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SEAALL

VOL. 49
ISSUE 1
WINTER 2024

**IN THIS
ISSUE:**

**SEAALL EXECUTIVE
BOARD NOMINEES**

Meet the slate of candidates for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members at Large.

**SEALL 2024
ADVANCING THE BALL
NETTING RESULTS**

Make plans to join us May 16-18 in Lexington, Kentucky.

A New Day

Donna Nixon, UNC Law

Presidential Ponderings

Many of us make New Year's resolutions, usually to recommit to something we believe is beneficial for us: a new diet, returning to the gym, dusting off that big writing project, getting our finances in order, learning a new skill. I don't make resolutions, but the pause that the winter holidays bring each year is an opportunity to reflect on where we are and reevaluate how that aligns with what is important to us. A clear understanding of what is truly important to us helps us set goals.

Starting on big goals is exciting. But it can also be overwhelming. Success is more likely if those goals are realistic, and we put accountability and a concrete plan into the mix. There are many strategies to set and achieve goals. There are SMART goals (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, timebound). There is the SWOT strategy to evaluate and tackle strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to achieving a goal. There are tools that help us break down a goal into component pieces to track and manage them. You can even hire a human (or AI) life coach to help you meet your goals. During my career, I have leaned heavily on resources SEAALL and AALL memberships give me access to, thanks to the hard work of many of our super-smart law library colleagues. They often sift through the noise of conflicting advice to pull out, or even create the tools most relevant to our work. No one of us is an expert on everything. But pooling our resources gives us more bang for our buck.

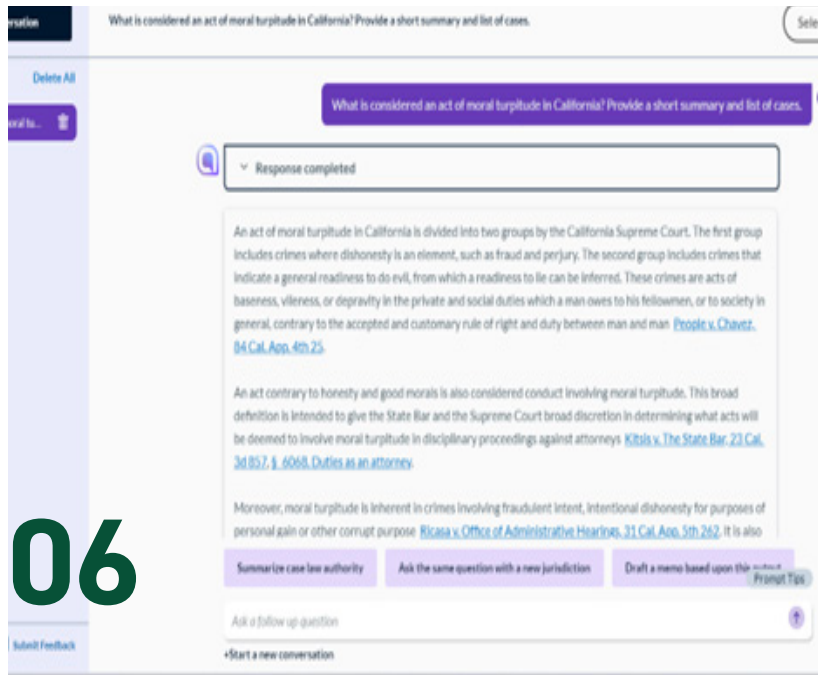
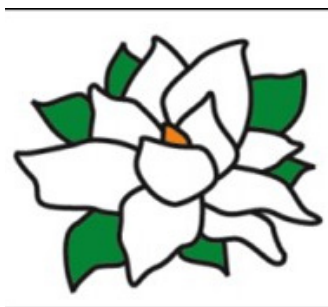
I hope you have the opportunity this year to take advantage of the wealth of programming, guidance,

tools, and advice that our colleagues have made available to us through SEAALL and AALL, at in-person and online meetings, through publications, and through our online community discussion forums. While SEAALL does not have the resources to record and archive much of our great programming, many SEAALL members present at AALL, often reprising great programs they did initially at SEAALL. And AALL does record and make available online many of its meeting programs. Some of that programming is likely to help you reach your goals this year.

Additionally, if you want more generalized goal setting guidance, your organization, or your local public library, may have access to learning platforms such as LinkedIn Learning (LL). LL has several relevant courses, including: Goal Setting; Objectives and Key Results (OKRs); Setting Business Unit Goals; Setting Team and Employee Goals Using SMART Methodology; and Defining and Achieving Professional Goal. LL also has 2-5-minute videos on goal setting. Whatever resources you have available to you, I hope you will find a tool that works for you.

Every new day gives us an opportunity to reach our goals. So, whether you've set a goal on January 1st or just today, here's wishing you much success in achieving what is important to you.





SEALL
IRN CHAPTER AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

UT > MEETING > PUBLICATIONS > EMPLOYMENT > MEMBERS > SEALL ANNUAL MEETING 2024

SEALL's Social Justice Resource Page

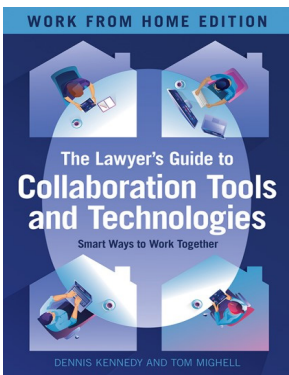
A Project of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee

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This guide was compiled for members of SEALL as an introduction to resources on the topics of disparity, (2) racial diversity, (3) implicit bias and microaggression, (4) cultural sensitivity, and (5) designed as an annotated bibliography focused on selected resources with varying depth of tree articles, websites, blogs, short videos, and organizations. The annotations in this document are our research into these titles or are direct quotes from publisher websites.

