



MAALL *Markings*

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TALKING ABOUT RACE IN THE LIBRARY - PART 2 CREATING A SUPPORTIVE SPACE FOR LEARNING IN THE LIBRARY THROUGH OUTREACH AND ACTIVISM

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“First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Socialist.
Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Trade Unionist.
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.”
Pastor Martin Niemöller (1892–1984)

When Sabrina first asked me these questions back in August, I had different answers, but in light of recent events, I felt compelled to present my thoughts to you in a different way. Black students on university campuses in America have really had enough of being casually disrespected and overtly discriminated against, and the world is watching. Just like when *Brown v. Board of Education* came out and desegregation of schools became a federally-mandated requirement that local schools then [attempted to defy by using a multitude of underhanded litigation tactics](#), the [world is watching us](#). Back then, other countries thought that America was finally going to live up to its claim that “all men are created equal.” Today, I am still waiting for the reality of this equality to materialize in a country where students [leave racist messages on computers in the school library](#), where Black girls cannot even be silently defiant teenagers in school without being [brutalized by a police officer](#), and where racial progress is met immediately with a backlash.

As an example, the University of Missouri’s University President who allowed his driver to [push the car through students protesting about racism on campus](#) was replaced with an African-American alum, only to have the Black students on campus [threatened with death, with the expectation to have to come to the University and take an exam \(or fail the class\)](#).

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All of this goes on with a backdrop of right-wing conservatives clamoring about students being coddled, or that they want special privileges, or that they are illiberal merely because they would like to be treated with respect on university campuses where the [transparency phenomenon](#) ensures that White university community members can remain oblivious to the fact that [structural racism creates barriers to learning and reduces leadership opportunities](#) for students of color on campus that do not exist for their White counterparts, [even on historically inclusive campuses](#).

Moreover, the free speech issue is a red herring because the right to free speech means that the government cannot censor people without good cause. Creating an atmosphere where students of color can feel the sense of belonging that is essential to their being able to learn without having to constantly [manage their emotional responses to the racism and racial microaggressions](#) that their White peers do not have to deal with is surely an important enough reason to have some speech (such as [blackface for Halloween](#) or for [Fraternity parties](#)) be censored at state universities. The issue of the constitutional right to free speech is a non-issue at private universities, many of which have a lot of rules that would clearly violate the Constitution (e.g., [religious requirements at Christian Universities](#)).

The [world is watching us](#), and if we are not part of the solution, then our complacency is part of the problem.

Now I will address some specific questions posed to me:

1. If students come to us (librarians) to discuss racial bias incidents they have encountered at the university, what can, or should, we do? What have you found to be effective in these situations?

Let me start by saying that one does not just have students come to you to discuss racial bias incidents. If students of color are going to feel comfortable enough to come to you about a racial bias incident, you need to proactively get the word out that you will provide a receptive ear for this kind of issue. For me, this means getting involved with things on campus like the [Martin Luther King \(MLK\) Commemoration Committee](#). I have been involved with this with the support of my Library Director, Larry Reeves, since mid-2013. Having his support with this was vital, because I had to schedule weekly meetings and be available to participate on MLK Day itself.

It also meant holding myself out as someone willing to speak on panels, both on- and off-campus. I've spoken at a student-hosted NAACP event and at a [teach-in on MLK Day itself](#). I also reached out to the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and asked them about [racial microaggressions that they experienced on campus](#). When I had students of color (including Muslim students) in my legal research classes, I maintained those relationships and supported their events, which meant occasionally staying late at the law school and doing things like humiliating myself with my lack of trivia knowledge on the faculty team at the BLSA-sponsored Jeopardy night.

Recently, a student experienced overt racism near (but not in) the law school, and I attended BLSA's meeting where they shared their experiences with racism, and I shared mine so that they would understand that I know where they are coming from, and that I take racism and racial microaggressions seriously.

Because of all of this outreach, I, like so many other academics of color, spend some of my time at work consoling students who have been beaten up off-campus, who have had their lives threatened by a classmate, and who have had White classmates and faculty say thoughtless and hurtful things. For example, insinuating that a student's accomplishments were only being recognized by the law school because of her race or that it was impossible that her G.P.A. could be as high as it was.

What do I do when students come to me?

It depends. It's hard to balance providing confidentiality and also being an engine for change. So if the issue is ongoing and involves a physical threat to students, I feel the need to let the student know that I cannot keep that secret, and that I need

to report it to the Dean or Director of Student Affairs. If the issue is one that involves library staff, then it is easy for me to talk to my colleagues about how we can make the space more welcoming to diverse students, and we can try to ensure that the reported racial-bias incident does not happen to anyone in the future. Other incidents remain anonymous, and become illustrations in the writing I do about the need for more cultural intelligence and more awareness of race-neutral policies that have a disparate impact. This is the only way that I know to honor student confidentiality, while also raising awareness and trying to encourage other librarians to be proactive. White people have the luxury of being blissfully unaware of the [stress that comes with being a person of color in a historically White university or college](#). This is nothing new. Even in the 1960s, during segregation, many White people insisted that Blacks had achieved equality.

If we can be activists in favor of open access to legal information, why can we not also [be activists on behalf of our patrons and our colleagues of color](#) during a time when people of color in this country are experiencing atrocities that we [associate with South Africa during apartheid](#). History will judge us as a profession for being thoughtful leaders in race relations on college campuses, or for being complacent and part of the problem. I know how I want to be remembered.

2. What role(s) can law school libraries serve in facilitating discussions of race on our campuses?

Part of our jobs as librarians is to [maintain a space that should be welcoming to all students](#). So what can we do to facilitate discussions of race on our campuses? First, we need to focus on how we might be contributing to the problem. We should be doing environmental scans to evaluate how diverse law students feel in our libraries. Does every painting of a cisgender White man serve as a reminder to our students of the segregated and heterosexist history of the institution, and does it make them feel like the paintings are representative of who belongs in the library? Do they see faces that look like them among the professional staff in the library, and are the people at the service desk treating all students equally?

I recently proposed a university-wide library committee to address issues of diversity in the library, and I hope to accomplish the following:

- Work directly with student groups to co-sponsor programs or events that are of interest to students who want to embrace diversity and relate to the libraries;
- Seek out and build relationships with student-centered units and programs across campus, including Residential Life, Black Cultural Center, LGBTQI Center, and Women's Center; and,
- Periodically host student advisory meetings to gather student perspectives on how to create an environment that fosters diversity and reduces environmental microaggressions in the libraries, and to gain insight on diversity programs that would be beneficial to student populations.

I would also recommend hosting things like film series or book clubs that read short but powerful novels that give the students an opportunity to reflect on diverse worldviews and to spend time with a diverse group, coming together to share ideas cross-culturally. We could also have a speaker series where we invite diverse authors and civil rights lawyers and professors to share their thoughts and ideas about the history, sociology, and psychology of race relations on university campuses. Libraries are repositories of information, and we should be highlighting for our students the kind of information that enables them to be thoughtful citizens and culturally-intelligent lawyers in an increasingly diverse country.

What will you do to make your library a space that fosters inclusion and supports diverse students?

