

SCALL Newsletter

Volume 30, Number 2

a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

November 2002

From the President

By Cornell H. Winston

When I read the September newsletter, I was struck by Albert Brecht's comments regarding the people who had mentored him during his career. Someone mentored him, and he in turn has mentored so many other people in their careers. I wondered as individual law librarians, who would we say has helped us in our careers?

For the majority of my law librarian career I have been in solo offices, but many people have assisted me throughout the years. I have often said when an attorney has asked me how I was able to successfully complete a complicated reference request that I have "high friends in low places." Many have been my friends. When we are asked questions by our patrons that stump the librarian, who do we turn to? Another librarian.

I appreciate people who have been an influence in my career. My first library job was at the A.F. Parlow Library of Health Sciences at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center (which is on the verge of being closed by the County of Los Angeles as I write this column—and that is a YUCKY BOO HISS if it actually happens. Harbor-UCLA is a fantastic research facility that serves our community quite well.). Two librarians at the Parlow Library, Mary Ann Berliner and Marilouse Gil-Gomez, always pushed me to do better and excel. I am grateful for Denny Haythorn, Rosanne Krikorian and Christopher Noe who hired me at Whittier College School of Law Library as a Circulation Clerk, but allowed me the opportunity to grow in that position and learn new skills which has enabled me to be where I am today. I also recall with appreciation

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SCALL Newsletter

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From the Editor

Margot McLaren mclarenm@ulv.edu



This issue includes four terrific articles written by David McFadden, Anna Delgado, Victoria Williamson, and Julie Webster-Matthews. David McFadden's article entitled, "Law Librarians Win Legislative Battle," provides an update of bill AB 2648 which Governor Grav Davis vetoed on September 11, 2002. In Anna Delgado's article, "The Internship Program Has Affected an Entire Family," Judith, Cesar "Tony" and Yolanda Rodriguez share their working experiences as interns in a private law library and discuss how being part of the SCALL Internship Program has benefited them and provided them with the opportunity to work with professional law librarians. Julie Webster-Matthews' article, "SCALL Inter-City Youth Program: Susan Benevides at LexisNexis Los Angeles Office," describes Susan's work experience as a SCALL intern. In this issue's "Take a Break to Reflect" column, Victoria Williamson shares her top five reasons or motivations for volunteering.

Speaking of volunteering, I attended LISSTEN's Profes-

sional Association's Day event, which was held on Sunday, October 13, 2002 at California State University, Fullerton's Pollack Library. What is LISSTEN? LISSTEN stands for Library and Information Science Students to Encourage Networking. It is the San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science (SJSU SLIS) student association on the Fullerton campus. There were 14 professional associations represented at this event namely: California Library Association, Los Angeles Chapter of American Society for Information Science, California Librarians Black Caucus, Los Angeles Chapter of REFORMA, Public Library Association, Young Adult Library Services Association, California School Library Association, Southern California Association of Law Libraries, Special Libraries Association, Medical Library Association, Art Library Society of Southern California, Association of Records Managers & Administrators, and Society of California Archivists. The representatives from each association introduced their respective organization, discussed membership benefits to the library science students such as access to internship and employment opportunities, mentoring programs, networking, student discounts, newsletters, scholarships and grants to attend conferences and continuing education classes, etc.) and encouraged them to join. Victoria Williamson and Ramon Barajas briefly mentioned SCALL's upcoming 50th anniversary celebration, highlighted the benefits of SCALL membership, stressed the importance of networking, and shared their personal experiences as a SCALL member while a library science student.

Also in this issue, we are featuring law librarian: Anna Delgado of Thelen, Reid and, Priest LLP in the "Getting to Know You" bio-profile series. Past SCALL President Anna Delgado who is also the chair of SCALL's 50th Anniversary served on the SCALL Inner City Youth Internship Committee in 1993, which received the prestigious William H. Rohan Chapter Service Award for their extraordinary service. This issue also includes three articles on SCALL past presidents. Paul George, Frank Houdek and Leonette Williams share their recollections of SCALL events as well as their experiences and challenges they encountered during their terms as president. If you want to contribute to the past president column, please send the articles to Diana Jaque's e-mail address at: diaque@law.us.edu.





The Southern California Association of Law Libraries

requests the pleasure of your company at its Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday, the fourth of December at The University of Southern California

Registration and Memorabilia Exhibit Town & Gown, five o'clock

Reception Hancock Museum, five o'clock until seven o'clock

Dinner and Program Town & Gown, seven o'clock until a quarter past eight o'clock

Dancing immediately following Program

Black Tie Optional

SCALL Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration

M _____

Will attend on Wednesday, December fourth

Choice of Entrée:

- ___ Seared Breast of Chicken w/ Mushrooms
- Roasted Cracked Black Peppercorn Beef Tenderloin
- ____ Grilled Vegetable Napoleon

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Town & Gown

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Turn right onto Figueroa.

Go to 35th Street (Gate 3) and turn left.

Gate personnel will direct you to the parking lot.

From Santa Monica Freeway (10) Eastbound

Exit at Hoover and turn right onto Hoover.

Go south on Hoover until it ends at Jefferson.

Make a left at Jefferson.

Turn right onto Figueroa.

Go to 35th Street (Gate 3) and turn right.

Gate personnel will direct you to the parking lot.

Gate personnel will direct you to the parking lot.

From Hollywood Freeway (101) Northbound and Southbound

Take the 101 to the 110 (Harbor Freeway). Go south on the 110 and follow directions listed above for the 110 Southbound.

From Harbor Freeway (110) Southbound

Exit at Exposition and go straight ahead onto Exposition.

Turn right onto Figueroa.

Go to 35th Street (Gate 3) and turn left.

Gate personnel will direct you to the parking lot.

From Santa Monica Freeway (10) Westbound

Exit at Hoover and make a right.

Go south on Hoover until it ends at

Jefferson.

Make a left at Jefferson.

Turn right onto Figueroa.

Go to 35th Street (Gate 3) and turn right.

From San Diego Freeway (405) Northbound and Southbound

Take the 405 to the 10 (Santa Monica Freeway) Go east on the 10 and follow directions listed above for the 10 Eastbound.

