

MAALL MARKINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MID-AMERICA ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

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DECEMBER 2000

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Mary Ann Nelson, MAALL President

Another successful MAALL meeting has ended, Thanksgiving is over and the end of the year is fast approaching. Thanks to all of those who participated one way or another at the Fayetteville meeting. We have received many favorable comments from members who attended. It's not too early to begin thinking about next year's meeting in St. Louis. Local arrangement is a grueling task. Lorraine Lorne, Jim Jackson and the Library staff at Fayetteville set a high standard for future MAALL meetings to match. Peggy McDermott and Ann Fessenden, current Local Arrangements Co-chairs, are already hard at work and welcome any suggestions you have for the St. Louis meeting. Tranne Pearce, Branch Librarian at the U.S. Court House in Kansas City and newly elected MAALL Vice-President/President Elect, will chair the Program Committee. Please contact Tranne if you have ideas for a theme or programs you would like to see.

The success of any organization dependent on the efforts of its members. Consider volunteering to serve on a committee. Committee work is an excellent way to meet people, help the organization and enhance

your resume. You can reach me by e-mail at mary-nelson@uiowa.edu.

Have a happy holiday and a great new year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail or in print, please contact the editors using the contact information on the next page.

We would like to announce the appointment of Resa Kerns of the University of Missouri-Columbia as the new Membership News Editor. She replaces Mike McReynolds, who stepped down after many years of conscientious service. Congrats, Resa; Thanks, Mike!

We are still looking for a news liaison for Illinois. C'mon, don't be shy! Contact Mary Ann Nelson if you are interested in this or other committee assignments!

MAALL EXECUTIVE BOARD

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MAALL Committees / 2000

Listed Below are the current assignments for MAALL committees

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VIP Selection Frank Houdek, Chair Suzanne Morrison Lori Weiss	AALL PR Liaison Cathy Chick, Chair	Local Arrangements Peggy McDermott, Ann Fessenden, Co-Chairs	News from other Chapters Darcy Jones

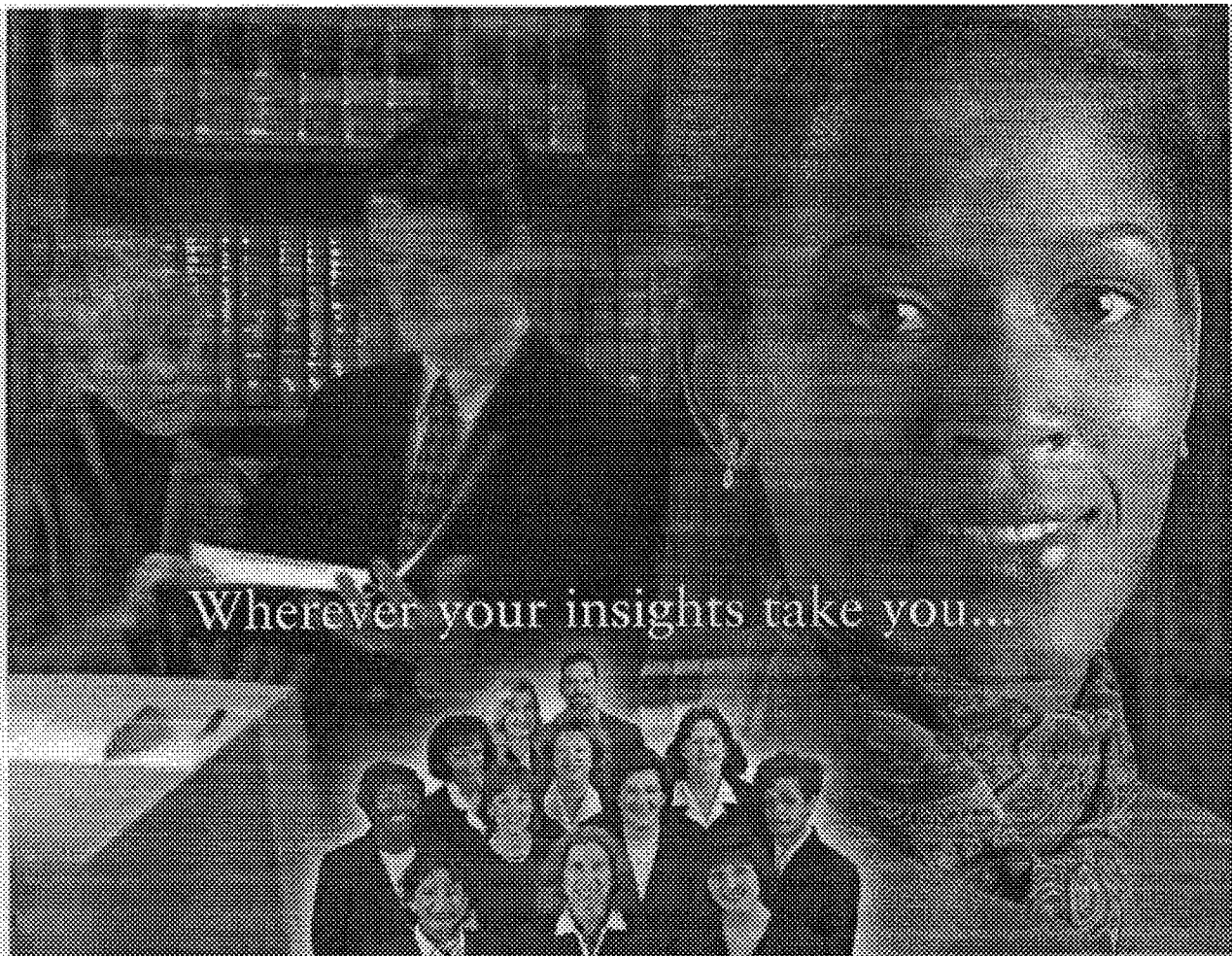
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Co-Editors Needra Jackson and Steve Lambson