[The world is watching us!](#)

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jennifer Prilliman

Associate Director and Law Library Professor, Oklahoma City University School of Law

Dear MAALL Members,

I am thrilled to be serving as the president of our association this year! Thank you for trusting me with this responsibility. MAALL is such a vibrant and collegial chapter, and the executive board is working diligently to make sure that continues. By the time you read this column, committee appointments will have been made and the committees will have started their work. Each committee is reviewing its current charge to make sure their work best serves the needs of MAALL and its members. I want to thank everyone who is currently serving or has previously served on a committee. Without your support, we would not be able to do any of the work we do.

By now, everyone is aware of the [AALL Rebranding Initiative](#). It is still in its early stages, but the association's members will vote on the proposed name change soon. It is important for any organization or institution to review its mission, image, and goals periodically. Regardless of how we feel, or what happens with the name change, this provides a great opportunity for dialogue and debate about the future of our profession. The MAALL Executive Board is carefully considering how the AALL Rebranding Initiative and potential name change will affect MAALL as an organization. I know everyone has questions and opinions about the future of AALL. I encourage you to sign into the [MAALL member site](#) and take place in the *AALL Rebranding Initiative and Name Change Discussion* forums. For those of you who Tweet, there is a lively Twitter discussion on the topic using the hashtag #aallorali.

Whatever happens with the name and rebranding of AALL, MAALL will continue to thrive, and I look forward to the exciting year ahead!



MAALL 2015 in Kansas City (Photo Courtesy of Ayyoub Ajmi)

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Susan M. Boland

Associate Director of Public & Research Services, University of Cincinnati Robert S. Marx Law Library

Take a deep, anticipatory breath. There's another MAALL Annual Meeting in your future! With the conclusion of our fantastic 2015 MAALL Annual Meeting, the planning begins for the next. Our 2016 meeting is in beautiful Oklahoma City, and the Local Arrangements Committee is already hard at work. As I write this column, the MAALL 2015 Conference Survey has gone out, and replies are already rolling in. We are putting together the Education Committee (thanks for being volunteered – I mean volunteering) and our next steps will be to decide on a theme, and then harassing – I mean enthusiastically encouraging – everyone to submit program proposals.

Seriously, though, MAALL members have a history of submitting thoughtful, provoking, useful, and entertaining programs. MAALL meetings provide great educational bang for the buck, and we want to continue to carry that torch. Think about speakers and programs that you would like to see. If you have never submitted a program before, please consider doing so! If you are an old hand at submitting programs, we also want to hear from you! Ideas are welcome even

if you do not want to be the one speaking. We'll soon have an e-form for you to submit program ideas, but until then, feel free to email your ideas to maall.education@gmail.com.

Keep a look out for future details in *MAALL Markings* and the MAALL discussion list!

BOOK REVIEW

Jacintha Bachman

3L at Oklahoma City University School of Law

Comebacks for Lawyer Jokes provides a witty, humorous solution to negative stereotypes faced by attorneys. This quick read is great for both arming oneself against lawyer jokes, and spending an afternoon enjoying a lighthearted book. The major sections include witty responses to common lawyer jokes, jokes about other well-known professions, and jokes that portray lawyers in a more positive light. The silliness of some of the jokes and suggested responses add to the charm of the book. Overall, *Comebacks for Lawyer Jokes* is a fun and entertaining book. It would be a great novelty gift that any attorney or law student would enjoy.

Comebacks for Lawyer Jokes, the Restatement of Retorts
Malcom Kushner
Museum of Humor.com Press
Sacramento, CA
\$9.95

GRANT REPORTS

The Inaugural AALL Business Skills Clinic

Therese A. Clarke Arado

Associate Director for Administration and Public Services, David C. Shapiro
Memorial Law Library, Northern Illinois University College of Law

I recently had the honor of receiving a MAALL travel grant in support of my attendance at the inaugural American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Business Skills Clinic held in Chicago this past October. The clinic was developed in response to feedback from the AALL membership regarding professional development and continuing education opportunities of interest to us. In using the survey results, AALL did an excellent job of capturing a number of areas that are relevant across all law libraries. While many presenters had a law firm focus, everything being shared was readily transferable to government and academia. As I have noticed through other endeavors, once again this meeting brought home that the various library types within AALL have far more similar issues and opportunities than differences.

The Business Skills Clinic encompassed two full days of programming. The areas covered were: managerial finance; human resources; marketing and communications; performance measures; negotiations; and strategic planning. All presenters were well-versed in their areas and did an excellent job of engaging the audience. Many presenters incorporated small group activities to apply discussion areas into practice. I am not the best with audience participation activities, yet found

myself enjoying these group activities quite a lot. The activities included simulated negotiations and identifying strategic planning committees based on the various constituencies needing representation. Other activities revolved around individual and organizational self-reflection. A useful topic that came up more than once, and that we all encounter daily, was assessing a situation and reacting based on the personalities involved. Realizing with whom you are dealing at any given time can help make productive what could be an unpleasant encounter. When we understand the constituencies involved, we can see things from a different perspective. While we may not always agree with the “other side,” acknowledging the differences and working towards our mutual benefit helps the organization in the long run. And, as much as I wished the world revolved around me, I have to accept that it does not, and the ultimate goal in any organization, firm, academic setting, or government setting is what is best for the organization as a whole.

It was nice to have a chance to get away from the hectic work environment to reflect on the organizational structure, culture, and direction of our various institutions and to see how our work plays into those areas. Additionally, it was invaluable to have time to share experiences with colleagues and foster professional relationships. Across all organization types, the one constant seemed to be change. All of us are working to adapt to the changes in the legal environment, as none are immune to the seismic shift taking place in our field. The presenters and attendees brought this to the forefront throughout the meeting.

2015 AALL
BUSINESS SKILLS
clinic **October 16-17**



Hyatt Chicago Magnificent Mile | Chicago, Illinois

The attendees were very engaged in the program, and this added greatly to the benefits gained from attendance. Hearing the issues facing our professional colleagues, as well as understanding how they are working to turn these issues into opportunities for their departments and the organizations for which they work, was inspiring. Participants were also willing to share experiences with the group in trying to identify innovative ideas for each to bring back to their institutions. The combined knowledge of speakers and attendees worked to produce excellent discussions.

Participants numbered around 40. This was a very manageable size for this type of meeting. Large enough to get a broad cross-section of organizations and ideas, yet intimate enough for all attendees to engage in meaningful participation. Regardless of one’s position in a law library, we are all affected by each of the topics presented at the meeting. My foray into more administrative duties several years ago has placed many of these duties directly on my desk. However, long before my current role, I found myself in meetings and discussions that covered these topics, along with being charged with tasks that touched upon these areas in some way. I hope AALL continues to offer this clinic in years to come, as I think it is important for people to know that, regardless of where you are in your career or what position you hold within an institution, having a good business foundation will benefit your professional growth. I appreciate having had the opportunity to attend, and I am grateful for the support of MAALL in making my attendance possible.

Musings of a Rookie MAALL

Presenter

Annie Mentkowski, Head of Reference and Research Services, Northern Illinois University College of Law

At the conclusion of the 2014 MAALL business meeting, Lindsey Carpino and I decided that we wanted to get in on the action and present at the Kansas City meeting. Because Lindsey and I are both relatively new to the profession, we decided to structure our presentation around topics we frequently discuss when we get together for coffee or lunch. I pepper Lindsey with questions about how a law firm library operates, and she in turn asks about legal research curriculum.