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SCALL's Golden Anniversary

December 5, 2002 will mark the beginning of SCALL's 50th year as an AALL chapter. On December 5, 1952, SCALL's charter members held their first meeting at USC. In commemoration of that great event, we're returning to USC's "Town & Gown" for this grand celebration. The schedule for the evening will be as follows:

5:00PM - registration will open/memorabilia table at Town & Gown open for viewing 5:30PM - 7:00PM - cocktail reception at the Hancock Museum on the USC campus/with music

7:00PM - dinner at the Town & Gown/with dinner music

7:45PM - program (Past Presidents, Special Guests) Emcees: Mary Dryden and Bob Ryan 8:15PM - dance band

The attire for SCALL's 50th anniversary: This is indeed a formal celebration. For ladies, this means long or short "dressy" evening attire. This may also mean an elegant pantsuit. Tuxedos are optional for the gentlemen, but suits and ties are strongly encouraged.

The SCALL members who have volunteered their time to serve on the planning committee for this event:

Alan Schroeder Albert Brecht Annie Leung Belinda Beardt Cornell Winston Francine Biscardi Hal Brown
Jennifer Murray
Joan Allen-Hart
Larry Meyer
Leslie Lacount
MaryAnne Donaldson
Mary Dryden
Ralph Stahlberg
Renee Rastorfer
Sheila Stone
Silvia Mayorga
Victoria Williamson

For information, or to offer suggestions, please contact Anna Delgado at (213) 229-5645 or adelgado@thelenreid.com.







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Helen Kim at Munger, Tolles & Olson who hired a young scared kid 15 years ago to work at a prestigious law firm while still in graduate school pursuing another discipline.

Why do we remember all these people? Because someone took an interest in us and that interest helped to develop us and our careers. Have you done the same thing in someone else's life? At SCALL we have the Inner City Youth Program which helps to train young people to work in library jobs. Can you be a mentor Summer 2003 to one of these students? Often it simply involves talking with your employer about hiring one of these students in your library during the summer. The cost to your firm/institution/agency/corporation is minimal, but the rewards are astronomical.

Now for other items, by now you should have received an invitation to SCALL's 50th Anniversary celebration, but let this be my personal invitation to

you. We would count it a special privilege to have as many SCALL members and friends at the 50th Anniversary celebration. You have helped to make SCALL a great chapter, and a grand celebration is always in order. I truly hope to see you there. It promises to be a special time.

Cornell



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Getting to Know You: Anna Delgado

by Martin Korn mkorn@sheppardmullin.com



It took some convincing to get Anna Delgado to agree to meet me for lunch so I would have a chance to interview her for this SCALL Newsletter profile. She is worried that readers have already had 'too much of me' over the past few years. Not so, I assured her, people like Anna seem to always impart some-

thing of value to those who listen. One of Anna's first career goals was in education – and to this day she attempts to get some teaching in at every opportunity.

After first working on two individual bachelor degrees at California State University, Los Angeles, Music and Spanish, Anna went back to her alma mater for more by completing her masters in Educational Administration some years later. It was during her last year in graduate school that she began working in a private law library, that of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton. Though she finished her masters, she found that her library work was stimulating enough to become a career on its own – and she has committed to law librarianship ever since. Though she has since moved on to several other law firms since Sheppard Mullin (you can find her at Thelen, Reid, and Priest these days), she has stuck with private firm libraries. To paraphrase, Anna says that Librarianship chose her.

When asked what is the most significant challenge in working in a private firm setting, Anna took a little while before answering. She eventually pointed with pride to her ability to retain composure while struggling with the occasional difference of opinion with her attorney/patrons.

When Anna isn't presiding over some SCALL board, committee, meeting, event (you can pick any of

these, Anna has done them all), or juggling an ever changing number of tasks at the job, she enjoys switching gears and begins to sing. As evidenced by her bachelors degree in music, Anna has a passion for singing. In addition to coaching her middle daughter in her singing career, Anna is the director of a church choir for high school and college students. Besides singing, Anna enjoys relaxing at home with her family, husband David and daughters Kristin, Corinne, and Amy. She often grabs a guitar and cranks out tunes, from a wide variety of musical genres no doubt.

Besides catering to the ever urgent information needs of the attorneys where she works, Anna has been a member of SCALL for over 15 years. In addition to having recently been President, she has served on and led many committees including: Inner City Youth Internship, Program and Institute.

Anna first became interested with SCALL leadership (Continued on page 9)

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as a way to meet new people and learn about the organization. Once involved with one committee, many of the colleagues that she respected urged her to explore additional leadership opportunities.

In 1993, Anna was on the SCALL Inner City Youth Internship Committee when they received Rohan Chapter Service Award for their extraordinary work. Her fellow Librarians recognized the accomplishments of that committee which continues to this day, and to which Anna still contributes.

Her current SCALL gig is the role of Committee Chair for SCALL's 50th Anniversary. When asked what we could expect on the big night, Anna wouldn't reveal too much, but said that there will be some entertaining visual aids.

She is very happy with her current role in SCALL. Being able to focus on a single event seems to suit Anna. She says that chairing the 50th Anniversary Committee is an awful lot of work, but the committee members make a great team. When asked about the major difficulties of her role as President, Anna said that she often struggled with having to make executive decisions, though it was often made easier due to the professionalism and support that was repeatedly demonstrated by her colleagues on the Executive Board. In fact, she feels that SCALL operates best when the President and Executive Board support each other in equal fashion. Anna is proud of her term as President and feels that it was a major accomplishment to be able to say that the Board addressed every issue that came before it during her tenure.

When asked to identify the single most important benefit of SCALL membership, Anna points to being able to network with colleagues and share information. She also describes the opportunity to create lasting friendships in our hectic lifestyles as another outstanding, and often overlooked benefit.







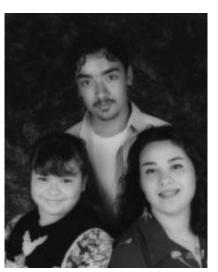
The Internship Program Has Affected an Entire Family

by Anna Delgado adelgado@thelenreid.com

Judith Rodriguez - age 26

Having had the opportunity to participate in SCALL, not only as an intern but as a volunteer as well has dramatically changed my life. I was one of the fortunate few to have been selected as an intern summer of 1994. I was placed to work at the law firm of Arter & Hadden, under the supervision of Anna Delgado. I like to think of my experience at Arter & Hadden as setting down a solid foundation for the rest of my professional career. It was there that I learned how to dress appropriately, communicate effectively, re-check my work to make sure it is to the clients'/attorneys' satisfaction and how to re-

search on a variety of databases. All of these skills have helped me to achieve what I now have. For example, doing research in college was not as difficult for me as it was for some other students because I had done it for three years while under Anna's supervision.



