



# MAALL Markings

Mid-America Association of Law Libraries

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MAALL.newsletter@gmail.com

## MAALL BOOK TO ACTION

*Gail Wechsler, Library Director, Law Library Association of St. Louis, and MAALL Book to Action Co-Coordinator ([gwechsler@llastl.org](mailto:gwechsler@llastl.org))*

Since 2015, the MAALL Book to Action project has focused on selecting a social justice-themed book to be discussed at the MAALL Annual Meeting and on a book collection drive for an organization assisting those in marginalized communities.

Thanks to all who participated in the 2023 MAALL Book to Action book discussion and book drive. This year we read the critically acclaimed book, *Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of Our Nation* by Linda Villarosa. We had a lively discussion about this provocative book at the 2023 MAALL Annual Meeting in Des Moines.

Our charity this year was the Boys and Girls Club of Central Iowa, Gregory and Suzie Glazer Burt location on the Drake campus. MAALL members donated 63 books, most purchased from the local independent bookstore Reading in Public Bookstore and Café. Many thanks to Karen Wallace and Joe Stouffer at Drake for their help identifying the local charity and for collecting and delivering the books. They brought many smiles to the faces of the children served by the Boys and Girls Club.

Thank you again MAALL members, for making a difference by supporting MAALL Book to Action!

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Photo courtesy of Boys & Girls Club of Central Iowa employees - used with permission

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Le'Shawn Turner, Reference Librarian, Chickasaw Nation Law Library at Oklahoma City University School of Law ([lturner@okcu.edu](mailto:lturner@okcu.edu))*

While the holidays are right around the corner, I must stop and reflect on the fact that WE MET IN PERSON! After several years of virtual annual meetings, this past October the MAALL collective met in person...AND IT WAS WONDERFUL! Thank you to Drake University and the Local Arrangements committee for hosting. I will discuss everything that I loved about the meeting in another article (Yay! I received a grant!) What I want to reflect on now is how good it felt to gather together as a whole unit. I truly enjoyed seeing familiar faces and meeting new people. The opportunity to meet, network, and bond is truly the best thing about the annual meeting. It was an honor to go “Back for the Future”.



Photo by [Yulian Karadzhov](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Some know me and others don't, so let me introduce myself. I am Le'Shawn Turner and I'm honored to be serving as your President. I am a Reference Librarian at Oklahoma City University School of Law. I've been a Law Librarian for about 5 years. Law Librarianship was not my first stop in my legal career. I am a licensed attorney in the state of Oklahoma. In my previous life, I worked for the Oklahoma Supreme Court in various positions. I love spending time with my family, sewing, cake decorating, and reading. I am the proud mother of three very bright, beautiful, and brilliant girls. They definitely keep me busy. I like to travel but I hate making the arrangements to do so. I like to try my favorite desserts from local places when I travel. I've yet to leave the country in my travels but it is on my to-do list for 2024 (or 2025). Our holiday traditions include cookie decorating on Christmas Eve, matching pajamas, and an all-day movie marathon on the day after Christmas.

My goal for this next year for MAALL is for us to grow. I want us to increase our membership numbers. I want members to grow their personal and professional networks. I want us to increase our collective professional resources. I want to celebrate our members' victories and accomplishments in law librarianship and outside of law librarianship. The primary way for us to grow is through active membership. In other words, WE NEED YOU! If you are serving on a committee, thank you! If you are not, please consider joining a committee (or two or three). A call for volunteers was sent out via email in November. I will be issuing another call for volunteers. Please consider giving of your time and talents.

Per tradition, we welcomed a new 2023-2024 Executive Board in October at the Annual Meeting. I am very excited to be working alongside so many talented people. Thank you to Cindy Shearrer (Secretary) and Shannon Kemen (Member-at-Large) for continuing to serve and a welcome to Matt Timko (Vice President/President-Elect), Jennifer Mart-Rice (Treasurer), and Laura Wilcoxon (Member-at-Large). A huge thank you goes to Allison Reeve Davis for her guidance and leadership this past year, and for continuing to serve on the Executive Board and for being a guiding light for me. I would also like to thank Sarah Kammer (Treasurer) and Barbara Ginzburg (Member-at-Large) for serving on the Board these past two years.

