

## SCALL Newsletter

Volume 30, Number 1

a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

September 2002

## From the President

By Cornell H. Winston

As President of SCALL, I would like to say "THANK YOU" to all members for the opportunity to serve this organization. As we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), I realize that many great individuals have served in this position, and I am honored to have been chosen for this office. This year I will do my best to uphold the high standards and record of leadership I inherited from those who previously possessed this office.

This year, SCALL is celebrating our Golden Anniversary. SCALL was the fifth local chapter granted status in AALL. There are now almost 30 local chapters. We remain a strong and vibrant library chapter because of committed individuals like you. I realize it is early, but please plan on joining the gala celebration on Wednesday, December 4, 2000 to mark this occasion. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee has worked long and hard to plan a celebration befitting this anniversary.

And since I mentioned committees, care to join one? SCALL is a **VOLUNTEER** organization. We depend on people who care about the law librarianship profession as a whole, and SCALL in particular, to keep our organization going. There are numerous committees that advance the work of our organization. Please consider joining one of them. The time commitment is not great, but the rewards are. You will be helping to support your fellow law librarians in our profession.

Finally to conclude my first column, I would like to ask for "each one to reach one." What has made

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## **SCALL World Wide Web Page:**

http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/scall

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type: subscribe scall-list Your Name.

Archived at: http://www.legalminds.org/listsaver/scall-list

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The SCALL Newsletter is published five times per year (Sept., Nov., Jan., Mar. and May) by the Southern California Association of Law Libraries, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, and is sent as a membership benefit. Please send subscription requests and advertising inquiries to Belinda Beardt, P.O. Box 4227, Burbank, CA, 91503; email scallpass@earthlink.net

## From the Editor

Margot McLaren mclarenm@ulv.edu



In this new fiscal year (2002-2003) of SCALL, I am looking forward to working with all of you again in continuing to produce a great newsletter. This issue includes two terrific articles written by David McFadden and Victoria Williamson, David McFadden's article entitled, "Legislative Days," discusses bill AB 2648 and its impact on California's county law libraries. McFadden encourages county law librarians in these tight financial times to participate in future legislative days and other legislative advocacy activities (such as writing, faxing or e-mailing letters) to legislators and to establish two-way relationships with local offices emphasizing the services that county law librarians provide. Victoria Williamson's article entitled, "Take a Break to Reflect...," eloquently conveys the importance of taking the time to reflect upon the changes and the challenges that surround us in our workplace environment.

In this issue, we are featuring one law library director: Albert O. Brecht, Associate Dean, Chief Information Officer and John Stauffer Professor of Law. from the University of Southern California Gabriel and Matilda Barnett Information Technology Center and the Asa V. Call Law Library in the "Getting to Know You" bio-profile series. Past President Albert O. Brecht, this year's recipient of the prestigious William H. Rohan Chapter Service Award, is one of SCALL's long-term members. This issue also includes three articles on SCALL past presidents. David McFadden, Robin Mayper and Pamela L. Hall share their recollections of SCALL events as well as experiences and challenges encountered during their terms as president. Also, due to software conversion problems, formatting and punctuation errors that occurred in Leonette Williams' article on past SCALL President Alan Holoch in the May 2002 issue of the newsletter, a corrected version of her article is included. If you want to contribute to the past president column, please send the articles to Diana Jaque's email address at djaque@law.usc.edu.

As a final note, I want to express my deepest appreciation to each SCALL member for contributing articles to the newsletter and for their terrific work. As with each newsletter, we will continue to expand.

# Inner City Youth Program 2002 -Interns and Host Sites

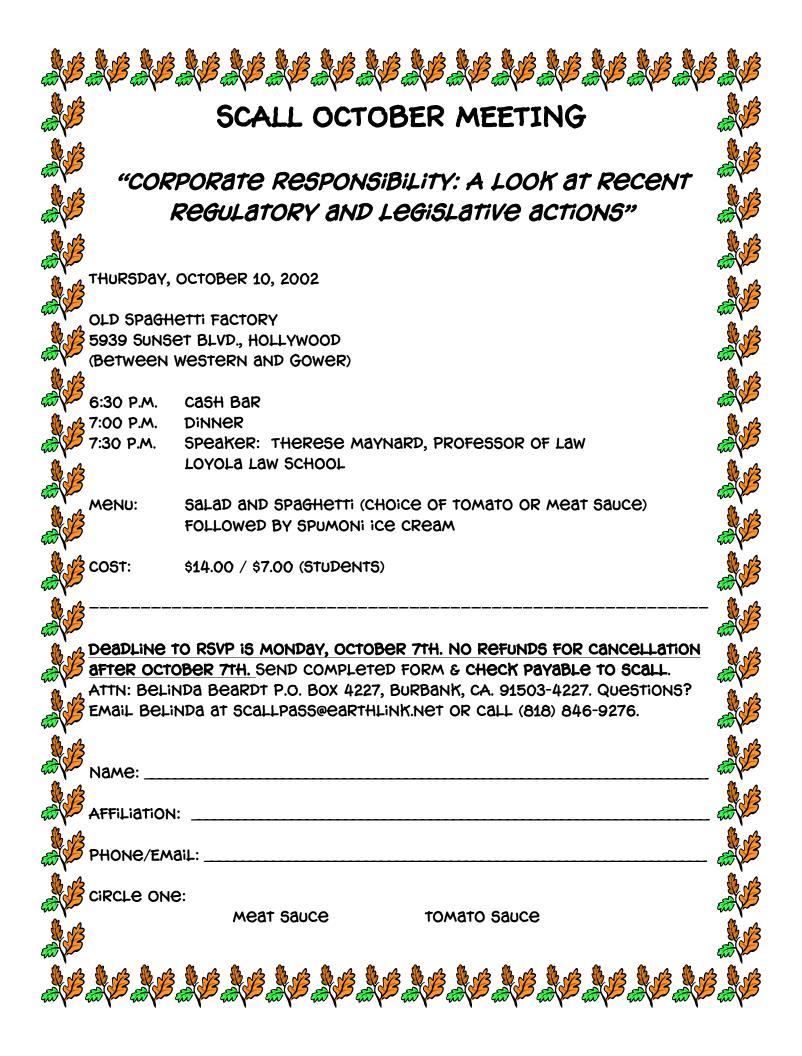
As of July 1, 2002, most of our SCALL interns were hard at work in their summer positions. Thanks to our many participants, the program is having another successful year.

