

A Chapter of The American
Association of Law Libraries

SCALL Newsletter

Sept. / Oct. 2011, vol. 39, no. 1

From the President ... Mark Gediman

The other day I received a request from a legal assistant requesting that we purchase a book. It was a title I didn't recognize so I sent a request out on the SCALL listserv for help. It was something I did without thinking twice. Within minutes, I got responses (including one phone call) from colleagues helping me with my problem. This is what membership in SCALL means to me.

I sometimes hear from folks who aren't sure what value our chapter personally has to them. My response is usually to relate an incident like the one above where I was able to leverage the collective knowledge of our membership and get an answer quickly. The benefits of your membership in SCALL are tangible.



We help each other through SCALL in many ways. The SCALL listserv gives us instant access to the accumulated knowledge of over 300 librarians. Our committees support the membership, our profession and our community. We **communicate** with each other through both the Newsletter and the listserv; we **contribute to our communities** through the Inner City Youth Internship Program (aka ICYIP); we **introduce newer**

members to the profession through the Library School Liaison program and scholarships; we **keep our skills sharp** through the Continuing Education initiatives of the Programs Committee and through the awarding of grants; we **contribute to our Professional Development** through our Annual Institute; and we **publicize** the accomplishments of SCALL and its members.



You have already received an email with a volunteer form. If you value the contributions SCALL makes to supporting you professionally, please volunteer to serve on a committee. It's one more way that we as members can help our chapter and, by extension, ourselves.

*Mark Gediman is Director of Information Services,
Best Best & Krieger LLP in Riverside*

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The **SCALL Newsletter** is published electronically five times per year (September / October, November / December, January / February, March / April and May / June) by the Southern California Association of Law Libraries, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. Visit the SCALL website at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/scall>.

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Submission Deadlines

We welcome the submission of any articles of interest to the law library community. Contact Patricia Pelz Hart, **SCALL Newsletter Editor**: hart@chapman.edu

All submissions should be received by the following dates:

November 14, 2011
January 9, 2012
March 12, 2012
May 14, 2012
September 10, 2012

Nov. / Dec. 2011 issue
Jan. / Feb. 2012 issue
Mar. / Apr. 2012 issue
May / June 2012 issue
Sept. / Oct. 2012 issue

Editor's Notes ... Patricia Pelz Hart



Welcome to all our readers as the SCALL Newsletter begins volume 39. Enjoy this informative and colorful issue. SCALL members were generous in their newsletter submissions. We have program summaries and photos from AALL's annual meeting in Philadelphia. You can almost feel the softness of the baby blankets knitted for the craft court.

Don't forget to vote in November for AALL's Executive Board. Information about candidates is within. SCALL member Jennifer Berman is one of the candidates.

I look forward to my third year as editor. I am very pleased that Debbie Lipton is continuing as the compiler. Thanks also to the faithful newsletter staff and all contributors. I am also grateful to Isa Lang, Interim Director of Chapman Law Library, for her unceasing support.

Save the Date ...

SCALL October Meeting

Watch for further details



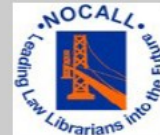
Stephanie Der & Amber Molde staffing the SCALL table at AALL

Joint Institute of SCALL, NOCALL and SANDALL

March 9th-10, 2012

Crowne Plaza - San Diego

Watch for updates. Details are still to be set, and may change.



2nd National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color - JCLC 2012

"Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories, Embracing Communities"

September 19-23, 2012 / Kansas City, Missouri

Candidates Announced for AALL Executive Board

CANDIDATES ANNOUNCED FOR AALL EXECUTIVE BOARD SCALL'S JENNIFER BERMAN IS A CANDIDATE

The 2011 AALL Nominations Committee presents the following slate of candidates for the **2011 AALL Executive Board Election**. The election will be held **November 1 – November 30, 2011**. Successful candidates will begin their terms of office in July 2012.

