MAALL NEWSLETTER

Number 2, July 1980

1979-1980 MAALL Officers

President: Robert Kelly
President-Elect: Elizabeth Slusser Kelly
Secretary: Julia O'Neill
Treasurer: Catherine Koenig
Past President: D. A. Divibiss

Committee Chairpersons

Bruce Frost: Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate the Terms of Elected Officers
Kathi Belgum: Local Arrangements Committee
Pat Karstens: Membership Committee
Bruce Frost: Nominating Committee
Ann Puckett: Program Committee
Bernard Reams: Union List of Serials Committee

In this issue:

Report on Resource-Sharing Meeting of Academic within Mid-America Region.
Report on Chapter Presidents' Meeting with Francis Gates

In preparation for the annual business meeting:

Report of the Nominating Committee
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee
MORE ON SEPTEMBER'S MEETING IN IOWA CITY

The mailing you recently received from Iowa concerning September 12-13 MAALL Meeting did not disclose the cost of the rooms. Sorry!

Per night charges will be as follows at the Iowa House:

One double room: $29.00 ($14.50 x 2)
One single room: $22.50

A roll-away cot can be put in either type of room for an additional $6.50 per night.

If you have not already done so, please make your reservations using the form reproduced below. The meeting program (also reproduced herein) looks superb and very practical.

REGISTRATION FORM: Mid-America Assoc. of Law Libraries
September 12-13, 1980
MO99

Name_________________________________________ Member______
Institution_________________________________________ Non-Member______
Address___________________________________________

Please reserve housing for me at the Iowa House:

Arrival Date_________ Departure Date_________ Single Room__ Twin Room__
Name of person sharing twin room_______________________________

____ I will be arriving after 6:00 p.m. and guarantee payment of this room.
____ I will arrange my own housing.

Registration Fee: $30.00 Member Check enclosed
$35.00 Non-member Will pay at registration
$ 3.00 Closing Lunch Please reserve___________

Make check payable to the University of Iowa.

Please return to Director of Conferences, Iowa Memorial Union, The University of Iowa, Iowa 52242.
Dear Members and Friends of the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries:

September 12 and 13 are the dates for the annual meeting of MAALL this year. The place - The Iowa Memorial Union on the campus of the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

We welcome the opportunity to share our campus with you and will do our best to make your visit here a memorable one. Included in the program will be dinner in the Amana Colonies, an historic and well-known point of interest in the midwest, and a chance to view an outstanding slide show titled The Library: A Place to Grow. This latter was presented at the White House Conference on Libraries last fall and is truly a work of art in promoting libraries of all types.

The meeting will open with lunch on Friday and close with lunch on Saturday. The registration fee of $30.00 will include Friday's lunch and dinner and Saturday's breakfast. We are making the Saturday luncheon optional and not included in the registration fee so that persons catching planes, etc., are free to leave after the business meeting. Please indicate on the registration form if you would like us to make reservations for lunch on Saturday for you.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Iowa House (in the Iowa Memorial Union) on a first come, first served basis. Please indicate your housing needs on the registration form.

Parking in Iowa City is a problem; however, if you have a room at the Iowa House, parking in the University ramp across the street is free. If you are driving in just for the day or staying elsewhere, parking is $2.00 per day in the ramp.

If you are flying in, you will arrive at the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City airport. There is limousine service which meets each plane. The fare to Iowa City is $8.00 per person and takes about 30 minutes.

We think the program, Changing Technology and the Law Library, is exciting and touches all of us in some way or other. Hopefully we will all come away with some new and useful information.

Persons who are not members of MAALL are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting. Please send in your registration as soon as possible. If you have any further questions, feel free to call Local Arrangements (319) 353-5968.

Kathie Belgum
Local Arrangements Chairman

AALL President Francis Gates is planning to attend the Iowa City meeting. He has indicated he is seeking the thoughtful response of members of our chapter to a question whose answer is crucial to the developmental focus of the AALL itself. He will seek individual responses at the September gathering to this question: "What do you want AALL to do for your library, for your chapter, and for you in your own library career?" Be thinking.
THREE: "Changing Technology and the Law Library."