Enjoy this time of year, friends. May your holidays be joyous, relaxing, filled with love and laughter, but most of all, may your holidays be filled with peace (for your mind, body, and spirit). For those who are missing a loved one during this time, you are in my thoughts and prayers. From my family to yours, HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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# MAALL ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW FROM GRANT RECIPIENT MATT TIMKO

*Matt Timko, Academic Technologies & Outreach Services Librarian and Assistant Professor, Northern Illinois University College of Law, ([mtimko@niu.edu](mailto:mtimko@niu.edu))*

This year I was fortunate enough to receive the Jo Ann Humphreys Travel Grant to attend the 2023 MAALL Annual Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. It was a terrific time, especially since the Drake University campus was so beautiful, everyone from Drake was so helpful and friendly, and the sessions were amazing! I wanted to share some of my experiences, especially for those who were unable to attend, and to encourage you to apply for a grant to next year's meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska.

I was so revved up to attend as much of the meeting as I could that I woke up at 4:00am to drive from my home in Illinois; I felt that since the theme of the conference was "Back for the Future", driving 88 mph the entire way there was justified 😊. Thankfully I only missed the first session and so did not have to miss too much of the MALLCO Roundtables on Thursday morning. Both the Law Practice Technology and [Paper Workshops](#) were very informative, and really gave me some good ideas to attempt at NIU.

I will not go through [every session I attended](#), but I will highlight three sessions that really stood out to me. The first was held on the last day: [Legal Technology Competence](#) presented by Ayyoub Ajmi, Artie Berns, and Darla Jackson. This presented many practical ways that AI can be used by institutions to help any type of patron, and even reach beyond the library into helping citizens seeking quick legal help, especially with document formation. This really put AI programs into perspective and showed the opportunity that many institutions can have when harnessing these technologies. The technology demonstrated made me excited to head home and find ways to use it to my own and others' advantage.

Forward to the Past, Laral Wilcoxon's presentation on [\(Re\)Searching for Social Justice](#) reignited a long-held interest of mine in developing legal research programs to help identify ways that the law has been systemically biased, and continues to perpetuate this bias. Her presentation did a great job summarizing Critical Legal Research, and demonstrated ways to integrate it into a course. Finally, but certainly not last, a program close to my heart (and also a very big reason why I appreciate the grant that allowed me to attend) was the [Book to Action Discussion](#)! Our discussion group was small but mighty and we had a great conversation about the themes in this year's book [Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of our Nation by Linda Villarosa](#). And since it is never too early to advertise for next year, please consider joining us for the annual conversation next year in Lincoln and contributing to the great fundraisers that [Book to Action](#) hold every year to benefit local children's charities!

The meeting was also wonderful because of the social events. The lunches were all delicious and enjoyable, the reception on Thursday was great (even though the food ran out 😊), and the dinearounds are always a fun time. This year I attended Eatery A, a Mediterranean restaurant. While we had to wait a long time, and I was indecisive about what to order since everything looked so good, it was worth the wait! Certainly one of the highlights (and something I would encourage the Local Arrangements Committee to consider making a permanent fixture) was the game night on Thursday. I thought this would be a few people with a deck of cards, but there were at least 20 different games there, some of which I had never heard of. It was a great time to

unwind, have some fun, and act a little silly!

This year was so great, especially being the first meeting I had attended since Memphis in 2018 (I missed St. Louis due to the [birth of my daughter, page 8](#)), and the first one held in person in four years. It was great to see so many people I had not seen in years, and to meet many more for the first time, or the first time in person, outside of the confines of a Zoom screen. I am already looking forward to next year, and I hope to see you there, and would encourage you to apply for one of the [many MAALL Grants](#) to attend the meeting in 2024 in Lincoln!

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## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

*Matt Timko, Academic Technologies & Outreach Services Librarian and Assistant Professor, Northern Illinois University College of Law, ([mtimko@niu.edu](mailto:mtimko@niu.edu))*

I cannot believe I am writing this. When I joined NIU seven years ago, I never imagined that I would chair a committee, never mind be in any leadership position in the best regional Law Library Association in America! Yet here I am, writing a “Message from the Vice-President” column, and I could not be happier.

I immediately felt an affinity to MAALL, for so many reasons. My Deputy Director, Therese Arado became President during my first year in the association. Allison Reeve Davis reached out to me about getting active in presenting at the Annual Meetings. Ted Potter patiently answered all my questions about the website, MAALL, and anything else I didn’t understand in my first committee assignment. And Karen Wallace beat me in cribbage in 2018, which drives my fiery desire for revenge! I have always felt comfortable in MAALL, and for someone who is generally uncomfortable in many situations, this has been a tremendous mental boon for me during my career. MAALL, in many ways, is my professional safe space!