Vice President/President-Elect

- **Steven P. Anderson**, Director, Maryland State Law Library, Annapolis, MD
- **Sally H. Wise**, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, University of Miami School of Law Library, Coral Gables, FL

(continued on page 4)

2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color Proposal Deadline

JCLC 2012: *Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories and Embracing Communities* will take place from **September 19-23, 2012** in Kansas City, Missouri.

The mission of JCLC is to advance the issues affecting librarians of color within the profession and to also explore how best to serve the incredibly diverse and changing communities that use our libraries.

The 2012 JCLC Steering Committee invites you to submit a proposal for a presentation at the conference. Proposal submission deadlines are listed below.

JCLC TRACKS AND TOPICS

- Advocacy, Outreach and Collaboration
- Collections, Programs and Services

- Deep Diversity and Cultural Exchange (understanding and valuing differences)
- Leadership, Management and Organizational Development
- Technology and Innovation

Submission Guidelines. All proposals must be submitted to the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color website at: www.jclc-conference.org. Questions may also be sent to Alanna Aiko Moore, JCLC Program Committee Chair, at alannaiko@gmail.com

Deadline. All proposals must be received by midnight PST on **October 1, 2011**. No late submissions will be accepted. Notifications of proposal selection will be made on a rolling basis beginning on November 1, 2011 and ending on December 15, 2011.

AALL Executive Board Candidates

... *continued*

Executive Board Member

- **Jennifer A. Berman**, Librarian, McDermott Will & Emery LLP, Los Angeles, CA
- **Amy J. Eaton**, Seattle Library Manager, Perkins Coie LLP, Seattle, WA
- **Michele Finerty**, Assistant Director for Technical Services, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, Gordon D. Schaber Law Library, Sacramento, CA
- **Suzanne Thorpe**, Associate Director for Faculty, Research, and Instructional Services, University of Minnesota Law Library, Minneapolis, MN.

In the fall, biographies and statements of all Executive Board candidates will be posted on AALLNET.

Congratulations to all of our candidates!

Thanks for the excellent work and contributions of the 2011 Nominations Committee: Chair Kelly Browne; Vice Chair James E. Duggan; and committee members Kathy Coon, Sarah G. Holterhoff, Allen R. Moye, Nuchine Nobari, and Karen Quinn.

SCALL Membership News ... by Judy K. Davis

Welcome New Members!

Marissa E. Andrea, Research Librarian, Irell & Manella LLP

Chrystal Febish, Sales & Marketing, Juris

Jennifer Friedman, Technical Services Librarian, O'Melveny & Myers

Annie Murphy, Junior Librarian, Fremont College

Adrian Orozco Reference Librarian, Irell & Manella LLP

Other News:

Lisa Marks is now with Bryan Cave LLP.

Returning Members:

Pauline Afuso, Legal Taxonomist, Thomson Reuters / West

Welcome New Student Members!

Laura Bjork, California Western School of Law

Elizabeth Marshall

Cynthia Naden, Sr. Administrative Assistant/Paralegal, One West Bank, FSB

Jeffrey Sabol, Public Services Assistant, Loyola Law School

Any corrections, changes, or additions to your membership information, as well as any announcements for Membership News, should be sent to:

*Judy K. Davis
Chair, SCALL Membership Committee
Phone: (213) 740-6482
Email: jkdavis@law.usc.edu*

Heard Around Town ... by Larry Meyer



I hope that each of you had had a restful and productive summer and are looking forward to the excitement of a new SCALL year.

Numerous SCALL members reported that, in spite of the heat and humidity, one of their highlights this summer was their attendance at AALL in Philadelphia. In addition to making their way to the annual reception for the West Coast Chapters, many of our members reported that they found time to attend pre-conference workshops, vendor sponsored receptions and to visit many of the historic sites and other attractions for which Philadelphia is famous.

In addition to taking over as the SCALL President and continuing to work hard at his day time job, President **Mark Gediman** is managing to find time to continue speaking to various community and law related groups. His most recent presentation, *Internet Research Tips* was to 17 members of the *Inland Counties Association of Paralegals*.

Long time SCALL member **Jim Sherman** reports from Fresno that he has added "retired" to his job title. Knowing Jim, he will not remain retired for long. In fact, he already has his first retirement job serving in a "volunteer" capacity as an assistant cross country coach at the school he retired from in July.

