for these positions.

We appreciate your help!

**Susan Lewis-Somers**, Chair, Nominations Committee American University

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Norfolk Law Library

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**Ismael Gullon**

Mercer University

gullon_i@mercer.edu

FROM THE EDITOR

Please think about submitting articles and news to the newsletter. Share interesting projects and news from your library with the SEAALL membership. Make this your newsletter!!

We are trying new types of articles and content, so your feedback is important.

Send your submission or comments to melamut@email.unc.edu
FREDERICK CHARLES HICKS AWARD

Tim Coggins was awarded the Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions in Academic Law Librarianship. This award recognizes an individual or group which has made outstanding contributions to academic law librarianship through continued efforts to improve law librarianship. It is named in honor of Frederick Charles Hicks, the first great American law librarian/scholar who was also the first academic law librarian to serve as President of AALL. Past recipients have included Penny Hazelton, Frank Houdek, Dick Danner, and Bob Berring.

MY LUCILE ELLIOTT SCHOLARSHIP

by Karen Hunter

I was one of lucky winners of 2004 Lucile Elliott Scholarship award which enabled me to attend the 2004 AALL meeting in Boston, MA. This was my first AALL Conference. I truly enjoyed the programs, meeting old and new colleagues, and the city of Boston. I enjoyed experiencing some of Boston’s culture while also learning more about law librarianship. I am grateful to the Scholarship Committee for giving me an opportunity to attend the meeting.

I found it easy to meet new colleagues at AALL, since I had the pleasure of attending SEAALL in March 2004 in Richmond, Virginia. SEAALL prepared me for such a large conference as AALL. SEAALL was my first professional law conference. Since SEAALL was so interesting, I looked forward to attending AALL to gain more experiences in law librarianship.

I attended sessions on “OPAC Usability Assessment: Your Passport to an Effective Web Presence” which presented information on web designing and organizing, and factors to consider when creating your web page. This was interesting because our law library is in the process of updating our web page. Some key ideas gained were: it takes longer to read on-line so write less and there should be a reason for using color or highlighting.

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I also attended the LexisNexis - "U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection Luncheon Seminar". This was more of an informational luncheon basically providing an overview of the product, progress update and future enhancements. This session was of interest because the NCCU Law Library has the microfiche collection and I wanted to compare the two. The digital collection seemed easier allowing searching by full text, document no., citation, map, and browsing.

I toured the Moakley Law Library of Suffolk University Law School, Harvard Law School Library and New England School of Law Library. These libraries have undergone renovations and my colleagues & I wanted to get some furniture ideas for the NCCU renovation. I was impressed by all of the libraries.

All the sessions I attended were extremely informative and focused. The evenings at the AALL conference were eventful also especially the West Customer Appreciation Event. West provided a variety of food to suit everyone's fancy for this event. Over a delicious dinner at the closing reception, I had a chance to get to know the colleagues at my table.

Lastly, the exhibits were wonderful. I especially enjoyed talking with vendors and attending the mini sessions sponsored by Thomson West.

Overall, the conference was very well organized, and I look forward to attending the 2005 AALL Annual Conference.
The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has created two great and free Internet resources that can assist you when researching medical topics.

**PubMed.gov**
(also called Entrez PubMed)

This is THE guide to the medical literature used by medical librarians and health professionals across the globe. In addition to information on the diagnosis, treatment and prognosis of diseases and disorders, it contains information on health care delivery (including legal aspects of healthcare), bioethics, and the results of cutting edge research studies. You can also find experts on a subject or identify what an expert witness has written on a medical condition or procedure. The citation matcher (on the left hand menu) allows you to take fragments of a citation and find the full information.

The search engine allows a type natural language searching, so that you can put in a statement such as “treatment of diabetes in children”, and it maps you to the official subject headings (MeSH) as well as to key words. But you can also delve into the Medical Subject Headings browser if you want more precise subject terms.

NLM has also created links to full text journals. A number of medical journals provide free access to their older volumes and some are accessible right away, which eliminates the need to request them from another library. Those in academic settings may have access to an even greater number of medical journals through their medical school library. It is worth clicking on the full text icon to find out.

While it is impossible to cover all the features in short column, there is an excellent online tutorial that will walk you through search strategies and the various functions.

**MEDLINEplus.gov**

While created for consumers and patients, it provides a wealth of background information for legal researchers and health professionals. A dictionary provides quick information about medical terms and the encyclopedia provides concise information about diseases and disorders. You can also find information on prescription drugs as well. For more in-depth information on a disease or condition, search the topic section, which contains lists of Internet resources. While NLM has relied on number of sources created by government agencies, there are links to major society Websites as well.

There is also a directory for locating physicians and health agencies. NLM is adding a new “Go Local” feature that lists health facilities and services by state, and then by county or city. The link can be found on a topic and brings you directly to local resources on that topic. This is a new feature and only Missouri and North Carolina are available right now, but more will be added in the future.
SEAALL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SEAALL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
APRIL 2004-JULY 2004

OPENING BALANCE 77,136.92

RECEIPTS

2004 SEAALL Annual Meeting Registration 1,800.00
2004 SEAALL Annual Meeting Sponsorship 4,000.00

Total Receipts 5,800.00
Working Balance 82,936.92

EXPENSES

Jamestown Trip 31.50
Koozies (Action Specialists) 214.30
Flowers (Virginia Museum of Fine Arts) 559.00
Speaker’s expenses (4) 1,128.91
Supplies for annual meeting 184.16
SEAALL Award (Plaque) 139.92
Opening Reception (Sun Trust Building) 3,360.00
Dinner & Reception (Virginia Museum) 11,500.34
Reimbursement (Gifts) 164.29
Nova Southeastern U (Refund - Registration fee) 155.00
SEAALL Ballots 289.01
Florida Dept of State (Non-Profit Corp) 61.25
Jamestown refund 70.00
James River Bus (Additional payment) 10.50
Photocopying 290.31
Omni Richmond Hotel 18,655.00
Tax preparation: Income tax 350.00
AALL 2004 Annual Meeting Reception 1,352.93

Total Expenses $38,516.42

CLOSING BALANCE $44,420.50

Bank of America CD $3,306.17
Fidelity Investment $5,409.09
SEAALL COMMITTEES 2004-2005

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Pam Deemer (Emory University)
Catherine Lemann (Law Library of Louisiana)
Nancy Miller (University of South Carolina)
Michael Petit (American University)

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