Southeastern Law Librarian Fall 2011

SEAALL

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Happy holiday season! Although this time of year is hectic, cold and wintery, it’s not too early to start making plans to be in sunny Florida for the 2012 SEAALL Annual Meeting. As I was reviewing my previous column, I realized I was whining about the heat wave at AALL in Philadelphia. Certainly, that is over now!

Since our meeting in Philadelphia, SEAALL committees have been busily working behind the scenes. For example, Ismael Gullon and the Nominating Committee have recently finalized an excellent slate of officers for the February election. Please take this opportunity to get acquainted with the proposed officers and start thinking about your vote. SEAALL officers can have a substantial impact on the future of our organization so I encourage you to participate in the upcoming election.

James Donovan and the Scholarship Committee have been soliciting, evaluating and awarding scholarships to the members of our organization who are furthering their education. Award recipients will be announced soon. As you can imagine, student scholarships are more important than ever in these tight economic times and SEAALL is proud to be able to support our members. In particular, I would like to thank Marilyn Swinford (Kathryn Mattox’s sister) for generously providing a contribution for the Kathryn P. Mattox Scholarship Fund.

As the Scholarship Committee winds down its work on granting scholarships, the committee will turn its attention to soliciting a VIP visitor from SEAALL to AALL next year. Put on your thinking caps and begin brainstorming about who we might want to invite. The VIP program provides SEAALL with an avenue for forging new relationships within our local legal and library communities. Potential VIPs might include: local bar association officers, court administrators, deans, faculty or administrators from libraries or law schools, politicians or local government officials. The possibilities are endless and the potential for collaboration is energizing. I hope you will consider nominating an individual from your community. Solicitations for VIP visitors will be forthcoming in January.

Ed Hart and the Program Committee have been working hard on planning exciting educational programming for our upcoming Annual Meeting in Tampa Bay in March. The theme of the conference is: In Step with the Future. We’ll have the ever-popular ignite sessions again this year as well as poster sessions so plan to take advantage of the sessions with new formats if you haven’t done so already.

Rebecca Trammell and the Local Arrangements committee will be rolling out the red carpet for us. To give you a taste of what to expect, on the SEAALL website, they’ve provided a slideshow of the conference ho-

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tel, Clearwater beach and the Stetson campus. So if the cold weather’s got you down, take a look at the slideshow and whet your appetite for sunny, sandy Florida.

In closing, don’t forget to plan your resolutions for the upcoming year. Just like everyone else, I plan to lose weight and eat better, but have you thought about planning for your professional goals? Perhaps you are considering improving your professional network by volunteering for a SEAALL committee? Maybe you’re interested in publishing whether it’s an article for a library newsletter or library journal article? Are you thinking of applying for a new job? Your goals can be lofty or practical, but it is important to take a moment to reflect upon your aspirations.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. Happy New Year!
In Memoriam

Carol West

Prof. Carol West, the first and longtime Director of the Mississippi College School of Law Library, passed away on Monday, December 5, 2011. Prior to becoming the Director of the Law Library, she served as a Public Services Librarian at the University of Virginia School of Law, a Catalog Librarian at the University of Mississippi Law Library, Head of the Mississippi Legislative Reference Library and as legislative draftsman for the Mississippi Legislature. She became the Director of the MC Law Library in 1975 and served in that capacity until she left the library to teach full-time in the areas of family law, women’s issues and criminal law in 1995-1996. She also continued to teach an advanced legal research class. Under her direction, the law library grew to approximately 240,000 volumes and had five professional librarians and five staff members. It was during her tenure as Director of the law library that the law school received ABA and AALS accreditation.

Prof. West had many interests and was very involved in the library and legal communities. She was a member of the American Bar Association, the Mississippi Bar, and the Hinds County Bar Association. She served as a member of the Hinds County Board of Directors from 1994 to 1997. She served two terms on the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Women Lawyers Association. She served as a secretary on the Mississippi Task Force on Gender Fairness in the Courts, and was a member of the Mississippi Judicial Advisory Study Committee, Consulting Group on Criminal Code Revision. She also belonged to the American Society of Legal History. After being appointed by the governor as a Commissioner on the Mississippi Library Commission, she served in that capacity from 1992 to 1998. She was internationally recognized for her library expertise, and served as a consultant to the Republic of Armenia to develop a Parliamentary Library and to the National Assembly of Tanzania on parliamentary library services.

Outside of her professional life, Prof. West loved to travel. She was also very interested in genealogical research and served in several capacities with the Mississippi Genealogical Society. She loved to mentor young people who were interested in entering the legal or library profession and freely gave of her time and expertise to those who sought her guidance.
Vice President / President Elect
Terrance Manion
Pamela Melton

Secretary
Kathleen McLeod
Nick Sexton

Member at Large
Reba Best
Jennifer Frazier

Terrance Manion - Vice President / President Elect Candidate
Director of Information Technology and Librarian
Georgia State University College of Law

Personal Statement:

I am equally excited and humbled by the prospect of serving SEAALL in the capacity of Vice-President/President-Elect. Having recently served the Atlanta Law Libraries Association chapter (which is a nice cross-section of firm, government and academic librarians) in a parallel role, I welcome the opportunity to support a larger and further-reaching chapter of AALL.

I have been a member of SEAALL for twelve years now (which I still find hard to believe, time flies when you love your job). I have gone from a young librarian to a more seasoned member of the chapter, and I cannot speak more highly of the assistance and guidance I have received from its services, resources, and members along the way. I have tried to repay SEAALL for its invaluable support over the years by sitting on various committees, and now I see the role of Vice-President/President-Elect as a great opportunity to continue paying-down my debt and providing the chapter direction navigating the changing landscape of our profession.

My strengths and current position lie in technology management and planning. I would call upon my experience and skills in IT and unique perspective as both a librarian and chief information officer to better support the chapter. Having recently served as my college’s interim Dean of Administration and Finance, I also have experience managing the annual budget of a large organization.

I am committed to recruiting and mentoring new law librarians. My current passion is ensuring there remains a path for MLS-only or MLS-first librarians to enter the profession. I fear current trends and requirements of entry-level librarians are making it more and more difficult for the MLS-only or MLS-first librarian to join law librarianship. To this end I am currently working on an article about the hiring requirements and expectations for public service librarians as well as working with my administration to reestablish its JD program as part of the state’s Tuition Assistance Program, thereby making the JD more financially feasible for librarians in the state.

Finally, I live in and am a big fan of Decatur, Georgia, the host city of the 2013 Annual SEAALL Meeting. My location and familiarity with the city, its community, and culture, allows me to work on site with Deca-
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I welcome your questions and appreciate your consideration.

Professional Experience

Georgia State University College of Law, Atlanta, GA

Director of Information Technology and Librarian III (March 2007 to present)

Serving as the college’s chief information officer, directs Information Technology (IT) department responsible for all academic, infrastructure, business, and electronic-communication technologies. Serving as senior public services librarian, teaches a legal research course, provides reference services, and manages library technology projects and initiatives. As a member of the Dean’s senior leadership team, shapes and carries out strategic initiatives supporting the college’s mission and goals. Duties include:

• Oversight responsibility for all aspects of College of Law IT including strategic planning, programmatic initiatives, classroom instructional, virtual learning and research technologies, infrastructure, business-function applications, and internet initiatives.
• Coordination of law library and IT efforts. Project manager for major library technology initiatives.
• Participate in day-to-day administration of the Law Library as senior public services librarian including recently chairing the Librarian Promotion and the Library-Faculty Recruitment committees.
• Teach a one-credit first-year Legal Bibliography course. Create course materials including class readings, research guides, interactive materials and course website.
• Provide reference services to the Georgia State Law community, Georgia State University, State Bar of Georgia, and general public including pro se patrons.
• Supervise an IT staff of seven technology specialists, six graduate technology assistants, and project-specific temporary employees, interns, contractors, and consultants.
• Manage an annual IT budget. Secured an additional funding from external funding sources. Oversee related projects resulting in a classroom capture system, technology-rich student collaborative work spaces, classroom enhancements, expanded connectivity, and several new digital research collections and databases.
• Participate in College of Law governance, including committee responsibilities (e.g. New Building Committee, Faculty Technology Committee) and serving on the Dean’s senior leadership team.