Like many of our members, this writer had an interesting and busy summer as well. In addition to attending ALL, I was elected to serve as **Chancellor** of the **Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity**. Instead of the customary celebratory trip to Disneyland, my trip was a three week adventure to Israel and Spain.

As I conclude this column, I would like to share with each of you a chuckle sent to me courtesy of **Karen Lasnick**. When I put out the call on the listserv for news items including exciting trips, Karen responded, "My exciting trip was to wait until my kids started school and then I took a week off. Had the house to myself all day long. Heaven."

Lawrence R. Meyer is Director of the Law Library for San Bernardino County in San Bernardino.

The Development of Human Attitudes Toward Animals and Animal-Assisted Therapeutic Interventions ... report and photos by Tracie Hall



Dr. Serpell

This was a great meeting, with a respectable audience of 81 attendants (all, presumably like me, forgoing lunch to be here), sponsored by the **Animal Law Caucus**. The first speaker was Professor **James A. Serpell**, Professor of Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, where he also directs the Center for the Interaction of Animals and Society.

There are two values, Dr. Serpell told us, in regards to the attitudes people have towards animals. The utilitarian value is where an animal's worth is measured by its usefulness—a value prevalent in agricultural settings. The emotional value is where worth is measured on an emotional level. This latter value is more common in urban settings. Each value has its negative to positive range: On the Utilitarian scale, a cow or steer is considered beneficial, where a locust or cockroach is detrimental. On an emotional scale of value, we might find dog at the beneficial end; a snake at the detrimental.

Historically, said Dr. Serpell, animals were deemed valuable strictly according to their utility.

Aristotle (384BC-322BC) is believed to have set the tone for man's utilitarian attitude toward animals with his influential "*scala naturae*" (Scale of Nature), whereon all lesser forms of life, such as plants and bugs exist to serve the interest of those higher up the scale; man being at the top, superseded only by the gods.

René Descartes (1596-1650), later sought to illuminate the field with the distinction that other life forms consist of just a mechanical body, whereas man, consists of the mechanical body as well as a rational soul. In fact, Dr. Serpell told us, animal ownership for anything other than utilitarian purposes in the 16 century was considered witchcraft.

Jean- Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778), a Genevan philosopher of the Enlightenment era, suggested that sentience and sensitivity (an ability to suffer) may be better evidence of the possession of a soul. His view is evidence that a social change had begun in the 18th century in man's attitude towards animals.

The emotional value of animals began to pick up momentum in the 19th century:

The **Quakers of York** established a retreat in 1813 believing that an intercourse with animals awakens benevolent feelings; the "Animal Protection" movement began; and **Florence Nightingale** (1820-1910) promoted pets as beneficial to one's health. The fear of diseases, however, soon removed pets from health care settings.

Pointing out some of the research, Dr. Serpell then told us of such findings as **Boris Levinson** (1907-), a pioneer in child psychology, who found that children were more forthcoming in the presence of a pet.

Professor Serpell also stated that autistic people have been found to benefit from service animals. It's also believed that dogs enhance family communication. Pet therapy is used for psychological disorders such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, substance abuse, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. It has also been employed for sufferers of Alzheimer's disease. Research strives to move beyond the anecdotal to produce hard evidence.

Dr. Serpell was encouraged that progress continues: 14 states with animal protection legislation in 1993 went up to 46 states by 2009. There is less use of animals for scientific research.

Dr. Serpell finds it interesting to see what drives trends. People in rural areas, he said, still tend to display less interest in sensitivity for animals and more interest in their exploitable value. "Urbanization liberates those people from their distance to animals." People in cities spend less time in human relationships, but are having increased association with animals. It's possible to have a stronger attachment to animals than humans, and it's more needed in an urban setting.

The Development of Human Attitudes Toward Animals ... *continued*

A discussion ensued as to current trends and the diversity of attitudes, with Dr. Serpell stating that, aside from a concern that the recession could force people to give up their animals, he thought the future trend in attitude is toward being more animal oriented.