Which is why I feel so honored that you all have given me the opportunity to serve on the board, and that you have placed your faith in me to shepherd this organization next year. I am tremendously thankful and I will work everyday to make you feel that you did not make a mistake. And even more thankfully, I join a great board with dedicated members, and wonderful leaders like Allison and current President Le’Shawn Turner. Along with Matt Braun and Chris Steadham, who were the presidents during my term as Secretary, I have a lot of great examples and role models to pull from. And also let this serve as notice: I will be reaching out to all of you with many, many questions (just ask Ted 😊).

I hope to continue the great work that MAALL has been doing, and to bring more people into this great organization through outreach, transparency, excellent programming, and by just presenting MAALL as it is, a great organization to be a part of. I hope you will reach out if you have any questions for me or suggestions for MAALL, and I hope to make you all proud... or at least not regretful.

Thank you again, and all the best!



# AFFIRMATIONS

*Autumn Collier, Knowledge Analyst, Littler Mendelson P.C. ([acollier@littler.com](mailto:acollier@littler.com)) and Jamie Holdeman, Knowledge & Research Coordinator, Littler Mendelson P.C. ([jholdeman@littler.com](mailto:jholdeman@littler.com))*

## **WINTER IS COMING: PREPARING FOR THE 2024 LEGISLATION SEASON**

For many in the Midwest, the first few months of the new year can be a dreaded stretch of time for any number of reasons. The excitement of the holidays has passed, the chances of a winter snow/ice/sleet storm seem to go up every week, and all of our favorite coffee places have started to go back to their regular menus.

For the legislative tracking team at Littler Mendelson, a different kind of storm is on the forecast: the beginning of the 2024 U.S. State and Federal Legislative Sessions. In addition to the states already in session, over 20 additional states will begin a new session of their legislatures, accompanied by a flurry of bills being introduced or revisited. As a result, we typically expect to see an increase in bills we are tracking for our firm, as well as more attorney questions about legislative trends and updates to firm resources that rely on tracking. We find that the better you and your team understand the scope and demands of legislative tracking and research, the better prepared you will be when the first session hits.



Photo by [Tim Mossholder](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Depending on your scope, be sure to familiarize yourself with appropriate local, state, and federal resources. Each jurisdiction should have their own legislature website. Local jurisdictions may be trickier to locate than state or Federal. For states, be sure to check for both a house and senate website, as a few states separate these (e.g., New York). For Federal legislation, make the most out of [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov) and the webinars and research guides produced by the [Library of Congress](#).

Utilize these free resources to your advantage by bookmarking these pages for later use, signing up for alerts or newsletters, following RSS feeds, and creating your search strings in advance. Each jurisdiction is different, so noting in advance how to search these areas will save you time during the heavy season.

In addition to knowing where the legislatures live, take time to think about the other aspects of legislation. How much legislation will be introduced? What kinds of bills do we want to track? What hot topics are in the news? You can get an idea of what may come through the next session by checking on prefiled bills for the next session. These usually start to be seen in November and December. While not formally introduced or heard yet, prefiled bills can give an idea of what is to come. Looking back at the previous session, bills that came close to passing or the number of bills on a certain topic can also be indicative of the coming session.

Factors that may influence the amount of legislation per session:

- Carryover Bills – Many states provide for carryover items. These are mostly from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years. While some items from 2023 did not get enacted, this doesn't necessarily mean they are dead or that they must be reintroduced. Some outliers provide carryover from even-numbered to odd-numbered years.
- Even-numbered Years – A few states do not have even-numbered years at all (i.e., Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Texas).

From this information, we can infer that odd-numbered sessions will have a larger number of items introduced. Elections, pandemics, and other events can also influence the amount of legislation introduced in a session.

Consider other factors that will help you prepare: when sessions start and end, when special sessions can convene, and how legislation works in your jurisdiction of choice (Hint: They're all different.) There are a number of publicly available resources to answer these questions. Here are our favorites:

- [StateScape: Session Schedules](#)
- [Lexis State Net: 2024 Legislative Sessions](#)
- [National Conference of State Legislatures: Legislatures at a Glance](#)

Tracking legislation may seem like a side project, but it is a foundational block to compliance that requires year-round commitment, especially as sessions ramp up during the winter and spring. Stay up to date in your areas of law by keeping a close eye on legislative trends throughout the season, and use this information to support your firm. Examples include: client reporting, practice group or office knowledge sharing, client compliance materials and sample policies, internal and external trainings, news and article publications, and interdepartmental collaboration.

