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SCALL Newsletter

President's Column

by Patrick Meyer
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Kate Pecarovich SCALL Life Member

The SCALL membership recently voted to recognize Kate Pecarovich as a SCALL Life Member. In doing so, SCALL recognizes the significant contributions Kate has made to law librarianship throughout her career. Kate has years of dedicated service in law libraries, including Head of Acquisitions, Head of Cataloging, and Head of Technical Services at the USC Law Library. She then moved across town to the UCLA Law Library where she held the positions of Head of Cataloging, Head of Technical Services, Acting Associate Director, and finally Director of Technical Services. Kate has served on many SCALL committees over the years and served as SCALL President in 1987-1988.

The SCALL Board would like to thank Kate for her years of exemplary service to the law librarian community. Congratulations, Kate!

SCALL Institute

We hope to see you at the 35th Annual SCALL Institute in San Diego, March 15th-17th, at the Wyndham San Diego at Emerald Plaza. The hotel is in the heart of downtown, very close to the famous Gaslamp District and within walking distance of train and trolley stations. VP/President-Elect Jim Senter and his volunteers are putting together an exciting and substantive program based on the theme "Global Legal Landscapes: Navigating the Worlds of Foreign & International Law."

The always popular pre-Institute workshops are back this year, and will include a technical services workshop for the second year in a row! The LexisNexis workshop is Thursday afternoon, and the ThomsonWest workshop as well as the SCALL-sponsored Technical Services workshop will be held concurrently on Friday morning. Check out the registration packet or the Institute blog for more information on the workshops.

This year's Institute boasts several highly praised and accomplished experts in foreign & international law. The AALL Executive Board VIP is FIL expert Lyonette Louis-Jacques, Foreign & International Law Librarian at the University of Chicago. Lyo will also speak, kicking off the Institute with a talk on jump-starting FIL research. She'll also give the AALL update at our closing luncheon on Saturday. Our other speakers are Marci Hoffman (FIL Librarian at

(continued on page 12)

Inside This Issue ...

Editor's Notes / Newsletter Staff / Submission Deadlines / Advertisers' Index	2
Save the Date! Winetasting, Anyone?	3
In Memoriam: SCALL Member Patricia Luthin	3
Library School...Then and Now	5-8
How to Find and Research Experts on the Internet	10-11
Resilience	14-16
Job Opportunities	16
SCALL Institute Announcement & Registration Form	17-18
Last Issue's Crossword Puzzle Solution: <i>Political Soup</i>	19
New Crossword: <i>Books Are For Lovers</i>	20-21
SCALL Officers, 2006-2007	22
SCALL Committee Chairs, 2006-2007	23

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Editor's Notes

by

Victoria Williamson

We're only a month into the New Year, and yet I am already feeling nostalgic about this year. A beautiful and pristine dusting of snow throughout my neighborhood on the morning of January 12th has something to do with it. I can still hear my son excitedly calling out "Mommy! Mommy, come quick! It's snowing outside!" Picture a 12-year old running around outside your house with his tongue sticking out, trying to catch a taste of snow. That was the first time my son and I had seen it snow here in the Inland area of Southern California. A rare sight, it brings a smile to my face every time I think of it.

Just as rare is a human-interest story in a newsletter such as ours. In this issue, please read the article entitled *Resilience*. Malinda Muller shares her personal journey of recovery from a recent accident that occurred while riding her bicycle. She offers insightful strategies on coping with loss and building resilience that we may find useful in our own times of need. She displays great courage and strength by

*(continued on next page)***Advertisers' Index**

Cal Info	11
EOS International	12
Global Securities Inc. (GSI)	9
Jones McClure	13
Legislative Intent Service	12
Legislative Research Service	15
Looseleaf Filing Service	15
West Group	4

Correction

In the November/December 2006 issue of the SCALL Newsletter, page 5, Brian Keefe's title was incorrectly stated. It should have been stated as: "Assistant Librarian, U.S. Courts Library, Los Angeles, California." We regret the error.

SCALL Newsletter Submission Deadlines

We welcome the submission of any articles of interest to the law library community. Contact Victoria Williamson, SCALL Newsletter Editor, at williamv@ulv.edu.

All submissions should be received by the following dates:

February 12, 2007
April 9, 2007
August 13, 2007
October 8, 2007

Mar. / Apr. 2007 issue
May / June 2007 issue
Sept. / Oct. 2007 issue
Nov. / Dec. 2007 issue



Save the Date! Winetasting, Anyone?