Listed below are the many organizations and vendors who have sponsored this year's program. Our most heartfelt gratitude is extended to all who helped in any way!

## **SCALL** subsidized internships

1. USC: Annie Chung

(Continued on page 4)





(Continued from page 1)

SCALL grow to over 400 members? By someone spreading the word on what we do, and how we support one another. If each one (member) reaches one (another librarian) our association will grow, our profession will be enhanced, and there will be a new community of resources to call upon. As a solo librarian, if it were not for the professional contacts I made through SCALL, I would be greatly hindered in performing my job in an acceptable manner. Is there an assistant on your staff that is not a member? Is there a solo librarian in your building that needs professional support? Consider inviting them to become a SCALL member. As a member for almost 15 years I think I have received more from SCALL than I have given.

Our first meeting of the 2002-2003 year will be in October. I hope to see you there. I'll say "Cheers" to a good year.

Cornell

2. UCLA: Stephanie Tabor

3. LA County: Rosio Sanchez

## **Shared Sponsorship -** Court Express,

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4. Los Angeles City Attorney's office:

Tiffany Cableton

## **Privately subsidized Internships**

5. Courthouse News: Miriam Navel

6. First Legal Support Service:

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7. Hennigan Bennett: Song Seto

8. Uniscribe: Yolanda Rodriguez

9. Akin Gump: Laura Montoya

10. LexisNexis: Susana Benavides

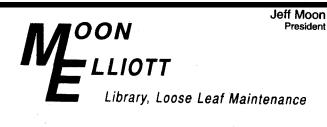
11. Loeb & Loeb: Shanise Dickson

12. Winston and Strawn: Martha Carrasco

All past and current participants deserve kudos for their hard work and dedication to this important project. For more information on the SCALL ICYIP, please contact contact co-chairs Arlene Junior ajunior@nossaman.com and Brian Keefe briankeefe@dwt.com.



Brian Keefe, of Davis Wright Tremaine, addressing the young interns during a Saturday workshop at the office of Nossaman Guthner, workplace of Arlene Junior.



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	<b>Honorary (Free):</b> The association may, at any regular meeting, at which a quorum is present, by a vote of two thirds (2/3) of those present, elect nonmembers as honorary members.				
١.	<b>Life (Free):</b> The association may, membership those who have been r work. Someone who is currently we	at any regular meeting, by a vote of two nembers of the association for five (5) or orking for a vendor is not "retired."	thirds (2/3) of those present, elect to life more years, but who have retired from active library		
	S	ignature	Date		



# Recollections of SCALL Past Presidents

## DAVID Mc FADDEN

The most memorable thing about "my" institute in Palm Springs was the fact that 2 of the 5 Saturday speakers dropped out during the last week or so before the institute. One attorney/speaker was in the middle of a negotiation and Larry Meyer, the speakers' chair that year, offered to put up the speaker and his client in Palm Springs in order to keep the speaker. He didn't accept. We instead asked our panelists from Friday to do a part II on Saturday and then we left early!

The most long-lasting accomplishment during my term hopefully will be my participation with leaders of the other California AALL Chapters in formulating the Points of Cooperation and the Pan-California Vision Statement which is a part of that. The leaders of all three chapters met in Monterey during the first joint institute to work on these documents. Practical things like joint receptions at the AALL annual meeting, the upcoming joint institute in 2003 in San Luis Obispo, the California Law Librarians' Legislative Advocacy Day and continuing cooperation in other legislative advocacy are evidence of that cooperation.

## ROBIN MAYPER

SCALL Anniversary.

I was SCALL President from 1994 to 1995. I actually cannot remember any major events or any significant incident that defined that period. Being a SCALL President was a professional honor. It was probably the most rewarding aspect of my tenure as a law librarian. I believe that is so because of the relationships that I had with the people on the board, committee heads and members of the association. I had some wonderful people who 'mentored' me and were a great source of support. I really valued the

interaction, both personal and professional, I had with people I worked with on the board, the past presidents, and fellow members. Law librarians are the best...I still think so.

My Institute was February 1994, Legal Rx: Issues in Health Care Law. It was held a few weeks after the Northridge quake and although we were still shaky, the attendance was one of the best at an Institute and I was very proud of the effort put forth by the committee and all of the participants. It was held at the InterContinental in LA which was also the site of SCALL's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary . The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was my first big "affair" as Program Chair and a great party. I always thought I was elected president because I could put on a good party. It still makes me proud.

My tenure as Vice President and President was a bit rocky because of personal situations, yet I felt it kept me together personally and professionally. I remember when it was time for me to hand over the gavel, I told one of my attorneys that I felt sad because I wasn't going to be President anymore. He reminded me that I would always be a Past-President, yeah...that's cool. I suppose there might have been different ways of dealing and handling situations but I don't believe I would have changed anything that happened those years.