Suzanne Mawhinney

The next (and last) speaker was **Suzanne Mawhinney**, of the University of San Francisco's Zief Law Library. Suzanne spoke about **Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT)** and the steps involved in implementing it in the **Zief Law Library** during the spring 2011 semester exam period. First, they sought

permission to use the SPCA's AAT Program from the appropriate USF administrative personnel, which included an assessment of the plan by the University's legal team. Upon University approval, the library contacted the SPCA which sent someone to approve the library. The SPCA's AAT dogs are veterinarian certified for cleanliness, physical health, and having appropriately "solicitous manners with strangers."

The library chose **5 dogs** from the program, of varying energy levels. **Sign-ups for 10 minute sessions were conducted at the circulation desk.** Suzanne described the dog's personalities and some of the sessions—the idea was that one dog (with the owner standing by) would meet with one student. It didn't always work out that way.

She said the friskiest one, a puppy less than a year old, frequently had multiple visitors, reaching a high of about 15 at once.

Suzanne closed with a few comments on what they might do differently if they do it again. They would seek to take better control of press interviews so that the therapy sessions weren't usurped by interviews without warning; they would send reminders to the students who'd signed up to avoid no-shows; and they would ask the dog owners to come early to allow for traffic jams and last minute dog walks. In conclusion, Suzanne says that overall, the experiment was a hit with staff and students alike and the press was great and abundant.

Further information is available at: <http://community.aallnet.org/animallawcaucus/Home/>

Tracie Hall is Serials and Acquisitions Librarian at Chapman Law School Library in Orange



Animal photos taken by Shawn Calhoun, Head of Access Services & Facilities, USF Gleeson Library.

Legal Education for Law Practice: Teaching Legal Research in a Practice Environment ... reported by Brian Raphael

This program, C-6, featured law librarians and clinical faculty from the **University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law (UDC-DCSL)**, who shared their experiences in an “**embedded librarians program**” that took place during the 2010-11 academic year. In this experimental program, law librarians were assigned to either a legal clinic or seminar to provide ongoing research instruction and support for the law students in the respective clinic or seminar. The “embedded” librarians became an integral part of the clinic or seminar to which they were assigned and not only familiarized the students with the resources needed to do effective research but also taught them how to develop a research plan, evaluate resources, think creatively about their research problems, and keep good track of their research results.

The librarians on the panel discussed their involvement in the embedded librarian program and the different ways in which they assisted and mentored the law students. **Helen Frazer**, Associate Director and Head of Public Services at UDC-DCSL, who was embedded in the school’s **Juvenile & Special Education Law Clinic**, provided general instruction to the students in this clinic and also met one-on-one with the students to assist them with their individual research projects and papers. Helen pointed out that she needed to spend some time just reviewing basic research principles, including how to begin one’s research. Given the high difficulty level of many of the research projects the clinical students were assigned, she also tried to instill in them the importance of analogizing their problems to other situations and contexts and keeping a research log to document all of their steps throughout the research process. **Kaitlin Banner** and **Laura Rinaldi**, the two clinical instructors from this same clinic, also participated in this panel and acknowledged how important and beneficial it was to have a research “expert” embedded in their program. Laura noted that not all of the students followed through in meeting one-on-one with Helen but that those who did produced better results than those who did not.

Two other librarians at UDC-DCSL, **Gail Mathapo** and **Brittany Kolonay**, also participated on the panel and discussed their experiences in the embedded librarian program. Gail was embedded in the **Community Development Law Clinic**, where she familiarized the students with various law and business sources as well as the legislative process in Washington DC. Brittany did not work with a clinic but was embedded in a **criminal justice seminar**, where she helped the students develop their theses and conduct scholarly research for their papers.