Although the time and staffing needed to keep everything running can feel overwhelming, by thinking ahead and having a contingency plan in place, we can ensure our stress levels and mental health can weather another year.

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## DAZED & INSTRUCTED

*Matt Timko, Academic Technologies & Outreach Services Librarian and Assistant Professor, Northern Illinois University College of Law, ([mtimko@niu.edu](mailto:mtimko@niu.edu))*

### **JUGGLING DIFFERENT ROLES**

One of the things I love about my role at NIU and in academia is how many opportunities I have to participate in meaningful work. There is my day-to-day role as an instructor and librarian, along with University and College of Law Committee work, and several other activities on campus. Beyond my institution, the number of organizations I am a member of and actively involved in are numerous, since there are so many organizations that touch on the work I do, such as bar associations, library associations, and university/law school organizations. Working with these organizations has led me down many interesting paths and led to

unexpected interests, and it drives an eagerness in me to participate in new activities that I would not have thought of a few years ago, and an eagerness to see what new discoveries these will lead to.

And herein lies the problem: I physically CANNOT sign up for everything, yet my brain has trouble getting this memo! I have only recently started to decline opportunities and responsibilities that I do not feel prepared for or have the mental bandwidth to perform, but even with this concession when certain opportunities present themselves, I find myself not able to dismiss them out of hand. Instead, I find myself sitting on them until the deadline comes and goes, not saying yes, but also unwilling to say “no”.

In the hierarchy of professional focus, the top priority is always the class I am teaching for the semester, followed by library projects and duties in tier one. The next tier includes College of Law committees and duties, such as faculty work and participation. Next is University and community involvement which oftentimes is limited to University Committees. Finally, the last tier includes professional organizations such as MAALL, AALL, ABA, etc. Before I was more established at NIU, I found it easiest to join these professional organizations and committees, since they were so readily accessible. Over time however, all levels of focus have grown so that now I feel pulled in 100 different directions, which is 100% (well, maybe 93.57%) my own fault.

As a result, I feel like I am in a constant state of “whack a mole”. Working on a project (such as writing this article), and completing it gives me that feeling of satisfaction of a job (hopefully) well done. But this feeling is short-lived, followed by that pang of panic when I remember that by focusing my attention on the recently completed job, I have been ignoring another task (or usually another three tasks) where the deadline is quickly approaching. Unfortunately I do not see any other way of managing all the tasks I currently have committed to other than triaging the tasks, and using the deadlines to my advantage. It usually works, but too often (as with this article itself) the deadline comes and I realize that I cannot make it, regrettably requesting an extension.

Luckily (or perhaps unfortunately for us all), the professionals in all institutions and library types seem to share my lot: we all have too much to do, and not enough time to do it all! This again demonstrates not only the collegiality of the profession, but also a shared state of empathy (and misery) that often leads to understanding and extension of deadlines. While I have endeavored to come up with a system that will keep me on track and not let things fall through the cracks, none has proven to be effective. So the end of this column is a request: if anyone has come up with a scheduling/timekeeping/deadline reminding method that works for you, please share it! I am always excited to learn about what others are doing or other programs that may help. Because like I said, I’m not the only one that is dealing with this reality, and I am hoping we can combine our shared experiences to come up with a better solution!



*Illustration created using [Canva](#)*

# MAALL ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW FROM GRANT RECIPIENT TIMOTHY GATTON

*Timothy Gatton, Associate Director for Research & Instruction and Law Library Professor, Oklahoma City University School of Law ([tgatton@okcu.edu](mailto:tgatton@okcu.edu))*

I am so grateful for receiving the Liz Glankler Travel Grant, which allowed me to attend the 2023 MAALL Annual Meeting in Des Moines. It had been several years since I had attended MAALL and I was really looking forward to this conference.

On Thursday, October 12th, I first attended the MALLCO Roundtable on Reference and Faculty Services. It was great to hear what other law libraries are doing in terms of services. Many law libraries are cutting back on print, as are we. Sadly, it wasn't until the first two sessions were over that I remembered that I *\*should\** have been taking notes because I had an article to write.

The second MALLCO Roundtable was on Law Practice Technology. I was the moderator for that Roundtable and got the chance to hear what other schools are doing (or plan on doing) with Law Practice Technology.