## PAMELA HALL

During 1974-75 not everything was good about the "good old days". The Watergate scandal was unfolding and President Nixon would resign. The oil embargo forced us to search for the rare open gasoline station and then wait in around-the-block lines for 2 hours for a tank of gas. Word processing was done on a typewriter and PCs had yet to make their debut. Although both Microsoft Corporation and Apple Corporation began that year, we would only feel the impact of these two companies years later. The Internet was in its infancy and wouldn't be called the



(Continued from page 6)

Internet for another eight years. Catalogs were still on cards in most places and on huge computer printouts in large research libraries. Casual Fridays didn't exist but women were able to wear pants to work for the first time.

All the while, law libraries were changing. Photocopy machines were here to stay and, with the fledgling Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw, we were introduced to electronic libraries. Both Westlaw and Lexis had very small databases at first. We were promised that these electronic resources would grow--and grow they did! The only desktop access to information we had was when we carried books to our desks and used them there, so everyone visited the library to use both print and electronic resources. Law libraries were busy places.

Meanwhile, five times each year, law librarians in the area would gather for a SCALL dinner/business meeting and a guest speaker. Based on today's standards, SCALL members were a small but close-knit group. It wasn't difficult to know most of the law librarians in the area. Before e-mail and the Internet, getting to know other law librarians was important to us for the exchange of information it provided. Getting timely information by snail mail was always a great effort. It was helpful to call upon law librarians whom we knew from SCALL and AALL meetings to help us meet the challenges.

SCALL struggled with the difficulties of communication. Members spent countless hours compiling, typing and mailing newsletters and membership directories. Placement was always an issue. In order to connect employers with law librarians, we needed to find ways of making ourselves known to both law librarians and their prospective employers. It was no simple task.

Law librarians were a mix of people - some with double MLS and JD degrees and others who had just been put in charge of a library collection without any training. We worked to meet the continuing educational needs of our diverse membership. The fledgling 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual SCALL Institute was a means of meeting some of those needs. That year it was held

in Anaheim with the hope that the location would make it accessible to all, even with the increased gasoline prices after the oil embargo. The Institute was a success with a whopping 140 people taking part!

Another educational opportunity right in our back yard that year was the AALL annual meeting that was being held in Los Angeles. SCALL members were busy planning and preparing the venue.

Looking back on my year as president brings to mind many things. Some aspects of the job were difficult but almost all aspects were rewarding. The president who preceded me was Marie Wallace whose enthusiasm for the profession was contagious. She is still writing about law libraries 27 years later. The president-elect in 1974-75 was a young fellow named Albert Brecht who was just starting his career at USC Law Library. He was obviously a rising star. I wonder what ever happened to him...

With people like these, and many others, leading SCALL both before and after me, I can only say that it was an honor to be included among them.



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## Alan Holoch, SCALL President, 1980/81

Alan Holoch served as the 1980/81 President for SCALL. He referred to his term as one of experimentation and exploration. During his tenure as SCALL President, Alan established an Area Meeting Program in which three Area Coordinators representing law librarians in the Downtown Area, the West Side Area and in Academia, held informal meetings throughout the year which focused on topics of special concern and mutual interest to the members of their particular area group. In addition, Alan established a Special Committee for Law Librarian Consulting for Non Law Libraries and explored ways to make SCALL more visible in the local law community. I had the privilege of working with Alan both on the SCALL Board and at the USC Law Library. Alan left USC to further his career first as the Director of the Villanova University School of Law Library and then as the Director of Ohio State University Law Library. During that time he was highly active in professional activities including serving as Treasurer on the AALL Executive Board. In 1991 Alan died; to those of us whose lives he touched, we will long remember and treasure Alan.

I could not let Alan's infamous "wet and wild" SCALL Institute of 1980 go unmentioned. Alan selected the Hilton Riviera Hotel in Palm Springs as the location for the Institute and anticipated a pool side reception in the hot, dry climate of the desert terrain. One of his concerns was that registrants would chose to spend more time sun bathing, possibly with insufficient sun screen, rather than attend the full meeting. Alan expanded the scope of the Institute beyond a strict California bias and selected taxation and tax research. Speakers included a tax expert from the USC Law School, the Southern California Director of the IRS, and the Chief Consultant to the California Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation. As an added bonus, Francis Gates, incoming AALL President, was slotted as the luncheon special guest speaker who would offer remarks on his goals for the national association.

But the best laid plans of mice and men can sometimes go awry. On February 15 and 16, 1980, the dates of the Institute, southern California experienced two days of highly unusual weather - it poured rain. Not just ordinary rain, but torrential rains plagued all of southern California during the entire Institute. Registrants who did not get to Palm Springs by early afternoon on Friday were unable to attend the Institute as the narrow highway connecting the interstate to the main street of Palm Springs had flooded out and was closed off to traffic. What happened to one of the exhibitors at the Institute, Dick Spinelli, currently with the William S. Hein & Co., Inc. but at the time with Rothman, is typical of what others experienced. Dick flew into town and hired a van to take him from the airport to the hotel. His driver had never seen rain like this before. To quote

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Dick, "He drove like a bat out of hell only to stall out the engine at every block as he splashed through the high puddles at every curbside." To make matters worse, the luggage was in an open carrier attached to the van which resulted in soaking wet clothes for those unfortunate ones who only packed garment bags. The hotel roof sprung leaks which poured water sporadically through out the reception area, lobby, exhibitors' hall and even in guest rooms. Carpeting in guest rooms and the perimeter of the Exhibit Hall was soaked and people either squished about as they attempted to walk around or listened to the constant drip, drip, drip of water filling up trash cans. There was so much rain that the canopies over the walkways filled with water and collapsed. To top it all off, menus had been planned with an expectation of warm, sunny days. The cold salads, cold soups and ice cream for dessert brought shivers as attendees sat in the cold dining room with a leaking ceiling listening to howling winds and the sound of pounding rain on pavement. So much for drinks pool side. Any other Institute chair faced with this disaster would have had good reason to sit down and cry. But Alan made us all see the ridiculousness of the situation and those of us who attended his Institute remember how hilarious it was and how much we learned, laughed and enjoyed ourselves.