We decided we wanted to have a larger conversation about not only what academic law librarians teach students in law school, but also what skills firm and government librarians wish new attorneys learned in law school. We thought this type of discussion would be perfect at the annual meeting because our members are so diverse. Aside from being interested in each other's work and the profession as a whole, Lindsey and I also thought presenting at MAALL would be a wonderful opportunity to expand our network of librarians.

The format of the presentation was a hybrid between a roundtable discussion, a large group discussion, and a panel discussion. At the outset, attendees were divided into five focused groups. We assigned each group a topic and provided discussion questions to drive the small conversation. The topics were: Billing, Technology, Resources, Research 2.0, and Professional Skills. We asked each group to write their ideas on a large piece of paper and assign a group spokesperson. At the conclusion of the small group discussion, each group posted their ideas on the front wall of the conference room and shared their ideas with the larger group. After each group shared their ideas, the floor was opened for input from other attendees. Then Lindsey and I shared our own experiences with the group to expand the discussion.

The structure of the MAALL program allowed for us (the presenters) and the attendees to foster an interesting dialogue about the research skills and abilities librarians observe on a day-to-day basis when interacting with students and newly-licensed attorneys. Personally, I was thrilled with the mix of firm, government, and academic librarians. We had a great conversation. At the conclusion of the presentation, the overall takeaway was that conferences, programs, and simple get-togethers are an excellent way for the law librarian community to better collaborate and communicate with each other.

Even though MAALL excels at being an open, warm, and friendly organization, especially to its newer members, I would encourage participation in an educational program at the MAALL annual meeting to any librarian, especially to librarians who are new to the profession or to the region. I think more-seasoned members find it refreshing to hear new takes on the profession, and it is the best way that I have found to expand one's professional network. In my experience, presenting turned out to be a wonderful opportunity to not only keep the dialogue going well-after my



presentation ended, but it also allowed me to expand my network to many firm and government librarians I would not normally have met.

It was such a positive experience that Lindsey and I are already thinking about our next program proposal. See you guys in Oklahoma City!

Jo Ann Humphreys Travel Grant Recipient Article: MAALL Conferences and Networking for Introverts

Susan M. Boland

Associate Director of Public & Research Services, University of Cincinnati Robert S. Marx Law Library

This year I was fortunate to have received the Jo Ann Humphreys Travel Grant. Whenever possible, I have tried to attend MAALL meetings because of the great programming and networking opportunities. This year was no exception, and Kansas City was a wonderful conference. For those who were unable to travel to the 2015 MAALL Annual Meeting, webcasts of the fantastic programs are online at <http://maall.wildapricot.org/webcasts>.

One of the great advantages of traveling to the conference is the ability to network, but many people shudder at the thought of networking. MAALL was one of the first professional conferences I was able to attend when I was a brand new law librarian (I won't tell you how long ago that was). Because it was a smaller conference, I felt much more at home than I did at the larger American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) or American Library Association (ALA) conferences. MAALL members were, and continue to be, welcoming and inclusive. That warm welcome and inclusive spirit is particularly important to introverts like me. Few things terrify me more than walking into a room full of people that I do not know, but who all know each other. Luckily, at MAALL conferences, people are happy to walk up and introduce themselves. But even better, at the last two meetings, there was a speed networking program!



Saturday Session at UMKC (Photo Courtesy of Ayyoub Ajmi)

Speed networking was a great program for both veteran and new meeting attendees. Even though I have the benefit now of knowing many MAALL people attending conferences, most of the people I met at the program were new. The format of the program allowed participants to meet almost everyone in the room in a one-on-one format for a brief period of time. This eliminates the uncomfortable task of walking up to a group of strangers and introducing yourself. One-on-one conversations are easier for introverts to manage. There were a series of specific questions to ask and answer, so there was no struggle to make small talk. The time limit ensured that there was no awkward trying to figure out how and when to end the conversation. In fact, it felt like there was not enough time to talk! These are all excellent techniques for making introverts more comfortable with networking.

The MAALL Annual Meeting offered other ways for introverts to network. Several of the programs, such as the “Everything’s Up to Date: Preparing Practice Ready Law Students,” involved small-group activities. This was not as overwhelming a situation as trying to have your voice heard in a large audience. Having specific questions to discuss meant, again, no struggle to think of subjects to talk about. The activities filled only a limited time of the program, so conversations came to a mandated end. We had a great discussion at my table on Research 2.0.

Participating in the MAALL dine-arounds was also a wonderful way for an introvert to network at the MAALL Annual Meeting. Quality conversations over meals in small groups are a great way to interact with people. If nothing else, you can always talk about the food!

I have one final tip on networking for introverts. Volunteer and participate in a committee! Committees are the lifeblood of the organization, and you will make valuable connections, as well as do good work when you volunteer for a committee. Networking can be stressful for introverts, but the MAALL Annual Meeting provides many pain-free opportunities.

I am grateful for the opportunity to attend the annual meeting and would like to thank the Grants Committee for giving me that opportunity. I was privileged to experience wonderful programs, and I enjoyed meeting up with old friends and making new ones.



Representing AALL, Ken Hirsh received “Marshall” (Marbury and Madison’s cousin) at the luncheon. (Photo Courtesy of Ayyoub Ajmi)

Everything's Up to Date in Kansas City – Travel Grant Recipient Report

Lynn K. Hartke

Reference/Educational Services Librarian, Assistant Professor of Legal Research and Law, Saint Louis University Law School

This was one of the most enjoyable and informative MAALL meetings that I have attended. The programs were excellent, and it was difficult to decide which sessions to attend. The Education Committee exceeded all expectations. Several new events were introduced at this meeting. One such event was the vendor demos, which highlighted features of databases and new products. The demos I attended were well-received. Another new event was the Books to Action program, and I hope that MAALL continues to assist prisons (or other groups) in obtaining books that they need. The book we read, *Just Mercy*, is a powerful reminder about the legal system and justice in the U.S. I am glad I helped with the program. It comforts me to know that my books will be going to others who will enjoy them as much as I have. (If anyone would like to donate a book(s) to the Missouri Prison Library System, please email me at hartkelk@slu.edu and I will send you information.)



Simpson House (Photo Courtesy of Ayyoub Ajmi)

The Simpson House is beautiful and was within walking distance of the conference hotel. Everyone dined on Kansas City BBQ while being serenaded by a pianist. I could imagine the Simpson House in its full glory, before it became a venue for events. I love older homes, the original woodwork, the character, and gardens. In my opinion, it was perfect: good food with friends in a wonderful location. It was an excellent choice for the reception, as the Simpson House is a place that most MAALL members would not have seen.

The conference site was ideal, as it was close to the Kemper Art Museum as well as another art museum. In addition to the nearby cultural surroundings, it was close to shopping and places to dine if one arrived on Wednesday before the conference. I was fortunate to visit the Kemper Art Museum twice, once after the dine-around (the food at their restaurant was very good - especially the desserts) and again before leaving for the train station. MAALL's Madison and Marbury mascots went on the dine-around, too; they also enjoyed the Kemper Art Museum, one assumes.

I rode the train home feeling happy that I went to MAALL in Kansas City, and I am looking forward to the annual meeting next year.