**Special Libraries Association
Southern California Chapter**

The Southern California Chapter of the Special Libraries Association wishes to invite SCALL members to participate in an afternoon of winetasting at the San Antonio Winery, Sunday, March 25, 2007, from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. This event is a benefit for the Karen Sternheim Scholarship, which provides assistance to a library student intending to pursue a career in special librarianship.

More information will be available soon. For those interested in sponsorship opportunities, please contact Drea Douglas at drea.douglas@hklaw.com.



Editor's Notes (cont.)

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allowing us to see her vulnerable side and to share her struggles to regain what she had lost from the accident. Hers is an inspiring story of resilience and strength of the human spirit.

Have you ever wondered what library school was like 30 years ago? How might it compare with a more recent library school experience? Hugh Treacy and Mark Pernotto collaborated on an interesting and amusing view of their experiences as students enrolled in two markedly different library school programs; Hugh takes you back to the 1970's when he enrolled at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, while Mark provides you with his 21st century

insights and experiences as a current student in Syracuse University's unique program.

By this time, you already may have registered to attend the SCALL Institute. If not, there is still time to do so. You'll find the registration form inside this issue. As in years past, we will attempt to include coverage of selected programs and events during the Institute in our next issue. We need volunteers to submit articles; all we require is an interest in writing. All you need is a desire to share your knowledge (knowledge that you'll gain from attending the programs) with our members.

I am pleased to announce that Larry Zamora, Librarian for Troy & Gould in Los Angeles has joined our committee. On behalf of the entire newsletter committee, welcome aboard, Larry! We look forward to working with you.

In Memoriam: SCALL Member Patricia Luthin

**Submitted by Anne Rimmer, Associate Director
Western State University Law Library, Fullerton
Anner@wsulaw.edu**

It is with great sadness that Western State University Law Library announces the death of Patricia E. Luthin, our Catalog Librarian. PatLu, as we called her, received her BS from Columbia University and her MLS from Syracuse University. PatLu's professional career spanned over 30 years during which time she worked as a cataloger at Georgetown University, University of Southern California and Chevron Petroleum Technology Company. Her accomplishments during her 10 years at Western State were

many. She was almost solely responsible for our first online catalog and just recently, helped create a much more user-friendly library homepage.

Pat was active in ALA and the Innovative Interfaces User Group. She was a big Harry Potter fan, loved the television series *24* and kept us all up to date on the latest movies and books. She will be greatly missed by her library colleagues and staff of Western State University.



Library School...Then and Now

by **Hugh J. Treacy**, Associate Director
Whittier Law School Library
and

Mark A. Pernotto, Whittier Law School Library Intern and
Master of Library and Information Science Degree Candidate, Distance Learning Program
The School of Information Studies at Syracuse University

Hugh...August 1977...

I rolled into Chapel Hill, North Carolina to start library school on a hot, sticky afternoon just two months after I finished my master's degree in history at Virginia Tech. My six years at Tech had ended well. I had earned a bachelor's degree there, too, and I had fun "tubing" down the New River, spelunking in nearby caves, and hiking up and down Mt. Rogers, Virginia's highest peak. Despite my early misgivings as a new freshman that I wouldn't fit in with the 24,000 students--at first, mostly nameless faces to me--I trudged daily across the "drillfield" to class, secure in the knowledge that somewhere on this campus that stretched for miles in all directions, I was still part of that familiar high school group that had emigrated with me from our homes in northern Virginia.

Indeed, by the time I entered grad school at Tech, I was an old hand. I'd also been bitten by the bug that eventually propelled me into library school. For the past two years, I had worked at the reference desk at Virginia Tech's university library and I loved it! I was eager to start library school at UNC Chapel Hill, an equally gorgeous campus and the first public university to open its doors to students.

So, I happily drove around the Carolina campus, noting a group of large, stately red brick buildings with tall columns at their entrances. Ah, there's Louis Round Wilson Library, and over there is Manning Hall, my academic home for the next 16 months. I was pleased, yet a little nervous. The campus looked so different; I knew absolutely no one.

Mark...July 2005...

While the MLIS Distance Learning Program at Syracuse is provided in a distance education format, the school required a residency of all incoming students. This two-week period intended to introduce us to the profession, allowed us to familiarize ourselves with the campus, and to identify professors, administrators and fellow students we would be working with throughout the program. Classes had prerequisite reading, and usually met from 9 AM until 5 PM, with required reading and homework each evening. Content was designed to be equivalent to a semester-long graduate course.

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The Old Well, UNC Chapel Hill.

Public Domain Photo



*Manning Hall, home of the School of
Library and Information Science at
UNC Chapel Hill.*

Public Domain Photo



Library School... (cont.)