Interim Assistant Dean for Administration and Finance (March 2011 to September 2011)

After Associate Dean for Administration and Finance departed took on addition role serving as the college’s chief operating officer, directing a service-focused organization that provided administrative and business functions to the College of Law. Working in concert with the Dean and other members of the senior leadership team, provided strategic and operational direction in support of the college’s mission and goals. Duties included:

• Managed entire financial operations for the College of Law. Developed and implemented annual budget and internal budgetary allocations, approved all expenditures and performed year-end budget reconciliation. Oversaw external funding grants and agency accounts, and law-designated endowed accounts.
• Managed the college’s human resource functions and personnel matters, including recruitment, payroll and tenure activities, performance management and annual salary administration, as well as staff that provided all administrative support functions for faculty.

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Managed all college facilities, classrooms and equipment, including setup, maintenance, security, access and communications (voice & data), space planning and construction projects.

Oversaw several facilities improvements and day-to-day issues with the university’s Facilities division.

Worked in conjunction with university business function units including Budget & Planning, Procurement, Disbursements, Human Resources, Sponsored Programs, Facilities Management, Information Systems & Technology, Auditing, Legal Affairs, and the GSU Foundation.

Utilized PeopleSoft Financials, PeopleSoft HR, and Financial Edge to support duties.

Advised the Dean (individually and as part of the Dean’s senior leadership team), faculty, and other administrators on a wide range of policy and procedural matters.

Served on various university-wide and college committees.

Head of Electronic Services and Librarian II (July 2004 to March 2007)

Oversaw all aspects of computing technologies and electronic services employed in the Law Library.

Taught one credit first-year Legal Bibliography course (2004 to present).

Supervised Law Library Electronic Services unit of two technology specialists and three graduate technology assistants.

Provided reference services on average of 12 hours per week.

Served as liaison for faculty in the Faculty Librarian Liaison Program.

Coordinated and taught annual faculty “lunch and learn” six-part lectures series showcasing library resources, services, and other related topics.

Led successful consolidation of Law Library Electronic Services and College of Law Technology Services units in 2007 leading to appointment as first College of Law Director of Information Technology.

Electronic Services Librarian (September 1998 to June 2004)

Developed, managed and supported computer technology employed in the Law Library including student computing lab, web services, library automation, and research and reference technologies.

Provided reference services on average of 16 hours per week.

Oversaw the evaluation, licensing, deployment, promotion, and ongoing maintenance of library’s electronic collections.

Maintained Law Library web presence, including developing, customizing, and deploying library website and services.

Administered library-specific systems including integrated library system (ILS) and proxy service. Project manager for ILS migration in 1999.

Served as copyright librarian overseeing library compliance with copyright law including electronic-reserve system, multimedia instructional technologies and computer software.

Coordinator of Westlaw and LexisNexis skills classes as part of first-year Legal Bibliography courses.

Attended part-time evening law school program while working full-time as librarian. Completed course of study in 2003.

Education & Bar Admissions

Georgia State University College of Law, Atlanta, GA -- Juris Doctor, 2003

Indiana University School of Library and Information Science, Bloomington, IN -- Master of Library Science, 1998

Ohio State University, Columbus, OH -- Bachelor of Arts, English, 1993
Admitted to the State Bar of Georgia, 2003 (inactive)

Professional Associations & Activities

Atlanta Law Libraries Association (ALLA)
ALLA is a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

- Chair, Access to Justice Committee, 2009-present
- Member, Executive Board, 2010-2011
- President, 2009-2010
- Vice-President/President-Elect, 2008-2009
- Member at Large, 2007-2008
- Member, 1998 to Present

Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries (SEAALL)
SEAALL is a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries.

- Community Service Committee, 2010-2012
- Annual Meeting Program Committee, 2008-2010
- Local Arrangement Committee, 2009
- Education and Publications Committee, 2007-2009
- Member, 1998 to Present

American Association of Law Libraries

- Member, 1998 to Present
- Served on numerous SIS committees

Publications


Presentations

- American Association of Law Libraries 103 Annual Meeting 2010 -- Panelist, “Statutes, Cases & Codes, Oh
My! Easing Public Librarians Down the Road to Legal Reference”
• Annual Conference for Law School Computing (CALI) 2010 -- Panelist and Coordinator, “Working Collaboratively in CALI Author”
• Turning Technologies User Conference 2010 -- Speaker, “Using Classroom Polling Technology for Strategic Planning and Academic Governance”
• Atlanta Bar Association’s Pro Bono in Atlanta: Economic Challenges & Creative Solutions 2010 -- Speaker, “The Law Librarian’s Role in Pro Bono Service”
• American Association of Law Libraries 102 Annual Meeting 2009 -- Panelist and Coordinator, “Law Librarians Abroad: Is a Foreign Study Program for You?”
• Southeastern Chapter of the AALL Annual Meeting 2009 -- Coordinator, “Galileo: Georgia’s Statewide Virtual Library”
• Northeast Regional Law Libraries Meeting 2007 -- Panelist, “Course Web Sites, Electronic Reserve Collections and Copyright”

Pamela Melton - Vice President / President Elect Candidate
Associate Director for Administration
Coleman Karesh Law Library, University of South Carolina

Personal Statement

It is such an honor to be nominated as a candidate for Vice-Chair/Chair Elect of SEAALL. There may not be a more dynamic chapter of AALL. The energy, dedication, and expertise of my colleagues all over the Southeast continue to amaze, inspire, and challenge me. I was encouraged to become a law librarian by my friend Sally Wiant, the retired director of the law library at Washington & Lee University School of Law. “Do it,” she said. “You won’t regret it.” And I haven’t. Even in the lean times – and we have all been and are going through them – librarians display problem solving abilities and creativity that do more than hold their workplaces steady, they make them better. More than that, SEAALL is a great mechanism through which to share knowledge, as witnessed by the strong educational offerings at our annual meetings and the contributions of SEAALL members to the AALL annual meeting programming. And we do love a good party. I would be very excited to undertake the challenge of continuing the good work of SEAALL as the Vice Chair/Chair Elect.

Professional Experience

Current Position:
Associate Director for Administration, Coleman Karesh Law Library, University of South Carolina, 2004-present.

Previous Positions:

Continued on next page
Education & Bar Admissions
• M.S.L.S., The Catholic University, Washington, DC
• J.D., Washington & Lee University School of Law, Lexington, VA
• B.A., Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA
• Virginia State Bar, 1978 – Present (Inactive)
• Bar Association of the Fourth Circuit, 1982 - Present
• U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, 1983 - Present
• U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, 1983 - Present
• District of Columbia Bar Association, 1980 - 2001

Professional Associations & Activities
• American Association of Law Libraries, 1998 - Present
• Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, 1998 - Present
• South Carolina Library Association, 2002 - Present
• American Library Association, 2002 - 2009
• Law Librarians’ Society of D.C., 1995 - 1997
• Virginia Association of Law Libraries, 1996 - 1997

AALL
• Research & Publications Committee, 2008-2009
  Chair, 2009
  Vice-Chair, 2008
• Research Committee, 2007-08
• Research Instruction & Patron Services Special Interest Section
  Representative to the AALL Education Summit, Chicago, IL – Sept. 2006
  Immediate Past Chair, 2006
  Chair, 2005
  Vice-Chair, Chair Elect, 2004
  Secretary/Treasurer, 2001 - 2003
  Webmaster, 2000 – 2001
• Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section, 1999 - Present
• Annual meeting volunteer in 1999, 2000, 2008

SEAALL
• Chair, Local Arrangements Committee for SEAALL 2011 Annual meeting
• COSELL Board Member, 2000 - 2002
• Education Committee, 1999 - 2001

LAW LIBRARIANS’ SOCIETY OF D.C. (LLSDC)
• Education Committee, 1996-1997
• Coordinating Committee, LLSDC Career Day, 1997

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Selected Publications:

• A Nineteenth Century Law Library: The Colcock-Hutson Collection, exhibit and website <http://www.law.sc.edu/colcock-hutson/>.
• South Carolina Law Digest on CD (reviser)(Martindale-Hubbell 2007).
• Let’s Do Lunch: University of South Carolina Law School Library Recruits New Law Librarians with a Series of Lunches, 11 AALL SPECTRUM 14 (November 2006).
• Let Me “Edutain” You: Games in the Classroom, 2 ESOURCE FOR COLLEGE TRANSITIONS 3 (December 2004).
• A Lesson in Exam-Building: One Law Librarian’s Mission to Create a Practical Legal Research Exam, 8 AALL SPECTRUM 10 (February 2004).