Next, I attended the MALLCO Paper Workshop. D.R. Jones from the University of Memphis talked about her abstract for "What's the Plan: Evolving Law Library Collection Development and Management." This paper was in the discussion stage and it is definitely a topic on which many of us have questions, especially given budget constraints and a more pronounced shift from "just in case" to "just in time" for acquisitions. Trying to balance this with the ABA requirements for collection plans and developments can definitely be a challenge.

After that, Heidi Frostestad from Northern Illinois University presented her draft of "AI Regulation in a ChatGPT Era: Cross-border Cooperation and Hope in a Sudden Storm." Artificial Intelligence has taken center stage in the past year as the legal community grapples with if and how AI can benefit the profession. Some law schools are banning its use, while others are carefully exploring how it can be used appropriately in instruction. There are many stakeholders involved (government, private enterprise, educational institutions, among others) and cooperation between them and with foreign entities is essential when coming up with a regulatory scheme.

Joe Custer from Case Western Reserve University discussed his article "Cancel Culture is More Toxic than Censorship," in which he brings up the chilling effect that Cancel Culture can have on the free exchange of ideas due to the fear of being ostracized and shamed. This article has been accepted for publication in the Detroit Mercy Law Review.

Finally, Paul Callister from the University of Missouri-Kansas City presented his paper, "The Persistent Treatise," which has also been accepted for publication. I had no idea that treatises and other secondary sources were cited that often by courts! I was almost done working on an article with Lee Peoples, our Dean of Library and Technology, on the impact of the Journal of the Patent and Trademark Office Society over the last 90 years on American court decisions, so I was familiar with how often that publication had been cited, but I thought it might be because of the specialized nature of the topic. To find out that other secondary sources were being cited frequently was fascinating! I had just finished teaching our 1Ls about secondary sources, so I thought this was particularly timely.

In the afternoon, I attended Lee Little's (Indiana University McKinney School of Law) presentation on



“Preparing Future Researchers: Reflections on Legal Research Instruction.” There was some great discussion on the Next Gen Bar Exam and the foundational skills those bar takers will need.

The final session for the afternoon was by Karen Wallace and Rebecca Lutkenhaus from Drake University, on “Legal Research Instruction for the Future: Undergraduates” in which they discussed the benefits of giving guest lectures in undergraduate courses. I thought that was a great way for law schools to partner with their undergraduate institutions!

The reception in the Cowles Library Reading Room that evening was so much fun! I loved the displays that were set up.

The next morning, I attended “The Future is Now: Teaching ALR during a 5-week Summer Session” by Sandy Placzek from the University of Nebraska. I always feel like 8 weeks in the summer for a course flies by far too quickly. I can’t even imagine condensing it even further into 5 weeks! Color me impressed.

Next up was my presentation with Susan Urban, our law library’s Assistant Director for Access and Collections, as we talked about the development and evolution of our Law Practice Technology program. I enjoyed hearing what other law schools are doing and sharing what has been working at our law school.

After a huge sigh of relief that I was done presenting, I attended a session on “Public Patrons—Challenges and Opportunities” by Harry Lah and Jeff Woodmansee from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock and Susan Boland from the University of Cincinnati. I had no idea that UALR was also the county law library! Everyone raised good points about the importance of physical spaces within the library, tactics for interaction, and what to do in situations that turn into harassment or discrimination.

Then it was time for the Lunch (featuring AALL Visitor Michelle Hook Dewey) and our Business Meeting. I did not win any prizes.

In the afternoon, the first session I attended was “Back for the Future Through DEI Activities in Libraries—Answering the Question: Why Law Librarians?” with Stefanie Pearlman from the University of Nebraska and Gail Wechsler from the Law Library Association of St. Louis. The speakers discussed instruction and how we can incorporate DEI discussions, how to connect with communities and patrons, and access to justice initiatives.

I then attended the session on “NextGen Bar Exam: Surveying the Landscape and Preparing for the Future” with Troy Johnson from Creighton University. Since the NextGen Bar Exam will be testing legal research skills, many of us are wondering what we as librarians can do to help our graduates get ready for the exam. This session helped shed some light on possibilities.

That evening, we had our dine arounds in Des Moines. We had a very energetic and boisterous group of law librarians at our table at Exile Brewing Company!

On Saturday morning, I attended the session on “Legal Technology Competence: Helping Achieve those Minimums” by Ayyoub Ajmi from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Artie Berns from Southern Illinois University, and Darla Jackson from the University of Tulsa. I thought this session was really interesting and all three presenters are so skilled. Topics discussed included ways to stay current on legal technology, how the widespread adoption of artificial intelligence has had a disruptive effect, and how workflow automation, document analysis, self-help portals, legal design, and legal operation management will be impacted. It can all feel a little overwhelming.