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Immediately we were accepted as colleagues of the administration and faculty, and urged to find our passion within our chosen careers. The MLIS program would focus on introducing us to the developing needs of libraries and information access, studying the availability and users of information resources, and management and policy strategies that formed the profession up to this point. Another reason to choose Syracuse was the availability of a Certificate of Advanced Study in Digital Libraries, which I later involved myself in. During the residency, the school provided several social networking opportunities, a chance to become acquainted with fellow classmates, as well as alumni, and representatives from the local library community.

The school arranged for matriculating graduate students to have stay in dorm halls separate from undergrads, at a very reasonable weekly rate. I had graduated from College of the Ozarks more than five years earlier, but any intimidation I felt was quelled when I realized the diversity of the student body – students from all over the globe, of varying ages, experiences and backgrounds. The nightlife that was available nearby sat still, eagerly awaiting the return of the undergraduates in September. A small group of us felt responsible for keeping these bartenders company, and did so as time allowed.

October 1977...

So far, so good. There were more than 25,000 students on the UNC campus, but I focused as much as possible on the members of my library school class. About 40 students, mostly women, but I was single and didn't mind the odds. The library science library, where I worked, was a small collection in size and space; my job was to file new catalog cards into that large, wooden shelflist. You know what I mean, don't you? You don't?

School was going well, for the most part. In our computer programming class, we had difficulty with our computer punch cards. Hanging chad everywhere! Oops, I punched a hole in the wrong place, again! We couldn't tell if the program was going to work until we ran it. We ran it, alright-over and over and over again. It never seemed to work properly; and we had to wait in line at the campus computer center to have our precious cards fed into the ravenous, room-size computer. To this day, I don't know if the program ever worked as we had designed it.

October 2005...

Well into the fall semester, the differences between under-



Photo by Hugh Treacy

Mark's Syracuse University campus.

grad school and this school were quite evident. The fact that I was participating in online classes at a campus 3,000 miles away from me was intimidating at first, but I was comfortable communicating online, and appreciated the flexibility online classes provided. Classes were presented as an online forum, but each professor had the freedom to choose their own organization method. I would intentionally write papers or complete assignments in bed, clothed in my pajamas, simply because I could do so. I got used to being able to compose my thoughts and present them in a written form, instead of orally within a traditional classroom setting. The school's library was online, with numerous databases being available to their students for research. Not being the only displaced student, I had the opportunity to interact with students from around the globe, and many of them were already working in a library in some fashion.

December 1977...

One of the advantages of attending a large university with a good football program and a nationally ranked basketball team is...tickets! I was among the crowd at Kenan Stadium when rival Clemson embarrassed the Tarheels. Mercifully, football season ended--finally; it was a very tough year. Well, now for some basketball! I heard tickets were tough to get, but at dawn on the day of the first home game I didn't expect to be number 5,001 in line for one of 2,000 tickets. The alumni and big donors had first pick of 18,000 tickets; we undergrad and grad students scrapped for the remainder. Needless to say, I never saw Coach Dean

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Library School... (cont.)

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Smith's team in action on the court in Chapel Hill. Instead, I began to value my sleep more; and I learned the value of watching the games on TV in my dorm room like nearly everyone else on campus. Merry Christmas!

December 2005...

The end of the semester teaches me discipline. Fortunately, the friends I made during the summer residency are still prevalent now, and within the school's online module, there is a place for students to socialize. The freedoms of taking classes online include responsibilities to produce just as much quality work as a physical classroom does. Not only that, students enrolled in physical classrooms have reasonable assurance that their classroom would be there each time they attended. My old desktop clunker computer was dying slowly; this would be one more aspect of this online program to keep up with.

Everyone asks about taking tests or exams in an online environment. While a serious academic integrity policy is enforced, exams that were comprehensive allowed the use of the course text; the professors simply gave harder tests. Communicating online allows for equal representation from all classmates; you technically can't yell or speak louder than another in an online forum. Amazon.com becomes the bookstore you visit for books. I needed financial assistance from financial aid, and registration information for classes the following semester. I also needed input from my advisor. All of this information was obtainable online. Everything I would have done on campus was available to me, just in a different format. I always had the backup of using a telephone, but tried to keep all communication online.

February 1978...

We've been told to choose topics for our master's papers. Don't pick a topic that's been done before, they said! All of my friends chose predictable topics like measuring reference service in a library of their choosing, or some arcane topic involving Anglo-American cataloging rules. Me, I was a little different. I decided to write a history of the Virginia Tech library, from the dawn of the university in 1872 to 1956. 1956?? I didn't want to choose a more recent date and lose my historical perspective, okay? So off I went in my trusty Chevy back to Blacksburg for the first of a number of research visits. Any excuse to return to my favorite campus was fine with me! I dwelt there in Special Collections, taking copious handwritten notes, all the while ignoring bulldozers and construction barriers that had arrived before I did and would not leave until after I had fin-

ished my research. Virginia Tech's library was growing, and it would be larger and better than the one I had grown to love during my time there.