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Being an intern has made me a more confident woman. Being part of the committee has been an unforgettable experience. I was able to witness the amount of planning time and work that it takes to run this program. It was then that I learned to have a new respect for the dedicated committee members. Not only was I fortunate to participate as an intern and volunteer but also to have my younger siblings experience the internship program. I saw changes in them that I attribute to the program. I noticed that both of my siblings were more responsible, confident and goal-oriented. Without this program, inner city kids would end up working at dead-end jobs. Instead, this opportunity opens up new doors filled with possibilities. Had it not been for SCALL, I might have never had the will or desire to graduate from college. I managed to graduate from CSULA this past June. I am currently a graduate student pursuing my teaching credential at CSULA. My plans are to complete the credential program by June 2003 and start a master's degree in School Psychology or Latin American Studies. I thank the dedicated committee members that have made this program possible for me and for all those other students that have benefited from this program. Without their help and commitment, who knows where we might be?

Cesar "Tony" Rodriguez - age 21

Some say people's lives are separated by chapters just like books. If you apply this idea to my life, it makes sense. I have gone through several chapters so far. The one that has most shaped my life was my job at Loeb & Loeb. I was 17 and a senior in high school when my sister suggested I look into the internship program that she had gone through. I thought about it a bit and decided the stock boy job I had was good while I was in high school, but if I wanted to do something with my life the SCALL program would be a good start.

After some interviews and meetings, I found myself assigned to Loeb & Loeb a week after graduating from high school. I was excited to start a job at a law library with professionals and a chance to see how "The Real World" worked. I showed up to my first day a little early. After all, I did want to make a good impression. The receptionist called my new su-

pervisor, Donella Johnson, to tell her that I was there. After a quick introduction, she took me to sign the necessary papers. When she opened the door to go through, I accidentally stepped on her foot. That wasn't exactly my idea of a good impression, but things got better after that. My job mainly consisted of keeping up the library and legal research. After I found ways of simplifying certain tasks that would normally be a hassle. One of these was the new complaint, which were printouts of e-mailed documents. Occasionally, we'd get a request for a case that we had to search for page after page. I came up with the idea to combine our files into a Word document that would make searching much faster.

Another great thing was the people I met there. I made some good friends whom I miss chatting with throughout the day. One of those great people was my supervisor. She was very understanding, helpful and complimented me by having enough trust in my ability to do my job that she didn't look over my shoulder all the time. She gave me the privilege

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of taking care of projects by myself from start to finish. Work became like a second home I go to when I wake up. I learned about the professional environment that I was so curious about. I also learned many skills that to this day help me on the job and in my life. I thank SCALL for giving me the chance that I would most likely not have gotten otherwise, the people at Loeb & Loeb, who became my other family, and especially Donella, whom I wouldn't mind working with again sometime. Thanks.

Yolanda Rodriguez - age 16

Both of my siblings looked into the SCALL internship program when they were younger. Now it was my turn. At first I wasn't too sure about going through with. It had become the new "tradition", and I thought I hated traditions until I personally got to experience what it was that they were talking about. It was my first job in the real working world, and all I have to say is that I loved it. I learned so much from my first job, from correct etiquette to communicating with others in a professional manner.

I also learned a lot about responsibility. I went to school in the morning followed by work. I had to stay focused in order to do well on my job and in my schoolwork. Since then, I know what it's like in the real working world and I know exactly what I need to do in order to succeed, not only in life but in whatever career I choose. I think this alone will help me for the rest of my life. I would have regretted it so much if I hadn't gone and followed my siblings' footsteps. I don't regret continuing the "tradition" at all. Being part of SCALL is going to be something I will always remember and look forward to being part of the program next year! Thank you to UniScribe and my supervisor, for making this past summer a wonderful experience!



SCALL Inter-City Youth Program: Susan Benevides at LexisNexis Los Angeles Office

by Julie Webster-Matthews

During the past 10 years the SCALL Inner City Youth program has successfully helped introduce young men and women to the professional business world. This summer, LexisNexis hosted an intern for the first time. We were delighted! It was an opportunity for LexisNexis to support SCALL in this tremendous community program; assist a high school student in obtaining summer employment, contribute to the business development of a young intern while securing additional office assistance for special projects...a win-win for everyone.

The LexisNexis Los Angeles Business Center was delighted to be a host site for the SCALL Inner City Youth Program this year. During the months of July and August, Susan Benevides, 18, was employed to assist in a variety of office duties. Office Manager Roshon Wardelle, coordinated a variety of tasks for her. She assisted with special projects, filled in as receptionist, helped organize literature and general office tasks. However, it was important to us to provide our intern a well-rounded employment experience as possible. Therefore, members of the Los Angeles sales teams allowed Susan to accompany them on customer visits. She had an opportunity to learn more about the LexisNexis service, and how customers use the service. More importantly, she had a chance to observe the sales representatives' professional interaction, from appropriate business attire to the handshake at the end of the meeting. Michael Saint-Onge and I assumed a mentoring role with Susan. Our objective was to promote the librarian profession as a career option. We were able to meet with her and review the librarian's role and the different types of environments in which law librarians work. She accompanied us to make a presentation to the staff of a Century City law firm.



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For Susan, the SCALL intern job was her first in an office setting. Her orientation included company rules about e-mail protocol, proper attire, telephone etiquette and general business conduct at LexisNexis. It was reported that she was easy to work with and was good at following directions. Susan seemed ambitious and eager to start her college career at Loyola Marymount this September. Her desire is to major in Political Science. Her earnings were going to be used for school expenses.

The Inner-City Youth Program gives an opportunity to a high school student who might, otherwise, never find that opportunity. LexisNexis was excited to provide an opportunity for a youth this summer. A portion of the funding was contributed by LexisNexis Cares, a division of LexisNexis that identifies opportunities where our company can give back to the community. It was truly a team project. The entire office, the Sales Managers, sales reps and support personnel, went out of their way in making Susan's experience rewarding. I would like to thank everyone at LexisNexis that contributed to this effort. We look forward to participating in Summer of 2003 and providing an even better experience for a young intern.





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Leonette Williams SCALL President, 1990-1991

I remember my term as SCALL President as one of relative calmness. I recall that the SCALL treasury was strong at the time and the Board and committee members worked hard and accomplished some good things, all of which are accounted for in the SCALL Newsletter.