The need for this guide was determined by the SEALL Executive Board, led by President Shamil response to the Spring 2020 international protests for justice and equality, and ongoing convers diversity, implicit bias, and inclusion in law librarianship. The massive public outcry over police l systemic racism united people from all walks of life with one voice to uphold the moral compass the lives of countless black people who died at the hands of police and white supremacists, such Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and Rayshard Brooks, just to name a few.

08



SEAALL 2024

Advancing the Ball
Netting Results

Lexington, KY
May 16 - 18



GATHER WITH YOUR FELLOW SEAALL MEMBERS FOR SEAALL 2024!

Advancing the Ball, Netting Results will be held at the University of Kentucky from May 16th to May 18th. Join us for learning, socializing, and reconnecting with each other.

Look for the institute on Technology Innovation in Legal Practice and Research that will accompany SEAALL 2024.

A visit to the Bluegrass State is always a good time!

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JOEL A. KATZ LAW LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE

LIBRARY PROFILE

The Joel A. Katz Law Library has big windows to let in sunlight while students study.



Here in the peaceful foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains is located a hidden gem among law libraries. The Joel A. Katz Law Library at the University of Tennessee Knoxville exists to actively support and advance the goals of the College of Law and the University of Tennessee by providing excellent information resources, research expertise and services to the library's students, faculty, staff, and public community. As stewards of the library's collections, resources, and physical spaces, the library strives to serve the community with excellence and compassion, providing equitable access to information in a diverse and inclusive setting characterized by integrity and civility, housed within a warm and welcoming environment.

The current library was occupied in 1997 after a major renovation and addition to the College of Law building was completed. The library is approximately 43,000 square feet and consists of 5 floors with seating for 484 people. There are 25 study rooms of varying sizes and 126 reservable study carrels spread throughout the building. The study carrels are reservable exclusively by law students, however, if there are no reservations, anyone can access and use them. Additional workspaces and seating exist on all floors of the library, with many cozy nooks and sunny windows available for study. Large and small tables and comfortable easy chairs are favored spaces for student collaboration. This year we have designated "quiet study" floors on 3 floors of the building, with 2 floors available for collaborative and group study. The law library is accessible 24

hours a day, 7 days a week for law students, faculty, and staff, and the library is open to the public approximately 60 hours a week, with a fully-staffed circulation desk. The current law school enrollment is 460 students.

As with many law libraries, we have been going through a large weeding and inventory of our print materials, removing those which are fully accessible online and shifting the remaining print volumes. The library subscribes to many databases, including LexisNexis, Westlaw, Bloomberg Law, and HeinOnline. Future plans include building a moot-courtroom inside the law library, after print materials are shifted and a space is designated. Plans are also in development for more study areas for the students, as these are always in high demand. Recently we have also added some new collections to the library, such as a leisure reading collection, study-aids collection, and wellness collections. We also circulate some unusual items such as umbrellas, laptop chargers, display dongles and adapters (to connect laptops to classroom and study room displays,) presentation remotes, emergency laptops for exams, a sunlight (seasonal affective disorder light,) bike pump, bike lock, calculators for business law exams, clothing steamer for interviews and grad gowns, study flashcards, and dry-erase marker sets. We love our students and want to make their time here as stress-free as possible.

**LOREL REINSTROM, HEAD OF ACCESS AND TECHNICAL SERVICES,
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF LAW**

“GOOD LAW” & RED FLAGS

TALKING ABOUT TEACHING



image courtesy of Casetext.

Over the course of my career as a law librarian, I've fielded questions from students and legal professionals alike about how signal indicators in citators work... well, maybe more general confusion than direct questions. I've heard more than once something to the effect of, "I know this case is good law, but it has a red flag/stop sign next to it!" I think instinctively assuming that everything with negative treatment is "bad law" or at least not "good law" makes sense, and it can be even more confusing if you start to look further. To use an example that I stumbled across not too long ago, the SCOTUS case *Katz v. U.S.* came up in some research. It had been "superseded by statute," which was enough to give it a red stop sign signal indicator – ostensibly the most negative indicator available. I'll touch on that more in a bit, but let's make this a little more interactive. What is your first impression of a SCOTUS case that's been superseded by statute lies in the good law/bad law dichotomy? Is that enough for red-flag treatment, or does that count as yellow?

That said, this is "Talking About Teaching," not "Teaching a Mini-Lesson on Citators." Still, I wanted to point to some concrete examples as to why I can understand some of the general confusion I've come across. It wasn't until I saw the "Mastering the Lawless Science of Our Law: The Subjectivity of Citators" presentation at the 2023 AALL Conference that my mind started turning (if you attended, you may still have access to a recording of it through the AALL site – I'd highly recommend giving it a watch if any of what I'm talking about here interests you). In that presentation, speaker Nicolas Mignanelli used the example of *Miranda v. Arizona*: on Lexis, the case has the red stop sign treatment, and on Westlaw it's a yellow flag. This made me curious about the case I mentioned before, *Katz v. U.S.*, and lo

How do we alleviate confusion for students and patrons?

and behold, it was the exact same situation: red on Lexis and yellow on Westlaw.

This ultimately loops back around to my entire point of this exercise: how do we alleviate confusion for students and patrons? I do want to note that this isn't an indictment of inconsistency on the part of citators: I think anyone who works with the law knows full well that it's not quite as exact as it may seem to be from the outside. Law itself is nuanced, and the interpretation of that law potentially even more so. There's still a human element in determining what laws and indicators mean, so there's bound to be different interpretations at some point. I think that the conclusion I've come to on this matter is that, paradoxically, part of the confusion comes from not emphasizing how confusing legal interpretation is in the first place. Being up front with the many nuances of citators, indicators, and law itself may cause some groans in the present, but ultimately may prevent some headaches in the future.