The last session of the day was “Generative AI’s Impact on Law Schools and Practicing Lawyers in a ChatGPT

Era” with Heidi Frostestad from Northern Illinois University and Paul Callister from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. They discussed showing the pitfalls of ChatGPT in class, using AI tools for in-class learning, bringing up generative AI failures in doctrinal courses, and some opportunities that exist for law firms, courts, and law schools, as well as giving thought to the future of AI, concerns with the bar exam, and future regulations of AI.

It was great to be able to present at MAALL and it was invaluable to interact with my peers from other institutions and see what other schools are doing, what our law library could be doing, and finding out what our law library is doing well on. Sometimes in our little silos, we don’t know what others are doing and if we’re ahead of the curve or behind the curve, so the Annual Meeting is incredibly important to me in terms of professional development. Kudos to Drake and everyone who helped make this a great Annual Meeting!

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## MANAGER TO MANAGER: TIPS TO KEEP YOU SANE AND EFFECTIVE

*Gail Wechsler, Library Director, Law Library Association of St. Louis*  
([gwechsler@llastl.org](mailto:gwechsler@llastl.org))

### **AVOIDING BURNOUT**

As we head into the holiday and end-of-year/end-of-semester season, burnout is an all too common phenomenon in our profession.

The World Health Organization defines burnout as an “occupational phenomenon” rather than a medical condition. Nonetheless, it can make it difficult if not impossible for you or staff members dealing with it to get their job done. The three main indicators of burnout are (1) feelings of energy depletion or exhaustion, (2) increased mental distance from one’s job or feelings of negativism or cynicism about one’s job and (3) reduced professional efficacy.<sup>1</sup>

What can we do as managers to make it less likely that we and our staff members will burn out? While there is no one-size-fits-all guaranteed way to do this, following the practices below can help.

*Make Self-Care a Priority:* In a previous column, I wrote about self-care. Enough can’t be said about it. For yourself, if you feel you are getting swamped under with work, take some time out to clear your head. Take a walk, take a break to listen to some soothing music, or take time out to do some activity you enjoy. For the people you manage, let them know that is it okay and even recommended that they take breaks throughout the day.

*Appreciate Yourself and Those You Work With:* This is related to self-care and self-worth. If a project does not go exactly as you planned, tell yourself you did the best you could and don’t beat yourself up about it. Remind yourself you have a hard job and focus on what you are doing well. Similarly, tell your employees that you appreciate them and value their work. Praise for a job well done is always the right thing to do. And be supportive and positive even if an employee stumbles a bit on a project or assignment. We are all human.

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization, *Burn-out an “Occupational Phenomenon”: International Classification of Diseases* (May 28, 2019), <https://www.who.int/news/item/28-05-2019-burn-out-an-occupational-phenomenon-international-classification-of-diseases>

*Give Your Staff Members as Much Space and Autonomy as Possible:* Another way to show the staff you manage how much you value them is to give them autonomy over the specifics of an assigned project. Giving a staff member the space to do it their own way tells them you trust them and are not hovering over them at every step.

*Be Authentic in Your Interactions with Staff Members:* In a world where people rely very heavily on screen-based forms of communication (IM, texting, social media posts, even emails), don't underestimate the importance of in-person face-to-face interactions with staff members. Do your best to build high-quality communications with employees. At your own end, pay attention to your body language and tone of voice when talking to others at work. And be attentive to the types of body language and other communication you receive back. Being a good listener and a good communicator is another way to reduce stress in the workplace.

*Be Open to Change:* Sometimes, a stressful situation at work calls for moving an employee to a different location, a different job role, a more flexible set of hours, or more or fewer hours of remote work. Other changes also might be in order. Rather than being inflexible, try to say yes to modifications that may be the difference between a staff member wanting to stay versus wanting to quit due to burnout.

Don't let burnout get you down. Follow the steps above to foster a less stressful work environment. Happy holidays!

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## STATE MEMBER NEWS

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### Drake University Law Library

Rachel Bieker has joined the Drake University Law Library staff as the Public Services Manager. She will hire, train, and supervise the students who work at the library's Information Desk, oversee room and carrel reservations, and coordinate marketing initiatives.