However, my memories of the institute which I chaired as Vice-President, President Elect are very different. As I look back in hindsight, I realize that right from the start the Institute Committee invited trouble. Some of SCALL's membership became quite exorcized by the committee's selection of the institute topic, the institute speakers and the institute location. As Chair of the Institute Committee I was very pleased with the composition of the committee. SCALL allows the Institute Chair to select her own committee which is not the usual procedure for many non-profit organizations. I couldn't have been happier working with a committee composed of law librarians who I knew firsthand from shared committee and work experience to be competent achievers*. We, the committee, all agreed to expand the Institute topic beyond strict California law. The late 1980s saw the emergence of the European Community and the Pacific Rim as areas of future business and legal interest. This was a topical area just beginning to create a popular buzz. We decided that the 1990 SCALL Institute would concentrate on the legal issues and relevant source material of the European Community and the Pacific Rim. Our institute was entitled "Looking East and West from California Shores". As speakers we chose an established local attorney to address the steps leading to European unification, a renown law librarian from Berkeley to provide bibliographic information necessary to track the pending and current legislation of the European communities, and two law faculty members from law schools in northern California to discuss international trade with the Pacific Rim and related research sources. The institute was held at the Mandalay Beach Resort in Oxnard; a beach front and seemingly idyllic location.

Before the institute was even held, our selection of subject matter became a topic of debate: should the SCALL Institute concentrate solely on California law or could the topic address foreign, international and/or comparative law? A controversy arose from the choice of speakers: should speakers be selected solely from local southern California talent or could we bring in known particularly noteworthy speakers located beyond the borders of SCALL boundaries? The final issue concerned the hotel: was the committee fully aware of the details in the contract with the hotel? Questions arose around whether or not a particular situation which emerged with the hotel had ever occurred before and could it have been prevented. Today in 2002, twelve years after this institute, all of the burning issues are nonissues. SCALL no longer limits institute topics strictly to California law. Institute speakers are selected from inside or outside the state of California. Institute Chairs can now review and personally look at the collection of previous hotel contracts in the archives. On a personal note, the 1990 committee and I were particularly gratified that despite all the controversies, the institute satisfaction survey received primarily positive marks and the Institute produced the largest financial profit to date; a profit not surpassed until almost ten years later and then only be a marginal amount. We were very proud of the 1990 Institute profit which resulted in \$10,000.00 worth of grants for SCALL members to attend various educational conferences the next year. The distribution of these grants occurred during my presidency which was most definitely a contributing factor to that feeling of calmness which I alluded to earlier.

I'm very grateful to the law librarians who worked with me on the 1990 SCALL Institute. We worked together on an institute that may have initially caused some controversy but ultimately ended with positive results; this is very likely an experience not all that different from many other SCALL Institute committees.

*The 1990 SCALL Institute Committee:
Pauline Aranas, Lisa Baker, Hal Brown,
Ginger Brusca, Florence Ewing, Paul George
Donna Longstreet and Joanne Mazza.



SCALL Twenty-First Institute The Future is Now: Law Libraries in a Changing Economy February 26-27, 1993 San Diego, CA

Two moments immediately come to my mind when I think about the twenty-first SCALL Institute held in San Diego. The first is the moment I was finally able to welcome everyone to the institute and to announce its opening. Months of hard work by so many people were finally reaching fruition. The second moment was later in the institute as I sat listening to one of the speakers, who shall remain nameless. I hadn't the slightest idea what he was saying and realized that probably no one else did either. Oh well, everything else was running beautifully. The attendance was high, the food was good, and the weather (at least in my memory) was beautiful. A new morning workshop was successful. We were even able to cover the last minute cancellation of the AALL representative since one of our scheduled speakers was also a member of the AALL executive board.

I suspect that my experience with a SCALL institute was the same as many people who served as chairs of the institute committee. The process began with hours of conversations with other SCALL members seeking input on possible topics. This led to increasingly theoretical discussions about who attends the institutes and why. After we selected a topic, the members of the institute committee did incredible work soliciting exhibitors, registering members, working with the hotel and selecting the food for the various functions. Throughout the entire process I relied heavily on the support of the SCALL president, Aleta Benjamin, who assured me that everything was in accordance with the normal schedule even when only ten people had registered with only one week before the deadline. She was right and we had one of the largest registrations for a SCALL institute.

There were some worries and tensions behind the scenes that most people would never know about. The designer selected to create our brochure had done a beautiful job for a previous institute but seemed intent on ignoring all our suggestions this year. "The institute is about the future of libraries. I cannot have a brochure with a picture of books and no computers." Finally, she understood what we wanted and created a good brochure. But then the printer didn't print the right number and we had to order extra copies. Much business was given to the next-day delivery services.

This was the year that several vendors with nation-wide customer bases were reexamining their support to the chapters. Numerous calls were made to an online vendor in order to sustain the level of support we had been receiving in past years. Another vendor decided not to support the distribution of tote bags. Could we afford to have our own made? Will people care if they don't have one? Should we have people bring bags from previous institutes with a prize for the oldest tote bag? We finally decided we could afford to have the bags made, and I scoured the yellow pages looking for companies that made such items. I think we made a good choice. I'm still using mine for my weekly trips to the grocery store.

These were some of the moments that caused us on the institute committee various degrees of anxiety. However, they are not my first thoughts of the institute. Nor do I first think of the more mundane activities we did such as proof-reading the signs, lugging around (and storing in our closets and garages) the numerous supplies, or the less mundane and more tense ongoing analysis of the institute budget. Rather I think of the incredible camaraderie and support of the SCALL members and institute exhibitors which is the highlight and strength of every SCALL institute.

Paul George 1993-94





Job Opportunities

Paul Howard Foreign & International Law Librarian Loyola Law School Los Angeles paul.howard@lls.edu

and

Patrick Meyer Electronic Resources Librarian Loyola Law School Los Angeles patrick.meyer@lls.edu

Electronic Resources Librarian, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton, Los Angeles

Duties: Provides traditional research and reference services to attorneys and legal staff. Works closely with the Head Librarian, the Knowledge Management Department, and vendors in the selection and maintenance of electronic information resources. This will include the continued development and maintenance of the Library Pages on the Firm's Intranet. Coordination of education of attorneys and legal staff in efficient use of research tools. Other Library duties as assigned.

Requirements: MLS and/or JD are highly desirable, BA required, two or more years law library experience preferred. Demonstrated knowledge of computer hardware and software library applications, including but not limited to CD-ROM networking, Internet, demonstrated ability to create and maintain Intranet pages (especially on the LawPort platform), skilled in use of Lexis, Loislaw, Westlaw, and other legal and business online services.

Salary: Competitive and DOE.

Contact: Send resumes to Ms. Robin Stoller via facsimile (213) 617-5584 or e-mail to: rstoller@smrh.com.

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- Conduct orientations and basic presentations to attorneys.
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Requirements/Qualifications:

- MLS.
- 2-3 years law firm library experience required.
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Salary

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To Apply

Please email your resume as a Word attachment to Hal Brown at hbrown@libraryassociates.com if interested.