DYLAN DUNN, RESEARCH AND INSTRUCTION LIBRARIAN,
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

READER'S ADVISORY

The Lawyer's Guide to Collaboration Tools and Technologies: Smart Ways to Work Together. Dennis Kennedy and Tom Mighell. ABA: Law Practice Division, 2022 (\$99.95)

This book is an excellent introduction to digital collaboration tech and strategies for practicing attorneys, unlike many professional librarians, who do not stay up to date with and do not necessarily need the newest cutting-edge technology.

Kennedy and Mighell begin their discussion of collaboration with an overview of the ethical duties of attorneys to maintain technological competence, especially in the areas of security. The authors then discuss how the COVID pandemic changed the legal industry's take on technology.



Reader's Advisory continued from pg 5.

One especially poignant question asked of the reader was whether the reader took a proactive approach to collaborative technology during the COVID pandemic or whether the reader took a more passive approach, allowing vendors, other attorneys, or clients to take the lead in using Zoom and other collaborative tools.

The book then provides a format where the reader may take a more active role in learning and discovering new technologies. The table of contents, index, and appendixes are easy to use. Part One introduces collaboration, the different kinds of required collaboration tools, and steps to take to ensure the reader maintains collaborative competence. Part Two focuses on Recommended Collaboration Tools. Kennedy and Mighell weave collaboration strategy throughout the work but also dedicate Part Three of the book to Developing your Collaboration Strategy.

Each chapter is well subdivided with key takeaways, good introductions and conclusions, with detailed analy-

sis available if needed or desired. This lends the book to various readers, from someone looking for a thousand-foot overview to a novice. Appendix A: Collaboration Tools by Category is especially helpful.

One criticism any practical book about technology faces is that it is outdated before publication. Kennedy and Mighell navigate this hurdle well by focusing on strategy, the general types of collaborative tools, and general overviews of specific platforms and services. This book will be helpful to readers for many years to come, even if a reader would do well to supplement the text with the blogs or podcasts created by the authors.

I recommend this book for academic libraries and any library that serves solo practitioners and small firms.

MATTHEW NEELEY, FACULTY SERVICES AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION LIBRARIAN, UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SCHOOL OF LAW

GENERATIVE AI & LEGAL RESEARCH

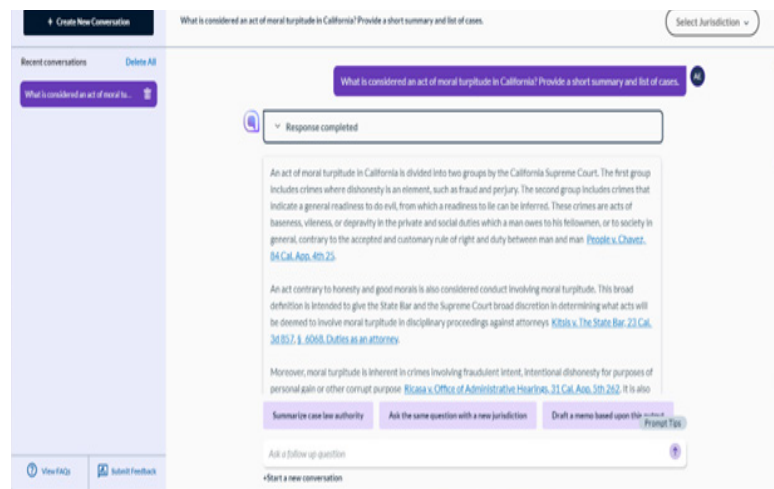
TECH TOOLS

Generative AI is a relatively new, but fast-growing, technology. The term “generative AI” refers to a class of artificial intelligence systems with the capability to generate content autonomously. It is based on complex algorithms and neural networks to create new and contextually relevant outputs. Generative AI is rapidly developing and growing in popularity across all fields and its influence is beginning to extend into the legal domain.

Both Westlaw Precision and Lexis+ now offer generative AI as part of their services, and, depending on your provider, and contracts, you likely already have access to at least one of these systems. AI is a powerful tool that complements, rather than replaces, tradition legal research methods. It allows legal professionals to quickly and efficiently get information and resources, but the results are only as good as the information provided to it. As this technology becomes more prevalent, it is important for legal professionals to learn how to properly utilize it to get high-quality, accurate results. Crafting a good prompt is crucial for getting accurate and relevant results.

Here are some tips for crafting a good legal research AI prompt:

- **Define Jurisdiction and Context** – Clearly define the jurisdiction and context for your query. Make sure to specify the jurisdiction in question and provide all the material facts needed to interpret your issue. Providing this information will allow the AI to filter the information



it retrieves and to limit the parameters of your query.

- **Give Instructions** – Specify what output and format you want from the query. Do you want it to craft a letter? Give a bulleted list of case law? Do you want a short summary or an in-depth analysis? Be specific about what kind of answer you need from the AI.

- **Revise and Refine** – You can provide additional information and ask follow-up questions to clarify your query and refine your results. You can ask the AI to find additional cases, provide more specifics on a given topic, expand on an idea, etc.

ASHLEY EVANS, HEAD OF COLLECTION SERVICES, WASHINGTON AND LEE SCHOOL OF LAW

MEET: JENNIFER DUBETZ

MEET & THREE

Meet: Hi, I'm Jennifer and I've never been a morning person. Back in 2011, I saw a job posting for a 4PM to midnight closing shift in a Law Library, I was certain I'd found a dream job. It was a perfect fit, I had a ton of relevant experience and my career goal while attending Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science was to work in an academic library. Dreams change and mature of course, but for twenty-something me, it was a near perfect existence.