Advertisers and those wishing to submit items should contact the editors for policy and format information

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UNION LIST REVISITED

Marilyn Nicely, University of Oklahoma

Need Exact Information on Periodicals?

The Mid-America Union List (produced by the Mid-America Consortium of Law School Libraries) gives volume specific information on periodicals and is now online on OCLC First Search. To avail yourself of this information:

Log onto First Search

At the Select a Database prompt, choose Union Lists

To restrict your search to the Mid-America Union List, Select Advanced Searching; pull down the keyword menu; select groups, then type in MAUL to the left of groups. Enter title your searching, and execute the search.

Mid-America Consortium Libraries member libraries can update their holdings through OCLC. Contact Marilyn Nicely at the University of Oklahoma if you have questions (405-325-4841 or nicely@ou.edu)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

State News Liaisons

Arkansas

The Arkansas Supreme Court Library, the oldest library in the state still in operation, is about to undergo a major

renovation. For 18 months, the library will be relocated to another state office building. The library will be closed to the public shortly before its move and will reopen to the public upon its return to the renovated Justice Building. Presently, the library anticipates moving in mid-January 2001.

Illinois

James Duggan, Director of Information Technology and Professor, Southern Illinois University School of Law Library, has authored two recent articles: "Evidence Practice Guides," 88 Illinois Bar Journal 543-544 (2000) and "Illinois Legislative History," 88 Illinois Bar Journal 665-666 (2000).

Iowa

Drake University Law Library

Susan Lerdal will begin work at Drake as Reference Librarian in January. Sue has an M.L.S. from the University of Iowa and a B.A. and M.P.A. from the University of Montana. She has 17 years experience as Legal Librarian/Researcher for Montana Power Co. and was most recently employed at Iowa State University's School of Journalism and Communication.

Lisa Stock, Public Services Librarian at Drake since 1988, resigned in September to accept the position of Director of Learning Resources at Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny.

North Dakota

Professor Marcia O'Kelly retired from her teaching position at the University of North

Dakota School of Law after the Spring, 2000 semester. Before she left the University and the state, Professor O'Kelly donated approximately 627 books from her personal library which she had collected during her tenure here.