Library Technician, Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego

Job Title: Library Technician.

Reports To: Technical Services and Acquisitions Librarian.

Position Supervises: Student Assistants.

General Summary:

Under the direct supervision of the Technical Services and Acquisitions Librarian and the Library Director, this position is mainly responsible for the large database that tracks the library collection statistics and budget. The position involves data entry on a daily basis. Library experience is a prerequisite plus a solid background in bookkeeping. The library technician keeps meticulous accounting of all invoices for the Library.

Essential Job Functions:

- 1. Knowledge of library software. Innovative Interfaces modules a definite plus, though training will be given.
- 2. Have a solid background in the use of Excel to help formulate and track Library department budgets.
- 3. Be prepared to learn TJSL library procedures and vocabulary.
- 4. Enter invoices for books into our Innovative Interfaces Acquisitions module on a daily basis.
- 5. Enter invoices for all other accounts assigned to the Library in an Excel file.
- 6. Solve problems with vendors that arise from invoices and shipment discrepancies
- 7. Stamp all invoices for payment, have them authorized by a supervisor, copy and file the copies in the Library Technical Services Office and send original invoices to the Business Office for payment.
- 8. Reconcile invoices with monthly statements from vendors.
- 9. Reconcile library's monthly \log with the general ledger from the Business Office.
- 10. Create a monthly compilation of statistics.
- 11. Create other statistical reports as required.
- 12. Other duties as assigned.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- 1. Education desired: a two or four year college degree and/or library certifications
- 2. Knowledge of library procedures and vocabulary.
- 3. Knowledge of accounting procedures.
- 4. Knowledge of Excel and Word.
- 5. Display an attention to detail.
- 6. Be well-organized and neat.
- 7. Able to keep multiple print and on-line files in good order.
- 8. Be prepared to be cross-trained on the Innopac system and substitute for other staff in their absences.
- 9. Ability to communicate effectively verbally, and in writing and have good

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For SCALL'S 50Th

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Daily Journal





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(Continued from page 15) interpersonal skills.

- 10. Be a good team player.
- 11. Have a pleasant telephone manner.
- 12. Be a problem solver.
- 13. Have a positive attitude.

Physical Requirements:

- 1. Ability to sit at a computer for most of the day with sensible breaks to relieve tension and with every effort made to vary tasks as much as possible.
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- 3. Ability to push a loaded book truck or get help when the truck is extremely heavy.
- 4. Ability to use a stepstool to reach 90" shelves.

Work Schedule: Full time, Monday through Friday, 40 hours per week.

Contact:

Thomas Jefferson School of Law Attn Julie Miller Human Resources Manager 2121 San Diego Ave., San Diego CA 92110 Juliem@tjsl.edu

Reference Librarian, Western State University College of Law, Fullerton

The following full-time exempt position is open in the Library:

Title: Reference Librarian.

Duties: Provides reference service for students, faculty and attorneys. Organizes and provides training to users on electronic resources. Creates user guides and provides bibliographic instruction. Participates in the collection development team and in the faculty liaison program.

Job Requirements: This position requires an accredited MLS degree and experience in providing legal reference service. Experience in training library users in online services, and a JD degree is preferred. Significant proficiency with Windows, Microsoft Office and online computer-assisted legal research services is desired. Experience in web site design is an asset. Must have the ability to work effectively with an ethnically and culturally diverse campus community.

Hours: 40 hours per week with some weekend and evening hours.

Human Resources, Western State University College of Law, 1111 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92831. Telephone: (714) 738-1000 x2963 Email: peggy@wsulaw.edu

Part-Time Reference Librarian, Western State University College of Law, Fullerton

The following part-time exempt position is open in the Library:

Title: Part-Time Reference Librarian.

Duties: Provides reference service for students, faculty and attorneys. Organizes and provides training to users on electronic resources. Creates user guides and provides bibliographic instruction. Participates in the collection development team and in the faculty liaison program.

Job Requirements: This position requires an accredited MLS degree and experience in providing legal reference service. Experience in training library users in online services, and a JD degree is preferred. Significant proficiency with Windows, Microsoft Office and online computer-assisted legal research

services is desired. Experience in web site design is an asset. Must have the ability to work effectively with an ethnically and culturally diverse campus community.

Hours: Up to 20 hours per week with some weekend and evening hours.

Human Resources, Western State University College of Law, 1111 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92831. Telephone: (714) 738-1000 x2963 Email: peggy@wsulaw.edu

Reference Librarian, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

Job Description Summary: Provide all users quality access to all parts of the Library's collection. Assist students, faculty, and the public with tools, methods, and strategies necessary for effective legal research. Conduct searches of online non-legal databases on the Internet for users. Participate in collection development. Serve as library liaison to several faculty members. Keep abreast of research areas of assigned faculty in order to provide selective dissemination of information services. Provide general assistance and facilitate effective use of the library's service. Possibly teach legal bibliography, as part of the Law School's Legal Research and Writing program. Conduct library tours. Provide weekend and evening reference services.

Education: MLS and JD from accredited schools or equivalent required. Formal training in the use of LexisNexis and Westlaw. Training in the use of other databases is highly desirable.

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Knowledge/Ability: Knowledge of Anglo-American legal system, legal and other reference sources, bibliographic description, and library practices and procedures. Ability to set priorities, meet deadlines, and work with a minimum of supervision. Ability to work as a team member. Keen analytical ability. Excellent oral and written communication skills. Demonstrable commitment to providing service to library users.

Human Resources, Loyola Law School, 919 South Albany Street, Los Angeles, California 90015. Telephone: (213) 736-1415 Fax: (213) 386-6966 E-mail: iobs@lls.edu

Please include the following reference number when referring to this job: L02-111

Electronic Services Reference Librarian, Los Angeles County Law Library, Los Angeles

Duties: reviews, evaluates and participates in the selection of electronic resources and applications; provides training for staff and patrons on electronic resources and applications; assists patrons to access electronic resources; creates and maintains Library's web pages; responsible for the installation, maintenance and proper functioning of Reference Department software and hardware; performs the duties of a reference librarian; regular rotating Saturday and rotating holiday work required; evening work required as needed.

Qualifications: ALA Masters degree; three (3) years of relevant experience as a professional librarian in a large law library; demonstrated knowledge of computer hardware and software library applications, including CD-ROM networking and the Internet; demonstrated ability to create and maintain web pages; strong public services orientation and commitment.

Salary: \$4,397-\$5,736/month; excellent benefits.