Travel Grant Report: Liz Glankler Travel Grant

Matthew Braun

Head of Electronic Resources and Computer Services, University of Iowa Law Library

Although I have been a law librarian for a little over ten years, the 2015 MAALL Annual Meeting in Kansas City was the first time that I have fully participated in a regional American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) chapter conference, and I could not have been more impressed. Thanks to the Local Arrangements Committee, the Education Committee, and many others within MAALL, the Annual Meeting was superbly organized and chock-full of interesting, interactive, and timely programs. I was fortunate to attend the meeting as the recipient of the Liz Glankler Travel Grant, an award that honors a great member of our profession and her indelible contributions to MAALL.

Since I arrived at the University of Iowa Law Library in the summer of 2014, Ted Potter, my colleague and former MAALL President, has been extolling the virtues of this organization to me. He could not be more correct. MAALL members have an enthusiasm, a dedication, and a warmth that makes me grateful that I chose a career in law librarianship. These virtues were apparent upon my arrival at the 2015 Annual Meeting, when numerous attendees introduced themselves and personally welcomed me to my first MAALL event. I also appreciated the good spirit that was shown as I, this generally unknown person, ran around taking pictures at programs, vendor demonstrations, lunches and dinners, and anywhere else that I could find good images, as part of my Photography Editor role with *MAALL Markings*.

Outstanding programs were the norm in Kansas City, making my inability to attend and participate in each of them my only regret of the meeting. Four sessions were particularly engaging to me.

First, "Professional Reading without the Reading! *The ONE Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results*," presented by Resa Kerns, emphasized the importance of choosing one primary goal to advance in a job and/or career and for a professional to focus his or her energies and commitments to that one goal. A couple of key takeaways from this session were: (1) the concept of multitasking, which has its origins in the computer science/engineering lexicon with regard to machines, is often not a path to success when applied to human beings; and, (2) one's willpower inherently has peaks and valleys, and that it is important to recognize these and to identify the times of the day when one is productive.

Second, "Leading and Directing Law Libraries," moderated by Jennifer Prilliman and featuring John Edwards, Heidi Kuehl, and Joyce McCray Pearson, offered important advice for those with aspirations of becoming academic law library



(Photo Courtesy of Matthew Braun)

directors. In a time when many associate/assistant/deputy director positions have been eliminated as law libraries transition to flatter administrative structures, the panelists emphasized that librarians with director ambitions must concentrate on enhancing their current skills and not fixate on the limitations within their current position titles or responsibilities. The panelists noted that participation in law library hiring and budgeting, service to law schools through teaching and committee work, and a willingness to work outside of a comfort zone and be positive and adaptable in the face of challenges, are qualities that help one become marketable as a director.

Third, “Everyone Has a Story to Tell: Finding the Outlet is the Trick,” moderated by Ted Potter and featuring Darla Jackson, Tove Klovning, and Marcia Dority Baker, focused on three distinct forms of professional writing and publication, which are often prerequisites for a position in academic law library administration. Darla covered traditional writing and publication, such as in books and legal information periodicals, and emphasized that through consistent, repeated writing and editing, often with the help of colleagues, one can become proficient and distinguished in this endeavor. Tove covered blogs and touted this format for its scalability and increasing authority, especially for blogs that are easily accessible and are updated regularly with well-written, professionally-oriented content. Marcia then detailed the unique story of *Law Librarian Conversations*, a podcast produced at the University of Nebraska’s Schmid Law Library since 2008, and its role in bringing law librarians from across the country together to discuss issues substantive to the profession. The program concluded with breakout sessions that allowed attendees to share their experiences with these forms of writing and publishing and for the featured speakers to comment on these experiences.

Fourth, “If You Build It, They Will Come: Library-Hosted Research and Vendor Fairs,” presented by Corie Dugas and Lynn Hartke, detailed the planning, execution, and evaluation of the “Going Beyond Google” research expo at Saint Louis University’s Immel Law Library this past September. This half-day expo featured visits from vendors such as Bloomberg BNA, Gale-Cengage Learning, LexisNexis, LLMC-Digital, Practising Law Institute, ProQuest, and Thomson Reuters. It gave law students and faculty the chance to see demonstrations on numerous online legal sources in one, convenient location.



Marbury and Madison at the Registration Table
(Photo Courtesy of Ayyoub Ajmi)

The event required many months of coordinating schedules and marshalling law library resources, and it was fascinating to hear Corie and Lynn recount all of the steps they took to make the event the success that it was. From hearing about how the vendor tables were organized in the reading room to how prizes were acquired from vendors and awarded to attendees in a way that encouraged visits to as many different vendors as possible, there was much for an electronic resources specialist such as myself to appreciate.

In fact, appreciative is the best word to describe how I feel about my first MAALL Annual Meeting. I am appreciative of having connected with new, while reconnecting with familiar, legal information professionals from across this wonderful part of the country. I am appreciative of the excellent programming that I experienced for three days in a beautiful city with ornate fountains, great restaurants, and the exuberance brought about by a baseball team on its way to winning the World Series! And I am appreciative that an organization representing nine states and stretching over 1,100 miles vertically is able to put on this event with such aplomb. I am already counting down the days until we all meet again in Oklahoma City.

Making the Most of My AALL Travel Grant: A Relationship Retrospective

Corie Dugas

Outreach & Public Services Librarian, Saint Louis University Law Library & Executive Director, Mid-America Law Library Consortium

A week ago, I received a reply on my library's Twitter account that I wasn't sure how to respond to, or even if I should respond. I emailed a colleague at another MAALL library that I knew would have great insight into the situation. She did. I didn't respond at all. That same week, I returned to my office and had a voicemail from another MAALL colleague asking if I knew of any additional job boards on which an opening at his library should be posted. I provided my suggestions and asked him about the position in case I thought of someone who would be a great fit. As I sat down to write this, I received an email from yet another MAALL librarian with links to articles about using Snapchat effectively in libraries. She remembered my mentioning that this was a social media platform I wanted to know more about when we were talking in Kansas City.

These are just the three most recent examples of MAALL connectivity that I experienced, but there are so many more. When members espouse the benefits of MAALL membership, it almost always circles back to connections and knowing your colleagues in the Midwest. If MAALL is a small area of woods with all of the trees' roots interconnected, then the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) is the Amazon: massive, impossible to manage, and difficult to find the familiar.

This year at the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting, I made a conscious effort to seek out the layers of interconnectivity that I normally find at MAALL. I shook a lot of hands, smiled a lot, and gathered a sizable stack of business cards. Through my networking experience, I'm here to offer a few tips on building relationships at AALL.

Attend sessions with an interactive or group element

Yes, please! The sessions that have the best takeaways for me are always the interactive sessions. Just like a classroom, if I am able to interact, I will undoubtedly learn more. Not only do I learn from these sessions, I usually meet people around me. If there is group time, it gives one a chance to mingle with those around you and share similarities and ideas. I make sure to exchange cards with those who have jobs like my own or have interesting ideas I want to explore further. In one such session, I met another Outreach Librarian, and we shared social media strategies.



Corie Dugas's poster session at AALL (photo courtesy of Corie Dugas)

Present a poster session

I'm just going to stand here and smile and let you come to me! Poster sessions are a great way to downsize the overwhelming nature of AALL. You create a poster about some aspect of your work, and during a set time, others stop by to talk to you about it. Easy. Those that seek you out are generally interested in the same thing, and they are great folks to meet and bounce ideas off. For example, I connected

with someone in Georgia who is also working with her public court library, and we have shared ideas.

Go to smaller, newer events.

