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Letter to Ed Edmonds reporting on the activities of the Publicity and Public Relations Committee, April 12, 1993

Gail Warren

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To: Ed Edmonds, Law Librarian & Professor of Law
    Loyola University Law School Library

From: Gail Warren

Date: April 13, 1993

# of Pages to Follow: 1

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Notes/Comments: Call me if this is unclear
Edmund P. Edmonds
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and
Director of the Law Library
Loyola University
7214 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

Re: Publicity/Public Relations Committee Annual Report, 1992-93

Dear Ed:

After a sluggish start (I was away from the office on maternity leave from November of '92 until the first of March), the Committee continued efforts to accomplish the two primary long range goals established by the Publicity & Public Relations Committee in 1989-90:

1. Increase awareness of SEALL and law librarianship as a profession for library and law school students.

2. Increase awareness of law librarianship and SEALL activities to non-law librarians and the legal community.

An introductory letter containing SEALL membership brochures was sent to library school deans in the Southeastern region. This month a letter outlining the AALL Annual Meeting in Boston will be sent to the library deans and state library associations. Last year, the committee sent letters to library school deans suggesting they use practicing Law Librarians as "career day" speakers or as guest speakers for library science classes. Although the response to those letters was not overwhelming, a class from the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro will be visiting area law libraries during the 1993-94 academic year as part of their "Special Libraries" course.

Additionally, the Committee will be updating the "Library School Affiliation Statistics" survey which was previously printed in Vol. 15#4 of the Southeastern Law Librarian (Summer 1990). In 1990-91 the Committee proposed that the list be expanded to include law school affiliation, so a revised survey requesting both library school and law school affiliation will appear in the Spring issue of the Southeastern Law Librarian (May 1993). While the original survey prompted a response from approximately 80 SEALL members, we hope to add more
members to the list. As SEALL continues to work with library schools and law schools in promoting and attracting students to careers in law librarianship, this information will be an important resource.

Recommendations for 1992-93 Committee:

1. Continue to send membership information and news of SEALL activities to library deans and state library associations. If possible, expand the mailing to include law school placement offices.

2. Solicit SEALL Law Librarians geographically close to library schools in the Southeast as volunteers for career days and other placement activities. Although the initial response from library schools was weak, this should continue to be a focus for the Committee.

3. Begin to increase awareness of law school placement officers so that SEALL academic law librarians are routinely included in "career days" and "alternative legal career" programming at Southeastern law schools. Although academic law librarians are found on each law school campus, placement officers typically overlook law librarianship as one of the many alternatives to a traditional legal career. The "Library and Law School Affiliation Statistics" survey could be used to identify and compile a list of Southeastern law school alumni who have pursued careers in law librarianship for distribution to law schools.

Sincerely yours,

Gail Warren, Chair

Penny Gibson
Janice Schull