To apply: send cover letter, resume and names of three (3) references to: Richard T. Iamele, Library Director, Los Angeles County Law Library, 301 West First Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, or fax to 213-680-1727

Save the Dates



Joint Institute in San Luis Obispo Embassy Suites Hotel March 14-15, 2003

This year the Institute will be hosted by our three California law library associations, SCALL, NOCALL, and SANDALL.

Volunteers are needed! Individuals who are interested in participating should contact Diana Jaque, at djaque@law.usc.edu.

Watch the SCALL listsery for further details.



SCALL Newsletter Submission Deadlines

If you would like to submit something for publication in the SCALL Newsletter, the deadlines are the following:

January Issue March Issue May Issue December 9, 2002 February 10, 2003 April 14, 2003

We welcome the submission of any articles of interest to the law library community. Contact Margot McLaren, SCALL Editor at mclarenm@ulv.edu.



INSTITUTE RECOLLECTING

by Frank Houdek

For me, the SCALL Institute's ninth birthday in February 1981 was both nerve-shattering and mind-opening. And our then-new president was the cause. I don't mean SCALL President Alan Holoch by the way, I mean *the* president, Ronald Reagan. Here's the story.

As vice president/president-elect of SCALL, I was in charge of the Institute that was scheduled to be held in Santa Barbara that year. In those days, that meant both program and local arrangements responsibilities in equal helpings. The former was not a problem (foreshadowing a fairly steady stream of Law Library Journal articles, I chose "Librarian Malpractice" as our theme) but making arrangements in a town a hundred miles away was not easy for someone in a one-person library (I was librarian at Lawler, Felix & Hall at the time). One of the difficulties was that I really wanted to use the El Miramar resort hotel for the Institute but we just couldn't get affordable room rates. Eventually, I abandoned my quest and we settled on the waterfront Sheraton, a great venue in virtually any other circumstances.

I made several trips back and forth to Santa Barbara to plan the meeting. (In those days a hundred mile drive seemed an eternity, this now seems ludicrous in light of my present situation where 350 mile trips to Chicago are commonplace.) Eventually, everything came together, meeting rooms, menus, speakers, AALL VIP, attendee registration, and accommodations, yada yada yada, and I made one final "security blanket" trip two weeks before the meeting just to settle my nerves. It was now such a piece of cake, I even brought along my wife and two month old daughter Katy to "show off" my good work. Ah, hubris!

So there we were, eating a celebratory lunch with my hotel contact when some staffer tapped our host on the shoulder and then whispered in her ear. Totally relaxed to high stress in the blink of an eye. Gulping hard, her face flushed, she turned to me and

said that all our arrangements were down the drain. "The president is taking his first vacation since the inauguration on your dates!" she blurted at me. "So what," I said, "Camp David is somewhere in Pennsylvania, isn't it? What's the problem?" I had forgotten that the Carter days were no more, our new president took his photo ops mending fence on his ranch in, yes, you remember, Santa Barbara. And even though Ron and Nancy had no intention of spending a moment at our little hotel, a bezillion members of the press corp and secret service needed a place to hang their hats while the President was in town. And the Sheraton was their choice. So guess who was going to get bumped. Nerve-shattering? Oh yeah!

But fortunately, not mind-numbing. Well, maybe at first it was, I had no idea panic could hit you that quick. As I was going down for the third time (whatarewegoingtodo-theinstituteisdeadandsoamIandwhyisthatbabystill-

theinstituteisdeadandsoamIandwhyisthatbabystill-laughing??!!), however, I discovered a course of action that not only "saved the day" for our Institute but has subsequently served me well not only in my day job as a library director but also in my night (and day) jobs with AALL as president, Law Library Journal editor, CRIV chair, etc. When it hits the fan, take it slow, make it simple, and stick to your guns. Cliche-ridden? Perhaps. Truism-laden? Certainly. But you know what, it works. Because it helps you avoid the numbed mind that is the handmaiden of panic; in fact, it frees your mind to address problems that seem insoluble, insurmountable, and downright incapacitating.

But to get off the soapbox and back to the SCALL Institute, what I did when I heard all this was . . . finish my lunch. (Taking it slow, I thought while I chewed.) Then I told the Sheraton folks that what we still needed was what we had needed from the start, lodging that our members could afford and meeting rooms for a day-and-a-half. This was true whether the President came to Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, or Santa Catalina, the island of well you get my drift. (Make the problem simple, reduce it to the basic elements.) And finally, I stated without equivocation that while I was sympathetic to their plight and would work with them if possible, our

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Take a Break to Reflect...

By Victoria Williamson University of La Verne Law Library williamy@ulv.edu

Next month, SCALL's Golden Anniversary Celebration will take place at USC, the site where 15 law librarians met for the first time. The planning committee chaired by Anna Delgado is working very hard at this very moment to make it one of the most memorable, if not the most memorable occasion in the history of our association.

50 years! Wow! While I haven't been a member for that long, I nonetheless take pride in being part of this wonderful organization. This would be a perfect time to reflect on the many accomplishments of SCALL and of some of its highly regarded members. Instead, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the subject of volunteerism. SCALL, after all, as our current President, Cornell Winston aptly puts it, is a volunteer organization. True indeed, our organization wouldn't have gone this far without the time, energy, talents, commitment and dedication put out by its members. I truly think that the one thing that we are commemorating on this 50th anniversary is the spirit of volunteerism.

On that note, I'd say, now is the opportune time for each and every member to step up to the plate and volunteer, to keep SCALL going well into the next 50 more years. And you ask, "why volunteer?" For me, I didn't ask that question, I just did it. I didn't even think about it. It was one of those things that works best for me to just do it. Those who know me well enough can testify to the fact that I have the propensity to think too much and end up doing nothing. So when it comes to volunteering, I just do it. I just threw my name in the basket and then begin to think about what I can do and what needs to be done to help with the project. This may not work for you, so do what works for you.

Nevertheless, it is worthwhile pondering why people volunteer. Susan J. Ellis, President and Founder of Energize, Inc., a training, consulting, and publishing

firm that specializes in volunteerism, has listed a variety of reasons or possible motivations for volunteering.* I've picked out a few that I thought would be interesting to consider for those who may be thinking of volunteering but haven't yet decided.

Top Five Reasons to Volunteer:

#5 to be able to criticize – have you ever attended a program where you thought you could have done a better job at presenting? Remember that particular session which you so patiently sat through and didn't leave because it would have been rude to do so. Do you remember thinking to yourself or sharing with your lucky colleague how the program should have been done this way and that way, would have been better if there was this and that, all the could haves, should haves, must haves that you thought of? Volunteer first, then criticize later. This way, you voice out your criticisms (constructively, of course!) to the right people, at the right place and time. And you are able to actually do something and change something for the better. http://www.serviceleader.org/advice/ why.html.