When Professor O'Kelly's children were nearing adulthood, she went back to school and earned a juris doctor at UND. In 1973 she took a part-time teaching job at the law school and in 1976 became a full-time faculty member. Her primary teaching responsibilities were to teach Constitutional Law to first year students. She also taught courses in Federal Courts, Family Law, Juvenile Law, and Employment Discrimination Law. Professor O'Kelly is past advisor for Law Women's Caucus and the North Dakota Law Review.

Many of the books that Professor O'Kelly donated to the library have to do with constitutional law, constitutional issues, the U.S. Supreme Court and a number of notable justices. Her donation is the second largest gift given to the Thormodsgard Law Library. The largest amounted to over 3,000 titles and was given to the library over 75 years ago as a start for the collection that evolved into the current library.

In honor of Professor O'Kelly's years of teaching and her generous gift to the library, 250 of the books, pre-selected by Professor O'Kelly, will be shelved in a special place in the faculty library.

Oklahoma

University of Oklahoma Law Library – Director Nickie Singleton and Marilyn Nicely will be presenting a program at the American Association of Law Librarians

meeting in Minnesota. The name of the program is: American Indian Law : The New Reality of Native Sovereignty. It will be on Monday, July 16, 2001 at 4:15 pm.

Elaine Bradshaw co-authored with Stephen C. Wagner, "A Common Ground : Communications and Alliance Between Cataloger and Curator for Improved Access to Rare Books and Special Collections", College & Research Libraries, v. 61, no.6, Nov. 2000.

Joel Wegemer was promoted to Associate Director.

University of Tulsa College of Law Mabee Legal Information Center -

Eleven Russian librarians toured the University of Tulsa's Mabee Legal Information Center with their State Department interpreters on a program sponsored by Tulsa Global Alliance. Novosibirsk, Novgorod, Moscow, and St. Petersburg were among the Russian cities represented.

The Librarians stopped at other Tulsa City and University Libraries before visiting the Mabee Legal Information Center. Kathy Kane, Public Services / Faculty Research Law Librarian, gave a brief introduction to researching United States law, including "must have" books. Professor Richard Ducey gave a tour of the facilities, and Daniel Bell, Reference/Public Services Law Librarian, gave a short demonstration of free legal resources on the internet. Our Media Specialist thrilled them all with individual instant print-outs of a digital photo of the group posing in the main reading room. They were truly astonished with the space in the library, and particularly impressed with the electronic compact shelving. They even took videos of our shelving in motion!

MAALL EXCHANGE REPORT

Patti Monk, Oklahoma City University

I was pleased to be the recipient of a MAALL Staff Exchange grant in November 2000. Thank you to Needra Jackson, Chair of the Resource Sharing Committee, and to the Executive Board – President Glen Peter Ahlers, Vice-President Mary Ann Nelson, Secretary Crata Castleberry, Treasurer Sally Crowley and Mary Kay Jung, Past President, for approving the grant.

I teach some of the classes in the fall Advanced Legal Research course that combines research and technology. These classes should be as pertinent and helpful as possible to the students. My prime goal was to find out what legal research skills a law firm expects or, at least hopes, its new, expensive hires will have. A visit to the Washington University School of Law and to the new Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse were fascinating side trips.

Thompson Coburn is a 280 attorney firm headquartered in St. Louis with branch offices in Belleville, Illinois and Washington, D.C. The firm was recently recognized by PC WEEK Magazine as being among the 500 top companies in the U.S. for innovative use of technology and a recent report to management by Price Waterhouse ranked Thompson Coburn LLP's technology among the top 10 percent of law firms in the nation. Pursuant to a management audit the consulting company Axelroth & Associates said, "A&A would not hesitate to include the Thompson Coburn library on a list of the most well-run, forward thinking law firm libraries." Because of the firm's commitment

to technology and the library's ability to draw on it, I selected Thompson Coburn for the staff exchange.