Friday, September 12

10:00 a.m. - Noon  Registration  Memorial Union
     Big Ten Lounge
     Third Floor

Noon - 1:15 p.m.  Opening luncheon  Memorial Union
     Oriental Room
     Second Floor

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  Serge Garrison,
               Director of Iowa
   Legislative Service Bureau:
   "Computerized Research in
   Legislative Materials for
   the MAALL States."

2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  Break  Refreshments
                         outside Yale Room

2:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  Melanie Nietmann Norten,
          Head Cataloger, University
   of Iowa Law Library: "An
   Update on RLIN."

Timothy Kearley,
   Assistant Librarian,
   University of Illinois Law
   Library: "A Comparative
   Update on LEXIS and WESTLAW."

Heija Ryoo,
   Acquisitions Librarian, Southern
   Illinois University Law Library:
   "Word and Data Processing
   Applications for the Law Library."

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Free time to freshen up

5:15 p.m.  Bus leaves for Amana Colonies

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Cash bar  Colony Market Place
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  Dinner  Colony Market Place
Carl Oehl, Proprietor,
Colony Market Place: A brief explanation of the Amana Colonies.

7:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.  Fr. Redmond A. Burke, Colony Market Place
Professor, Department of Library Science, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh: "Communication: Law Librarians in Tomorrow's World."

9:30 p.m. - Midnight  Cash bar; award-winning slide presentation: "The Library: A Place to Grow." (Shown at the White House Conference on Libraries - 19 minutes.)

Saturday, September 13

3:15 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.  Breakfast  Memorial Union
Oriental Room

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  Charles E. Kregel, Law School
Information Manager,
Kirkland & Ellis, Room 36
Washington Office:
"Creating a Model Information System for the Special Library."

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  Coffee Break  Law School

10:45 a.m. - Noon  Business Meeting  Room 36

12:15 Noon  Closing Luncheon  Memorial Union
Oriental Room

Addendum:

The resource-sharing dialog begun among midwest academic law librarians in St. Louis on the Saturday preceding the 1980 AALL Convention will continue at the business meeting in Iowa City in September. Among the topics to be discussed will be 1) the extent and mode of participation which any private, state, or court libraries might desire in the tentative cooperative efforts begun in St. Louis; 2) the desirability of continuing the trial free inter-library loan experiment; and 3) the results of each academic law library's survey of its Canadian standing orders. If this discussion cannot be completed at the business meeting, perhaps it could be continued at lunch.
IN PREPARATION FOR THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING--

Report to the Membership of the Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Terms of Elected Officers, Bruce Frost, Chairperson

(Because the question of whether to change the existing terms of office for MAALL elected officers was deferred for consideration at the September 1980 meeting, it may be helpful to you to have, in advance, the thoughts of the Committee. Editor's note)

The Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Terms of Elected Officers has, to date, received responses from five of the other chapter presidents of AALL. All the chapter presidents were contacted to obtain copies of their bylaws and, more importantly, to learn of any good or bad experiences they may have had with one-year or two-year terms. Two of the chapters have provisions for two-year terms. One chapter has a provision for a one-year, but the officers have always been reelected for another term. Thus, each serves for two years. Another chapter currently elects their offices for one-year terms but is considering changing that to two-year terms. One of the presidents responding indicated that their constitution or bylaws did not state the terms of office. No indication was given as to how long the officers have served. We expect to receive more letters from some of the other chapter presidents. Based on what has been received so far, the two-year term is favored.