Prepared by Leonette Williams

## Legislative Days

by David McFadden
SCALL Government Committee Chair

In a little over three months last Spring, SCALL members participated in three different legislative days. Two were sponsored by the California Library Association and California School Library Association and the third jointly by the three California AALL chapters and the Council of California County Law Librarians. Each was different. Two were in Sacramento focusing on state issues. One was in the local districts intended to cover federal and state legislators. All have common goals of getting the word out about legislative priorities in these tight financial times and getting to meet the legislators or more usu-

ally their staffs.

On 1 February, CLA/CLSA hosted a Legislative Day in the District. This was new for both the sponsoring organizations and the attendees. Instead of going up to Sacramento and out to Washington, D.C., visits were scheduled for district offices. The intent was to try to establish two-way relationships with local offices emphasizing what services and help that libraries and librarians can do, as well as, discussing specific legislative issues. There was no briefing ahead of time given the diffused nature of the day. Fortunately, fact sheets dealing with the issues to discuss were provided on a web page. Since there were no major law library issues, my role was mainly as a "friend" of public and school libraries. In fact, I went to one Assembly Member's office and one Senator's office by myself. These were downtown offices and no one from the school libraries or Los Angles Public Library was available. Fortunately, a visit to a Culver City Senator's office was better attended. There was a trio of librarians – one public librarian, one school librarian and a law librarian. Each of us had our roles. The public and

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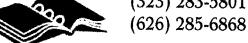
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(Continued from page 9)

school librarians spoke about their institutions and users. The law librarian briefed the aide on the issues. Due to scheduling conflicts, I did not make any congressional office visits. It was enough to visit the two state senatorial offices, one assembly office and do a drop off of informational materials to a assembly office at which there was no appointment with a legislator or staff.

For the second time in two years, law librarians from all three of California's AALL chapters plus librarians from the Council of California County Law Librarians descended on Sacramento for a day of advocacy training and practice. Twenty-one librarians mainly from Northern California lobbied their legislators or their staffs in support of county law libraries. SCALL was represented by Larry Meyer, Jane Meyer and David McFadden. Charley Dyer wore many hats. He was a speaker, on the planning committee, a member of SANDALL and SCALL and the Legislation Committee Chair for CCCLL. The morning was spent with briefings on legislative advocacy techniques. Legislative staffers, a lobbyist and a legislative intent provider were speakers and panelists. After lunch, there was a overview of specific issues and even a role play exercise with members of the planning committee taking the parts of legislators and legislative staff. Hopefully, this prepared the participants for what to expect when they walked the two blocks from the Secretary of State's building, where the training took place, to the Capitol. Unfortunately, there was no bill or budget item to specifically discuss but that did not stop us from explaining how county law libraries are used by self-represented litigants, small business people, students as well as the expected judges, lawyers and law students. It did not stop us from passing on the word that there has been a 40% decrease in purchasing power in county law libraries since 1992. Even though the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (UCITA) has not been introduced yet in California or very many states, we still expressed our opposition. In all, the day was a success.

The third day was held on 16 April in Sacramento. When the CLA and CSLA set a date for their twenty-first legislative day they had no idea that thirteen days earlier an innocent bill, AB 2648, dealing with technical corrections concerning the San Diego County Public Law Library would be transformed by an author's amendment into a bill that could devastate county law libraries statewide by shifting the cost of maintaining law library facilities from the counties to the county law libraries. Fortunately, it was just enough time for Charles Dyer to put together some flyers and others in the law library commu-

nity to start organizing. Even though CLA did not have time to officially consider the bill, some CLA and CSLA members helped distribute the handouts. Because of the unexpected amendment and the fact that law librarians had just been in Sacramento in March, only a few law librarians participated. Shirley David of the Sacramento County Law Library; Susan Steinhauser, an attorney, member of the Library of California Board and President of the Los Angeles County Law Library Board of Trustees; an intern from Los Angeles County Law Library; and David McFadden attended. As at the 1 February day, public and school library issues were on the official agenda. Fact sheets for both the legislators and librarians were provided. In fact, this year fact sheets were also available on a web page in advance. This was a very tough year because of the financial situation in the state. Pleas to hold the line on further cuts on the Public Library Foundation and the Library of California and to not recombine textbook and school library book funds into a single block grant were made.

Sometimes legislative days result in measurable victories (Continued on page 12)



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when bills reach the committees and the floors of the legislative houses. Sometimes just keeping our faces and names in front the legislators and their staffs is all that we accomplish. In April, a staffer approached me for information about AB 2648. That would not have happened if I had not been remembered from my visit in March. Little things like that can be very important in being successful in accomplishing our legislative goals.

Once again, I encourage all to participate in future legislative days. Usually there are training opportunities to prepare plus there enough "old-timers" to help out as well. If you cannot make it to Sacramento or Washington, D.C., perhaps you can attend the next legislative day in the district. In fact, the law librarians are now thinking of having their own one. The future of county law libraries, important information access issues and other laws impact law libraries and law librarians. By participating in legislative days and other legislative advocacy such as letter,



## Job Opportunities

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

and

Paul Howard Reference Librarian Loyola Law School Los Angeles Paul.howard@lls.edu

## Reference Librarian, Western State University College of Law, Fullerton

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

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(Continued from page 12)

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.