Selected Presentations:

• AALL 2009 Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. Speaker, “So You Think You Can Teach?”
• AALL 2008 Annual Meeting, Portland, OR. Speaker, “Direct Results: Interactive Learning Techniques.”
• SEAALL 2008 Annual Meeting, Alexandria, VA. Speaker, “So You Think You Can Teach: Five Lessons in 50 Minutes.”
• AALL 2006 Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO. Program Coordinator, Moderator, and Speaker, “Marketing Your Library Through CLEs.”
• AALL 2004 Annual Meeting, Boston, MA. Program Coordinator and Speaker, “Let Me “Edutain” You.”
• AALL 2002 Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL. Program Coordinator, “Practical Legal Research Exams: Making the Connection between Theory and Practice.”
• AALL 2001 Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN. Program Coordinator and Moderator, “Two to Tango: The Following Part of Leading in Library Partnerships.”
Kathleen McLeod - Secretary Candidate
Associate Dean for Library & Information Services
Elon University School of Law Library

Personal Statement
I would like to thank you for being nominated for the position of secretary for SEAALL. I am relatively new to SEAALL, but not to the profession, and this is a great opportunity for me to get to know the other librarians in this part of the country. I have been active in several library organizations in the past and look forward to being so at SEAALL.

Professional Experience

Current Position
Associate Dean for Library & Information Services
Elon University School of Law Library
2008 – Present

Previous Library Positions

Assistant/Associate Law Librarian for Public Services
Fordham University School of Law Library
1999-2008

Lawyer/Librarian
New York Law School Library
1992-1999

Reference Librarian
University of Connecticut School of Law Library
1990-1992

Education

- M.L.S. Southern Connecticut State University
- J.D. Washington University School of Law
- A.B. Syracuse University, History and Library Science

Professional Association Activities

American Association of Law Libraries, 1990-

- Bylaws Committee, 2004-2006
- Indexing of Periodical Literature (Advisory Committee), 1998-2001
- Placement Committee, 2010-2011
- Academic Law Library Special Interest Section
- Library Services to Law Journals (ALL-SIS Subcommittee) 2001-2006 -- Chair 2004-2006
- Educational Programming Committee (ALL-SIS Subcommittee) 2007-2010, 2011- -- Chair, 2009-2010

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South Eastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, 2009-

• Membership Committee, 2011-


• Education Committee, Co-Chair, 2002-2005
• Membership Committee, Chair, 1994-5
• Union List Committee, 1992-2001

Nick Sexton - Secretary Candidate
Reference/Information Delivery Services Librarian & Clinical Assistant Professor of Law
Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law

Personal Statement

It is an honor to be nominated for the position of Secretary of SEAALL. The first professional meeting I attended (I was a student at the time) was SEAALL’s in Richmond, Va., in 2004. It was a pleasure to make contact then with so many generous and amiable people, all of whom were willing to share their time and experience with a novice. That and subsequent SEAALL meetings have confirmed to me that I entered the right profession.

As for my qualifications, in 1988–89 I was secretary of an organization called the Society for Technical Communication (East Tennessee Chapter), so I have a sense of the duties of this position, and I have confidence that I can fulfill them.

It would be a privilege to serve as Secretary of SEAALL, and I look forward to the opportunity to do so.

Professional Experience

Current Position
Reference/Information Delivery Services Librarian & Clinical Assistant Professor of Law
Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, NC
2004 – Present

Education

• M.S.L.S., University of North Carolina, School of Information and Library Science, 2004
• J.D., University of North Carolina School of Law, 1999
• B.A., University of Tennessee, 1988

Professional Associations & Activities

• Librarians’ Association at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (LAUNC-CH), 2005 – Present
• American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), 2003 – Present
• Southeastern Chapter of AALL (SEAALL), 2003 – Present

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Faculty Speaker Series Committee, UNC School of Law, 2007–2009 and 2011–2012
Admissions Committee, UNC School of Law, 2009–2010
Research Instruction and Patron Services Special Interest Section (RIPS SIS) Patron Services Committee, 2006–2008
Nominating Committee of the Librarians’ Association at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (LAUNC-CH), 2006
Conference Committee of the Librarians’ Association at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (LAUNC-CH), 2004–2005

Publications


Reba Best - Member at Large Candidate
Associate Director
University of Tennessee Law Library

Personal Statement

My introduction to SEAALL was when I started work at my first professional law library position in December 1979 at the UT College of Law in Knoxville, TN. After a couple of weeks on the job, I learned I was the “new” chair and only member of local arrangements for the SEAALL meeting in Gatlinburg, TN the following spring! Not only was I new to the profession but I was new to the area. With the support of other SEAALL members, I was able to pull it off. That was over thirty years ago and not only have I grown as a professional law librarian but SEAALL has grown as an organization. If elected, I look forward to serving as a Member-At-Large and working with other SEAALL members in continuing to provide educational, leadership, and networking opportunities to our members.

Professional Experience

Current Position
Associate Director
UT Law Library, Knoxville, TN, 2011-

Previous Positions
Interim Director
UT Law Library, Knoxville, TN, 2009-2011

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Head of Cataloging
UT Law Library, Knoxville, TN, 1979-2009

Education

• MLS, Florida State University, 1979
• BS, East Carolina University, 1975

Professional Associations & Activities

American Association of Law Schools
• Committee on Libraries and Technology 2000-2004

American Association of Law Libraries
• Joseph L. Andrew Bibliographical Awards Committee, 1988-90
• Local Arrangements, AALL Basic Cataloging Institute, June 21-24, 1988, Knoxville, TN
• Memorial Committee, 1983-85

SEAALL
• Membership 2008-10
• Local Arrangements, SEAALL 1999 Convention, Knoxville, TN, 1997-99
• Scholarship 1996-97 (chair), 1986-87
• Bylaws 1994-95 (chair)
• Nominations 1988-89
• Placement 1987-88
• Local Arrangements (chair) SEAALL 1980 Convention, Gatlinburg, TN

Publications

Jennifer Frazier - Member at Large Candidate
State Law Librarian
Kentucky State Law Library

Personal Statement

I joined SEAALL because I want to become a more involved member of our profession and I feel serving at a local and regional level will be an enriching experience. I volunteered to serve on the recruitment/membership committee for SEAALL when I joined so that I could welcome new members like myself and as a way to serve the chapter. Now I’m honored to be nominated as a Member-at-Large Candidate so that I can further serve the chapter and make connections with law librarians in my region.

Professional Experience

Current Position
State Law Librarian
Kentucky State Law Library
September 2006 - Present

Previous Positions
Assistant State Law Librarian
Kentucky State Law Library
June 2005 - August 2006

Staff Attorney
Kentucky State Law Library
March 2003 - May 2005

Associate Attorney
Don Smith Law Offices
September 2001 - February 2003

Education & Bar Admissions

- M.L.S., University of Kentucky - School of Library and Information Science, 2007
- J.D., University of Louisville - Louis D. Brandeis School of Law, 2001
- B.A., University of Northern Kentucky, 1998

Committees & Commissions

Kentucky Access to Justice Commission, 2011-Present
- Library Committee, Chair
- Donated Legal Services Committee, Chair
- Pro Se Litigants Committee, Member
- Technology Committee, Member

Professional Associations & Activities
- Kentucky Bar Association, 2001 to present

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- American Association of Law Libraries, 2005 to present
- Kentucky Library Association, 2005 to present
  Special Library Section
  Kentucky Government Documents Roundtable, Treasurer 2011-2013
- Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, 2010 to present
  Membership Committee 2011-2013

Publications & Presentations

- WestLawNext, Thomson Reuters Legal’s newest prompts questions for librarians, AALL Spectrum, May 2010.
- History of the Kentucky State Law Library, (Seeking publication)
- 6/30/2004 - Researching and Resourcing at the State Law Library Co-Presenter, Kentucky Legislative Research Commission CLE.
- 8/2006 - What the State Law Library offers, presented to Supreme Court Justices of Kentucky.
- 9/2006 - What the State Law Library offers, presented to Family Court secretaries and Court Administrators.
- 12/7/2006 - Resources at the State Law Library, presented to the Joint Appellate Conference of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals of Kentucky.
- 12/8/2006 - Resources at the State Law Library, presented to the Legislative Resource Commission Staff.
- 12/11/2006 - Resources at the State Law Library, presented at the Newly Elected Officials Conference for the Kentucky Court of Justice.
- 06/20/2007 - County Law Library Duties, presented at the Circuit Court Clerk’s Summer Conference.
- 10/07/2009 - Resources at the State Law Library, presented to the Court of Appeals.
- 10/19/2009 - Report to the Supreme Court on the status of the county law library task force.
- 12/10/2009 - Using the Virtual Library of Web-based Resources, presented at the faculty development for “newly elected officials conference”.
- 07/21/2010 - Legal Research Update, Panel presentation at the National Association of Appellate Court Attorneys.
- 9/17/2010 - Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere-The Public Library and the Access to Justice in Kentucky, Kentucky Library Association annual Conference.
2012 SEAALL in Clearwater

Rebecca Trammell
Dolly & Homer Hand Law Library Director, Director of Electronic Education, and Professor of Law
Stetson Law
rtrammel@law.stetson.edu

All of us at Stetson College of Law can’t wait to welcome you to the upcoming 2012 SEAALL Conference!