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### University of Nebraska College of Law, Schmid Law Library

Richard Leiter has been appointed as the Depository Library Council (DLC) liaison for the Midwest Library Collection Service Area (NCSA). The four regional NCSAs will be meeting over the next few weeks to decide how to respond to GPO's new guidelines for limited print distribution of certain government documents. A representative from GPO and Leiter, as a liaison, will guide the NCSAs in deciding how many physical copies will be available in each region. In case you missed it, the Director of the GPO, Hugh Halperin, has decided to implement the [Task Force on a Digital Federal Library Program](#). As a result, some items, such as the Serial Set, Federal Register, and CFR will be printed in limited runs of as few as 20 nationwide! NCSAs have until the end of the year to make these decisions.



Stefanie Pearlman has published *ANIMAL WELFARE LAWS: A LEGAL RESEARCH GUIDE* with Hein Publishing, co-authored with fellow MAALL member Melissa Serfass. She also co-authored [Neurodiversity and the Legal Profession](#) with Kala Mueller in the September/October issue of *THE NEBRASKA LAWYER*.

## Creighton University, Klutznick Law Library

Troy Johnson has been named Director of the Creighton School of Law Library.

The Creighton Law Library hosted a book talk by local attorney and author, Larry Dwyer, on November 2nd. Mr. Dwyer wrote *Standing Bear's Quest for Freedom: The First Civil Rights Victory for Native Americans*. The Standing Bear case was heard in Omaha in 1879. The [USPS issued a stamp in 2023](#) to honor Chief Standing Bear. The book is the recipient of the **2023 Nebraska Book Award**.



During November, the Creighton Law Library is hosting a display of materials related to both RFK and JFK. Robert (Bobby) Kennedy visited Creighton in May of 1968. There are several pictures in the display that show Kennedy speaking on the Creighton campus and the crowd listening to his speech. Dennis Crawford wrote a piece about Kennedy's speech at Creighton, [Robert Kennedy's Remarkable Speech at Creighton University](#).



The Creighton Law Library celebrated Halloween by displaying both our Halloween Spirit and some material about the Salem Witch Trials. Thanks to Erin Dunkleman for her creativity.

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To all our other members:

*We hope no news is good news! Please let us know of any future news items by contacting Hyla Bondareff ([bondareh@wustl.edu](mailto:bondareh@wustl.edu)), State Member News Editor.*

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# MAALL MARKINGS INFORMATION

MAALL Markings is published four times a year by the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, and is a benefit of membership. The purpose of MAALL Markings is to publish news of the Chapter, selected news of AALL and other professional associations, and MAALL members, as well as to solicit and publish articles to add to the body of literature in the profession of law librarianship. All articles are copyrighted and any republication or use of any portion of the content for any purpose must have written permission from the author/s.

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**Editor-in-Chief:** Therese Clarke Arado

**Associate Editor:** Sarah Kammer

**Layout & Photography Editor:** Amy Backes

**State Member News Editor:** Hyla Bondareff

**Columnists:** Autumn Collier, Matt Timko & Gail Wechsler

**State Member News Liaisons:** Melissa Serfass (AR), Rebecca Lutkenhaus (IA), Lindsey Carpino (IL), Pam Crawford (KS), Deanne Fix (MO), Stefanie Pearlman (NE), Susan Urban (OK), Sarah Kammer (SD) & Leslie Behroozi (IN, ND, OH, TN, & WI)

The Mid-America Association of Law Libraries assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors of its publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries or AALL.



# LINKS TO AALL CHAPTER & SIS PUBLICATIONS

Links originally compiled by Lindsey Carpino for the CALL Bulletin and reprinted with permission. *MAALL Markings* updates links on a yearly basis. The original post is available at <http://bulletin.chicagolawlib.org/2016/05/aall-chapter-sis-publications/>.