All of the panelists were very positive about their participation in the embedded librarian program. The program’s moderator, **Vicenç Feliú**, the law library director at UDC-DCSL, viewed it as a successful experience and said that he plans to expand to other clinics in the coming years. Helen Frazer also expressed satisfaction with the program but noted that its success was only possible because of the good working relationship the librarians have with their clinical instructors. She also stated that while the preparation for librarians was fairly substantial in the initial year (since the librarians had to get up to speed on the subject matter at hand), their workload should diminish considerably in subsequent years. She stressed the importance of maintaining a database or log and recording the information learned from the embedded librarians so that if another librarian takes over in the future, it will become easier for him or her to transition into the program. Additionally, Helen noted that having an embedded librarian program results in fewer transactions from students at the reference desk, which helps offset some of the extra workload imposed on the librarians.

Vicenç and Helen have written an article entitled “Embedded Librarians: Teaching Legal Research as a Lawyering Skill” (September 30, 2010), which is available on SSRN at <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1694568>. In this article, they argue that an embedded librarian program offers a means to successfully achieve the recommendations of the 2009 *Boulder Statement on Legal Research Education* as well as the 2007 Carnegie Foundation Report, *Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession of Law*. They also note that the practice of embedding law librarians is not limited to the academic world and that some law firms have tried it in their various practice groups. Vicenç and Helen’s SSRN article will soon be published in a forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Legal Education*.

Brian Raphael is Assistant Director, USC Law Library in Los Angeles

The Smartphone Tag Project: The Newest Codes in the Library ... reported by Karen Skinner

Robert M. Linz presented program E3 on a project implementing the use of smartphone readable tags in the **William A. Wise Law Library** at the University of Colorado. The tags are called information-encoded symbols or **QR codes** (quick response codes). They have started to pop up everywhere from advertisements to product packaging.

Advertisers can encode a variety of information in a QR code. A user with a smartphone containing a camera and an appropriate tag-reading app can download that information as needed. For instance, a QR code on an advertisement for a new car might direct the consumer to the car's website. QR codes can be created in black-and-white or color, can be made up to billboard-size, and can be used in print or online materials.

Linz listed several possibilities for the use of QR codes in a library. Libraries could use them for research guides, resources in the catalog, instructions on how to use equipment like copiers, contact information for librarians and staff, and library information such as maps and policies.



QR code sample

The University of Colorado implemented their program in the fall of 2010 to increase access points to the collection and library services and to embrace mobile device technology. It was important to them to meet users where they were using technology. They used **Microsoft Tag Reader**, a free app from Microsoft that requires a Windows Live Account (free). Linz said they elected to use this software because it was easy to create and render tags. Microsoft Tag Reader also provides reporting features so that one can see how often the tags are being used. You can also use this software to assign categories to your tags and use active dates so that the tag is only active for a certain period of time.

Linz said an advertising campaign was implemented called "Scan to Learn." Posters were placed throughout the library explaining the QR codes and that they could be used to obtain more information. They used a consistent layout placing the QR code in the same location on each piece. Information on what scanning the QR code would do to the patron's phone was also included. The library marketed the program in advanced legal research and legal research and writing courses. They also advertised on library bulletin boards, on the library's website, and during fireside reference in the student common area.

The first thing they worked on was research guides. They posted signs containing the QR codes in appropriate places in the library and mentioned that students could access a research guide if looking for information on a particular subject. As an example, a QR code posted in the Colorado collection in the library would bring up a Colorado research guide. You can even use the codes to link to research guides produced by other libraries. QR codes were also used for subject listings from the library's catalog. If a student was browsing in the immigration section of the library, they could scan the QR code located at the end of the aisle to bring up a subject search of the catalog using immigration law as the subject heading.

Linz mentioned that his library also used QR codes for group study rooms. Study rooms had posters outside the room. When students scanned the QR code with their phones, they were directed to the library's policy on group study room use. Linz says they'll investigate QR codes further to see if they can develop a method for reserving study rooms.

Using the reporting features in the Microsoft Tag Reader app, they discovered that the QR code describing the program was only accessed 60 times, which they found surprising. Linz thinks there are several reasons for the low usage. They started the program late in the semester in November 2010. A student survey showed that most students didn't own a smartphone, thereby negating their ability to use QR codes. Linz found this very surprising in the iPhone era. Other students said they had not tried out the QR codes because they had not seen the codes in the library.