Our host hotel, the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort, is directly on the beach, so you can unwind by strolling along the shore or swimming in the picturesque Gulf of Mexico. The Hilton offers two pools, along with a tiki bar and a playground for the kids. Still, Clearwater Beach is more than just pristine beaches.

The Tampa/St. Petersburg/ Clearwater metropolitan area offers a variety of entertainment options, from cultural and sporting events to fine dining. Many great shops and restaurants are within walking distance of the hotel. Just a short drive from the hotel you will find:

- Salvador Dali Museum [http://thedali.org/]
- Busch Gardens, [http://buschgardens.com/bgt/]
- Historic Tampa Theatre [http://www.tampatheatre.org/]

If you’re a theme park fan:
- Legoland Florida has just opened and is a short 70 miles away [http://www.legoland.com/]
- If you’re considering taking the kids (or yourself) to Disney World, the Mouse is only eighty miles away [http://disneyworld.disney.go.com/]

If you are a sports enthusiast, we have it:
- The Tampa Bay Lightning [http://lightning.nhl.com/] will be playing home games against the Oilers on 3/22 and the Islanders on 3/24.

Interested in baseball spring training? Check it out!
- Pirates in Bradenton [http://pittsburgh.pirates.mlb.com/spring_training/tickets.jsp?c_id=pit]
- Yankees in Tampa [http://www.steinbrennerfield.com/]
- Phillies in Clearwater [http://philadelphia.phillies.mlb.com/spring_training/tours.jsp?c_id=phi]
- Blue Jays in Duneden schedule out soon [http://mlb.mlb.com/spring_training/tickets.jsp?c_id=tor]
- Braves in Orlando schedule out soon [http://atlanta.braves.mlb.com/spring_training/home.jsp?c_id=atl]

We are sure our location offers something for everyone, and we encourage you to bring the whole family. We have anticipated that some attendees will want to extend their stay beyond the conference dates, and we have worked with the hotel to offer our special conference rate for Sunday March 18, 2012 through Wednesday, March 28, 2012.

What are you waiting for? Get “In Step with the Future,” and head to the SEAALL 2012 website to reserve your hotel room: [www.law.stetson.edu/library/seaall.php](http://www.law.stetson.edu/library/seaall.php)

If we can do anything to help you plan your visit or make it more enjoyable, please email us lawrefgp@law.stetson.edu
SEAALL recently completed a contest to create a new, official logo. A total of four serious submissions were received from members of the organization. These four were culled from several humorous suggestions which delighted the Membership and PR committees, but were placed aside. The selected logo features the magnolia, a flower common to SEAALL states.

The selected entry was created by Ryan Valentin, Head of Public Services at the University of Kentucky Law Library and our SEAALL webmaster.

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**Scholarship Announcement**

All SEAALL members are encouraged to consider applying for either of the following funding opportunities to attend meetings or pursue research:

**Lucile Elliott Scholarship**: Provides financial aid for any purpose reasonably designed to improve one’s career in law librarianship. Preference shall be given for attending activities sponsored by the Southeastern Chapter. The amount of the award will vary depending on the proposed activity.

**Kathryn P. Mattox Memorial Scholarship**: Named in honor of Kathryn P. Mattox, this scholarship is intended to help defray the cost of attendance at the AALL or SEAALL annual meetings.

Deadline for both these scholarships is **January 11, 2012**, and members will find the application forms and eligibility criteria on the SEAALL website at [http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/members/scholarships.html](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/members/scholarships.html).

The SEAALL Scholarship Committee looks forward to seeing your applications! If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact the Committee Chair, Jim Donovan, at james.donovan@uky.edu, or any of the committee members.
The Service to SEAALL Award Committee seeks nominations for the award for 2012 given at the Annual Meeting in Clearwater, Florida. The deadline for submitting nominations is Thursday, March 1, 2012.

The criteria for the award are:

1. The candidate must have given special service to the chapter.
2. The candidate must have a sustained record of service to the chapter.
3. The candidate must have been a chapter member for at least five years.
4. Current and immediate past officers are not eligible.

We look forward to reading your nominations. Please send them to swambold@richmond.edu

Past recipients include:

1989 – Ed Edmonds
1990 – Larry Wenger
1991 – Carol Billings
1992 – Hazel Johnson
1993 – Mary Smith Forman
1994 – Betty Kern
1995 – Timothy Coggins
1996 – Pam Williams
1997 – Sally Wiant
1998 – Ed Schroeder
1999 – Kay Todd
2000 – Connie Matzen
2001 – William Beintema
2002 – Sue Burch
2003 – Donna Bausch
2004 – Jim Heller
2005 – Joyce Manna Janto
2006 – Carol Avery Nicholson
2007 – Nancy Johnson
2008 – Terry Long
2009 – Anne Klinefelter
2010 – Sally Wambold
2011—Georgia Chadwick

The Committee
Karen Douglas
Georgia Chadwick
Sally Wambold
the environment is very collegial and community orientated. The Law Librarians play an integral role in this community by teaching legal research in the first year legal research and writing program and actively participating in law school activities.

This year, the librarians have been working hard to establish new ways of reaching the NCCU Law community. One thing we have done that has been well received is getting out of the library and “tabling” in the student common area and other areas near the library. Several weeks before mid-terms, we tabled to teach students about study aid resources. We also tabled to promote the electronic database Hein Online and our reference services. We distributed HeinOnline pens, guides and NCCU Law Library water bottles. Additionally, we distributed colorful fliers featuring our reference services such as: NCCU Law LibGuides; The NCCU Law Library Blog; Legaleagle Chat Service; the Law Library Facebook page; the Popular Legal movies DVD collection; and our TWEN page. Tabling has allowed us to bring the library to the students and explain how coming to the library can benefit them.

Additionally, we have created a “Knowledge Bar” for our students. Situated across from the reference desk, the Knowledge Bar affords students the opportunity to receive one-on-one assistance with their research assignments from a reference librarian. A Knowledge Bar schedule was created in conjunction with the first 1L research assignment to help students with substance of the assignment and promote library and reference services. We have also used the Knowledge Bar to promote the Law Library through give-aways and games. For example, during first year orientation, the Knowledge Bar served as “headquarters” for our Library Scavenger Hunt. Students checked in at the Knowledge Bar, received their questions, and returned with answers to receive prizes and be entered into a raffle for an iPod. The Knowledge Bar has been a wonderful service point addition for our library.

The Law Library is also working to grow its collection in new ways to assist both students and faculty in non-traditional ways. This year, the Law Library...
Library added a popular DVD collection. The DVDs include movies with legal themes (such as The Paper Chase, My Cousin Vinny, Devil’s Advocate, and The Lincoln Lawyer) and documentaries on major legal issues. New movies are being added based on student and faculty recommendations. Students and faculty alike have shown great interest in the collection, using the films for both relaxation and educational purposes. Faculty members have used clips from movies in the collection as discussion starters on topics like trial technique, jurisdiction and complex legal theories such as the rule against perpetuities. With the assistance of a summer intern, the Law Library also developed a Popular DVD Collection LibGuide to showcase the movies in the collection.

Information by Michelle Cosby, Layout by Brian Barnes
A Digital Resources Librarian’s Adventures at the 2011 AALL Annual Conference

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As the recipient of the 2011 SEAALL AALL Annual Meeting Registration Grant, I was able to attend the 104th conference in Philadelphia, PA. This was my first AALL annual meeting and the experience was very rewarding.

The conference started with my attendance at the workshop, Putting the “M” in ERM: Best Practices in Electronic Resources Management. This pre-conference workshop provided valuable information about how to effectively manage a law library’s electronic resources. Speakers discussed a range of issues including: license agreements, collection development plans, drafting job descriptions, and effective marketing and training techniques of databases and other e-resources. Overall, this workshop was an opportunity to acquire professional contacts and applicable information for my field of work in digital resources. Following the workshop, I attended the Exhibit Hall and Ribbon Cutting. It was a great experience to see my supervisor, Joyce Janto, the 2011 AALL President, preside over the ribbon cutting. The Exhibit Hall was a great opportunity for someone new to the profession to meet various vendors and learn about all types of products available for law libraries and its users.

