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Letter to Sally Wiant regarding use of SEAALL Scholarship funds, April 10, 1994

Michelle Tsoi

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April 10, 1994

Sarah K. Wiant  
Chair, SEAALL Scholarship Committee  
Law Library  
Washington and Lee University  
Lexington, VA 24450

Dear Ms. Wiant:

I have attached to this letter a brief report of how I spent the scholarship money and a summary of the benefits I derived from attending the SEALL Meeting.

Sincerely,

Michelle Tsoi  
Cataloging/Automation Librarian  
Wake Forest University Professional Center Library
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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As a first time attendee of the SEALL meetings, I am impressed with the quality of the sessions provided. The speakers were insightful and interesting. They shared their visions of the changes that are taking place in our library environment, how we are dealing with these changes and preparing ourselves for the future changes. The following are summaries of some of the sessions I attended.

**The Virtual Library: Technological Advances for Libraries**

**Betty Taylor, University of Florida, Legal Information Center**

What is the virtual law library? Virtual means being in essence, not in fact. Virtual library provides access to information in any form, anywhere. The law students coming to use the library have different computer experiences. Some are prepared, some are not. The librarians have the responsibility to teach the students how to use the virtual library.

The information provided by the virtual library includes online catalogs, automated retrieval systems, information in libraries worldwide, serials contents, multi-media services, and services like personal book orders and delivery.

The virtual library affects every librarian, it affects public services, technical services and computer services. Technology is ever changing. Librarians need to make decisions. The information superhighway provides transmission of data and images, but what is the cost? How are we going to get the money? Shall we downsize our collection? Are librarians going to be replaced?

**Implications of Technology on Libraries of the Future**

**Richard A. Danner, Duke University School of Law Library**

**Jerry Saye, Associate Dean, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Information and Library Science**

When Dick Danner reviewed the reports he wrote to the Dean in the past 10 years, it revealed the changes that have been taking place. Ten years ago, the concern of physical planning was whether there was enough shelf space, now the concern is whether the carrels are powered and wired. In 1993 Duke installed its second online system. More information are channelled into the online catalog than he had envisioned in 1981 when the university installed its first integrated library system. The role of the librarians for instructing and assisting users has remained the same. The ways to accomplish the work are different because of the impact of technology.

The four groups of people involved in legal materials publishing are: creator of legal information, publishers, librarians, and users of legal information. The traditional roles of each of the
four groups have been changed. There is increasing potential for each creator to transmit electronic information to users directly. There is free legal information on internet and federal and state database for end-users to use. The publishers and librarians have to recognize the changes and determine what they can contribute in the changing publishing environment.

To prepare students for the changing library environment, the curriculum at the School of Information Studies at UNC - Chapel Hill have been changed from emphasis on library science to information studies. The courses on cataloging, reference, collection development, and management are no longer mandatory. Some traditional library education, e.g. history of publishing has given way to course such as application of natural language processing.

The curriculum design is a functional one. It is organized into functional areas such as retrieval/organizing, communication, database management, network and system administration, system analysis, etc. Different schools develop their own specialty.

Traditional classes have attracted fewer and fewer students. The number of faculty members specializing in information science has increased. The students are more technologically prepared for system oriented work required at the new library environment.

Keynote Address

Marianna Smith, Attorney at Law and former Director of the Manville Personal Injury Settlement Trust

To be a leader in your profession, we need to develop the following qualities:

1. To develop a totally integrated personality;
2. Believe in yourself and think what you do is important;
3. Be helpful to others, not just appear to be;
4. Care about the people you work with;
5. Learn to be grateful and let people know it;
6. When there is a problem at the workplace, don’t bring it to your boss until you think about it and have a solution;
7. Learn to accept bad results and take criticism;
8. Get forgiveness rather than permission;
9. Go ahead to do it, take your risk;
10. Don’t overplan your life;
11. The profession is changing, stop defending your old ideas forever, change your mind;
12. Learn the difference between being tough and being mean;
13. Don’t take advantage of people;
14. Never lose your temper by accident;
15. When you make a fool of yourself, learn to laugh out loud;
16. Do something you will remember 10 years from now;
17. Polish your skills, do your work with passion.