My host at Thompson Coburn was Mary Kay Jung, Director of Library Services. Mary Kay had arranged an interview with Mike Bartolacci, a partner in the firm's commercial litigation practice area, for Dorie Bertram, Director of Public Services at Washington University Law School Library, and me. Mr. Bartolacci organized a "boot camp" for new litigation associates in fall 2000 to orient them towards practice and to acquaint them with the litigation partners plus the library director and director of information systems. Mike commented that while the law school emphasis is on cases, in practice statutes often play a significant role. He cautioned that before going on-line, do research in the library using ALRs, treatises, legal encyclopedias, law review articles, or similar sources in hard copy so that if you use LEXIS or Westlaw, your search is well thought out and well structured, not exploratory. Some clients will not pay for on-line legal research so research using the books is a must. Here are *Mike Bartolacci's Top 10 Tips for Doing Legal Research* taken from his PowerPoint presentation given in the fall of 2000:

Read the cases/authorities relied upon by the court in the case you are citing.

Read your opponents' cases.

Always KeyCite or Shepardize your case.

Make sure you understand the problem.

Get out of your office and away from your computer.

Make sure you understand the basics of the

substantive area of law.

Have a research plan.

Do not ignore articles, legal encyclopedias, ALRs, or similar sources.

Be careful duping or relying on research memos or briefs done by other attorneys.

Understand what it is that makes a case persuasive.

A tip from the library staff is to call a Westlaw or LEXIS research attorney to ask how to best frame your search. Of course, asking a librarian for help with hard copy and computer resources is a highly effective strategy. When the librarians see an attorney in the stacks, they offer their assistance as appropriate, but with so many resources on the desktop, new associates should initiate requests for help. The library's reference librarians offer instructional classes every Monday in a small training room on topics such as Internet searching and using subject specific CD-ROMs. The library provides legal, business, medical, and statistical research links as well as a calendar of the library's classes from the firm's intranet. Library staff also index, scan and OCR expert witness depositions so that attorneys can run a search and bring up the original documents on their computers. The library's catalog, serial and circulation functions are automated using EOSi software. The library uses circulation data from scanned barcodes to make weeding and cancellation decisions.

One morning Dorie Bertram gave me a tour of Washington University School of Law, which combines the beauty of collegiate Gothic with the functionality of a dual fiber optics-Fast Ethernet switched network and a double-ring coaxial audiovisual network..

With a computer support staff of three and an audio-visual support staff of two, the law library is well positioned to utilize its technology. Dorie mentioned that the Washington University Law Library and Olin Library system are one of the sites hosting the UCITA videoconference on December 13th sponsored by AALL, ALA, ARL, MLA, and SLA. On the day I visited, Philip Berwick, Associate Dean for Information Resources, and Aris Woodham, Electronic Services Coordinator, had just returned from the St. Louis County Courthouse where they had presented a CLE entitled *Surviving the Information Tsunami: The Web as a Legal Research Tool* for a large group of criminal defense attorneys.

The Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse dedicated on September 11, 2000 is currently the largest federal courthouse in the United States. When I visited in November only the U.S. Court of Appeals had moved into this beautiful, spacious building. The en banc courtroom on the top floor is impressive with the bench making a semi-circle around counsel at the podium. Jim Voelker, Deputy Circuit Librarian, says oral arguments before the Eighth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals are available at <http://8cc-www.ca8.uscourts.gov/Oral-Arg/scripts/GetRA.asp>.

NEWS FROM OTHER CHAPTERS

*Darcy L. Jones, University of Missouri-
Columbia Law Library*

Davis, Jean. "In the Spotlight: The American Society of International Law's (ASIL) April 2000 Annual Meeting." (14) 3 FCIL Newsletter, May 2000 (Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Special Interest Section, AALL). This article provides many useful web sites from presentations at the ASIL annual meeting. Included are addresses for web sites with Polish and Canadian law as well as resources for those teaching international law and legal research.

Szalkowski, Barbara. "South Texas Library Renovation Update." (17) 6 HALL Newsletter, November/December 2000 (Houston Association of Law Libraries). There will be some minor interruptions in service at the South Texas College of Law Library as they move into their new library addition after the first of the year. While library staff will be on duty and answering phones during a series of moves during January and February, responses to service requests may be delayed.

PLACEMENT NEWS

Reference/Electronic Resources Librarian
(Assistant Professor of Law Library - tenure leading)
Marvin & Virginia Schmid Law Library,

University of Nebraska.