Along with communicating with the other chapters and hoping to benefit from their experiences, various members of the Mid-America Association have discussed the terms of office with committee members. Many points to be considered have been brought to our attention, but the most frequently mentioned ones were: The size of the membership—the Mid-America chapter is relatively small and does not have that many members who may have the time, staff, or financial backing that would allow participation as an elected officer. The age of the Association—the Mid-America chapter is young, still establishing traditions, and needs the continuity that may not be achieved with yearly change of officers. The requirements of the different offices—some offices, such as treasurer, might be better served with a longer term while the other terms could be shorter. The Vice President/President-Elect—as it now stands, is a four-year commitment.

This information and more will be presented to the members at the annual meeting. Hopefully, more information will be offered during the discussion by those attending. Those who wish to offer points to be considered may do so before the meeting by sending a letter to either committee member. Based on the information gathered and the opinions expressed, the committee will make a recommendation to the President and to the members.

Respectfully submitted,

Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Terms of Elected Officers,
MAALL
Charles R. Dyer
Bruce Q. Frost, Chairman
IN PREPARATION FOR THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING (CONTINUED)--

Report of the Nominating Committee (from a letter to President Robert Kelly)

I have talked with the three nominees and they have confirmed their willingness to serve if elected to office. Therefore as chair of the Nominations Committee for the 1980 elections of MAALL I submit the following slate of offices:

Vice Pres./Pres.-Elect  Carol Boast
                       University of Illinois

Treasurer              Mark Linneman
                       University of Iowa

Secretary              Joanne Vogel
                       St. Louis University

Respectfully Submitted,
1980 Nomination Committee, MAALL
Rosa Gahn Wright
Mary Ann Leahy
Bruce Q. Frost, Chairman

CIRCUIT RIDER REPORTS

From University of Missouri-Columbia

The University of Missouri-Columbia Law Library is in the process of becoming administratively separate from the main library. The change is being phased in gradually, to be completed by July 1, 1981.

The new Technical Services Librarian at UM-C is Karen Braucht. Ms. Braucht worked for several years in the acquisitions department of the University of Kansas Law Library and recently took her MLS at the University of Michigan.

From University of Illinois

Carol Boast, Assistant Law Librarian, recently returned from a year's sabbatical in France. She and Lynn Foster, formerly Documents Librarian at the University of Illinois and now a law student at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, have completed a book on compilations of state laws which is scheduled for publication late in 1980 by Greenwood Press.
From University of Missouri-Kansas City

Linda Stephenson, Circulation Assistant, is starting work on her MLS at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Shelley Dowling, Documents Librarian, will begin law school this fall at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

From Kansas University

Anita Head, Law Librarian, is the AALL representative to the International Association of Law Libraries annual conference, to be held in Manila in late August.

George Eberhart, Serials Librarian, is leaving Kansas University to become editor of the Association of College and Research Libraries Newsletter.

Hortensia Marcos, Circulation Librarian will begin law school at Kansas University this fall.

From University of Arkansas-Fayetteville

Gary Hartman has recently joined the staff as Assistant Law Librarian in charge of Government Documents and LEXIS training. He was formerly with a private law firm in Washington, D.C.

From Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Heija Ryoo, formerly Order/Serials Supervisor, has been appointed Instructor and Acquisitions Librarian. This promotion follows Heija's receipt of an MLS from Indiana University, Bloomington. She completed most of the requirements while on leave from SIU-C.

USEFUL NEW PUBLICATIONS

Finding your way around the governmental maze in Illinois is a little easier if you have A Guide to Services of State Administrative Agencies (Illinois Legislative Council Publication 148; January, 1977). The Guide is designed to answer "Where do I get it?" and "Who does what?" types of questions about Illinois administrative bodies. Each entry includes statutory citations relevant to the agency's functions. Address inquiries to:

Research Director
Illinois Legislative Council
107 State Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Liz Kelly, incoming Chapter President, is seeking volunteers (and nominees) among law librarians interested in sharing in the task of making IAALL a chapter which is actively responsive to its members' needs. By the time the September meeting occurs she would like to have identified some interested and generous individuals who would issue the Newsletter, plan the next annual meeting, work on a resource-sharing project, and so on.