**Experience**: Practicum in law librarianship. Library or practice experience highly desirable.

**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: jobs@lls.edu

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

## Library Technician, Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego

**Reports to**: Technical Services and Acquisitions Librarian. **Hours**: Full time with benefits.

## **Summary Description**

Under the supervision of the Technical Services and Acquisitions Librarian and the Library Director, the Library Technician for Serials Maintenance is responsible for the serials and continuations side of the collection. All materials are checked into the Innovate software on a daily basis. (Training will be given if necessary). This position trains and supervises students working on a variety of Technical Services tasks.

## Essential Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

· A combination of a two or four year degree and/or li-

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brary certifications and/or library experience.

- Knowledge of library procedures.
- Knowledge of Excel and Word.
- An attention to detail.
- Good written and verbal skills.
- Ability to keep print and online files in good order.
- Must be a problem solver and have a positive attitude.
- Ability to operate standard office equipment including computers, printers and photocopiers.
- Ability to retrieve and distribute print volumes, push and pull carts of mail, packages and books weighing up to 25 pounds and the ability to retrieve and replace objects from 90" shelves.

## Contact

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

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



# Getting to Know You: Albert O. Brecht

by Margot McLaren mclarenm@ulv.edu



Albert O. Brecht was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. One of his fondest memories as a child were stories of his father playing quarterback in high school football and playing in the minor league in baseball. As a child, Albert played in the little league and participated in track. In his early years, he remembers being always interested in various branches of the United States

government, particularly in politics, which later paved an interest in law school. "I came from a family who read the newspaper and discussed current events".

Albert earned both a B.A. in Political Science and in Sociology from the University of North Texas, his law degree from the University of Houston, and his Master of Law Librarianship (M.L.L.) from the University of Washington.

When asked what made him decide to pursue a career in law librarianship instead of teaching, he confided: "Being a polisci major, I did not want to get a Ph.D. and teach full-time, but decided that pursuing a law degree would open up career opportunities (such as government administration)". Albert developed a strong interest in law librarianship when he was working as a part-time student assistant in reference while attending law school at the University of Houston and through his contacts with notable law library directors-Marian Gallagher, Pat Kehoe, Lolly Gasaway, and Al Coco whom he regarded as mentors. After Albert received his law degree and his license from Texas State Bar, he decided to pursue his Master's in law librarianship (M.L.L.) at the Univer-

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sity of Washington rather than practice law as an attorney. He confided: "The real reason for taking the bar was so that if a career in law librarianship did not work out, I could practice law".

While in library school, Albert learned that USC Law Library had created their first Assistant Director position. Former Law Library Director Francis Gates was recruiting graduates from the University of Washington to fill the Assistant Director position, which required both a JD and a library degree. Also during this time, Albert worked part-time at the University of Washington Law Library and in King County Law Library in downtown Seattle. After he earned his MLL, he secured a position as Assistant Director at USC Law Library in June 1973. In 1975, Francis Gates went to Columbia Law School as Law Library Director and at the age of 30, Albert was selected to be Director and Assistant Professor of Law. "I was extremely fortunate to be a director. I had 2 years experience working with staff and faculty. Supervising staff who were significantly older than me was a big challenge, and it was scary at first, but when I reflect back, how did I manage to be director so young--youthful ego and at the right place at the right time". In 1998, Albert was appointed Associate Dean, Chief Information Officer and John Stauffer Professor of Law, at USC Law School.

Albert keeps highly active by participating in a number of professional organizations including AALL and SCALL. Other notable services included serving as program chair (1983) and president (1987-1988) of AALL and as president of SCALL (1975) as well as chairing a variety of committees in both organizations. He is also the recipient of the prestigious 2002 William B. Rohan Chapter Service Award for his outstanding service and contributions to SCALL as an active member and as a mentor to many newer law librarians.

Although Albert considers himself a workaholic, he enjoys live theater, musicals, and serious dramas to escape the reality of work and to gain great insight. He also enjoys dance (modern and classical), going to cinemas, gardening, and reading nonfiction. When

asked if he liked to read fiction, he confided: "I prefer fiction in the illusion that comes across in theaters, cinemas and dramas".

Albert's advice to new SCALL members: "I try to encourage new Law Librarians to take a hard look at what they do at work. Ask, am I really doing something very important and perceived by others in the law school, law firm, etc. as important? Are you delivering a work product/producing an end product for faculty, attorneys, etc.? Librarians generally, are often the middle person in a process and that means the ultimate user of the information (faculty, for instance) don't know the important role the Librarian played. That phenomenon can be deadly for the Librarian and for the Law Library". He stresses the importance for faculty, attorneys, etc. to know what Librarians do. "If in a law school library, teach your students how to use LexisNexis and Westlaw so they will arrive at the law firms knowing that Law Librarians can help them with their search query. We must market/publicize the information services we provide and it is ongoing because we all get new users every year, be they students, faculty, attorneys, judges, etc."

## SCALL Newsletter Submission Deadlines

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

November Issue January Issue March Issue May Issue

October 14, 2002 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.



## Take a Break to Reflect...

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

One Friday night, I remember being very excited telling my then 6-year old, that I had finally completed the MLIS program. I was delighted at the mere prospect of having time to pursue my personal interests, i.e. having a social life again. As a single parent, I was especially glad that I would again, be able to spend more time with my son. But what really struck me about our conversation that night was the question he asked me. When I told him, "Drew, I'm done with school, no more papers to write, no more home works, no more night and weekend classes, etc..." He asked so innocently "then what?" I remember thinking, "yeah, that's right...what next? Go back to law school? Get a 2<sup>nd</sup> bachelors, a 2<sup>nd</sup> masters, a doctoral degree? Maybe.