AALL Chapter	Chapter Links/Newsletter	Blog
Arizona Association of Law Libraries (AZALL)		<a href="#">AzALL Member Blog</a>
Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York (ALLUNY)	<a href="#">ALLUNY Website</a>	
Atlanta Law Libraries Association (ALLA)	<a href="#">ALLA News</a>	
Chicago Association of Law Libraries (CALL)	<a href="#">CALL Bulletin</a>	
Dallas Association of Law Librarians (DALL)		<a href="#">Lex Scripta</a>
Greater Philadelphia Law Library Association (GPLLA)	<a href="#">GPLLA News</a>	
Houston Area Law Librarians (HALL)	<a href="#">HALL Quarterly</a>	
Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin, Inc. (LLAW)	<a href="#">LLAW Briefs</a>	
Law Librarians of New England (LLNE)		
Law Librarians of Puget Sound (LLOPS)		<a href="#">LLOPS Cited</a>
Law Librarians Society of Washington, D.C., Inc. (LLSDC)	<a href="#">Law Library Lights</a>	
Law Libraries Association of Alabama (LLAA)		<a href="#">LLAA Blog</a>
Law Library Association of Greater New York (LLAGNY)	<a href="#">Law Lines</a>	
Law Library Association of Maryland (LLAM)	<a href="#">LLAM Newsletter</a>	
Michigan Association of Law Libraries (MichALL)	<a href="#">MichALL Website</a>	
Mid-America Association of Law Libraries (MAALL)	<a href="#">MAALL Markings</a>	
Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL)		<a href="#">MALL News Blog</a>
New Jersey Law Librarians Association (NJLLA)		<a href="#">NJLLA Blog</a>
New Orleans Association of Law Librarians (NOALL)	<a href="#">NOALL Website</a>	
Northern California Association of Law Libraries (NOCALL)	<a href="#">NOCALL News</a>	
Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries (ORALL)	<a href="#">ORALL Newsletter</a>	
San Diego Area Law Libraries	<a href="#">SANDALL Newsletter</a>	
Southeastern Chapter of the Amer. Assn. of Law Libraries (SEAALL)	<a href="#">SEAALL Website</a>	
Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL)	<a href="#">SCALL Newsletter</a>	
Southern New England Law Librarians Association (SNELLA)	<a href="#">Obiter Dicta</a>	
Southwestern Association of Law Libraries (SWALL)	<a href="#">SWALL Website</a>	
Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL)	<a href="#">VALL Newsletter</a>	<a href="#">VALL Talk</a>
Western Pacific Chpr. of the Amer. Assn. of Law Libraries (WestPac)	<a href="#">WestPac Website</a>	
Western Pennsylvania Law Library Association (WPLLA)	<a href="#">WPLLA Website</a>	
<b>AALL SIS</b>	<b>SIS Links/Newsletter</b>	<b>SIS Blog</b>
Academic Law Libraries SIS (ALL-SIS)	<a href="#">ALL-SIS Website</a>	<a href="#">What's New</a>
Computing Services SIS (CS-SIS)	<a href="#">CS-SIS Website</a>	<a href="#">CS-SIS Blog</a>
Digitization and Educational Technology SIS (DET-SIS)	<a href="#">DET-SIS Website</a>	
Foreign, Comparative & International Law SIS (FCIL-SIS)	<a href="#">FCIL-SIS Website</a>	<a href="#">DipLawMatic Dialogues Blog</a>
Government Documents SIS (GD-SIS)	<a href="#">JURISDOCS</a>	
Government Law Libraries SIS (GLL-SIS)	<a href="#">GLL-SIS Website</a>	
Legal History & Rare Books SIS (LHRB-SIS)	<a href="#">LH&amp;RB Newsletter</a>	
Legal Information Services to the Public SIS (LISP-SIS)	<a href="#">LISP-SIS Website</a>	
Online Bibliographic Services SIS (OBS-SIS)	<a href="#">OBS-SIS Website</a>	<a href="#">TSLT TechScans Blog</a>
Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS (PLLIP-SIS)	<a href="#">PLLIP E-Newsletter</a>	<a href="#">On Firmer Ground</a>
Professional Engagement, Growth, and Advancement SIS (PEGA-SIS)	<a href="#">PEGA-SIS Website</a>	
Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS (RIPS-SIS)	<a href="#">RIPS-SIS Website</a>	<a href="#">RIPS Law Librarian Blog</a>
Social Responsibilities SIS (SR-SIS)	<a href="#">SR-SIS Website</a>	
Technical Services SIS (TS-SIS)	<a href="#">TS-SIS Website</a>	<a href="#">TSLT TechScans Blog</a>

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#### **Newsletter Committee**

**Editor-in-Chief:** Therese Clarke Arado  
**Associate Editor:** Sarah Kammer  
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**Members:** Allison Reeve Davis, Matt Timko

#### **Website Committee**

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**Members:** Rachel Ford

#### **\*positions not set at the time of publication**

**There are a number of opportunities available to serve MAALL. Please contact Le'Shawn R. Turner at [lrturner@okcu.edu](mailto:lrturner@okcu.edu) if you would like to serve on a task force or committee.**