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#4 as therapy – have you ever thought that volunteering can be very therapeutic? Oh yes! If you are one of the lucky ones who work in a fast-paced environment, constantly working to meet multiple deadlines and frequently working beyond the 9-6 schedule, working more for less, then you need to volunteer. For your own health and sanity, you owe it to yourself to volunteer. Volunteering allows you to do what you love to do, in your own time, at your own will and be appreciated for it. It's good therapy for reformed workaholics.

#3 to act out a fantasy – have you ever had a fantasy of being in show business, or becoming president of your own company? Volunteer organizations provide a variety of ways where you can use your hidden talents or your true talents that got pushed way back in the recesses of your imagination because they don't fulfill your career goals. Think back when you were a little child and your parents ask you what do you want to be when you grow up - a lion tamer? game show host?

#2 for fun! – have you ever wondered why the same people or groups of people seem to volunteer year in and year out. Because it's fun to do it and they don't want to stop. Of course, it doesn't start out that way. For me, it was scary at first, because I was afraid to fail, to be seen like I don't know what I'm doing, and to be the target of criticisms and of not so good comments. But then, once I passed that stage, and realized how nice, encouraging and supportive the people that I work with, I begin to enjoy and have fun with the work I volunteered to do. The work is even more fun to do when you do it with more people. The more, the merrier.

#1 *to gain leadership skills* – have you ever wished that you could change the world? Well, maybe on a smaller scale, make a difference? Like all volunteer

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Law Librarians Win Legislative Battle

by David McFadden SCALL Government Relations Committee Chair

On September 11th Governor Davis vetoed AB 2648 and at least temporarily gave law librarians a sense of relief. AB 2648 started out as an innocent technical bill to change the composition of the San Diego County Public Law Library Board of Law Library Trustees. It was amended three times. Even though the final version only applied to San Diego County, the governor in his veto message acknowledged that, "[t]his bill creates a poor precedent for counties to follow in providing support for county law libraries."

AB 2648 was introduced on February 22, 2002 by Assembly Member Mark Wyland. The bill was caught up in efforts by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors to deal with their own budget deficits. They used two approaches to solve their own problems by trying to give them to the county law libraries. The first amendment, which did not even survive long enough to get voted on by any committee or house, was the worst. It would have shifted the burden of paying for law library facilities, including utilities and maintenance, from the counties to the county law libraries. The other two amendments imposed a system of accountability first on all county law libraries and finally only on San Diego County.

The later amendments frankly misrepresented or were based on misunderstandings of the way that county law libraries operate. Counties have provided space and upkeep – ranging from single rooms to entire buildings -- for the law libraries as has been required by law before the first statewide general county law library act in 1891. The later versions of AB 2648 were apparently based on the assumption that the county law libraries must be billing the counties for these services. In fact in a letter that was quoted in Senate Judiciary Committee and Senate Floor analyses, it was stated that San Diego County

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was billed over \$300,000 last year and that the county had no option but to pay. This simply is not true. It is likely that it cost the county that much or more for the county law library but the county made all of the arrangements and paid for them. If they had not wanted to pay so much, they could have found cheaper alternatives or put cost-saving measures into place. Based on false assumptions, the bill added a whole unnecessary system of checks and balances. The governor in his veto message correctly observed that "[c]urrent law already gives county supervisors discretion in funding law library operations...."

AB 2648 had a life of its own. For some reason the legislators could not or would not understand how poorly written and distorted the bill was. One problem the when the bill was last amended transforming it from having direct statewide impact to technically only applying to San Diego County, opposition waned. This shortsightedness on the part of legisla-

tors is frustrating and disappointing. It does not reflect well on the way the legislature works. Bad law should not be passed even if it does only have a limited geographic reach. Even before the final amendment, this flawed bill passed out of the Assembly with little opposition. If one does not understand how county law libraries work, the safeguards in the bill seem reasonable. That is why the battle after the last two amendments was so much more difficult. Often in the haste to pass legislation legislators and/ or their staffs do not take time to understand the facts. The claims from the county board of supervisors' lobbyist about the law library billing the county that made their way into the Senate analyses could have easily been verified. Instead, false claims were given as much weight as any other comments. It is understandable how two sides can disagree on philosophy and interpretation. It is unfathomable how a simple fact of whether the county was billed or not billed never seemed to be checked.

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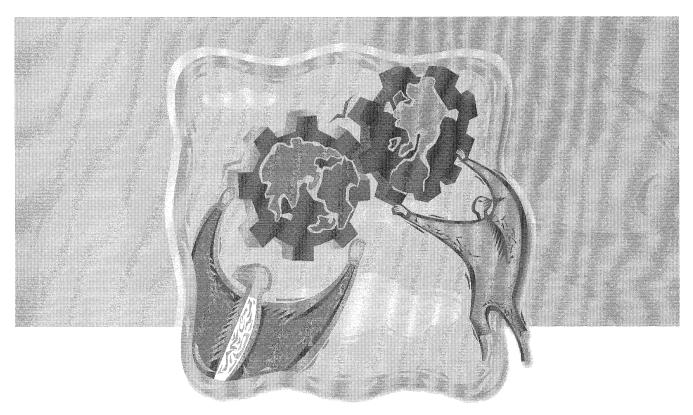
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GSI is also pleased to announce the appointment of a consultant who will facilitate communications between GSI and AALL, its local chapters and the law librarian community at large.

Maggie Cossman Law Library Relations

Ms. Cossman's background includes two-plus years of working in corporate and law firm information centers. She received her B.A. in History and Elementary Education from the University of Dallas, an M.L.S. from the University of North Texas and a J.D. from the University of Arkansas. mcossman@gsionline.com



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AB 2648 was opposed primarily by county law librarians but others were enlisted along the way. The lead organization was the Council of California County Law Librarians along with various individual county law libraries. The CCCLL has its own professional lobbyist who helped guide, advise and develop strategies. San Diego County Public Law Library was placed in an awkward position. After the first onerous amendment was changed, the SDCPLL took a neutral position since the bill was coming from a legislator from San Diego County and the county law library was given assurances about the bill. Only after the bill was finally amended to apply only to San Diego County and it was obvious that the bill was not the innocent and innocuous bill the San Diego County Board of Supervisors tried to portray it as, did the SDCPLL again oppose the bill. But when they opposed it, they did it with great gusto. They utilized their website to post pleas to help oppose the bill. Board members, local attorneys and others joined to fight AB 2648. All three AALL Chapters from California fought against the bill from early on until the end. Calls to action, sample letters and points of opposition were sent on all three listservs and posted on the NOCALL webpage. Bar associations and individual attorneys also voiced their disapproval about the bill at its various stages. Even relatives and friends were urged to write, fax and email against the bill. Earlier when the bill had statewide effect, articles appeared in the California Bar Journal, Los Angeles Times and The Recorder discussing possible cuts that would result from the hill.