Before Library School, I was a student worker in the library at West Liberty University. It was the era of transition when there was both the card catalog and the on-line catalog in use, and when searching for articles on a topic I consulted both the databases and the Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature. I learned so much about how libraries work, and the experience confirmed my desire to pursue a career in Librarianship.

Upon graduating from Kent State University with an MLIS, I took a position at my local public library where I did a bit of everything – circulation, reference, local history – until I was laid off. (Thanks Recession of 2008!) I then took a temporary position as a Children's Librarian in a neighboring city. I managed the summer reading program and held story hour for preschoolers where I developed expertise in paper plate and construction paper crafts.

After the public libraries, I took a brief detour into a non-library job. I knew by lunch on day one, I'd made a mistake, but not wanting to be a quitter, I stuck it out longer than I should have. Ultimately, I gave notice after a few months and decided to relocate to Morgantown, West Virginia where a few friends already lived.

That's when I found the late-night law library job. It was my first of four positions here at West Virginia University and each one has been awesome. My current position is Head of Public Access Services where each day I get to interact with the students and faculty and help each person find just the thing that is needed. I love the "thrill of the hunt" of finding an obscure article or a mis-shelved book. It is also very much a dream job except for maybe the starting time of 8AM. But I make it through the morning with the mantra "Coffee shop on premise!"

I love the "thrill of the hunt" of finding an obscure article or a mis-shelved book.



And Three things I often hear as a librarian.

1. (When students return from summer/winter/spring break) "Did you have a nice break?" They often seem surprised to hear that we are here and working year-round.
2. (When locating materials without looking up a call number) "Wow, you know where all the books are!" What they don't realize is either I've pulled and/or shelved the title recently or because they have 100 classmates also taking the same course, I've already pointed out the study aids for a particular topic four times that morning.
3. (From everyone, upon learning I'm a librarian) "Oh you're a librarian, you must love to read!" And I do, and although the treatises, reporters, and study aids that make up the bulk of an academic law library are not my choice for relaxing, there are probably twenty or so books in the collection that I've read. I largely support my reading habits by borrowing books from the other campus libraries which have much larger general collections and via ILL. This question often makes a great conversation starter to let others know about those options for obtaining both fun reads and interdisciplinary research materials. **JENNIFER DUBETZ, HEAD OF PUBLIC ACCESS, WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW**

Have something to say?

The Newsletter and PR Committee welcomes submissions!

Contact the co-chairs for more information.

SEAALL SOCIAL JUSTICE RESOURCES

You may not be aware of this, but the SEAALL website has a wealth of resources available on its Social Justice Resource Page, found under Publications > Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives. Created in July 2020 by the SEAALL Diversity & Inclusion Committee, the page is an annotated bibliography focused on select social justice resources with varying depth of treatment in books, articles, websites, blogs, short videos, and organizations. This column highlights a few of the resources which are included.

Inequality.org is an online portal to data, analysis, and commentary on income and wealth inequality. This page is chockablock with useful information and analytics. For example, if you're a fan of HBO's *The Gilded Age* or simply of colorful charts, you may find an article showing how wealth distribution has changed

The SEAALL website has a wealth of resources available on its Social Justice Resource Page

radically in the last few decades. For example, "Income disparities are now so pronounced that America's richest 1 percent of households averaged 104 times as much income as the bottom 20 percent in 2020, according to the CBO." There are also articles with charts showing inequality in topics such as health, taxes, racial economics, and gender economics.

The page also contains fact-hyperlinked articles, with titles like "How Redlining's Legacies Demand New Policy Action," "Don't Blame My Fellow Retail Workers for Poor Service — Blame Our CEOs," and "How the U.S. Could Prohibit Medical Debt From Appearing on Credit Reports." Some articles are reprinted from other sources.

The Social Justice Resource Page also contains annotated links to many blogs. Black Perspectives is the award-winning blog of the African American Intellectual History Society (AAIHS). Recent articles include "Convict Leasing in the Family" by Menika Dirkson, "The Best Black History Books of 2023" by the AAIHS Editors, and "Black Women and Economic Self-Determination: A CBFS Interview" by Lucien Baskin. This blog also posts interviews of writers and scholars of African American studies. An interview published



HOME ABOUT MEETING PUBLICATIONS EMPLOYMENT MEMBERS SEAALL ANNUAL MEETING 20

SEAALL's Social Justice Resource Page

A Project of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee

- [Racial Disparity](#)
- [Racial Diversity](#)
- [Implicit Bias and Microaggressions](#)
- [Cultural Sensitivity](#)
- [Protests](#)

This guide was compiled for members of SEAALL as an introduction to resources on the topics of (1) racial disparity, (2) racial diversity, (3) implicit bias and microaggression, (4) cultural sensitivity, and (5) protests, designed as an annotated bibliography focused on selected resources with varying depth of treatment in articles, websites, blogs, short videos, and organizations. The annotations in this document are direct quotes from publisher websites.

These resources were last updated July 2020.

The need for this guide was determined by the SEAALL Executive Board, led by President Sherrill Williams in response to the Spring 2020 international protests for justice and equality, and ongoing concerns about diversity, implicit bias, and inclusion in law librarianship. The massive public outcry over police brutality and systemic racism united people from all walks of life with one voice to uphold the moral com

last summer is with Chad L. Williams, a Professor of History and African and African American Studies at Brandeis University, who published "The Wounded World: W. E. B. Du Bois and the First World War."

There are links to many informative short videos on the page. For example, reporter Hari Sreenivasan begins his story "How the Biases in the Back of Your Mind Affect How You Feel About Race," PBS NewsHour (Mar. 30, 2015) with the basic assertion "A 2010 report by the Pew Research Center noted that the millennial generation, ages 18 to 29, was more racially diverse, better educated, and seen as more racially tolerant than their parents and grandparents." However, in his interview with a psychologist at New York University who studies racial biases, he shows how most millennials still demonstrate implicit racial biases.