February 2006...

One of the reasons I chose Syracuse was to be able to associate with their excellent lacrosse program. I guess I was hoping for a shot at alumni tickets one day. Syracuse did an excellent job of creating specific Listservs for the various demographics of their student body. For instance, I didn't get information regarding dorm hall maintenance, but would hear about opportunities for listening to lacrosse games online. Listening to games online was a bit of a removed experience, I will admit, but it did not keep me from painting my face orange and intently sitting in front of my newly pieced together computer for the big rivalry games. Reflecting back on that experience, I can only wonder what my roommate thinks of online education.

The credibility of fellow students begins to materialize. Trust, reliance, and friendships were forged solely online. There were many students I never met in person, but relied on in group project situations. The anonymity of only a name stripped gender, race, and all other irrelevant identification from group discussions, providing a truly empathetic experience. Online education also allows you to be mobile. My love of skiing in the mountains of Utah does not keep me from working on and turning in assignments on time.

May 1978...

Comprehensive exams...the last hurdle before completion of degree requirements. I was prepared. Academically I had completed courses in reference, cataloging, government documents, library administration, and more. I had paid attention in class, kept many handwritten notes on each course, and underwent the obligatory bull sessions in the hallways of Manning Hall with my classmates. The exams went well, except the library administration question was unintelligible. So, I evaluated my options. I must answer that question, or answer the alternative question, one regarding children's literature. I didn't like those odds, but crossed my fingers and answered the kiddie lit question. I was a kid once, and I had read children's books as a young child, but I had never darkened the doorway of the classroom in which that course was taught. Yet, miraculously, I passed that question and all the others. I was soon to be a free man again, with a master's degree in library science in my pocket.

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Library School... (cont.)

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June 2006...

While the Distance Program at Syracuse is for the most part completely online, the availability of taking campus courses is always available. K. Matthew Dames intends to provide his excellent class on campus on both Copyright and Licensing again this summer, and taking advantage of the cheap weekly dormitory rate, I jump on the chance. The return trip to Syracuse finds me much more familiar with activities on campus, and I already know the bartenders names.

Despite my best efforts, my computer doesn't last the summer. A borrowed laptop gets me through the on-campus sessions, during which I type notes at a feverish pace, but I rely on public university computer labs for the remainder of the summers' courses.

August 1978...

One last item to complete--the master's paper--and I would be finished. Meanwhile, I had relocated to Omaha, Nebraska. This would be my version of "distance education." There, for the next few months I began typing furiously on my Smith-Corona, applying "white-out" and correction tape as needed--and plenty of aspirin for the huge headache this research paper had generated inside my skull. Surely I had depopulated a forest or two in eastern Nebraska as I prepared numerous drafts of my paper for my UNC research committee's consideration. Revisions traveled ever so slowly through the mails between Omaha and Chapel Hill. As I completed each draft and waited for the return mail, I often gazed at the autumn-colored Midwestern scene outside my apartment window, and I contemplated my future career as a librarian.

September 2006...

The end of the grad school tunnel is in sight, yet I lack practical library experience. In lieu of a formal dissertation or exit exams, the school provides their students the opportunity of doing an internship, supervised by a school-approved librarian mentor. I receive offers for several interviews, and accept an appointment as an intern at the University of California at Irvine, in the cataloging department within the science library. This will be my first opportunity to expose my library education in a working library environment; I have to say I was a bit nervous. I felt not only my reputation, but Syracuse's reputation was on the line at that point. Had I truly learned what I needed to? There was no simple gauge to answer this question. I

was impressed how much I had retained through my online education in completing the varying tasks that came at me each day. I developed a wonderful relationship with my advisor and the University, and hopefully plugged the validity of online education in the process.

December 1978...

Mercifully yet ironically during the winter season's first heavy snowfall, I received the good news....I'm now a professional librarian and a member of the Class of 1979! I had a few calls to make at local libraries, so I celebrated by scraping the ice and snow off my windshield, started up my Chevy, and cautiously began the journey into my future.

January 2007...