My second day at the conference began with attending the opening general session. Dahlia Lithwick, the Keynote Speaker, addressed how the Supreme Court is fracturing over what to disclose and what not to disclose to the public for fear of the Medias perceptions. It was really interesting to hear Dahlia Lithwick’s perspective about how we are all affected, including the Justices, by the advancements in technology in relation to free speech issues.

After the General Session, I attended programs that would help me learn more about what others are doing in the area of electronic resource management. I found this to a huge advantage in attending the AALL Annual Meeting - being able to learn more about electronic resource management specifically in law libraries. The program, Best Practices for Evaluating a New Resource, was a great presentation on following a format to keep track of your library’s electronic resources. Additionally, the program handouts contained a good checklist on evaluating electronic resources. The Electronic Resources Management Systems Showcase was notable for any librarian interested in viewing all the various ERMs available for law libraries. I enjoyed not only attending all the programs but participating in the various roundtables, SIS meetings, and receptions such as the SEAALL reception. The roundtables and meetings provided me the opportunity to meet other librarians and to discuss future goals and/or issues going on in our own areas of interest.

The last two days of the conference allowed someone like me who is new to the organization the opportunity to network, make connections, and to get a deeper understanding of all that is up and coming in the different areas of law librarianship. I gained useful and relevant advice from those in the field who had stories and experiences to share. Additionally, I gained much needed practical advice about how to develop my position further and deliver the best possible services to the library’s users. I am most thankful for SEAALL to have helped fund my trip to the 104th AALL Annual Meeting and Conference because I received a vast amount of information and experiences. I look forward to seeing you all next year in Boston.
SEAALL Scholarship Report

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Philadelphia, PA was the host for this year’s 104th AALL Annual Meeting and Conference. The historical City of Brotherly Love was a perfect setting for nearly 1,800 conference attendees. As a newer librarian and AALL first-timer, the annual meeting offered a unique professional development experience. The schedule of activities, workshops, receptions and caucus meetings provided ample opportunities to meet law librarians from many different countries.

CONELL, Conference of Newer Law Librarians, was my first glance at what AALL had in store in the days ahead. Meeting other first-timers gave me an immediate sense of camaraderie, especially after CONELL’s speed networking session. Newcomers were welcomed by CONELL Chair Jocelyn Kennedy and AALL Executive Board members, including Joyce Janto and Darcy Kirk. Cornell Winston’s “How to Conference” presentation was essential to successfully navigating the conference. Presentations by several other Executive Board members along with the CONELL marketplace created a welcoming atmosphere.

The opening session’s lively keynote address by Dahlia Lithwick, “The Supreme Court and Free Speech,” set the stage for three fast-paced days of learning and networking. Essential workshops about our ever-changing profession offered conference-goers information on hot topics such as cloud computing (Library in the Clouds: Cloud Computing and Its Impact on Library Services). I truly benefited from educational programs such as RDA for Everyone: Resource Description and Access Explained to non-Catalogers, Copyright Hell: Sites to Get You Out of the Inferno, Can the FCC Regulate the Internet, and E-books and the Future of Legal Publishing. There were so many interesting topics from which to choose.

In addition to workshops, I attended receptions and caucus meetings and dined with fellow professionals. Meeting other law librarians – both rookies and veterans – was an enriching experience…and, a test of my fluency in AALL acronyms (ALL-SIS, BLC, Gen X/Gen Y, RIPS-SIS, FCIL-SIS, PLL-SIS, and more). I was truly inspired by the 20- and 30-year veterans who offered so much encouragement to me and other first-time conference attendees. From law firm and court librarians to academic librarians and archivists, the professional diversity made every reception, caucus, and passing conversation interesting.

Exhibit Hall was a legal information smörgåsbord. I learned so much about new products, services, upgrades, and iPad applications. Many of the vendors patiently answered my neophyte questions about their products. The demonstrations of new features and expanded collections of legal resources explained the excitement on the faces of all who entered exhibit hall…not to mention the drawings for fabulous prizes like Nooks and iPads. I even won an iPad2 from Agati Furniture’s drawing! This was an unexpected surprise and certainly the “icing on the cake.”

I would be remiss if I ended without commenting on Philly’s attractions. The art and architectural landscape of this vibrant city is a testament to our country’s living history with its vast offering of historical landmarks, museums, and monolithic statues. CONELL’s bus tour and the after-dark Haunted Trolley Tour gave me a chance to see many of Philadelphia’s magnificent historical sites. The 37-foot statue of William Penn, Philadelphia’s founder, Elfreth’s Alley, the oldest residential street in America, the Betsy Ross House, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Rocky statue, the National Constitution Center, Independence Hall, the President’s House Commemorative Site (honing enslaved Africans working at the first White House), and of course, Continued on next page
Liberty Bell are just a few places I visited.

I would like to thank the SEAALL grants committee for awarding me the AALL Registration grant. I extend my sincere appreciation to SEAALL members and donors for making this grant possible. Attending the 2011 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference was truly a remarkable and memorable experience.

The AALL Annual Meeting:
Always A Learning Experience

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I vividly remember the experience of going to my first AALL Annual Meeting, the 2007 meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. I began the day with a flight down to New Orleans with some of the few law librarians that I knew at the time, and I ended the day at a CONELL Dutch Treat Dinner with librarians from across the country who are still a vital part of my conference experience. Since then, I’ve found every Annual Meeting I’ve attended to be valuable to my growth as a librarian, both for the opportunity to learn new things and as a way to meet and share ideas with peers from other libraries. It was with this in mind that I applied for the Lucile Elliott Scholarship in order to attend the 2011 AALL Annual Meeting. As I expected, the conference in Philadelphia provided a wealth of opportunities for learning and interaction.

As a faculty services librarian, several of the sessions I attended focused in some way on providing faculty research support. One of the most immediately useful programs for me was Feeling Good About Medical Legal Research, presented by Caroline Young from the Rutgers University Law School Library. Georgia State has a strong health law program, and I’m often called on to do research in medical databases such as PubMed and CINAHL. Ms. Young’s excellent presentation focused on two aspects of medical legal research: how to evaluate scientific studies supporting a particular standard of care and the ins and outs of searching MEDLINE on different platforms, such as Ovid and PubMed. Although I considered myself a fairly adept searcher on PubMed prior to attending the session, I learned several useful strategies that I was able to immediately use to make my searches more efficient and focused.

Another useful session was the Faculty Services Roundtable. Sponsored annually by the Academic Law Libraries SIS Faculty Services Committee, the Faculty Services Roundtable sessions provide an opportunity for interested librarians to come together to discuss several preselected topics related to providing faculty support. Topics this year included working with student research assistants, sending faculty members new research tips/tricks, and promoting the library to faculty. The roundtable I attended, on managing student research assistants, was an informative discussion of virtually all aspects of managing student assistants, including tips on hiring the best students, training new assistants, encouraging communication, and evaluations.

One of the best pieces of advice I’ve received regarding the Annual Meeting was to attend at least one session that is not directly job-related. Heeding this advice, I attended The Real “Philadelphia” Story: From Cain v. Hyatt to 21st Century HIV/AIDS Discrimination Case Law, co-sponsored by the Social Responsibilities SIS and the Black Caucus. The speakers, Professor Scott Burris from Temple University and Ronda Goldfein from the AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania, structured their discussion of the history of HIV/AIDS discrimination cases around scenes from Philadelphia, a movie on which Professor Burris served as a consultant. The result was truly moving, as Professor Burris and Ms. Goldfein explained the challenges facing litigants attempt-
This year’s conference also benefited from new types of sessions, such as the introduction of poster sessions in the Exhibit Hall. Another innovative idea was the Battledecks session, moderated by Meg Kribble from the Harvard Law School Library and Roger Skalbeck from the Georgetown Law Library. The concept of Battledecks is fairly simple: participants must give an impromptu PowerPoint presentation on a given topic using a “deck” of PowerPoint slides that they have never seen before. For the session, a group of AALL members created PowerPoint presentations on the topic “The Law Library Goes to 11.” Another group of members, including myself, volunteered to be potential presenters, with the final participants selected at random during the session. The result was one of the most engaging sessions I’ve attended, and not simply because I happened to be one of the people selected to present. The presenters selected were challenged to truly think on their feet, often with hilarious results.