One link goes to an interview on Democracy Now's Amy Goodman and attorney and author Sarah Deer concerning *McGirt v. Oklahoma*, 591 U.S. ___ (2020) and its wider impact on tribal-state relations. The case actually upheld a treaty between the U.S. and a sovereign nation. Democracy Now, "Most Important Indian Law Case in Half a Century: Supreme Court Upholds Tribal Sovereignty in OK, YouTube (July 10, 2020).

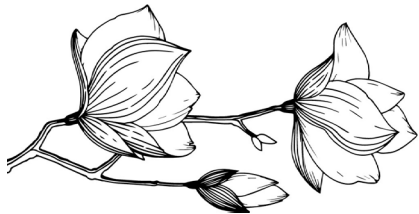
The page contains abstracts for a large number of books as well. One of these is Bridges's *Critical Race Theory: A Primer*, by Khiara Bridges. This is part of West Academic's "Concepts & Insights Series." Given the times we live in, I just had to go to Worldcat to see which institutions purchased the book. Most of the 242 libraries which carry this book are law libraries

or university libraries. However, 12 are public libraries.

Another featured book is Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, *An Indigenous People's History of the United States* (2015) by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. She writes a history of the United States from the perspective of Indigenous peoples and reveals how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the US empire. Official U.S. policy was a genocidal campaign to rid the land of the peoples already here.

Thank you again to the SEAALL Diversity & Inclusion Committee for developing this page as a resource for SEAALL members. Be sure to visit this section today.

FRANCIS NORTON, RESEARCH LAWYER/GOV DOCS LIBRARIAN,
LAW LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA



MEMBER NEWS

The **Thurgood Marshall Law Library** at the Francis King Carey School of Law welcomes **Sharon Beth Bronheim!** Formerly she served as the Access Services/Reference Librarian at the University of the District of Columbia Law School where she established "Take a Break with the Library," Sharon Beth began a new position in January 2024 as the Content Acquisitions Librarian at the Thurgood Marshall Law Library. After 20 years as an attorney in the criminal law and policy realm, Sharon Beth made a pivot to her dream job of librarian. She graduated with an MSLIS from Catholic University in January 2023 and earned a JD from the Yeshiva University - Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, and an AB in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Princeton University.



COMMITTEE NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHOLARSHIP

SEAALL Supports the professional development of its members with the following two funding opportunities:

Lucile Elliott Scholarship

Provides financial aid for any purpose reasonably designed to improve one's career in law librarianship. The amount this year's award is \$1000.

Deadline: March 22, 2024

CONNELL Grant

This grant provides funds for CONELL tuition and a one night stay in a hotel for a newer law librarian who lacks financial assistance to attend CONELL.

Deadline: March 22, 2024

Please consider applying, Applications forms can be found on the SEAALL Website.

If you have any questions, please contact SEAALL Scholarship Committee Chair, Heather Simmons at heather.simmons@uga.edu or (706) 542-3825.

ELECTIONS

The SEAALL Election will be held online from February 29 to March 6, 2024.

Voting information will be provided via email.

The slate of candidates and statements are included in this issue of the SEAALL Newsletter.



Have Committee News or Announcements you would like to see in the next Newsletter? Contact the co-chairs!

SHAPING MY SCHOLARLY PATH WITH STRATEGIC BOOK ACQUISITIONS

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

In the world of acquisitions, we often find joy in the tangible and immediate - be it the latest gadget, a cherished pet, or a souvenir from distant travels

Yet, as someone who has embraced life in an RV for the past few years, my approach to acquisitions has shifted. Space constraints have naturally curtailed my inclination toward accumulating things. However, an exception remains steadfast – my enduring love for books, which have been my faithful companions since childhood.

My book acquisitions last year mirror my diverse interests and intersect at the core of my professional and personal interests.

My curation of books is more than a mere collection, it's a reflection of my commitment to developing a cohesive research and scholarly writing agenda.

Furthermore, each one serves as a strategic instrument in helping me to think deeply about how to weave my passion for self-development, encompassing the science of learning, along with the understanding and healing of trauma, with my new career as a librarian and a tenure-track professor. My curation of books is more than a mere collection, it's a reflection of my commitment to developing a cohesive research and scholarly writing agenda.

ment to developing a cohesive research and scholarly writing agenda.

Science of Learning: Science-Infused Pedagogy

In my quest to use science-based teaching methodologies, I seek out literature that illuminates the pathways to enhanced educational outcomes. *"Limitless: Upgrade Your Brain, Learn Anything Faster, and Unlock Your Exceptional Life"* by Jim Kwik serves as a cornerstone in this exploration, providing science-based practices and field-tested techniques that accelerate your learning and improve your results. *"How Humans Learn: The Science and Stories Behind Effective College Teaching"* by Joshua R. Eyler delves into the heart of pedagogical excellence in higher education. It unravels effective teaching strategies backed by scientific research, offering invaluable insights for my pedagogical growth. The stories in the book help shape my approach to fostering a dynamic and engag-

ing learning environment. *"Metahuman: Unleashing Your Infinite Potential"* by Deepak Chopra, MD, while casting a wider net, delves into the realms of metaphysics and challenges the readers to transcend the limitations of the human condition.