Then what? This is a very good question that I think we should always ask ourselves. In whatever position we are in, we should never stop asking the "then what" question. As information professionals, we have the obligation to the institutions we work for, to the patrons we serve, to our profession, and to ourselves to continue to learn, to discover, to search, to explore, and to excel in our field. On this note, I like to begin a series of articles that will encourage each one of us to step back for a moment, relax, and take a break to reflect. As we all know, so many things are going on around us, changes occurring every single day, and people are moving all over the place. It's so easy to get all caught up in the motion and not so easy to break away from our day-to-day activities. In this column, I hope to talk about topics and issues that I think matters to most of us, if not all, on a personal level.

I will share my thoughts and experiences in the hope that you will find something you can relate to or prompt you to think about the things that are important to you. I invite you to share your own thoughts and experiences too.

Ever notice that more and more of our colleagues are switching workplaces these days? Private law librarians are switching to other firms or to university law libraries. Academic law librarians are opting to work for private companies. Court or county law librarians are switching to law school libraries. Other librarians are taking the entrepreneurial route working as independent consultants or moving out of the law library field entirely. Whether we like it or not, we all are in this "musical chairs" game. The question is, are you happy watching along the sidelines or would you much rather be in the game. I am in no way implying that changing careers or workplaces is that simple. On the contrary, there are a lot of factors to consider when making a career move.

The last AALL Conference held in Orlando included a program entitled "From Town to Gown: Law Librarians Connecting in a New Workplace". The speakers provided an excellent list of

questions to ask, along with common-sense tips and pointers to help smooth the transition to a different law library setting. Questions pertaining to geographical location, close proximity to family and friends, salary requirements and career goals are a few of the many that were discussed in the program. I couldn't agree more with Lynn Hartke, that the number one question to ask and in my opinion, is also the most important thing to think about is "what do YOU want?" This may sound so simple, but if you seriously think about it, it really isn't that simple. Knowing what you want sets the tone on how you will fare during the transition.

I remember being asked the same question in an interview for my first library job years ago (yes, many years ago and I'll leave it at that). At that time, I thought, "whoa... what do I want??? How much salary, benefits??? Did I know what I want then? Not really. Do I know what I want now? Yes. If I had known then what I know now, I would have wanted more than what I had asked for. Five years from now, if the same question will be asked of me, would I have the same answer? Maybe, maybe not, and I'm not talking about just the compensation. Depending on where I am in my career or in my life in general, what I want changes. And the farther I go in my career or in life, I find it even harder to determine what I want because a lot of things have changed and most importantly, I have changed. After determining what I want, for me it is equally important to ask why? Why do I want it? Why is it important to me? What would I be willing to give up or at least, would be willing to compromise? What are the trade offs? What do I hope to accomplish by moving to a different law library setting? A whole slew of questions go through my mind and ultimately all these questions boil down to, will I be happy? It is difficult enough to go through a change and making the change for the wrong reason would be even more difficult and could only spell misery in the long run. So why do it?

I join one of the program speakers in recommending the book "Who Moved My Cheese? An Amazing Way to Deal With Change in Your Work and in Your Life" by Spencer Johnson and Kenneth Blanchard. It's an excellent, quick read story about two mice (Sniff and Scurry) and two "little people" (Hem and Haw) who live in a maze and had to deal with change. In the story, someone moved the cheese; the reactions and the attitudes toward change were brilliantly portrayed in a humorous style and left readers reflecting on their own ways of dealing with change.

Changes occur whether you stay in the same workplace or move to a different workplace. However, when you choose to make the change yourself, you are in the driver seat, you decide which direction to go, which route to take, what tools to bring, and what you will need or will want to do when you reach your destination. When you do get to your destination, hopefully you've done everything necessary to make your transition a smooth one, ready, able and willing to face a whole set of changes in the new setting. Make the change because it is what

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you want and you want it for the right reason. Be sure that you know what you want to begin with.

Changes occur whether or not we are prepared for it and when they do occur, we should keep an open mind, embrace it and be flexible enough to be able to adapt to it. We should take it as an opportunity to grow, learn new ways, meet new people, and make new connections.



"You cannot discover new oceans unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore"

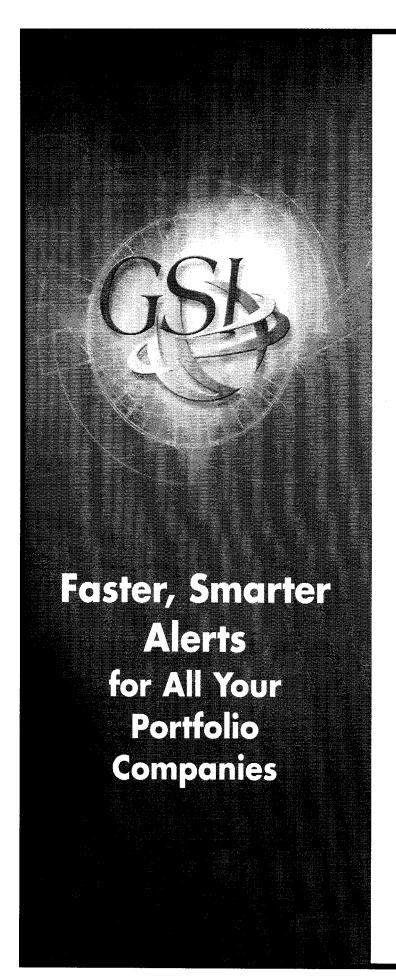
-- anonymous

# **2002 William B. Rohan Chapter Service Award**

"I am pleased to announce that Albert Brecht, Associate Dean, Chief Information Officer, and John Stauffer Professor of Law at USC Law School, is the recipient of the 2002 William B. Rohan Chapter Service Award. Albert was presented with the Rohan Award at the June 25th SCALL Business Meeting. Congratulations, Albert!!"