Hungry for more practical library experience, my legal interests piqued from legal coursework the previous summer, I apply as an intern at Whittier Law School Library. My intention is to learn the workings of a smaller, more focused law library compared to the library at the large University. I use a little money given to me over Christmas to purchase a new computer, and receive an appointment as an intern to this library in the same day. Today my supervisor asks me to write you this article, documenting my experiences over the past two years or so. It wasn't until I read his library school experiences that I realized just how different our interaction with this education was. Having "grown up" with computers available, and experiencing the birth of Internet browsers, I simply know of no other experience.

Epilogue

It seems clear to us that obtaining a master's degree in library and information science is a valuable, marketable tool with which to build a successful career, regardless of the time or manner in which we obtained it. The quality of our programs was based on the superior teaching skills of our respective faculties, the resources available to us, and our own experiences, intellectual capabilities and drive to succeed that we brought with us to UNC and Syracuse.

We wouldn't trade our unique experiences from either program. We look forward to the changes that will occur in our profession over the next few decades; but we know the heart of our profession continues to beat strongest when we focus on service to those in need of information.



How to Find and Research Experts on the Internet

by Jim Robinson, Esq.
President of JurisPro Expert Witness Directory
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At one or more times in your career as a law librarian, an attorney will ask for your assistance in locating an expert witness for trial or pretrial consultation. Even if attorneys find experts by personal referral, thus avoiding a search from scratch, they (and you) still face the chore of conducting a due diligence search to verify their credentials and research their background. Finding experts and checking their background, however, has now become less of a burden since the appearance of numerous online expert witness resources, many of which are even free.

Search Trade or Professional Association's Sites and Directories Online: You can assist attorneys who need an expert in an uncommon field or who simply do not know where to start a search for an expert, by consulting a database of associations. Some public libraries provide remote access to one of the largest of these association directories, *The Encyclopedia of Associations* (alternatively called *Associations Unlimited*). With just a public library card, you can find associations for virtually any topic, from bananas to 1957 Chevrolets. Attorneys can then contact the director or one of the officers for a referral to an expert.

Free Online Directories for Expert Witnesses: There are many online expert witness directories. Many of the large legal portals, such as Findlaw (www.findlaw.com), Law.com (www.Law.com), and Heiros Gamos (www.hg.org) have online directories with short biographies and links to the expert's web site. Built by practicing attorneys, the JurisPro Expert Witness Directory (www.JurisPro.com) is a free national online directory of experts in thousands of categories. When you visit JurisPro, you can view and download the expert's full curriculum vitae; read the articles the expert has written that discuss their areas of expertise; review the expert's background as an expert witness (how many times the expert has testified, % for the plaintiff and defense, etc.); obtain contact information for attorneys who have worked with that expert in the past; see the expert's photo; hear the expert through streaming audio to get an idea of how the expert presents him or herself; and contact the expert directly. There are no referral fees of any type to use the experts from JurisPro.

Experts Witness Referral Sites: Expert witness referral companies are similar to the expert witness directories in that they maintain a database of professionals who are available for expert witness assignments. The difference is

that attorneys must pay an additional fee to the referral company to retain that expert. TASA (<http://www.tasanet.com>), a site with over 9,000 areas of expertise represented, is one of the best known of the expert witness referral companies.

Find Experts Via Jury Verdict Reporter Databases: Jury verdict reporter databases, although selective since they contain only those verdicts that an attorney reports to the database publisher, can be useful for finding experts. By searching for an expert's name, one may discover whether the expert has given opposing opinions in similar cases, appears more often as a defense witness, or has usually testified for the winning side. Free online jury verdicts can be found at Morelaw.com. Paid jury verdict reporters can be found at the National Association of State Jury Verdict Publishers' (NASJVP), site (www.juryverdicts.com/).

Let's Due Diligence: It is incumbent to have an accurate assessment of an expert's qualifications history in court. There is compelling statistical evidence to suggest that experts who have been allowed to testify after previous attempts to exclude them (i.e. who have passed "Daubert muster") are more likely to withstand similar challenges in the future. Just as importantly, knowing the opponent's expert's qualification history can be valuable in challenging that expert, or in developing a strategy to attack the expert's methodology and credibility. The "Daubert Tracker" (available at www.mdexonline.com) has its primary focus on the researching of the "evidentiary gatekeeping" history of experts.

Locate and Read the Expert's Prior Deposition Testimony and More: Reading an expert's deposition testimony can provide an abundance of information about how the expert may perform. At TrialSmith (www.trialsmith.com) plaintiffs' attorneys can access over 73,000 online documents that include depositions and also briefs, pleadings, seminar papers, verdicts, and settlements. TrialSmith also has a private discussion group for attorneys to share information. The American Association for Justice (www.atla.org), formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, makes available to its members a database of over 10,000 expert witnesses, and over 15,000 transcripts through the AJA Exchange. This database is developed by submission from its members. For defense attorneys, full text copies of the expert's testimony are available for a fee

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Experts (cont.)