As with every Annual Meeting, the programs were supplemented by a bevy of opportunities to interact with other librarians. Once the various business meetings, committee meetings, the Exhibit Hall, and receptions are added in, the days can and do become a true whirlwind of activity. Although exhausting, the conference is also exhilarating. Between meeting new people, catching up with old friends, sharing ideas, and all of the opportunities for learning, the 2011 AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia was an extraordinary experience, and I am grateful to SEAALL and the SEAALL Scholarship Committee for making it possible for me to attend. Thank you!

A Path to Law Librarianship

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Unanswered Questions

I went to law school because I wanted to serve and impact my community in a concrete way and I viewed a legal career as an ideal vehicle for effecting positive change.

While I still believe that it can be, I learned quickly that a traditional legal career might not be ideal for me. I learned that most of my classmates and future colleagues weren’t as concerned with positive change as they were with landing a job at a prestigious firm and making a great deal of money. I learned just how challenging it could be for public interest lawyers to have meaningful jobs that paid a living wage. I learned about the adversarial nature of the American legal system, which stands in stark contrast to my own preference for collaboration and compromise.

I felt disheartened and disappointed, but after numerous advising sessions, I decided to finish law school and obtain my degree. I still believed that a legal education would be valuable in and of itself, and a law degree could certainly be beneficial in a variety of fields, beyond traditional practice.

When I completed my studies, I eventually took a job as a law school admissions counselor. I worked as part of a diverse and engaged team, I interacted with a variety of interesting and thoughtful people every day, and I educated people about the law school admissions process. I thoroughly enjoyed the work and the academic environment. Although I was happy and content, I could not escape the one question from prospective
JeanBaptiste Article - From Previous Page

law students that always came back to haunt me and that I had never answered for myself: “What is it really like to be a lawyer?” I had no idea because I had never practiced. In an effort to tackle this question and to confirm whether I wanted to practice law, I decided to give it a try.

Practicing

I became a civil litigation attorney. However, I knew relatively quickly into my career that I did not want to retire as a practicing attorney. I litigated cases involving everything from breached contracts and complex business disputes to workers’ compensation, personal injury, product liability, antitrust and securities violations, foreclosure, insurance defense, and intellectual property issues. (Not to mention, I even tried my hand at criminal law.)

Though I appreciated the intellectual challenge, the day to day practice of law failed to sustain my interest. I did not like the constant conflict, and going to court and arguing the same discovery motions every day became monotonous, and I never felt truly fulfilled. I longed for a field that was more stimulating and service-oriented. Nevertheless, I am happy I made the decision to give it a try because I was able to confirm my initial belief. I did not want to practice law.

That was when the biggest challenge (and opportunity) of my career really began: finding what I really wanted to do. The only factor I was sure of was that I wanted to a job that would allow me to incorporate my legal training. As a lawyer I had access to the law and legal information. I wanted to share my knowledge -- about the law, about how to find information, and about how to understand and apply that information to particular contexts.

It sounded easy enough because “you can do anything with a law degree.” Right? Unfortunately, that was not my experience. I applied for numerous jobs wherein my legal experience and education would have been an asset, yet, employer after employer questioned me. “Why wouldn’t I want to practice law? Didn’t I realize I could make a great living at it? Who in their right mind would walk away? Didn’t I know how many people want to go to law school?”

It began to seem that my law degree and years of experience in practice, which were supposed to open so many doors, were hindering me. I felt stalled. As such, I made a decision to go back to school to get another degree in hopes that I would be afforded more professional opportunities. Yes, after seven years of schooling, I would go back. But, I still had figure out what did I want to do.

Libraries!

Then, one day while working, I met another attorney who shared some of the same feelings I had about practicing law. He told me about his decision to become a law librarian. He was passionate about graduate school, enthusiastic about the future of librarianship, thrilled about the new technologies being applied in libraries, and excited about the time he spent volunteering at a library. He was a walking advertisement for librarianship and in particular law libraries.

A bell went off; I loved libraries and always had! I enjoy reading, take pleasure in browsing and finding interesting bits of information, hold librarians in high esteem, and value the role libraries serve in our society. So, I researched the field and found amongst other things that: 1) there is a need for more law librarians as baby boomer librarians begin to retire (Bizub, Brunner, Trotta, & Warren, 2006, p.6); 2) while a law degree is not necessary to become a law librarian, there is a demand for law librarians with Jurist Doctors (J.D.) (Bizub et al.,
2006, p. 4); and 3) and law librarians are generally professionally content.

To my increasing delight, I saw how law librarianship would allow me to combine my love of libraries, academia, and information with legal training into one field. As a law librarian, I would be able to feed my passion for learning through research, use my legal training to educate, and find personal fulfillment in a service-oriented field by increasing the availability of legal information to all people.

After much careful consideration, I decided to pursue the MLIS degree. It was a big decision as I would be taking on new financial obligations. The thought of going back to school after twelve years was daunting, but rather than being fearful, I was excited to go back to school to learn the necessary skills to prepare me for the future of law librarianship. That’s how I knew, and still know, that I am on the right track. I have begun the program, I am enjoying it very much, and I plan to become a reference librarian in a law library.

Spreading the Word

Throughout my circuitous career path, I’ve had the opportunity to know, work with, and befriend many brilliant and heartfelt attorneys, and so many of them, like me, were unhappy practicing law. Of the wide array of lawyers I’ve spoken with on the subject, it seems that there are only a small minority who actually enjoy practicing. For a variety of reasons, including lack of work-life balance, of civility in the profession, of meaning, or of a sense of personal fulfillment, many attorneys have become disillusioned with the practice of law.

Many contemplate leaving it for other fields, yet, most of these attorneys have never considered law librarianship as an alternative. It is rarely promoted as an option to them, and though government work, business, and teaching are often encouraged, law librarianship is rarely at the top of any list. While I don’t advocate that all disillusioned lawyers become librarians, I think some should at least consider it, and I think it’s unfortunate that more attorneys don’t know about this exciting path.

I also think it’s curious, since it seems to me that lawyers and libraries are a perfect synergy! Many attorneys already possess some of the main skills necessary to be a successful librarian, such as strong analytical and logical thinking skills. They have a knowledge of legal terms and citations, along with the ability to conduct legal research, use legal information systems, and apply this information to concrete fact patterns. Moreover, as indicated above, there is a demand for law librarians with law degrees. I have reviewed many job postings and in law school libraries both degrees are often required for reference and administrative positions. Even some law firm libraries, indicate a desire for librarians to have a J.D. and a MLIS degree. A J.D. is not required to be a law librarian, but given the rigorous training we get in law school, I think lawyers would be great candidates.

As a future law librarian, I intend to advance it as a career option to current lawyers who are contemplating changing careers, as well as to anyone who has a desire to be a lifelong learner, a passion for libraries, or who would love to be a vital part of providing access to legal information to all. I also encourage current law librarians to focus their recruiting efforts, not only on law students, but on lawyers who already possess the skills and real world experience that would benefit a law library.

As for myself, I hope to be a humble example to the many other seekers out there: 1) that if you believe in yourself and your ideals and just keep trying, you will find, behind the many twists and turns your career path may have taken, a common thread, and 2) if you follow that thread, it will lead you exactly where you’ve always longed to go.

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In conclusion, I want to thank SEAALL and every one that made this scholarship possible. It will certainly help me in my path to law librarianship.


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**Preparing Law Libraries for a National Digital Public Library**

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In October 2011 the Digital Library of American (DPLA) held a meeting to launch efforts “toward the realization of a large-scale digital public library that will make the cultural and scientific record available to all.” I was at the meeting in my role as the Digital Library Fellow for the Berkeley Digital Library Copyright Project, where I have the opportunity to think through some of the legal obstacles that prevent digital libraries from realizing their full potential. In this essay, I will share some thoughts on what a national digital public library might mean for law libraries.

Any truly public national digital library will necessarily have a capacious vision for public access. The impact of such a system is difficult to assess for law libraries, but three consequences, at least, are apparent. First, such a system will include public domain materials to the greatest extent possible. As a result, it will include many works published before 1923, because determining public domain status for those works is as simple as looking up the publication date. It will also include many government works, whose public domain status is also easy to determine. Works of the U.S. government are statutorily excepted from copyright protection, and state law is generally thought to be similarly uncopyrightable. Because these materials are held in large part by law libraries, their holdings are prime targets for digitization efforts.