Linz says that they will continue the program this academic year and will introduce the QR code program during orientation. They also plan to implement self-guided tours using QR codes this year. Linz likes these codes and says that they are one more service point to reach patrons. He also says that once you see one QR code, you see them everywhere.

Karen Skinner is a Research Services Librarian at the USC Law Library in Los Angeles.

Craft Court Participants Knit Baby Blankets ... text and photos by Tracie Hall

One day, **Lesliediana Jones** (Head of Document Services/Research Librarian in the George Washington University (GWU) Law School's Jacob Burns Law Library) was sitting at her computer catching up on e-mails, when a message on the "Hein Run" at an upcoming AALL meeting caught her attention and sparked her imagination, "What might be fun for those of us who are not so fond of running?" The monthly needlework get-together at GWU came to mind. The perfect answer! And then we could donate our creations to the hosting city! So she and her GWU colleagues, **Susan Chinoransky** and **Debby Norwood** made it happen.

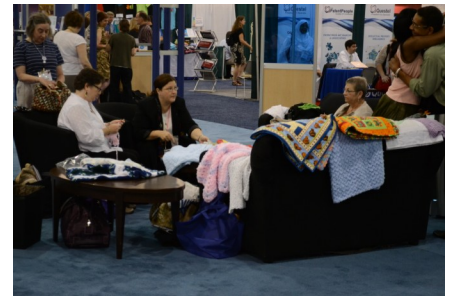
First Lesliediana sent out e-mails on the law-lib, all-sis, and ts-sis listservs announcing the event to be called "**Craft Court**"; an hour for people to get together to relax and do any craft they like. Then, when a few people, who saw the announcement but knew they wouldn't be attending, asked if they could still donate blankets, Lesliediana agreed to receive the shipments and drive them to the event where she would include them in the display.

By the time it was over, seventeen people, including many SCALL members, had donated twenty-seven baby blankets. After the event, the blankets were delivered to the **Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Hahnemann University Hospital** in Philadelphia.

Spectators and participants alike enjoyed the event: "It was a really fun group and I'll definitely participate again if they plan something for the Boston meeting," says **Paula Doty**, one of the participants. And Lesliediana does indeed plan to do it again at the next AALL Conference!

You won't find this activity listed under any AALL caucuses or other AALL affiliations, so watch for those listserv e-mails or contact Lesliediana Jones at ljones@law.gwu.edu in 2012!

Photos by Lesliediana Jones of the 2011 blankets and participants of the Craft Court can be found at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/65733975@N05/>



Craft Court at AALL

***Tracie Hall** is Serials and Acquisitions Librarian at Chapman Law School Library in Orange*

Providing Excellent Customer Service in the Law Library: Hold the Pickles ... reported by Paula Hoffman

How can ordering a bottle of olive oil improve customer service at your library? It did just that for **Vanessa Uribe**, Library Director at the **El Dorado County Law Library**. Vanessa ordered a bottle of olive oil from **Zingerman's**, a famous **deli** located in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Zingerman's is well known for their great customer service. When the bottle of olive oil she ordered arrived, it was the wrong flavor. Thus began a journey that resulted in the excellent presentation on customer service in the law library, program H-2, at the 2011 AALL conference in Philadelphia.

Vanessa was so impressed with Zingerman's service that she actually flew back to Michigan to attend a training session on customer service put on by Zingerman's. Then Vanessa brought all the information she had learned home with her and created an exciting, enlightening presentation relating the Zingerman approach to libraries.

Vanessa next presented a workshop on Zingerman's approach to customer service for the **Sacramento County Public Law Library**. At AALL, Vanessa teamed with **Kelly Brown**, from the Sacramento County Public Law Library.. In this unique presentation Vanessa taught the Zingerman principles, and Kelly told how they had been applied at her

Providing Excellent Customer Service in the Law Library ... *continued*

law library.

How does one go about creating building a culture of customer service? Here is the Zingerman way:

Teach it

Have training manuals with policies and procedures, teach by example from management on down, create a climate of always learning about customer service.

Define it

Zingerman's defines great customer service in three easy steps. 1. Figure out what the guest wants. 2. Get it for them. 3. Go the extra mile.