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from Idex (www.Idex.com). Idex has built its database of deposition transcripts by submissions from its own members. (Electronic versions of some documents can be viewed and downloaded directly from this site at a reduced price.)

Avoid Being Bitten: When an attorney retains an expert, he or she is doing so on an educated guess. You cannot predict with any certainty whether the expert will be effective at trial, or how the expert will analyze the intricacies of the case. However, once a potential expert witness has been located you can research that expert's past to see if there are any "skeletons in their closet." It is often important to learn if an expert's opinion has been consistent in public forums, such as at conferences where they spoke, in online discussion groups (both the expert's messages to the group and any references to the expert on a discussion group), the expert's personal web site, or even a web site other than his or her own. Searching for an expert using a search engine is a way to capture any of these extra nuggets of information.

Has the Expert Been Posting in Usenet Discussion Groups? Besides searching the Google search engine to learn an expert's opinion on a particular topic, you can also search postings made by the expert if he or she participated in a usenet discussion group. To find the expert's postings, users should conduct two different types of searches on Google Group's Advanced Search page (http://groups.google.com/advanced_group_search). First, search the expert's name in the "author" field and second, search by the expert's e-mail address in the "author" field. You might also learn what opinions others have about the expert by searching the expert's name in the "key word" field.

The Expert's Web Site – Goldmine v.s. Landmine: An expert's own web site should be carefully reviewed prior to retaining them. Is there anything embarrassing or contradictory on the site? Does the expert pronounce that he or she "is the leader in the industry" or put forth similar bravado that could affect how the jury perceives the expert? Imagine how the jury would react if the pages of the expert's web site were displayed as exhibits at trial – because they very well could be.

Ever been in trouble? It is also important to determine if an expert has been reviewed or disciplined by their jurisdictional licensing boards. Although not a free search, Idex (www.Idex.com) has created a searchable database for this purpose. Membership is offered to defense oriented law firms, insurance companies, corporations, and government entities. Once a member, any individual in your law firm can utilize all of the network's services. Also, check the licensing agencies in the state where the expert is licensed and search their professional association's website for any

discipline or malpractice information.

You wrote that? You cannot depend on the expert to have posted all of his or her published works on their web site, and therefore you must search on your own. For a nationwide search of newspaper or magazine articles written by (or about) your expert, you'll need to use a pay database such as Lexis or Westlaw, but to access an individual newspaper or magazine (or a local newspaper or magazine that may be too small to be included in Lexis or Westlaw), the Internet is a perfect source. A free search engine for finding and obtaining the full-text of articles is FindArticles.com, which contains articles from thousands of resources with archives dating back to 1984.

What Else? To quote the authoritative "School House Rock" cartoon (and perhaps other less scholarly sources), KNOWLEDGE IS POWER. The Internet is a content-rich frontier. Using the information in this article, you can access the deep, well-lined pockets of information which abound in corners of the web that are usually overlooked by the casual researcher.

Jim Robinson is an attorney and president of the JurisPro Expert Witness Directory (www.JurisPro.com), a free online directory of expert witnesses in over 4500 areas of expertise. Mr. Robinson can be reached at 310-372-6103, or JRobinson@JurisPro.com.



President's Column (cont.)

(continued from page 1)

Boalt), Jason Yackee (USC Law School professor), Martha Boersch (Jones Day partner), Mark Gediman (Law Librarian at Best Best & Krieger and SCALL Secretary), Paul Morton (Market Research at Southern California Edison), Jenny Kanji (Library Relations, LexisNexis) and Cindy Chick (Librarian, Latham & Watkins). Topics will include transnational crime, international investment law, international treaty research, finding companies and people overseas, and 45 FIL websites in 45 minutes. Go to the Institute blog, at <http://scall2007.blogspot.com>, for all the latest information, and if you have not already registered you can still do so online at <http://scallinstitute.eventbrite.com>.

Institute Grants

According to Grants Committee Chair Judi Bikel, grant applications to attend the Institute will be accepted until February 16th and recipients will be notified by February 20th. The application is available online at: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/scall/pdf/scallgrant.pdf>.

Student Scholarships

Chair Jill Fukunaga has announced that the Library Liaison Committee is accepting applications for this year's student scholarships. Applicants must be currently enrolled in the library school graduate program either at UCLA or SJSU-Fullerton. For a copy of the application form, visit the SCALL Website homepage at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/scall/>. The application deadline is February 15, 2007.