The Marvin & Virginia Schmid Law Library invites applications for the position of Reference/Electronic Services Librarian. The position will be available January 15, 2001. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Screening of applications will begin December 20, 2000. Additional information about the Library can be found on our homepage at:

<http://www.unl.edu/lawcoll/library/index.html>

Qualifications.

Required: Master's degree from an ALA accredited library school and Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school - degrees must be received before starting date. Knowledge of HTML, computer hardware and software applications. Excellent legal research skills as well as interpersonal, oral and written communication skills. Strong service orientation. Ability to establish and maintain good working relationships with coworkers and patrons including faculty, students, community and the practicing bar. Requires an energetic, creative, self-motivated individual who can work independently as well as cooperatively as a versatile and active member of the law library staff. Commitment to service and professional development.

Preferred: Two years experience working with computers in an academic environment.

Duties: Oversees the student computer labs, maintains the law college web page and is the Lexis and Westlaw liaison. Participates as a member of the Public Services Department and the reference team to provide extensive reference service, assists

in collection development, teaches a component of first year legal research in the fall, and conducts research seminars and workshops for students, faculty and staff. Performs other duties as assigned. Rotates evening and weekend reference hours. Reports to the Head of Public Services.

Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. Excellent fringe benefits.

Starting Date: January 15, 2001. Appointment date negotiable.

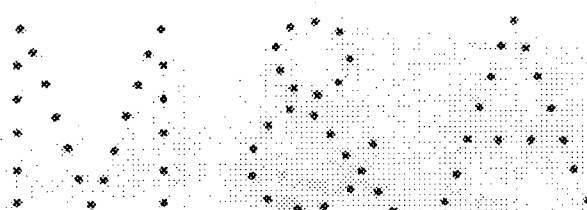
Apply: Submit resume, including the names of three references, to Sandra Placzek, Head of Public Services, Marvin & Virginia Schmid Law Library, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583-0902. E-mail address: splaczek2@unl.edu

The University of Nebraska is committed to a pluralistic campus community through Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity and is responsive to the needs of dual career couples. We assure reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act; contact Sandra Placzek at 402.472.8261 for assistance.

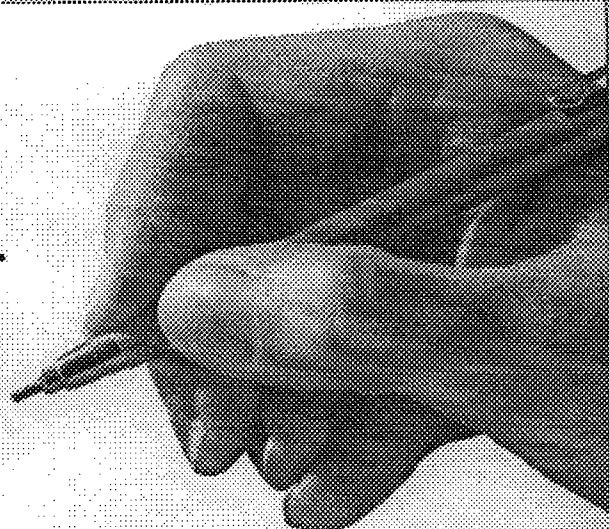
AALL CALL FOR PAPERS COMMITTEE

Have you been thinking about writing an article about law librarianship? Or are you already writing an article and just need an incentive to finish? If yes, read on! The AALL/LEXIS Publishing Call for Papers Committee eagerly solicits your articles for its annual competition. Up to three winning authors will receive a prize of \$750, generously donated by LEXIS Publishing, and the opportunity to present their papers to their colleagues at the Annual Meeting. Winning papers also are considered for publication in the Law Library Journal, the scholarly journal of the law library profession. Visit AALLNET at http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_call_for_papers.asp for more information, including selection criteria and application procedures. Submissions are due by March 1, 2001. Good luck!

Questions? Contact a member of the Call for Papers Committee: Adeen Postar (chair) at ajp@dejlw.com, Karen Beck at beckka@bc.edu, or Maria Protti at Maria_Protti@ci.sf.ca.us.



DATABASE



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