The Newsletter can be a tremendously important communications link among us if it is issued in a timely and regular fashion, and if every member takes responsibility for communicating items for inclusion to the editor or to a Newsletter committee liaison members. News about new publications, continuing education events, members' employment news including placement opportunities, etc., are all the meat and potatoes of such a publication. They are beyond the ability of anyone person to know or to gather, and so the appointment of a Newsletter editor with a liaison Newsletter committee person in each state, is being contemplated.

The Membership Committee might well be handled the same way since new law librarians need to be identified by someone familiar with a local area, someone who will alert the Chair of that Committee to send an invitation to join the chapter.

Please call Liz at 618-536-7711 or drop her a note if you would have a small amount of time which you are willing to devote to chapter activities during this next year.

Report on Chapter Presidents' Luncheon with AALL President Francis Gates

Incoming chapter presidents had lunch with Francis Gates, AALL President, during the St. Louis convention. The discussion which followed lunch concentrated on the relation between the national organization and the chapters. Among the questions raised were: Should the constitution of AALL regulate who may be members of chapters? Should the Executive Board regulate the procedures for forming new chapters in such a way as to rule on geographical overlap between chapters, whether a new chapter may be formed from an older larger chapter, whether a chapter may change its name, etc.? The largest number of responses was in favor of almost no regulation of the chapters so that they are free to grow in their own way and to be responsive to the expressed sentiments of their members. There was general support for the concept that the national organization, perhaps through its new Executive Director, should coordinate and share among the chapters information on chapter projects and chapter organizational problems. The President took notes and said that we would hear more on this topic. (See addendum to program on page 5.)
Report on Cooperative Acquisitions:

Summary of the Meeting of Law School Librarians in The Mid-America Area, held at Dean Rudolph C. Hasl's House in St. Louis, June 21, 1980

On Saturday afternoon, June 21, a number of law librarians from midwestern law schools, principally schools which are already affiliated with the Mid-America chapter, met at the St. Louis home of Dean Hasl of St. Louis University Law School. Librarians attending included: Eileen Searls, St. Louis University, William Beintema of Oklahoma City University, John Nelson of University of Nebraska, Robert Q. Kelly of Creighton University, Charles Dyer of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Susan Czak of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Ray Ferguson for Bernie Reams of Washington University, Juan Aguilar of Drake University, George Strait of the University of Iowa, John Christensen of Washburn University, George Skinner of the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville, Ruth Brienson of the University of Arkansas-Little Rock, Elizabeth Kelly, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and John Edwards for Lolly Gasaway of University of Oklahoma. Guests included Mary Ann Mercanti from MIDLNGT and Betty Taylor, University of Florida.

The impetus for this meeting came from a group of law school deans representing many of these schools, a group which has been meeting informally to discuss matters of mutual concern, including their law school libraries. These deans are encouraging the development of library cooperation, including cooperation in acquisitions, in part to blunt the impact of inflation and the information explosion on their law school budgets. This assembly of law school librarians was arranged in order that the librarians of these schools might explore resource-sharing and set themselves an agenda for action.

After substantial discussion, the librarians agreed to the following items:

1. We owe our thanks and gratitude to Dean and Mrs. Rudolph Hasl for their gracious hospitality, their delicious hors d'oeuvres and cocktails.

2. In their tentative formulation of plans to implement resource sharing the librarians noted the following problems,

   a. Although exchanging lists of video tapes and of microforms is a good idea, we must study the copyright laws before we begin lending video tapes to see if interlibrary loan constitutes using them in a "performance." The librarians in attendance agreed to compile a list of video tapes, audio-tapes and microforms held by each library. This was a response to a direct request from the deans. Elizabeth Kelly indicated that if each library would forward its list to her at Southern Illinois University
School of Law, Carbondale, Illinois, 62901; she would distribute them at the September meeting. SIU's list is in a word processor and can be annotated with the holdings of other libraries to create a Union List. See sample entry below.