PEGA-SIS (Professional Engagement, Growth, and Advancement Special Interest Section) is a new Special Interest Section (SIS) within AALL. This group was formerly the Generation X/Y Caucus. Because they are a new SIS, they are on the lookout for members who want to actively participate and engage. Going to their social events is a great way to meet other members in my peer group and make connections. After chatting about involvement with cabinet members, I was asked to chair a committee.

Visit with chapters, caucuses, and Special Interest Sections in the exhibit hall.

Or better yet, take a turn staffing the MAALL table! The exhibit hall is a great place to interact with other law librarians. Seek out those from nearby chapters or caucuses and from SISs in which you have an interest. The folks staffing the tables are there to chat, so this will help you connect. I always enjoy checking out what our friends in Chicago, Wisconsin, and Minnesota are up to!

Attend the MAALL Meeting and Luncheon

These are your people! The MAALL Luncheon may be the only time at AALL that you can look around and realize you recognize most of the faces in the room. The MAALL Luncheon is a must-attend for MAALLers at AALL. It is a time to check in with colleagues, find out what is new in the Midwest, and share AALL experiences. Even though my schedule was tight, hearing the speaker selected for the luncheon was one of the highlights of my trip to Philly.

While AALL touts its fantastic programming as the selling point for attending the Annual Meeting, I encourage you to think of the other benefits of attending, much as I did. For me, developing relationships with MAALL members and those that extend beyond MAALL are paramount to my success as a law librarian. I encourage you to continue to make these connections and to reap the rewards of a connected community.

PROGRAM REVIEWS

Everything's Up to Date: Preparing Practice Ready Law Students

Presented by Lindsey Carpino and Annie Mentkowski

Program review by Lynn K. Hartke, Reference/Educational Services Librarian, Assistant Professor of Legal Research and Law, Saint Louis University Law School

When I saw the title of this program on the schedule, I was excited. I include “practice ready skills” when I teach Advanced Legal Research (ALR). I was curious to learn what others were teaching to accomplish this goal, especially in light of the new American Bar Association (ABA) Learning Outcome Standards.

The format of the presentation was one which allowed the attendees to interact with each other and the presenters. Ms. Carpino and Ms. Mentkowski explained their backgrounds and why they devised the program. Together they bridged the two settings of academic and law firm libraries, and in doing so, they merged theory and reality.

The attendees were divided into groups and given the following topics: Business Skills, Firm Technology Resources, Professional Skills, Research 2.0, and Teaching Tips. The groups were asked to list how they would teach these skills to students. Each group was given a poster-size paper on which they could write their ideas. The papers were posted on the

wall, and each group had a spokesperson to explain their list. The attendees and presenters commented on the ideas. Ms. Carpino and Ms. Mentkowski expanded on the ideas and filled in any omissions.

The discussion at my table, and with the group as a whole, gave me ideas to incorporate when I teach ALR. It also validated the usefulness of many of the techniques I use when teaching.

The presentation handout had a comparison of firm and academic resources, which reminded me of other sources to teach or least mention in class. These resources may not be available to law schools. I know from experience that if you ask the vendors for a demo or trial when teaching a subject-specific research class, such as business law, you most likely will get one.

The program reminded me to reincorporate some of the skill sets I have taught in the past, and gave me new avenues to pursue when I teach ALR. I found “Everything’s Up to Date: Preparing Practice Ready Law Students” to be a useful program - one I am glad I attended.



Annie Mentkowski and Lindsey Carpino’s program (Photo Courtesy of Ayyoub Ajmi)

Broadened Horizons: How Trans-Institutional Librarian Exchange Visits Aid Professional Growth

Presented by: Andrea Alexander and Michelle Hook Dewey

Program review by Ted Potter, University of Iowa Law Library

The Setup: From the start, we could tell this was going to be a story of serendipity. How else can one explain going from collecting internet survey results to getting someone to pay for librarians to visit other law schools?

Michelle and Andrea started by describing their research project – a survey of law schools regarding the connections between law school career services and the law library. Their research was funded by a LexisNexis grant procured through the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). After receiving results, they realized that they needed to observe law schools’ operations to flesh out the results they collected in the surveys. They obtained another grant to make in-person visits to ten law libraries. What they discovered was not only how to contextualize the survey results, but also that their

host libraries offered so much more.

Some striking observations: Michelle was struck by the fact that despite the dissimilarities of law school buildings, many of the spaces and communication methods were quite similar. She specifically mentioned student organization bulletin boards as being very similar in each school. On the other hand, she was struck by the varying organizational structures in each library and how that influenced how people work in their environment. Andrea was struck by how library organizations may not be aware of issues until someone from the outside makes an observation about how things are done. A couple of career services offices had no relationship with their law libraries until they received the survey; as a result of the questions, they connected with their law libraries before Michelle and Andrea came to visit (skewing their results, thank you very much). Andrea also talked about communication within the law libraries – she noticed that the director of the law library set the tone for how the employees interacted with one another, as well as with people in the law school. She said that as a newer librarian, she hasn't had much exposure to how law libraries operate, so the visits were eye-opening.

Exchange Visits: The result of the visits was a revelation – law librarians should visit other law libraries to gain valuable experience and insights that may be transferred to their home institutions. Michelle and Andrea see multiple benefits to this on many levels.



Ted Potter at UMKC (Photo Courtesy of Matthew Braun)

Visiting librarians can expand their understanding of how law libraries operate as institutions and in particular contexts. For example, law libraries in urban environments have different patron traffic and attendant challenges than suburban or college-town law libraries. All teaching librarians face student learning challenges, but they perhaps have different institutional support services or collections. Staff size and time available for reference, teaching, and other tasks impact how many hats librarians wear. By spending time at other institutions and with other librarians, the visitors can build professional relationships, experience how time is spent, see how spaces are used, and share knowledge from their own institutions. The visitors can be newer librarians, librarians looking for fresh ideas and experiences, or library administrators who would like to compare notes with peers or visit a library whose programs provide inspiration.

Host institutions benefit, too. A planned visit can showcase the services and spaces of the library, raise the profile of the institution with the visitor's home institution, and give staff a chance to interact with someone from a different institution. Visitors will learn about the host's culture and institution, and with encouragement, they can offer comments and insights that only outsiders can make through a personal visit. Seeing your library through a visitor's eyes can help the host perform a reality check on how things are going.

In addition, visitors are goodwill ambassadors, helping to raise the profile of your institution, which may help with cooperation and recruitment. Visitors also bring back observations and insights about their own law libraries (and their operations and services) in comparison to the host institution. They may also bring back new ideas to help invigorate their own staff.

All sweetness and light, right? Michelle and Andrea highlighted several factors that impact visits or exchanges. All of the factors were lumped into costs: travel, housing, per diem, and time away from work. They acknowledged that costs can be a barrier, but with a little creativity, visits are quite possible. Their suggestions were to plan a visit or exchange to coincide with planned trips, such as during the annual meeting of AALL or a regional conference, or as an add-on to a vacation. Count on the good graces of local law librarians who might put you up for a couple of nights. Make a proposal to your supervisor for professional time and a small stipend for food and local travel expenses. All the costs may not be covered, but visits are worth the investment.

How can law librarians make this happen? Michelle is the incoming chair of PEGA-SIS, the Professional Engagement, Growth, and Advancement Special Interest Section of AALL. Its goal is to facilitate the engagement of members by providing a forum for newer librarians from different organization types and departments to learn, contribute, innovate, and network. She hopes to encourage a clearinghouse of host institutions so librarians can find places to visit that fit the needs of the visitor, the host, and the home institution.