Going forward, many government works and primary legal materials are, in fact, already available in digital formats on state maintained websites or through federal websites like the GPO’s FDsys. Access to prior law is also important, both for historical and practical reasons. Many libraries have recognized historical importance by purchasing access to materials that are already in the public domain and could be distributed freely (for example, The Making of Modern Law series). Practical motivations for access are also great. The law often applies to a particular place and to a particular time; although current law may be of some use to practitioners, access to prior law (for example, old versions of state statutes) is necessary to determine the legality of past actions. Law librarians should be prepared to sort through these works—held by academic law libraries en mass and already the subject of digital conversion by groups like the Law Library Microform Consortium (LLMC)—for inclusion in a national digital public library.

Second, the relative public benefit of access to certain works is likely to become more of a central concern in the decision of what to digitize and when. The importance of free digital access to cultural and scientific works pervaded the DPLA meeting discussions. Free access to legal materials—a goal singled out in a presentation by Carl Malamud at the DPLA meeting—is of obvious importance given its role in dictating the way we live our lives; it is, as Malamud says, “the source code of America’s operating system.” Because legal authority

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is probably near the top of the list of materials that will provide extensive public benefit, law librarians should work together as a group in further dissecting their libraries’ holdings to determine the most compelling materials for inclusion.

Of course, overstating the relative importance of access to legal authority obfuscates immediate, practical uses to which widespread access might be put. While most anyone would find benefit from access to the traffic code, the byzantine sets of environmental or tax regulations are in little demand among the public. Nevertheless, access to both is beneficial at least indirectly. Many works created with tax-payer dollars, such as unannotated caselaw, statutes, regulations, building codes and municipal ordinances, are hidden behind bloated subscription services. The fees for those services are, to understate the problem, discriminat­ingly high to the point that legal services cost more than they should. Decreased reliance on those services by law firms and other legal service professionals could at least slow the rate of increase. And although law librarians can hardly be accused of solipsism, shrinking budgets may call for a reminder that looking outward, to truly collective efforts toward widespread digitization and access can reduce costs for everyone.

Third, a national digital public library will, at least initially, rest on a backbone of localized digitization projects. Law libraries have long engaged in digitization efforts, either through Institute of Museum and Library Science grants, other grant funding, or through local funds. Those projects should be integrated, where possible, into a centralized point of access to increase the reach of these projects. Drawing on localized digitization projects also means that individual law libraries will play an important role in determining what materials are actually made available. For libraries with unique holdings—for example, paper copies of state or local records and briefs—digitization may offer a way to both preserve materials and free in-library shelf space in some situations. Law libraries need to have staff on-hand that can evaluate the legality, practicality, and potential benefits of local digitizing those works.

Coming from someone new to this arena, you may recognize that the thoughts above are not particularly novel. Widespread online digital access has been brewing for a long time, well before even Google had the audacity to start the Google Book Search project, the most famous of the mass digitization projects to date, and law libraries have participated in these projects before. To prepare for even more widespread efforts, law libraries should be ready to work collectively to sort through their collections, identifying important, high risk, and public domain materials, and should have staff on hand who can make evaluations of the practical and legal aspects of digitization.

The Legal Research Interview

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First and foremost, thank you so much for the scholarship that SEAALL awarded me last November. My name is Anna Guerra, and I am currently finishing my second to last semester in the LSU School of Library and Information Science program. I am scheduled to graduate in spring of 2012. Over the past 14 years, I have worked for ThomsonReuters as the Westlaw Manager in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alabama and Louisiana. I currently manage the four Louisiana law schools (LSU, Southern, Tulane, and Loyola), and Jones School of Law in Montgomery, AL. I tell you this to give you some perspective on what I want to write about…the legal
When I embarked on this degree program several of my friends told me “oh, you’ll do great, you know so much about law libraries….” or “you will definitely have no problem doing library research….” and so on. I can tell you… I thought I knew a lot, but I was wrong. I registered for summer classes and the first required course I took was Information Services LIS 7002 (Reference). I received my first assignment. You might have heard me last summer when I cried out “What have I gotten myself into?”

I have been in lots of law libraries, but actually conducting non-legal research in an academic or public library in the stacks and using the online catalog was overwhelming to me. I thought that I could easily apply my Westlaw knowledge of terms & connectors, and field searching, to my library school work. However, it is often different than that depending on the resource you are trying to use. Additionally, there are thousands of publications that I had never heard of: indexes, abstracts, journals, books, reference books, the list was endless. I had no idea where to begin, or how the databases that I was learning to use worked. Ask me to find the legislative history of a piece of law, no problem. Ask me to find a contour map of the Louisiana Highway System, maybe not so much.

Thankfully, I am not a shy person. I immediately set up an appointment with one of the reference librarians who attended my orientation and had given us a quick primer on the LSU Library Catalog System. I was still lost and quite nervous about the class I had registered for. I knew that I needed help. He was an angel and showed me in-depth how to use the online catalog (I had only ever used a card catalog, even through law school). He also introduced me to WorldCat, and gave me a great map of where everything was in the LSU Library and other libraries on campus. I would have never made it through my Information Services class without his assistance in this basic knowledge. But it was my first assignment that made me realize that I wasn’t as savvy as I thought I was. It wasn’t hard for me to admit that. Therefore, it became my mission to become an expert in learning how to use my library and sharing this knowledge in my current job. You can ask the 1Ls and law review students how many times I say “Please visit your reference librarians, use the law library catalog, and look for other sources in different places…” I can only hope to share what I have learned to all the law students that I have contact with. I would be doing them a disservice not to.

Because of my experience, I can only imagine that first year law students may feel the same way as I did, even if they won’t admit it. Yes, we are all working with the “millennial” student. And I think we would all agree that just because they can turn on a computer and search Google and Wikipedia, that doesn’t mean they have an understanding of how to conduct legal research or even understand what resources they have available to them. Even though, they think they do.

A student question that stuck with me for a long time was “Hey Anna, I am supposed to find a treatise. How do I know I have found a treatise?” What an excellent eye-opening question. I don’t know. How would he have known that he was using treatise? Would he include the word treatise as part of his search? Some treatises have the word “treatise” as part of the cover/title and some do not. The word treatise in and of itself is very confusing if you have never used it or had it explained to you. It’s not even defined in Black’s Law Dictionary. This is why I propose maybe starting legal research and writing classes with the “legal research interview” a somewhat first cousin of the reference interview.

The purpose of the reference interview is to determine the specific information needs of the user. According to ODLIS, the reference interview is “the interpersonal communication that occurs between a reference librarian and a library user to determine the person’s specific information need(s), which may turn out to be dif-

Continued on next page
ferent than the reference question as initially posed. Because patrons are often reticent, especially in face-to-face interaction, patience and tact may be required on the part of the librarian. A reference interview may occur in person, by telephone, or electronically (usually via e-mail) at the request of the user, but a well-trained reference librarian will sometimes initiate communication if a hesitant user appears to need assistance.

I realize that 1L classes are so large LRW and libraries could not interview every single 1L, but perhaps, we could give students an initial “self examination” of what they may or may not know about legal research. Because I work with a limited amount of law schools and do not have a full working knowledge of every LRW program, my idea is just that, an idea. Perhaps your program already does something like this. Please share!

Before the first assignment ask them either in a class or on a quiz some basic legal research questions: Define what a treatise is. What are the books called where you find case law in print? If you were going to start a research problem what resource would you use first? Name an online research platform aside from Westlaw or Lexis. Why would you use an encyclopedia over a practice guide? What are the two main legal citation formats (non-state based)? These are just a few examples. I think it might not only help us learn what they know and what they don’t know, but also help them realize that they don’t know a lot about legal research or the law library. Students don’t know what they don’t know, right? And perhaps it just might give them a greater appreciation of their legal research and writing course, the law library itself, and understand that we are all trying to be a valuable resource for their law school career and beyond.

My CONELL Experience for the Southeastern Law Librarian

Austin Williams
Reference/Student Service Librarian
Georgia State University College of Law Library
austin@gsu.edu

This past spring I had the distinct privilege of receiving the SEAALL CONELL Scholarship, which enabled me to attend the Conference of Newer Librarians (CONELL) at the 2011 AALL Conference in Philadelphia. Philadelphia was a great setting for my first AALL conference experience. The sightseeing, history, and the local cuisine made it a breeze to mix and mingle with my new professional colleagues. I consider myself fortunate to have been able to attend CONELL in conjunction with my first AALL conference. Personally, the size of the actual conference would have been a little intimidating without first attending CONELL. At that point in my career I was a little less than one year in the law library profession. I could have barely named another law librarian outside of my work colleagues at Georgia State and a few local chapter members. All of that changed after I attended CONELL. Now I know librarians from all over the country who have job functions similar to mine. The more people I met, the more I found out that I was not so different. Being different is not bad, but it was a nice change not to have to explain to someone what a “law librarian” does or what the “KF” in a call number denotes.