Locating the Law, 5th Edition

It's nearly finished! Look for the new edition some time at the end of spring. Thanks to all the authors and to Ruth Hill, PALI Committee Chair, and the editor for this edition. It takes quite a bit of time to update or create a chapter, and editing this valuable work is a monumental task.

Resilience

by Malinda Muller, Senior Research Librarian
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We have every right to believe that we are the pilots of our lives. But how do we deal with a difficult event that affects our flight plan? It may be the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, serious illness or some traumatic event. And yet, whether by fortune or necessity, people eventually adapt to life-altering situations and stressful conditions. What enables us to do so? I believe it is resilience. Resilience is like an elastic band, stretching and rebounding, stretching and rebounding.

Because it's part of life, there will come a time, if it hasn't already, when each of us will experience some kind of personal loss. However, adversity and personal challenges do not keep us willingly compromised. It's in our nature to not only survive, but to thrive, if at all possible. I'm going to share with you a personal journey recently taken, and provide some possible coping strategies for building resilience in your own time of need.

Imagine your own day-to-day routine, parts that help you define who you are. You have family, friends, work, hobbies, and some goals and dreams that you are connected to. This is actually how I describe my life until the morning of November 10, 2006, when I was hit by an automobile while riding my bicycle. It was that beautiful sunny Veteran's Day. I had planned to drop by the doctor's office to have some simple lab work done and since the office was only 10 miles away I decided to cycle instead of drive.

I remember being at a red signal light facing north when the light changed and I began to cross the street. I was in the middle of the crosswalk when, from the corner of my eye, I saw a black shadow heading towards me too quickly for me to do anything about it. A 21-year old had simply driven into the intersection, turned left, and plowed right into me. After I'd regained consciousness, I learned from one of the attending firemen how I'd flipped onto the hood of the car and landed on my back in the middle of the street. When I came to the emergency room, I had no memory of the accident; however, there were some unanticipated repercussions that were not immediately visible.

Stage one of the aftermath was denial. After being released from emergency at Cedars Sinai, I returned home and proceeded to run errands, market, cook dinner, and overall manage the household over the weekend. The following Tuesday, I went for my first appointment with an



*Malinda Muller (center, no helmet) and her cycling team.
(Photo courtesy of Malinda Muller)*

orthopedist who sent me for a CAT scan and an MRI. The results showed a severe concussion, a badly torn ligament below the knee, and a large bone bruise. I honestly remember very little about the few weeks that followed. I came to work, attended meetings, kept up with all my other regular engagements but recall very little of it all. In addition, I was constantly losing my train of thoughts in the middle of conversations. My day-to-day functions became so compromised that I kept with me a pad of paper to write something down as I thought of it, otherwise I could have forgotten it within minutes.

Phase two was mourning. I was now no longer the physically active person I had been before the accident and unable to predict when I would be back to my normal routine. In 2001, I ran a marathon to salute my 50th. Last year, I'd joined a cycle team and trained to cycle 100 miles while raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. I had just begun training for a repeat century with this same organization when the accident took my physical program away. I felt like I'd lost part of my identity because something that was part of what had previously defined me had been taken away. Here is where you think you are singing one song, and then you can no longer remember the key it's in.

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Resilience (cont.)

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The next phase was a wake up call. Now, with the loss of one's own personal song, what does one do? After the few weeks of trying to muscle through each day, I realized that I was no longer the only pilot of my life. Around week six, I had an epiphany... I was totally and utterly in despair. I simply panicked over the loss of my routine, my predictable day, my normal multi-tasking pace of 'doing it all.' To top it all off, I was still constantly misplacing things! Meanwhile, my cycling team was increasing in miles every weekend and I was concerned about catching up to their stamina level.

Finally, the last phase began... realignment. Here is where our remarkable reserves come into action. With the train derailed, you take a new route. There wasn't much else I could do except to seek some inner resources. At the very moment I was admitting I had lost myself, had I begun to consider how to find myself. I began a mindful journey from within. Imagine, to learn about yourself, the self that is undefined and has no labels. Beyond my own outward labels—baby boomer, librarian, museum lover, baker, etc, there is this inner core of being, with thoughts, feelings and a spirit to gain insights from.

The best part of this journey was learning these strategies for building resilience:

- * Make connections with and embrace your feelings. Negotiate with them. If I'm doing this and I feel like that, what will it take for me to feel the way I want to? During this time, I kept a journal of daily events. In the beginning, this record tracked what I would have forgotten. Now it's become a useful tool to visualize the changes that are enlightening emotionally and encouraging physically.