Want to give it a try? Check out PEGA-SIS (<http://www.aallnet.org/sections/pega/>) and watch for future developments.



Andrew Evans was awarded the 2015 Mersky Spirit of Law Librarianship Award from AALL for his work with underprivileged children in the Topeka area. Andrew accepted his award at the MAALL Annual Meeting. (Photo Courtesy of Andrew Evans)

MALLCO ROUNTABLES REPORTS

Reference & Faculty Services Roundtable

Cindy Shearrer, Associate Law Librarian for Public Services, University of Missouri School of Law

What is going on in your library that is working well with faculty services? Some new social justice programs have developed, such as providing resources for learning outcomes assessment, and librarians are supporting new faculty who have more of a practice-oriented focus.

What is going on in your library that is working well as far as reference services are concerned? LibGuides, student workers at the reference desk, new orientation methods, and tracking software to track reference transactions statistics were mentioned. There was discussion on the maintenance of LibGuides and how much time it takes to keep content current.

What is going on in your library that is working well with legal research instruction? Librarians as guest lecturers and using flipped classrooms and online instruction are all things that have worked.

Web and Technology Roundtable

Barbara Ginzburg, Electronic Services, Washburn Law Library

Should the group continue? Is web and technology still its own thing, or has it been gathered into other areas?

There was a discussion about Perma.CC, classroom technology, LibGuides and information technology (IT) in the library. There was also discussion about using WordPress sites for webpages and students' personal technology. Some students have figured out how to use library resources in a better way, but there is a possibility that some students are using resources in a not-so-legal way, so libraries may not be willing to share their resources.

Resource Sharing Roundtable

Jeff Woodmansee, Assistant Professor of Law Librarianship & Research Support and Reference Librarian, William H. Bowen School of Law

Originally this was the interlibrary loan (ILL) group. MALLCO is an excellent example of being able to share our resources with each other in a time of economic downturn. The big challenge is wanting the print resources.

Libraries need to establish best practices when it comes to our law reviews. There was discussion of the state code-sharing and treatise-sharing agreements. There was discussion of *The Bluebook* provision specifically related to ebooks and digital materials. Time to talk to the journal editors! Issues for the future:

1. Update of what we have in terms of creating directories.
2. Think about the notion of shared personnel.
3. Think about sharing interdisciplinary LibGuides and personnel.

Institutional Repository Roundtable

Corinne Jacox, Catalog/Reference Librarian, Creighton University School of Law

The group looked at the institutional repository (IR) information previously gathered and added to the MALLCO website. There were no objections to the placement of the information. The group would like to use the discussion list to discuss ways of marketing our IRs.

Monica Westin from bepress spoke on statistics, Google Analytics, and bepress's new selected works product. She listed four areas to enhance discoverability for search engine optimization (SEO). The four areas are: (1) the page title and the first three words of paragraphs; (2) full-text indexing for content; (3) URLs and linking; and, (4) a site map. When discussing Google Analytics, she listed the following tips: decide what you want to collect; create a frequency schedule; find a place to keep the numbers; identify people who will want a regular update; and, realize that Google doesn't track downloads.

Acquisitions & Collection Development Roundtable

Heather Buckwalter, Serials/Acquisitions Librarian, Creighton University School of Law

The topics for the Acquisitions & Collection Development Roundtable were ebooks, budget, reliable access, and collection development policies. There was discussion on how to handle ebooks, duplication, cooperative acquisitions with the main library, and record sets from vendors. There seems to be a trend towards preferring ebooks over print, unless print is specifically asked for. There was concern about law reviews citing to ebooks. There was discussion about statistics and the issues with getting good usage statistics. A question was raised about notifying patrons when a looseleaf was not being updated. There was discussion about collection development policies, and there seems to be a trend toward going to a more narrative style. There was also discussion about budget cuts and what material is being cancelled in response to smaller budgets.

The full reports are available at <http://mallco.libguides.com/c.php?g=376186&p=2545482>.



Keynote speaker Aaron Deacon, managing director of a Kansas City nonprofit seeking technological solutions for a better city called KC Digital Drive, speaks to MAALL members. (Photo Courtesy of Ayyoub Ajmi)

GREETINGS FROM MARBURY & MADISON!

Ah! We have had so much fun this Fall, we don't know how the winter can possibly top it! If there are any knitters out there, we'd take tiny stocking caps and scarves. (Hint, hint. Wink, wink.)

We knew that we needed to check out Kansas City before the annual meeting, so we headed there in September to scope it out and report back. Our first stop was UMKC's Law Library. We were amazed by all the fantastic technology in the Leon E. Bloch Law Library, and it was a great introduction to all the great technology at the MAALL Annual Meeting!

We also toured the City of Kansas City. We flew into the airport and checked out the public transportation options while we were there. We also visited the 18th & Vine Historic District where we listened to some amazing jazz music. When you're on the Plaza, you can't miss the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. We posed with the Shuttlecock and the Thinker on the lawn and took the tour. Marbury almost got in trouble for trying to take a selfie inside. No flash photography! We had to take in a Royals game. Boy are we glad we did, because shortly after we left, the Royals were crowned the World Series Champions!

The 2015 MAALL Annual Meeting was, of course, a success! Lots of our favorite librarians and library staff stopped by the photo booth in KC to take pictures with us. What can we say, we loved all of the attention! We signed up to go to the Cafe Sebastienne dine-around, partied in the hospitality suite, and made tons of new friends. Of course we checked out plenty of educational programs as well. Great work, y'all! (Practicing our accent for the trip to Oklahoma City next year.)

We didn't just focus all of our attention on Kansas City this fall; we made a trip to Grand Forks, North Dakota! We were able to schedule our visit of the Thormodsgard Law Library at University of North Dakota (UND) to coincide with official UND School of Law Building Dedication. We were among the first to see UND's Law Library's newly-renovated space and furnishings. Beautiful! We even got to attend the ceremony and some of the Homecoming activities.

We have a few surprise travel spots coming up, but we'd love to visit all our MAALL libraries! Email Corie at cdugas@slu.edu (we're too busy to do email) if you want us to come visit you!

Peace, Love, and Prairie Dogs,
Marbury & Madison



NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the newest members of MAALL:

- Layne Aingell, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Paige Asmann, Research Librarian, Littler Mendelson
- Tammy Bearden, Research Systems and Services Supervisor, Stinson Leonard Street
- Jennifer Beckley, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Erin Bleich, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Cynthia Brown, Director of Research Services, Littler Mendelson
- Jerri Campbell, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Kevin Corcoran, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Christine Doll, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Emily Dust Nimsakont, Head of Cataloging & Resource Management, Schmid Law Library, University of Nebraska College of Law
- Carolyn Ford, Research Librarian, Littler Mendelson
- Amber Hawkins, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- D.R. Jones, Associate Dean, Law Library Director, and Associate Professor of Law, University of Memphis School of Law Library
- Janice Jones, Research Librarian, Littler Mendelson
- Mandy Lee, Graduate Assistant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Sarah Markwardt, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Allen Moye, Director of the Law Library, DePaul University College of Law
- Sarah Peterson Herr, Research Librarian, Littler Mendelson
- Laura Riggs, Administrative Assistant, University of Missouri Kansas City Law Library
- Kate Sisil, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson
- Stacia Stein, Graduate Student, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Lucinda Valero, Assistant Director for Technical Services, University of Memphis School of Law Library
- Lorraine Zebel, Library Assistant, Littler Mendelson

MEMBER NEWS



University of Arkansas – Fayetteville - Emmy Bullock will retire at the end of November. Emmy has worn many different hats during her 20 years at the Young Law Library: Evening and Weekend Circulation Manager, Stacks Supervisor, Acquisitions and Serials Assistant. We wish her well as she returns to Texas.