The actual organization of the CONELL program promoted both formal and informal interactions. The conference started with small dinner groups the night before CONELL. The small groups enabled attendees to meet several people before the sessions began the next morning. The dinner provided a great way to ease into the conference atmosphere. Although I do like meeting new people, sometimes being in a room where you know absolutely no one can be a little daunting. Seeing a few familiar faces from the first dinner helped ease any initial nervousness I had about the conference.

Continued on next page
I found all of the morning sessions to be both informative and highly motivating. The biggest concepts I took away were to meet as many new people as possible and to volunteer for different tasks at the conference. In addition, I also learned a little bit about the organization and history of AALL, as well as how I can get involved on a local and national level. The morning programs also featured a “speed dating” type session. Participants had about five minutes to move from person to person, introducing themselves and providing a little information about their work/educational background. Although it was hard to remember all of the people I met from this session, I did learn two things: (1) always take business cards to a conference; and (2) there are many different types of law librarians working in a wide array of settings. Not every law librarian will focus on reference at an academic institution. There are a host of other settings that law librarians can work, including courts, government agencies and public law libraries.

Another high point of CONELL was the afternoon bus and walking tour of Philadelphia. The tour gave me a chance to have a little more casual conversation with some of the attendees and see the high points. Because I had already seen most of the big attractions on the tour, I did not feel the pressure during the rest of the conference to go at warp speed to see everything in the city and attend all the sessions. It also left time for me to focus on the real jewel of Philadelphia…..the cheesesteaks!

Overall I found my AALL experience to be a delight, and I give most of the credit to CONELL. I met several new people, I learned about how I can get involved in AALL, and reaffirmed why the law library profession was the right career path for me. Based on my experience, I would highly suggest anyone who is attending their first conference to participate in CONELL.

SEAALL Briefs

Karin Den Bleyker  
Director of Technical Services  
Mississippi College School of Law Library  
dbleyker@mc.edu

KENTUCKY

University of Kentucky Law Library

James Donovan and Carol Watson have had their article, “Citation Advantage of Open Access Legal Scholarship,” published in the Fall 2011 issue of Law Library Journal.

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi College School of Law

Jennifer O’Donnell has joined Mississippi College School of Law Library as the Acquisitions Librarian. Jennifer is originally from Memphis, Tennessee and earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and her Juris Doctor both from Mississippi College. Previously Jennifer worked as a Staff Attorney for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi.
NORTH CAROLINA

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

We have lots of news to report from the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Sara Sampson is the new Deputy Director. Sara came to UNC from Georgetown Law Library, where she was Head of Reference.

Julie Kimbrough has been promoted to Assistant Director of Collection Services. Previously she was the Electronic Resources Librarian. Julie replaces Carol Nicholson, who has retired.

VIRGINIA

Appalachian School of Law

The Appalachian School of Law Library welcomes Nicholas Stump as the new Reference Librarian. Nick grew up in Buckhannon, West Virginia, and after attending WVU for both his undergraduate and law degrees, moved to Buchanan County, Virginia (pronounced the same!) to work at ASL. Nick was a student worker at WVU’s Law Library during his law school days. When he’s not answering reference questions for students and faculty, he’s often found hiking out in the mountains.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

American University Washington College of Law

John Smith has been named the Head of Serials and Acquisitions. He was previously the Access Services Librarian. Amy Taylor has been named the Acting Access Services Librarian. She was previously the Special Projects Librarian. Mary Champagne is now the Special Projects Librarian. She was previously the Evening Circulation Manager.

This Newsletter is provided in a paperless format.
Activity or Achievement

Brian Barnes
Deputy Law Library Director
Loyola University New Orleans - College of Law Library
bcbarnes@loyno.edu

As I write this editorial Christmas time is upon us. This is a time that is often busy with Christmas parties, vendor renewal requests, and “special” finals hours. Busy is the way many of can answer that nightly question of, “How was your day?” I have to admit I have this past month run into several occasions to rethink about what is “busy”.

The great basketball coach John Wooden is quoted as saying “Never mistake activity for achievement” and I have to say that rings loud and clear to me. Not in a judgmental of others way but as a reflective self-analysis. As we work do we think about the idea of is this achieving something? Am I just doing this either because it has been done before or because it seems like a good idea even though others may not really use it? A prime example of this reflection for me, and some of you I bet, is in doing a library blog post. It makes me busy, it reaches a few students (presumably), the post spreads knowledge, but is it achievement or just activity. Should I be spending the time on that blog post for five people or would that time be better spent trying to write an article for LLJ? (This of course assumes an article for LLJ is achievement.)

I also think back upon an October 7, 2011 article by Rachel Toor in The Chronicles of Higher Education where she writes about accomplishment, productivity, and tasks. The article does a good job of describing how we get bogged down with teaching, committee meetings, and all sorts of obligations without thinking of the end results. All the sudden on this path our “accomplishments” are smashed down into being on a committee or some other benign result and not something that is worthwhile and noteworthy. I mean I am proud when I teach or present or publish but so do most of you who read this editorial, it kind of puts “noteworthy” in perspective.

As I start to try and wrap up the ramble I call an editorial I admit I am no sage of productivity. In fact I find myself becoming more than ever before buried under daily tasks that are not noteworthy. However, I think the first step is realizing where we are at, that whole “You have to admit there is a problem before you can fix it” idea. Are you stuck in the circular loop of unspectacular? If you are content in this loop you probably bailed on this article before getting this far.

But if you are not content then the question is how do you get to accomplishing things as the norm instead of just activity? This answer will be different for each of us; maybe it is more structure at work, maybe it is not volunteering for that next thing and focusing on what you have on your plate, maybe it is volunteering for something that obligates you to do something outside of your daily grind.

And remember if you need to publish the Southeastern Law Librarian is always looking for quality scholarship :)}
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Submitted by Billie Blaine, SEAALL Treasurer
# SEAALL Officers 2011 - 2012

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<th>Position</th>
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<th>Address</th>
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<td>President</td>
<td>Carol Watson</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>New Orleans, LA 70118-3538</td>
<td>504-861-5548</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fxnorton@loyno.edu">fxnorton@loyno.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Member at Large (2011-2013)</td>
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<td>Nashville, TN 37203-1181</td>
<td>615-322-1438</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jason.r.sowards@vanderbilt.edu">jason.r.sowards@vanderbilt.edu</a></td>
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*Volume 36, Issue 3 • Summer 2011 • Southeastern Law Librarian*
The SEAALL Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the availability of five scholarships and grants for SEAALL members. Brief descriptions of each scholarship and links to applications are below.

**Lucile Elliott Scholarship**

Provides financial aid for any purpose reasonably designed to improve one’s career in law librarianship. The amount of the award will vary depending on the proposed activity.

Deadline: January 11, 2012 [apply](#)

**AALL Annual Meeting Registration Grant**

This grant was created to provide funding for a law librarian who lacks financial assistance to attend the AALL Annual Meeting. The award will be cost of a full registration to the AALL Annual Meeting.

Deadline: March 15, 2012 [apply](#)

**CONELL Grant**

This grant was created to provide funds for CONELL tuition and one nights stay in a hotel for a law librarian who will attend AALL but lacks financial assistance to attend CONELL.

Deadline: March 15, 2012 [apply](#)

**Student Scholarship**

Need money to attend library school? The SEAALL Student Scholarships are designed to encourage library school students to pursue a career in law librarianship. The Scholarship Committee will award grants to the student or students whom the Scholarship Committee determines has indicated a genuine interest in the profession of law librarianship and is likely to pursue a career in law librarianship. Award recipients will also be given a one year membership to SEAALL.

Deadline: October 29, 2011 [apply](#)

**Kathryn P. Mattox Memorial Scholarship**

Named in honor of Kathryn P. Mattox, this scholarship is intended to help defray the cost of attendance at the AALL or SEAALL annual meetings.

Deadline: January 11, 2012 [apply](#)

Questions about the scholarships? Feel free to contact any member of the SEAALL Scholarship Committee.
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Brian C. Barnes -- Deputy Law Library Director -- Loyola New Orleans -- bcbarnes@loyno.edu

Submissions are preferred to be sent electronically in MS Word format.

Newsletter Deadlines are:
Spring -- May 15, 2011
Summer -- July 31, 2011
Fall -- November 30, 2011
Winter -- January 31, 2012

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