Laura Cadra





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We look forward to assisting you!



# SCALL's Golden Anniversary

December 5, 2002 will mark the beginning of SCALL's 50<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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
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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This year marks SCALL's fiftieth anniversary. To commemorate the event SCALL is planning a gala celebration at the site of the first SCALL meeting.

We need your help to make this an evening to remember. Please consider sharing your photographs with us. We would like to have a slide-show to showcase SCALL members and their libraries throughout the years. If you have any photos that you would like to share, please do not hesitate to contact Sheila Stone (contact information below).

Other details of the evening are as follows.

Date: December 4, 2002

Registration: 5:00PM

Cocktails: 5:30-7:00PM

(Hancock Museum on

Campus)

Dinner: 7:00PM Program: 7:45PM Dancing: 8:15PM

Place: USC's Town & Gown

(USC/site of the first meeting on 12/5/52)

Attire: formal attire/black tie op

tional

Also note, SCALL has contracted with the Radisson Hotel Midtown Los Angeles to get a special rate for those who will be attending the event. Details are as follows:

Radisson Hotel Midtown Los Angeles 3540 S. Figueroa St.

Los Angeles, CA 90007

213-7418-4141

Cost: 120 single/130 double/140 triple/150

quad

Check in time: 3:00 p.m. Check out time: noon

Parking: \$5.50 per day per car

Website: www.radisson-midtown.com

The hotel is located across the street from USC and within easy walking distance of the location of the SCALL 50th Anniversary celebration, Town and Gown. Those who want a hotel room at the discount rate would need to reserve a room before November 4, 2002. When making reservations, please reference the following code: **4595**. If you do not reference the code, you will not be quoted the discounted room rate.

Again, if you have anything to contribute – photos, stories, memorabilia – please contact Sheila Stone her contact information is below.

Sheila Stone (stones@ulv.edu) ULV College of Law Library 320 East D Street, Ontario California 91764 Ph. (909) 460 – 2062 Fax (909) 460 – 2083





# Welcome New Members

## Amy Atchison, Reference Librarian

Rand 310-393-0411 x6368 atchison@rand.org

## Paul Benson, Owner

L.A. Looseleaf 818-749-5681 lalooseleaf@mail.com

## Felicia Dickerson, Library Assistant

Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP 310-552-6691 fdickerson@akingump.com

## Joy Hastings, Access Services Librarian

L.A. County Law Library 213-629-3531 x396 joy@lalaw.lib.ca.us

## Isa Lang, Head of Information Services

Chapman University Law Library

## Roderick J. Morgan III, Network Administrator

Whittier Law School 714-444-4141 x493 rmorgan@law.whittier.edu

## Amy Parsons, Catalog Librarian

Chapman University Law Library 714-628-2546

## Roumi Radenski, Acquisitions Librarian

Chapman University Law Library 714-628-2539 roumi@chapman.edu

## Frank Richardson, Serials Acquisitions Librarian

L.A. County Law Library 213-629-3531 x330 far@lalaw.lib.ca.us.

## Kenneth Rudolf, Director & Associate Professor of Law

University of La Verne College of Law 909-460-2065 rudolfk@ulv.edu

# SCALL Business Meeting June 25, 2002 United States Court of Appeals Pasadena, California

Approval of the Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Larry Meyer. Diana Jaque moved that a reading of the minutes of the June 11, 2001 business meeting be waived. Laura Cadra seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Robert Wright reported SCALL has assets of \$36,801.03 in two CDs and a checking account. Liabilities are \$15,794.00, leaving a net balance of \$21,007.03. He reported that SCALL suffered a decline in revenue for its institute held in March 2002, and may be required to draw on some of its reserves to fund programs. SCALL has operated on annual deficits for the past three fiscal years. Income from exhibitor fees from the institute declined, resulting in a net gain for the institute of just under \$5,000. Dues bring in about \$8,000 annually, with \$1,400 expenses for postage for the directory and other mailings. While the Newsletter Committee and Programs Committee generate large revenues, both committees are running small deficits at present. Income from *Locating the Law*, brought in about \$900. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (December 2002) and Joint Institute (February 2003) may generate high income but carry high costs as well. Net gains are uncertain as to both events. The Treasurer's report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Election Results: Secretary Hugh Treacy announced the results of the 2002-2003 election. There were 387 ballots sent out and the return rate was 52%. Diana Jaque received 111 of 183 votes cast for Vice President/President Elect, Jennifer Hill received a plurality of 76 of 188 votes cast for Secretary, and Patrick Meyer received 135 of 185 votes cast for Board member at large. Hugh congratulated the winners and thanked each candidate who ran for election.

## Committee Reports:

Archives (Ralph Stahlberg): The committee added archival copies of v. 29 of the SCALL Newsletter and Membership Directory for 2001-2002; bound vols. 24-28 of the Newsletter; added the 2001 AALL annual meeting audiotapes, noticed their availability on the SCALL listserv and in the Newsletter; answered requests for SCALL historical research; serving on the SCALL 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and preparing archival materials for the celebration; and added three boxes of materials from the Inner City Youth Committee.