Live it

Systems should support great service. At Sacramento they believe that trust, communication, respect and putting your ego aside helps employees concentrate on what is best for the patron.

Measure it

Sacramento County Public Law Library has forms for Code Red- customer complaints and Code Green- customer compliments. They are filled out by employees and are used to improve the services to patrons.

Reward it

With professional advancements, recognition and group rewards that reflect the customer service element. At Zingerman's they have the "Gift of Service Award."

One of my favorite take aways from the presentation was the **Zingerman's 5 Steps to Handling a Complaint.**

- Acknowledge the complaint
- Sincerely apologize
- Take action to make things right
- Thank the guest for giving you the opportunity to correct the complaint
- Document the complaint

This was one of my favorite classes I attended at AALL. Both Vanessa and Kelly had knowledge and enthusiasm about the subject of patron service. I couldn't wait to get back to work and start practicing the new principles I had learned.

Learn more about the Zingerman's way at www.zingermans.com and www.zingtrain.com

Presentation documents for the AALL Conference presentation Providing Excellent Customer Service in the Law Library are available at <http://edlawlibrary.wordpress.com>

Paula Hoffman is the Foreign/International Reference Librarian at the LA Law Library.

Best of Show: WikiLeaks was the Hot Topic ... reported by Tracie Hall

So, I don't know about you, but I thought the sessions at this year's AALL were particularly interesting. There was even a time or two I tried to clone myself to be in two at once. The MP3 recordings that AALL provides free to conference attendants spared me that pain and allowed me to re-listen to one particularly good session. Did you go to the one called, "**Hot Topic: WikiLeaks, Intelligence, and the Law of Secrecy**"? Then you know what I'm talking about! Wasn't that interesting? I think of it as the "Best of Show."

This one *was* a little bipolar in that on the one hand I was hearing about the seriousness of information classification and of adhering to it, then, moments later, I was hearing about the absurdities that can occur in the process and aftermath of information classification. But I'm guessing that's a large part of why I enjoyed it.

I gave little thought to security information analysis or classification before this lecture. I'd heard of WikiLeaks but only enough to know I didn't want to visit the website. I understood that someone providing classified information to the public, doesn't thereby render it declassified.

WikiLeaks was a primary component of a discussion that revolved around intelligence and the classification of information: what intelligence is, the motives (both good and bad) for securing intelligence; the dangers of shared intelligence (I don't want to give too much away, but think, "death"); how information becomes classified; who is authorized to classify it; the three primary levels of classification (Top Secret, Secret, and Confidential); who is privy to those levels and to what degree; the duration of classifications; and some of the absurdities resulting from the system.

Both the moderator and the speaker had substantial experience in the fields of defense and justice. The moderator, **Christopher A. Vallandingham**, (Chiles Legal Information Center in the University of Florida's Levin College of Law) spent six years as an Arabic Linguist officer of the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG), safeguarding information. Christopher kicked off the session with an introduction that included identifying seven infamous faces for us as they flashed, each in his turn, upon the projection screen, and describing their offences. Last of the seven was **Private First Class Bradley Manning**, the 22 year old Army Intelligence Analyst from Potomac, MD. Private Manning was suspected of leaking classified documents and video material of the war in Afghanistan to **Julian Assange's** "WikiLeaks", thus inciting the debate, "Whistleblower or criminal?"

We were provided with an example of something classified; a trivial conversation that would pique anyone's curiosity as to what could be so secret about it ... which was the point. It's not always the content that dictates something's classification; it might be the mere fact that it was overheard at all, or perhaps the technology involved in the means by which it was overheard.

Christopher suggested that if we lose his helpfully annotated handout of relevant government Internet sources, much of what we would hear as to the policies of classification, would be found in "Executive Order number 13526." A Google search on that will get us on our way.

Jan Goldman was soon introduced with his own substantially vast history, both with the Department of Defense and the Department of Justice. Jan is currently a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Information Analyst and also teaches Intelligence Ethics courses at Georgetown University. His introduction was a disclaimer that everything we would hear should not be construed as representing FBI policy — assign his statements only to him, or maybe to Georgetown University if we so desired, but not to the FBI.