- * Give in to the experience. I lost days from the concussion [and things, too]. I lost work time. I stayed home and didn't accomplish a thing. A lot of the usual day-to-day things just didn't happen. My identity had temporarily been misplaced. Focus on the operative word, 'temporarily'; to keep you grounded and connected to your more settled part.

- * Keep things in perspective. You know all the advice you often get from well-wishers? Compartmentalize as much of it as you can. Take it in, but don't necessarily act on it. Decide not to react to information according to your usual efficiency and look at this as simply taking the laid back / relaxed approach, a novelty for most over achievers today.

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Job Opportunities

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Click on any entry to see the complete job announcement. Last updated: February 8, 2007

Law Librarian & CIO, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, February 8

Office Administrator, Library Associates, Los Angeles, February 7

Litigation Technology Specialist, TRAK Records & Library, Palo Alto, January 30

Evening / Weekend Circulation / Reserve Librarian, Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego, January 29

Assistant Director, Public Services; San Diego County Public Law Library; San Diego, January 29

Records Department Supervisor; Stradling, Yocca, Carlson & Rauth; Newport Beach, January 11

Assistant Law Librarian, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld LLP, Los Angeles, January 8

Librarian Relations Specialist, 10-K Wizard, Los Angeles, November 29

Research Librarian; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP; Palo Alto, October 30

Manager of Library Services; Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP; San Francisco / Palo Alto, October 30

Technical Services Assistant II (Cataloging Assistant), O'Melveny & Myers LLP, Los Angeles, October 27

Law Reference Librarian / Foreign & Int'l Specialist, Univ. of San Diego LRC, San Diego, October 17

Resilience (cont.)

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* Be mindful, in the moment without judgment. Understand your instinct is to not only survive, but to thrive. Elysse Wymann is an artist friend of mine who recently battled breast cancer. When she found out she would be having a mastectomy, Elysse had a full chest "Plaster of Paris" mold made so she could ensure her new breasts to be just like the old. Now that's resilience. Then there is Bob Sullivan, my colleague in our Pittsburgh office. He's been a cancer survivor since I met him over three years ago. He also continues to be up-to-date in his specialty and our 'go to' person for any corporate / securities questions that come through the library department. Bob has such resilience, too.

* Nurture your spirit. I had never thought about leaning on myself as much, until I had such a personal experience that no one else could completely understand.

Facing a challenge? Feeling lost? Sometimes you simply have to loose yourself in order to find yourself. The key is to identify a strategy for fostering resilience. Believe that

you are a naturally resilient human being whose innate tendency is to strive towards cultivating your own sense of well-being. We owe it to ourselves to be like that elastic band: flexible, adaptable and pliable as we stretch ourselves towards our own compelling life script of balance, harmony and song.



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The above entitles you to one ticket each for the Opening Reception, Saturday Breakfast and Saturday Lunch, plus admission to the Pre-Institute Technical Services Workshop. Please check the appropriate boxes below (you must register separately for the ThomsonWest and Lexis Pre-Institute workshops using the enclosed forms):

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For more information or to register online, check the Institute Blog at <http://scall2007.blogspot.com>
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AALL/LexisNexis Research Grants Available

by Jean Callihan, AALL Research Committee

The Research Committee of the American Association of Law Libraries is accepting applications through April 1, 2007 for research grants from the AALL/LexisNexis Research Fund Grants Program, totaling up to \$5,000.

The committee will award one or more grants to library professionals who wish to conduct research that supports the research/scholarly agenda of the profession of librarianship. The grants program funds small or large research projects that create, disseminate, or otherwise use legal and law-related information as its focus. Projects may range from the historical (indexes, legislative histories, bibliographies, biographies, directories) to the theoretical (trends in cataloging, publishing or new service models in libraries) to the practical (implementation models for collection, personnel or infrastructure management). The AALL Research Agenda offers suggestions for possible research projects. To review AALL's Research Agenda, please go to <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/research/agenda.asp>.

The AALL/LexisNexis Publishers Research Fund Grant Program was established in 2000 with a generous contribution of \$100,000 from LexisNexis. The Research Fund will provide grants to library professionals who seek to conduct research that is critical to the profession. The Research Fund provides a secure financial base, enabling the AALL Research Committee to carry out the Association's Research Agenda.

The submission deadline for applications is postmarked by April 1, 2007. Grants will be awarded and announced in May. Allocation of the research grants will be at the sole discretion of the AALL Research Committee. For more information about the grants, please contact Jean Callihan, Chair of the AALL Research Committee, at jc374@cornell.edu

For grant applications and guidelines, go to:
http://www.aallnet.org/about/grant_application.asp







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