Government Relations (David McFadden): Marta de Paula Cea attended the AALL Legislative Advocacy Training and the AALL 2001 Leadership Roundtable in Minneapolis. David, Marta, and Larry Meyer met with GRC leaders from other chapters in Minneapolis. SCALL, NOCALL, and SANDALL sent a letter in July 2001 to the California House of Delegates concerning TPS Resolution 110-B opposing UCITA as written and recommended NCCUSL withdraw it and revise it. The committee participated in the first CLA/CSLA Legislative Day in the district on February 1, 2001. The committee jointly planned with several NOCALL and SANDALL members and the CCCLL, in the California Law Librarians 2002 Legislative Advocacy Day, March 2002 in Sacramento. David attended Legislative Day for California libraries held in April 2002. Public and school library issues were discussed, along with AB 2648. The committee monitored several bills during the past year. David recommended that new members be encouraged to join the committee. He recommended that the SCALL listserv act as a daily method of disseminating information to SCALL members about legislative issues. SCALL should send at least one representative to the various legislative days and support attendance at advocacy training sessions.

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<u>Grants</u> (Jacqueline Ayala): Eight grant applications were submitted to the committee for attendance at SCALL and AALL.

<u>Information Technology</u> (Darrin Fox): The SCALL web pages have been updated. *Locating the Law, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition* is now available as a PDF document on the web site. There is additional information on the web site regarding the Inner City Youth program. The SCALL directory is also available on the web site.

Inner City Youth Program (Brian Keefe): The committee attempted to raise public awareness of the committee and its purpose; the committee published an article in the *Daily Journal* and created an exhibit inside the Los Angeles County Law Library. Brian spoke at the SLA conference and the committee submitted articles to the SLA and SCALL newsletters. The committee placed interns at Los Angeles County Law Library, USC, and UCLA. The committee also attempted to increase funding sources by soliciting foundation support.

<u>Institute</u> (Cornell Winston): Eighty-three people attended the 30<sup>th</sup> SCALL Institute in Solvang (March 2002). Cornell thanked them for their participation.

<u>Library School Liaison</u> (Hal Brown): Five applications for scholarships were received. Three scholarships of \$1,500 each were awarded to library school students Elizabeth Caulfield, Maureen Dunnigan (present at meeting), and June Swedo. A mentoring program was started during the fall semester 2001.

Membership (Sheryl Kramer): Members who had not yet paid their dues have been contacted by telephone. The directory was updated and published by the Daily Journal Corporation and placed on the SCALL web site.

Newsletter (Margot McLaren): Margot announced that she will continue on as newsletter editor. The May 2002 issue was mailed on May 6<sup>th</sup> and is also available online at the SCALL web site. The deadline for submission of material for the September issue is August 12<sup>th</sup>. Future articles in the newsletter will include more biofiles, book reviews, and past president submissions. A column devoted to unusual reference questions, new ideas, and more will also appear.

Nominating (Jimmy Rimonte): There was no report.

<u>Placement</u> (Patrick Meyer): There were 40 - 50 jobs posted last year on the listserv and web page and Patrick authored an article in each newsletter about the committee's placement activities. At the time of the meeting, there were 13 jobs posted on the web site.

<u>Programs</u> (David Burch): Fifty people attended the October 30, 2001 program at Loyola, 61 attended the December 4, 2001 program at the Luminaria restaurant, and 46 attended the June 25, 2002 business meeting in Pasadena. There will be no holiday meeting this year. Instead there will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on December 4, 2002.

<u>Public Access to Legal Information</u> (Karla Castetter): Chapters 5, 8, Appendix A, the Index, and the order form for the online version of *Locating the Law, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition* have been updated. Chapter 11 was completely revised by Esther Eastman. Sales of *Locating the Law* generated a net profit to SCALL of \$923.73. The Research Instruction and Patron Services SIS of AALL chose *Locating the Law* chapters 2, 5, and 6 for inclusion in their 10<sup>th</sup> annual Legal Research Teach-In.

<u>Public Relations</u> (Diana Jaque): The committee solicited volunteers to staff the SCALL table at the 2001 AALL meeting in Minneapolis. Favorable comments were received by attendees regarding the Inner City Youth program and the fourth edition of *Locating the Law*. The committee also publicized SCALL meetings and conferences, in-

cluding LegalTech and the 2002 institute. The committee's major activity this year was contacting all SCALL past presidents, to request they contribute to short columns that would appear in the SCALL Newsletter, continuing until the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in December. Other activities in the current year include coordinating the SCALL table at the 2002 AALL meeting in Orlando, updating the brochure, assisting with publicizing of the anniversary celebration, and the Joint Institute scheduled for February 2003.

Relations With Vendors (Alan Schroeder): The committee has been soliciting vendors for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in December. He indicated that Lexis, West, CCH, Hein, Legislative Research Inc., Daily Journal Corporation, Copyright Clearance Center, AIM, and Moon-Elliot have committed to be represented.

<u>Union List</u> (Jennifer Murray): The eighth edition of the Union List is now in the works. The committee is also looking into creating an electronic Union List.

<u>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</u> (Anna Delgado): There are sixteen members of the committee. The celebration will be held December 4<sup>th</sup> at USC's Town and Gown at a cost of \$41 per person.

## Additional Presentations and Acknowledgements:

<u>Awards Committee Report</u> (Laura Cadra): The committee decided not to award a Vendor Appreciation award this year. The Rohan award was presented to Albert Brecht, Library Director at USC.

Gifts were presented to committee chairs and to outgoing board members.

Membership Questions/Issues: None.

Announcements: None.

<u>Introduction of New Board/Passing of Gavel</u>: Outgoing President Larry Meyer introduced the newly elected Board members to the SCALL membership present. He passed the gavel to the new President, Cornell Winston.

Adjournment: President Cornell Winston adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hill SCALL Secretary





## SCALL Committee Chairs 2002-2003

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50th Anniversary

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