Chad Pollock presented a program at the 2016 MAALL Annual Meeting in Kansas City entitled "The Catalog is Dead, Long Live the Catalog: On the Present and Future of Catalogs and Cataloging."

University of Arkansas – Little Rock - We are very pleased to announce that Sherrie Norwood has joined our staff as Systems and Metadata Librarian. Sherrie has a J.D. from the UALR Bowen School of Law. She has an M.S.L.S. from the University of North Texas, where she majored in Law Librarianship and Legal Informatics and earned a Graduate Academic Certificate in Digital Content Management.

Drake University - Drake will lose two long-term employees to retirement in January. Deborah Sulzbach, Acquisitions/Reference Librarian and Associate Professor of Law Librarianship, will retire after 15 years. Deborah came to the Law Library in January 2001 after 20 years at the Des Moines Public Library. Among her duties at Drake, Deborah has supervised the acquisition of all library materials, coordinated the library's rotating display of art by Drake and local artists, and digitized the entire Kardex file of serial holdings. In addition, Interlibrary Loan Associate Sherry VonBehren will leave after more than 30 years of service. Sherry started at Drake in



August of 1985. Through three decades and two different library buildings, Sherry has overseen all interlibrary loan activities, welcomed and assisted law students and other patrons at the Information Desk, designed and constructed timely, popular displays at the library's main entrance, and cheerfully performed 30 years' worth of "other duties as assigned"! The Drake Law Library thanks Deborah and Sherry for their devoted service, friendship, and the warm memories they leave with us – may they enjoy all life's best in retirement!



Lyon County Law Library, Emporia – Lyon County Law Librarian Susan Fowler delivered two presentations at the 2016 MAALL Annual Meeting held October 22 – 24 at the Holiday Inn Country Club Plaza, Kansas City, MO.

Her first presentation, a collaboration with Douglas County Law Librarian Kerry Altenbernd, was called "The Future is in the Funding: Legislative Advocacy for Law Librarians." County law libraries in Kansas are established by statute, which dictates the funding sources as annual attorney fees and a small portion of court docket fees. The 2015 Kansas legislature passed a bill that allows a majority of non-judge law library trustees to grant the chief district judge permission to move attorney fees from the law library to the district court budget. Fowler and Altenbernd used this example to illustrate the legislative advocacy process.

Her second presentation, "Planning Customized Services for Small-Firm and Solo Attorneys," demonstrated the value of conducting research to ascertain clients' needs, which may differ from the researcher's assumptions of what their clients need or want. Fowler conducted an observational study in 2014 of attorneys in Lyon and Shawnee Counties. She has used the results from the study to design and implement continuing legal education (CLE) courses for the local legal community in 2015, saving local attorneys time and travel expenses.

Washburn University Law Library - This Fall the Law Library held its second annual 1L Amazing Library Race. This year was bigger and better, with approximately 100 students participating. Each Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing class broke into teams and competed for fabulous prizes including the grand prize of three study carrels (something 1Ls don't get to use). Students had 50 minutes to provide interpretive photos of a variety of questions about the library and its staff. Tasks included activities such as interpreting the title of a fiction book in the library, interpreting an art piece in the library, and finding out something interesting about our Director, John Christensen.

At the 2016 MAALL Annual Meeting, Andrew Evans was awarded the 2015 Mersky Spirit of Law Librarianship Award for his work with underprivileged children in the Topeka area. (Pictured on page 18 of this issue.) Andrew is a year-round coach in the YMCA youth basketball program, and provides low or no-cost martial arts instruction to inner-city youth. Andrew has also set up a charity, Related Through Team, in honor of his late brother. Related Through Team helps fund scholarships for sports and provide sports equipment to youth in several states.

University of Kansas Wheat Law Library - We are having an exciting Fall semester. Two new staff members, Nicholas Birdsong and Bruce Chandler, have arrived to make us a team of seven. Nick is the Faculty Services Senior Researcher and Bruce is Technical Services Manager. It's great to have them!

Interim Director Chris Steadham, Head of Instructional and Research Services Blake Wilson, and Head of Public Services Pam Crawford are teaching two sessions of the Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.) Seminar, covering the various resources and services available to them in the law library, as well as across campus. Blake, Pam, and Jeff Montgomery, Circulation & Serials Manager, each guided two sections of 1Ls through the library part of first-year Lawyering Skills class, with the annual *Bluebook* Relays the day before Halloween. Teams always have a theme and dress in costume; this year was no exception. It's a fun time.

Chris, Blake, and Pam presented programs at the 2016 MAALL Annual Meeting in Kansas City. We also enjoyed a reunion

of sorts with former Wheat Law Library librarians Barb Ginzburg, Allison Reeve, Joyce McCray Pearson, and Joe Custer.



Saint Louis University - On November 1, 2015, Saint Louis University appointed Erika Cohn as the new Library Director. Erika joined SLU's library in 2012 and, through her hard work and use of skills, has worked her way up to this impressive position. Please join everyone at SLU in congratulating Erika on her new role!

Jackson County Law Library - Kelly Anders, the director at the Jackson County Law Library, has been busy publishing her third book. Titled "The Organized Lawyer, Second Edition," the book was released in September and will no doubt be of interest to the acquisitions departments of MAALL libraries.

Stinson Leonard Street, LLP - Tammy Bearden recently joined Stinson Leonard Street, LLP, in Kansas City, as Research Systems and Services Supervisor in August. Tammy is a 20-year veteran of business research, most recently at Hallmark Cards, Inc., but new to legal research. She has joined the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), MAALL, KCAALL, and the International Legal Technology Association (ILTA), and welcomes feedback on the best ways to benefit from these memberships.

Littler Mendelson, PC - It looks like Kansas City is the place to be! That's because Littler Mendelson, PC, moved its Global Services Center to Kansas City, MO. This move led to a large growth in library staff and an increased presence in the KC legal marketplace.

U.S. Eighth Circuit Court - Eric Brust was appointed in August as Circuit Librarian for the Eighth Circuit. Prior to joining the Eighth Circuit, Eric served as the Executive Director of the Jackson County Law Library in Kansas City, Missouri.

Oklahoma City University School of Law - Jenny Watson has accepted the position of Library Service Center Coordinator at the University of Oklahoma Libraries. Oklahoma City University is very sad to see Jenny go, but we are excited for her success and this new opportunity for her. Jenny is an excellent leader, colleague, and an important part of our team. We look forward to hearing about the great work she will do at the University of Oklahoma. Congratulations, Jenny!



Susan Urban is being promoted from Access Services Librarian to Head of Access Services. Susan joined OCU last Fall and has been a great addition to our team. She is very active in the Oklahoma Library Association and several community organizations. She is a newer MAALL member and will be very involved with planning the 2016 MAALL Conference. Congratulations, Susan!