Trauma-Informed Teaching: Personal Healing as a Pedagogical Compass

My interest in trauma-informed teaching is deeply personal and rooted in my journey of healing and forgiveness. This personal connection fuels my academic curiosity in exploring the multifaceted impact trauma has on individuals and communities. *"The Body Keeps Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma"* by Bessel Van Der Kolk, MD, deepened my understanding of the intricate interplay between psychological and physiological responses to trauma. This book not only offers profound insights into individual trauma experiences but also serves as a guide in my approach to empathetic and responsive teaching. *"Healing Collective Trauma: A Process for Integrating Our Intergenerational and Cultural Wounds"* by Thomas Hubl, with Julie Jordan Avritt, broadens the scope to a societal level. This work is pivotal in shaping my perspective on how trauma permeates through generations and cultures.

Finding My Teaching Niche

In my quest to pinpoint the specific field of law I wish to focus on for teaching outside of legal research, the next two books were selected because of my intellectual curiosity. *"Dignity Law: Global Recognition; Cases, and Perspectives"* by Erin Daly and James R. May is a new course book that provides a comprehensive and current survey of global cases in dignity rights, a newly emerging area of law.

Equally enlightening, *"Law Democratized: A Blueprint for Solving the Justice Crisis"* by Renee Knake Jefferson arrived as I was writing this article and provides innovative insights into making legal systems more accessible and equitable, which resonates with my desire to teach in a field that not only informs but also empowers.

Conclusion

These books, eclectic yet interconnected, play a crucial role in my goal to develop a cohesive research

and writing agenda. They are a testament to my commitment to integrating diverse yet related spheres of knowledge into my teaching and eventually my scholarly writing. In sharing my recent acquisitions, I hope to inspire you to contemplate your acquisitions and the unique role they play in your life's narrative. Each book, experience, or insight, no matter how seemingly insignificant, contributes to our collective tapestry of growth and understanding. As I continue to immerse myself in these pages, I look forward to sharing the knowledge and perspectives they unfold in future articles and my first scholarly article.

CYNTHIA BARNES, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN,
BARRY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

MAKING MY OFFICE FUN

CLOSED STACKS

Just like our bookshelves and walls at home tell a story about the people who live within those walls, the walls of my office tell a story about who works within its walls.

The walls of my office are an institutional and uninspiring beige and, as it is an interior office, there are no windows. I have filled it with things that make me happy and provide inspiration, a brief trip down memory lane, a way to get better at being a librarian, teacher, and human.

I grew up not far from one of the major cities involved in the Space Race and have always loved looking up at the sky and imagining what is happening up there. I lost count of the number of school fieldtrips we took to the nearby NASA museum but I always enjoyed going and learning something new and seeing how we sent people and things into space. One of the perks of being an adult is I can indulge myself in my love of space and building things by purchasing Lego sets of the Apollo rocket and the Lunar Excursion Module and assembling them while watching soccer or escapist television shows. One of the major problems soon becomes where to store a giant multi-part rocket. I solved that by displaying it at work. I was gifted the set of Lego figures of important women in NASA and they have pride of place next to the rocket.

I also include artwork on my bookcase. This one is a nest painted by a friend that makes me smile and reminds me of someone I don't see often enough. I also have a print from Amos Kennedy from the early days of the Covid pandemic that remains on the bookcase to remind me of what we have all experienced. I have several photos that I took on travels to Vietnam and Australia that provide me with beautiful sky views and capture memories.

*Each book, experience,
or insight, no matter how
seemingly insignificant,
contributes to our collective
tapestry of growth and
understanding.*

I also include memorabilia from my undergrad days - a silver julep cup - and my time in law school at the University of Alabama. Even though I work at LSU, I have includes a statue of the Denny Chimes. Next to it is my Order of the Samaritan medal recognizing my pro bono and community service during my law school career. I'm lucky enough to volunteer with LSU's public interest student group and I hope we can create a similar recognition program here.

The books reflect my teaching career - I'm always looking to learn more about how I learn and how my students learn and most of my books reflect this. I also run the social media for the LSU Law Library and keep a copy of a published history handy for reference and to mine for content. I teach legal research, including specialized administrative, energy, and environmentally focused research classes, as well as a law practice technology course, so I have several books about legal research, algorithms, artificial intelligence and administrative law.

AIMEE SELF PITTMAN, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN,
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER LAW LIBRARY





The SEAALL Nominations Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for this year's election.

The election will occur online from February 29, 2024 to March 6, 2024.

Further details will be sent via email.

Nominees:

Vice President/ President-Elect:

Brian Barnes
Vicenç Feliú

Secretary

Aaron Kirschenfeld
Richelle Reid

Treasurer

Matthew Neely
Savannah Nolan

Member at Large (2 year term)

Jennifer Behrens
Shira Megerman

Member at Large (3 year term)

Meredith Capps
Colleen Skinner

VICE PRESIDENT/



BRIAN BARNES LOYOLA (NEW ORLEANS)

I began my law librarian career in 2005 at Mississippi College School of Law in Jackson, MS in a small library with just a few librarians to learn from. I learned a tremendous amount from those colleagues, but my professional growth really took off when I first became involved in SEAALL. My first SEAALL conference was in Athens in 2009 and I remember how the more intimate scale of SEAALL, as compared to the AALL I had attended the previous summer, was perfect for an introverted newcomer like myself. I recall how I sat at a luncheon with an open seat next to me, too nervous to talk to anyone, and then-AALL President James Duggan, current director at Tulane Law, came and sat next to me and struck up a conversation. As fate would have it we ended up being directors in the same city some 5 years later. That same conference was when I also first met the delightful Carol Watson and I made her a mentor whether she wanted it or not. There are a dozen other stories I can tell of friendships started or developed through SEAALL and I think that rings true for many who are reading this. That first SEAALL conference locked in for me that law librarianship was not just a job, but a pretty awesome career. I soon thereafter joined the team at Loyola Law in New Orleans and after just a few short years I found myself as an Interim Director and then permanent Director for almost 10 years now.