At times the effort also meant traveling to Sacramento. Between the time the bill was originally introduced and the subsequent amendments appeared, there were two legislative days. At the time of the California Law Librarians Legislative Advocacy Day on March 12, the bill was truly innocuous. The main emphasis of the twenty-one librarians attending mainly from Northern California was to establish our presence and generally tell about county law libraries. AB 2648, since at that time it only made some changes in the composition of the San Diego County Board of Law Library trustees, was fully supported.

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needs would not change and neither would the fact that we had already reached a formalized agreement. And with that, the three of us went out to play on the beach. (Sticking to my guns, even when my stomach said, "oh boy, we're in trouble now!")

"What happened?" you ask. Well, President Reagan certainly had his vacation. And the press and secret service were there in full force to watch him have it. But we had our Institute too. It included a full complement of law librarians, several loyal exhibitors, and even our own "presidential visitor," AALL President-Elect Roger Jacobs. (I didn't notice any secret service shadowing him but I might have missed them.) The weather was gorgeous and the only problem we had was keeping people inside when they looked out the huge picture windows of the conference room to see a picture postcard chamber of commerce sort of day.

From my selfish perspective, however, the crowning glory of the Santa Barbara Institute was how the Sheraton responded when I stuck to my guns: since there was no way the White House was going to surrender its demands for their rooms, the Sheraton cut a deal with the El Miramar, my original choice because of its location right on the beach and its generally wonderful ambience, to provide accommodations for SCALL members at the same rate as they would have received at the Sheraton and to provide a continuous shuttle back and forth between the two properties. It was the best of both worlds! While I am sure that some of it was due simply to my lucky stars, at least in part, the success of the Ninth Annual SCALL Institute resulted from the way I responded to the "crisis:" slow, simple, and sticking to my guns. It was a great lesson and I have followed that approach ever since.





VOLUNTEER NOW!

The success of SCALL is dependent on the activities of the members. By joining a committee, you have the opportunity to interact with your colleagues, make a contribution to your professional association and see the results of your efforts.

If you have ever worked on a committee or never have worked on a committee, use this opportunity to try something new. This is the chance to build on old experiences and contribute your expertise and background. The more people who come forward, the more the work is shared.

Below is the list of committees which cover a wide range of functions and activities. Check your SCALL directory for descriptions of each committee.

Archives

Arrangements

Consulting

Continuing Education

Government Relations

Grants

Inner City Youth Program

Institute

Information Technology (formerly Internet)

Library Information Liaison

Membership

Newsletter

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Public Access Information

Public Relations

Relations with Vendors

Rohan Award

Union List

Contact Belinda Beardt at (818) 846-9276 or bbeardt@earthlink.net to get more information about volunteering in a committee.

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organizations, SCALL provides ample opportunities for members to get involved with. From volunteering to chair a committee or coordinating a special event to participating in ongoing programs and committee activities, SCALL can always put the time, energy and talents of its members to good use and worthwhile goals. We have a history of members who served as SCALL President and who later became AALL President. Albert Brecht and Frank Houdek are living examples of the kind of leadership that our organization is capable of producing. A number of our current and past SCALL officers, board members, and committee chairs, in addition to serving our members, also volunteer to work in their respective communities, local churches and schools.

Volunteering benefits not only the organization, people or groups of people that you are serving, but also **YOU**. When I volunteered a couple of years ago, I started out with the notion that I just wanted to give something back to the profession that has been really good to me. Now, as I look back, I realized that I have gained more than a few good friends, a network of supportive and encouraging colleagues, a set of marketable skills, and more self-confidence. It seems to me that the more I give, the more is given to me and because I am given more, the more I want to give. It's a cycle of giving that I wouldn't want to break away from and one that I encourage you to get in. It only takes a single step. Volunteer.



"A journey of a thousand miles begin with a single step."

-- Lao Tzu





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Since it was really uncontroversial, it was not a major bill to be discussed, however. The first amendment took place just before the April 16 Legislative Day for California Libraries sponsored by the California Library Association and the California School Library Association. Since the bill had just been amended, the CLA had not taken a formal position against it but that didn't stop law librarians from preparing a flyer and asking the public and academic librarians at the legislative day to pass it out. In at least one instance a legislative aide, who had been contacted a month earlier, approached a law librarian to ask about the bill. CCCLL made arrangements to have witnesses and attendees at both the Assembly Local Government Committee and Senate Judiciary Committee hearings. Both were disappointing. The Assembly hearing date was changed causing logistical problems. Then the second amendment occurred very near the time of the Assembly hearing which made opposition more difficult since most of the letters were focused on the more draconian first amendment. Because of this last minute change, letters of opposition and a list of organizations opposing the bill did not even officially make it into the Assembly Committee Analysis since technically they were not opposing this newly amended bill. Further complicating matters, the Assembly hearing had been delayed during the day due to unrelated protests occurring at the Capitol. Only the CCCLL lobbyist was present at the end. The Senate Judiciary Committee hearing also ran late and then Assembly Member Wyland brought in a last minute amendment to apply the bill only to San Diego County. As mentioned above, it was more difficult to mount opposition when the bill was ultimately transformed into "only" a San Diego County bill. Since there was no one from San Diego present to oppose the bill, the other speakers did not have a chance to speak.

One reason for opposing the bill, even after the last amendment applying it only to San Diego County, was that it was feared that other counties would be influenced by it. This is not an alarmist concern. After having attention drawn to a normally unread law by AB 2648, one county board of supervisors has interpreted current law as requiring them to only

provide space for their county law library. All the types of related expenses including utilities, telephones and janitorial service that are enumerated in existing law are considered optional. This is an extreme interpretation and flies in the face of over a hundred years of practice.

Ultimately, the efforts of all of these groups and individuals did convince the governor to veto the bill. This will not likely be the end. Hopefully other counties will not try to get out of their responsibilities through creative interpretation of the statute but they may. Also, in December a new legislative session begins. New legislation can be introduced. We must still be vigilant.



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Please email Jessica Wimer (jwimer@law.usc.edu) or Wendy Nobunaga (wnobunag@law.usc.edu), co-chairs of the SCALL Public Relations Committee, with any questions.



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