University Microfilms International
V.1, 1936-to date
35 mm microfilm
SOL (Southern Illinois) OKW 1978-
CLL (Creighton) SLU

b. A proposed list of the "three greatest strengths" of each library may not be as informative as they may seem since librarians may define "strengths" differently. Rather a coordinated plan with agreements for placing responsibilities for comprehensive collections in particular areas is more advisable—and then only after a mechanism for sharing our cataloging is perfected.

c. Deans and campus administrators should not think of cooperative acquisitions primarily as a method whereby the individual law schools might save money, but rather as a method that allows law schools to develop certain areas of each schools in greater depth.

d. Finally, and perhaps most importantly in the long run, law school libraries in the Mid-America area must perfect on-line communications capabilities with respect to their individual holdings. Without this, the libraries cannot exchange the necessary information required for accurate inter-library loan and acquisition plans. All of the libraries except two are presently inputting their current cataloging into the OCLC data base. Unfortunately, five of the libraries which are cataloging via OCLC do not have separate holding symbols for their law libraries.

Without separate holding symbols for the law school libraries, inter-library loan coordination of the type noted below will require extensive cooperation from the university libraries on those campuses and in some cases may be ultimately unworkable. Furthermore, any plans involving the use of the archival tapes, such as those employed by LAWNET, will be greatly inhibited by the fact that separate holdings for certain law school library collections will not be available in machine-readable form.

3. The librarians did agree that the following measures can be taken at this time. These measures are tentative agreements. In September when the librarians gather for the annual meeting of the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries in Iowa City, we will examine the results of these tentative agreements.
a. As a test case, each librarian will examine his faculty and his students to gauge the extent to which his patrons use Canadian materials for which he has standing orders or subscriptions. It has been observed that Canadian materials are quite expensive, and yet they do not get heavy use. One thought is that if most of us can agree to share acquisitions of the minor publications we receive for the Canadian area and to depend on certain other law school libraries in our region for those materials, then we can make the first initial step toward cooperative acquisitions. The Canadian materials constitute a test case, which we will examine when we meet again in October or perhaps when we meet in January at the AALS meeting.

b. As yet another test case, we will all try to engage in inter-library loans with each other, including photocopying, with each other without charge. We will keep records of the costs of the transactions that we perform and compare these records at our meeting in September. It is hoped that there will not be a substantial difference between the amounts borrowed from any particular library. We hope to avoid the needless expense of billings back and forth and the subsequent issuance of numerous checks. NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting, Professor Juan Aguilar of Drake University wrote a note to Professor Eileen Searls, who acted as Chair of our meeting in St. Louis, suggesting that Drake University act as a clearing house for an inter-library loan and photocopy exchange between the Mid-America law school libraries. Further action on Professor Aguilar's memo will have to wait for the September meeting. Nevertheless, the memo and the suggested form are appended to this report along with a form to be used to obtain the statistical information necessary for our September discussions.

c. Each of us will examine the possibilities of obtaining funding for retrospective conversion of catalog records. In other words, we all need to load our catalog records into OCLC or other on-line data bases in order to facilitate inter-library loan transactions. Such retrospective loading should be done under separate law school library holdings designators so that archival tapes can be obtained. Furthermore, a few of us will examine the possibilities of getting a grant or foundation support to have all the Mid-America law school libraries' holdings put into machine readable form as a group. (Although not specifically mentioned at the meeting, such retrospective loading would also enable us to use a computer to examine the comparative strength in our holdings in various subject areas. At that point, we can begin substantial cooperation on a title by title basis. Or, at least, lack of information will no longer be a bar to such cooperation.)
d. Finally, since the Mid-America group is "riding the forward edge of the wave" in the renewed interest in resource sharing, it would be well worth pursuing, with the active assistance of the Deans, the securing of foundation funds to place telefacsimile units in every Mid-America not-for-profit law library, beginning, perhaps, with the law school libraries.