In addition to the librarians themselves, one of the things that makes SEAALL great are the opportunities it provides for all librarians to serve the organization and the overall mission of SEAALL, "of promoting law librarianship and developing and increasing the usefulness of law libraries". I have been able to serve on a number of SEAALL committees over the years including the Education and Publications, Scholarship, Placement, and the Newsletter and Public Relations Committees in addition to four years as Editor of the Southeastern Law Librarian newsletter, helping the organization while professionally growing. I also believe my past service as President of the New Orleans Association of Law Libraries, Chair of the ABA Legal Education Police Practices Consortium Librarian's Working Group, on the boards of the Society of Academic Law Library Directors and AJCU Conference of Law Libraries, and as an ABA accreditation site visitor will have helped prepare me for this collaborative leadership role. If elected, my main objective will be to increase opportunities for members to expand their networks and to build their stature in both their institution and our community.

It is an honor to be nominated to run for Vice President/President-Elect of SEAALL. I welcome the chance to give back to the chapter by serving if elected, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Lexington.

PRESIDENT-ELECT



VICENÇ FELIÚ NOVA SOUTHEASTERN

Vicenç Feliú is currently the Associate Dean for Library Services and Professor of Law at the NSU Florida Shepard Broad College of Law (NSU Law). At NSU Law, Dean Feliú has taught Copyright, Intellectual Property and Trademark Law and is the Director of the Intellectual Property Concentration and Faculty Advisor for the Intellectual Property Law Society. Before joining the faculty at NSU Law, Dean Feliú was the Associate Dean for Library Services and Professor of Law at the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law in Pennsylvania where he taught Advanced Intellectual Property/Cyber Law and Copyright Law. Before Villanova Dean

Feliú was Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, where he also taught International Human Rights and Advanced Legal Research.

Prior to entering academia, Dean Feliú served as a Major in the United States Marine Corps and as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (F.B.I.) at the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Field Office.

Dean Feliú received a B.A. in Linguistics from California State University, Fullerton, both a J.D. and LL.M. in Intellectual Property, Commerce & Technology from the Franklin Pierce Law Center (currently the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law) and a M.L.I.S., with a Law Librarianship Certificate, from the University of Washington.

SECRETARY

AARON KIRSCHENFELD UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA



My name is Aaron Kirschenfeld, and I would like to be the next Secretary of SEAALL. This community has been a home for me since graduate school, and I am honored to be nominated to help serve this group that has given me so much.

Before I say a bit more about how and

why I think I can best fulfil this leadership role, I should probably introduce myself further. I am about to finish up my first decade as a legal information professional. I am the digital initiatives law librarian at the University of North Carolina and I also teach legal research here. I work reference shifts and manage our repository and try—and occasionally succeed—in keeping up with both serving patrons and assessing the collection. To that end, in 2019, I joined Kent Olson as a co-author of *Principles of Legal Research*, a role I have continued in as we're now set on delivering a fourth edition by year's end.

Before setting off on the path to becoming a law librarian, I worked as a magazine writer and editor at that other school here in Durham, where I was an undergrad and where I still live. (I can hear the boos waiting to greet me in Lexington—I love them, I cherish them, and I remember “the shot” every year, too....) But seriously, I think we are all better for our rivalries and our passion when it comes to basketball season, giving us an opportunity to appreciate how fortunate we are to have this kind of joy, and agony, in our lives.

It is my hope that I can bring two things to this role within SEAALL: enthusiasm and attention to detail. I did my first academic talk at SEAALL in Raleigh, and since then, I have served as member and chair of the Education & Publications Committee as well as a member of the Government Relations Committee. I have even worn seersucker shorts in public. I think with my experience, I can help serve SEAALL and the board with the necessary care required of the secretary, and with the energy and presence of a long-time and devoted fellow community member.

RICHELE REID NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY



Greetings, Fellow SEAALL Members,

Shortly before the end of my law library internship in 2010, one of the librarians introduced me to SEAALL. To this day, I can recall the excitement in her voice (and seriousness) when she recommended that I join. Soon after that conversation, I followed

her advice and my journey in SEAALL began. Many seasoned librarians made time to speak with me and cheer me on at the start of my career. These wonderful librarians were all members of SEAALL and spoke highly of our chapter's value. The warmth I felt was priceless. I wanted to pay their guidance forward and set a goal to give back to our profession.

Membership in SEAALL has been one of the many highlights of my career as a law librarian. Over the years, I have had the pleasure of contributing to our association and members through service on several SEAALL committees, including chairing the Scholarship, Community Service, and Diversity & Inclusion Committees. In addition, I oversaw the creation of SEAALL's Social Justice Resource Page (along with Victoria Capatosto) and have served as a presenter and moderator at SEAALL conferences. Most recently, I served on the Program Committee and am currently a member of the Service to SEAALL Committee. I am also a proud recipient of the 2022 Service to SEAALL Award.

Like the magnolia, which is so artfully incorporated in SEAALL's logo, our members are our strength and stability. You, SEAALL members, are the life force which flows through our enduring connections in the Southeastern region and throughout our profession. I would be honored to contribute to our collective energy as a member of SEAALL's board. Many thanks for considering me for the SEAALL Secretary position!

TREASURER

MATTHEW NEELY UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA



Thank you for considering me as a candidate for SEAALL Treasurer. My first exposure to the wider law librarian profession was at the 2017 Annual SEAALL Meeting. From that meeting on, SEAALL has consistently offered the best opportunities for networking and professional development.

The educational content presented by SEAALL is often on the cutting edge and greatly contributes to my growth as a professional librarian. Membership in SEAALL has afforded me the opportunity to serve the profession as a member and chair of the Membership Committee, as well as currently serving on the Newsletter Committee.