University of Oklahoma - Two new law librarians joined the University of Oklahoma Law Library this summer.

Jenny Ham joined the OU Law Library as a Research and Instructions Services Librarian. Prior to joining OU, Jenny served both as the Faculty Research Service Assistant and the Law Library Reference Assistant at the University of Tennessee College of Law. Jenny graduated from the University Of Tennessee College of Law in 2012 and is a member of AALL. Jenny will provide research support to the faculty and students, teach in the first-year legal research program at OU, and serve as the library's Native American Law subject specialist for the Law Library.





Kenton Brice joined the OU Law Library this summer as its first Digital Resources Librarian. In addition to teaching first-year legal research, Kenton has extensive experience with law practice technology, and he administers the Digital Initiative at the College of Law. Prior to joining OU, Kenton practiced as an associate attorney with the firm Christman Kelley & Clarke, PC, where he gained extensive experience in the trial and appellate courtrooms and the boardroom, handling various litigation and transactional matters for the firm. During his short practice, Kenton earned honors as the Texas Appellate Lawyer of the Week by *Texas Lawyer* magazine and became a member of the Texas Bar Association's Pro Bono College.

Kenton graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 2009, where he was involved as a class officer and served on the Board of Advocates. In addition, Kenton participated on the Jessup International Moot Court Team, earning honors as a top-ten speaker and induction into the prestigious National Order of Barristers. Kenton received his undergraduate degree in business from Northeastern State University, where he was involved in student government and was a founding member of the NSU Rugby Team. Currently, Kenton is seeking his Master's of Science - Library Science degree from the University of North Texas.

Kenton is a member of AALL and the Texas Bar Association.

A MOMENT WITH MALLCO

Corie Dugas, Mid-America Law Library Consortium Executive Director

This Fall has been quite the whirlwind! MALLCO launched a new website, collaborated with NELLCO on sponsoring a series of technology-focused webinars, and continued our tradition of hosting a half-day of roundtables at the MAALL Annual Meeting pre-conference. I wanted to mention a few of the highlights from MALLCO.

New Website

The new MALLCO website was launched in November 2015. Some of you may recognize the format, as we are using LibGuides to host the site. I am excited about the enhancements on the new site. We have more options for graphics, placement, and layout. If you have updates, questions, concerns, or corrections regarding the new website, give me a call or send an email.

The domain www.mallco.org will direct you to the new site, but if you have the old page bookmarked, now is the time to update. I am excited about the future possibilities of the new page. One of the options discussed is for MALLCO to host LibGuide sharing, which could be stored on our new site. If you are interested in discussing potential LibGuide sharing, contact [Paul Callister](#) or [myself](#) at UMKC.

Nerd Know-How Technology Webinar Series

MALLCO and NELLCO will be offering a series of co-hosted webinars from December 2015 through March 2016. This series is in response to a survey of MALLCO, NELLCO, and LIPA members about continuing education and professional development needs. According to the survey results, the highest priority was "providing virtual learning opportunities taught by non-member experts." The highest need was technology skills, with 93 out of 141 respondents identifying this as a high-priority need.

Beth Ziesenis, author of *Nerd Know-How: The 27+ Best Apps for Work & How to Use Them*, will be presenting eight webinars that will expose attendees to free and low-cost technology solutions. MALLCO members can sign up for any or all of the webinars at no cost. MAALL members not at a MALLCO library can sign up for \$25 per webinar. The registration and additional information is available [online](#). All webinars will run from 1:00 - 2:30 pm (Central). The first hour will be presentation, followed by 30 minutes of questions, answers, and discussion. All sessions will be recorded and available for viewing after the live session.

1. Organize – Tuesday, December 1
2. Collaborate – Thursday, December 17
3. Share – Tuesday, January 12
4. Design – Monday, January 25
5. Create – Tuesday, February
6. Travel – Friday, February 19
6. Outsource – Tuesday, March 1
7. Google – Tuesday, March 22

Interest Group Roundtables

The five MALLCO Interest Groups (Acquisitions and Collection Development; Institutional Repositories; Reference and Faculty Services; Resource Sharing; and Web and Technology) met for a half-day pre-conference of roundtables on Thursday morning before the 2015 MAALL Annual Meeting began. These roundtables had a great turn-out and led to some fruitful discussions. Heather Buckwalter has compiled notes from these roundtables for MAALL Markings [see page 19 of this issue]. Notes can also be found on the MALLCO [website](#).

Interest Group Changes

I want to thank all the Chairs and all the members for their work and participation. There are two changes in leadership within the MALLCO Interest Groups. Heather Buckwalter, from Creighton University, has served as the chair of the Acquisitions and Collection Development Interest Groups since the group began. She is passing the reins on to Needra Jackson, Associate Law Librarian for Collections at the University of Missouri.

University of Arkansas Little Rock's Jeff Woodmansee has dutifully chaired the Resource Sharing Interest Group since its inception as the Interlibrary Loan Interest Group. Saint Louis University's LeAnn Noland, Senior Library Associate, will take over chairing this Interest Group.

Barbara Ginzburg at Washburn University, will continue to serve as the Web and Technology Interest Group Chair. The Reference and Faculty Services Interest Group will be led by University of Missouri's Cindy Shearrer for another year. Creighton University's Corinne Jacox will stay aboard to chair the Institutional Repositories Interest Group.

DECEMBER 2015 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Rebranding Initiative has been moving forward using the results of the May member survey to inform the process. [FAQs and a project update](#) are available to keep you up-to-date on the progress of this project. On November 12, 2015, the AALL Executive Board announced its recommendation that AALL change its name to the "Association for Legal Information." Voting on the name change opens January 12, 2016. In the meantime, discussion forums regarding the proposed name change are available on the [AALL website](#) and on the [MAALL website](#). You can also register here to attend a Virtual Town Hall meeting on Friday, December 18, 11 a.m. to 12

p.m. (CST) to discuss the proposed name change and have questions answered.

MAALL Markings will be honoring deceased MAALL members on an ongoing basis. Please send obituary notices to maall.newsletter@gmail.com.

“Right Here, Write Now!” – Annual Article Contest

Just a reminder that the MAALL Markings annual article contest – with a \$50 prize! – begins with this issue and runs through the September 2016 issue. So, start writing! To nominate an article from the December 2015 issue of MAALL Markings for the prize, please watch the MAALL listserv for instructions. Have questions? E-mail Sabrina Davis, Editor-in-Chief, at sadavis@okcu.edu for answers!



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, 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.

Publication Dates & Deadlines for submission:

Vol 25, Issue 2: Friday, March 4 -- Deadline for submissions is Monday, February 15

Editor-in-Chief, Sabrina Davis

Associate Editor: Heather Buckwalter

Copy Editor: Neil Pereira

Layout Editor: Jenny Watson

Photography Editor: Matthew Braun

Member News Editor: Lorraine Lorne

State Member News Liaisons:

Melissa Serfass (AR), Julie Thomas (IA), Neil Pereira (IL), Pam Crawford (KS), Lacy Rakestraw (MO), Kaaren Pupino (ND), Mary Stultz (NE), Susan Urban (OK), & Sarah Kammer (SD)

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Seeking Members

Task Force: UELMA Passage in MAALL States

Seeking Chair and Members

There are still a number of opportunities available to serve MAALL. Please contact Jennifer Prilliman at jsprilliman@okcu.edu if you would like to serve on a task force or committee.