To help maintain and expand SEAALL's tradition of excellence, I would be honored to continue my service to SEAALL and the profession by serving as SEAALL Treasurer.

SAVANNAH NOLAN UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



Thank you for considering me as a candidate for the SEAALL Treasurer position. SEAALL has always been such a warm and welcoming community, even when I was a green library student that didn't know exactly what kind of position I wanted in law libraries. The connections I've made through SEAALL have

been both deep and invaluable, and because of that, I'm excited to give back and run for the Executive Board.

Following the excellent immediate past example of Eve Ross, if elected I plan to be a faithful and meticulous steward of the chapter's resources. In my view, this will include both careful attention to detail and creative lateral thinking in coordination with the other Executive Board members to streamline operations and minimize excess. Thank you for this opportunity!

MEMBER AT LARGE (2 YEAR)

JENNIFER BEHRENS DUKE UNIVERSITY



Alas, it appears my long streak of freeloading off the SEAALL board service of others may soon come to an end. I've been a member of SEAALL since first joining Duke's J. Michael Goodson Law Library back in 2006 (before we even called it that) as a newly minted reference librarian. As I

moved into management roles and later the library administration at Duke, I have presented a few sessions at SEAALL meetings, served on several committees, and even chaired one, although in truth these things tapered off after I finished my library's continuing appointment and promotion process. (Coincidence? Who can say.) But the Nominations Committee, like its more famous cousin, comes for us all in due time.

In all seriousness, though, SEAALL cannot function without the volunteer efforts of its members, and I am grateful for the opportunity to (finally) give back to the chapter through Executive Board service. Over nearly two decades of librarianship in the Southeast, I have personally benefited enormously from belonging to SEAALL through networking opportunities, professional programming, and committee work, and would be honored to play a role in SEAALL's continuing ability to provide those benefits to others as a Member-at-Large.

SHIRA MEGERMAN UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



Hello, SEAALL! My name is Shira Megerman, and you may remember me from such roles as: Secretary/Treasurer of ALL-SIS, Chair of the AALL Poster Award Jury, that time I presented at the SEAALL meeting in Clearwater, FL or when I presented at the meeting in Hot Springs, VA, when

I was a member from 2010-2015, and other such roles. I'm grateful to be back in the chapter of which I was first a member as a full-time law librarian. I've met so many wonderful people through this chapter, and I appreciate how much I've learned from so many of you. While in LLNE, I raved about all the fantastic work being done by SEAALL and its members.

For me, SEAALL set the bar for excellence, and I'm excited about the opportunity of working with the SEAALL Board directly as Member-at-Large and continuing SEAALL's reputation of excellence. I believe in service and community, and therefore regularly volunteer my time at all levels within AALL. I look forward to meeting all of you who joined SEAALL in the last several years while I was in New England, and reconnecting with those I knew from when I was previously a member.

MEMBER AT LARGE (3 YEAR)

MEREDITH CAPPS

BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP



In attending my first AALL Annual Meeting a decade ago as a student member, the welcoming nature of every librarian I met encouraged me that I had made a positive career choice, but I found the enthusiasm of SEAALL members, with their amusingly festive “Seallsucker” gatherings, to be particularly infectious.

Since then, I've enjoyed the benefits of being a SEAALL member while working in different roles in both academic and now private law libraries, attending several SEAALL annual meetings, and serving on the local arrangements for one. I'd be honored now to serve the association as Member-at-Large.

To the role, I'd bring leadership experience gained serving in several organizations, including AALL as the current secretary/treasurer of the FCIL-SIS, chair of the ALL-SIS Faculty Services Committee, and co-chair of the FCIL-SIS Publicity Committee, a role in which I administer that SIS's productive DipLawMatic Dialogues blog. In my previous position at Vanderbilt, I chaired the university library's skills development committee, serving as an elected member of the library system's promotion review committee, and I have been actively involved in recruiting and hiring in all of my professional positions, including chairing several candidate searches. Outside of work, I've been engaged with my community for 14 years as an active member of Junior Leagues, searching in several leadership positions in both the Junior League of Washington, D.C., and the Junior League of Nashville. Having recently moved from an academic to a firm library, I'm particularly interested in fostering strong connections between law library sectors, and representing the many common interests of all legal information professionals.

COLLEEN M. SKINNER

JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY



Colleen Skinner has been a law librarian since 2008. In that role, she has provided research support in many areas, including immigration and externship clinics, foreign and international law, healthcare, government resources and being an embedded Librarian for administration and faculty

research needs. She also has extensive research skills in Westlaw, Lexis Nexis and teaching research workshops. Ms. Skinner enjoys sharing her skills with students and helping them become expert researchers.



SEAALL

SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

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Donna L. Nixon
Clinical Professor of Law &
Electronic Resources Librarian
UNC at Chapel Hill School of Law
dnixon@email.unc.edu

Vice-President / President Elect

Beau Steenken
Instructional Services Librarian & Professor of Legal
Research
University of Kentucky College of Law
beau.steenken@uky.edu

Secretary

Clanitra Stewart Nejd
Research Services Librarian &
Head of Professional Development,
Vanderbilt Law School
Clanitra.s.nejdl@Vanderbilt.edu

Treasurer

Wendy Moore
Associate Director for Collection Services
University of Georgia School of Law
wemoore@uga.edu

Members-At-Large

Zanada Joyner (2024)
Associate Director for Collections & Information
Discovery
University of Maryland Carey School of Law
zjoyner@law.umaryland.edu

Gail Mathapo (2025)
Assistant Law Librarian
Homer M. Stark Law Library, Gwinnet Co. gail.
mathapo@gwinnetcounty.com

Immediate Past President

Charles (C.J.) Pipins
Deputy Director
University of Baltimore School of Law
cpipins@ubalt.edu

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