Among the things Jan discussed was the fact that some things become classified, not by the author's intent, but after the fact, by third parties. An example he gave was a manual he'd written himself and disseminated to troops. His manuals were snatched up, each and every one, and *burned!* (Ouch, that's got to hurt.) Well, except for one, which was slammed into a safe and locked into the dark.

And then, did you hear the one about the poor lady, **Cynthia Grabo**, who had to wait 30 years to get her book, "Anticipating Surprise: Analysis for Strategic Warning", published? Yep! And I could tell you about it, but then I'd have to kill you. But I can tell you that, ironically, it took Jan serving on both ends of a request form — as the submitter and as the manuscript retainer, to get it declassified — but then only 200 of the 700 pages. When Jan asked if he could

Best of Show: WikiLeaks ... continued

get help from the author to determine which 200, he was denied, based on the fact that the author did not have clearance. (This is the “absurdities that can go wrong within the system” part.) No, you’re right. It’s not actually a joke, certainly it wasn’t to Cynthia — but it was an amusing anecdote full of twists and turns the way Jan told it ... so you really do have to get your hands on the recording of this session if you didn’t attend it!

P.S. That book Cynthia (and Jan after his work extracting the 200 pages) authored, by the way, can be downloaded from: <http://www.ndic.edu/press/pdf/5671.pdf>.

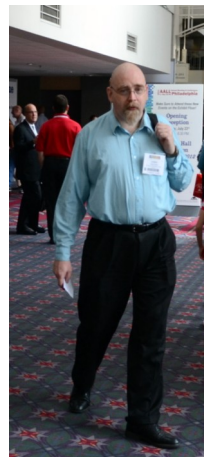
And what about the WikiLeaks guy? Well, Jan’s response is that it’s hard to know what damage was done (by which I think he meant, “hard to know how well the enemy could use the information to our detriment”), but that there’s a reason for classifying information, and it should be taken seriously, *i.e.*, I suspect he’d weigh in on the “criminal” side of that debate.

Tracie Hall is Serials and Acquisitions Librarian at Chapman Law School Library in Orange

AALL Photos by Tracie Hall



*Mark Gediman, an
AALL program presenter*



Lorin Geitner, SCALL attendee



*George Carter, Ed Hart, Paul Moorman at
SCALL table*



Historic sites sign



Swan rides in the marina



*Dinner cruise on the
Delaware River*



*Independence
Hall, North side*



Philadelphia City Hall



Questioning the Paper Chase: Why Should Law Librarians Obtain a Law Degree? ... reported by George P. Carter

ALL – SIS sponsored a panel discussion titled *Questioning the Paper Chase: Why Should Law Librarians Obtain a Law Degree?* The panel consisted of **Stephen Young** from the Catholic University of America, **Charles Marcus** from UC Hastings School of Law, **Robert Nissenbaum** from Fordham University Law Library, and **Kumar Jayasuriya** from Georgetown University Law Library. Mr. Young and Mr. Marcus hold graduate degrees in library science. Mr. Nissenbaum and Mr. Jayasuriya have dual degrees. What follows is a brief summation of the most notable points and contributions of the panel during the discussion. While most of the discussion was focused on academic reference librarians it is the nevertheless a fascinating topic of discussion for the law library community.

Why Have This Discussion Now?

Mr. Young believes that we are having this discussion now because the economics of obtaining a law degree have completely changed over the last 20 years. Mr. Marcus compiled statistics from Law-Lib list serve. According to Marcus, there have been about 3600 entries for job related postings on Law-Lib since its inception in 1992. Job postings peaked in 2000 with 250 job postings. 2009 saw the lowest number of job postings with less than 50 and 2010 saw 75 job postings on Law-Lib. Marcus says there are two conclusions that we might draw from the data. 1. The number of law library jobs is declining; or 2. people are posting jobs elsewhere. Marcus noted that number of JD required and JD preferred jobs have remained relatively steady over the years. However MLS/MLIS only job postings have declined since 2000. Between 1992 and 2000 most of the job postings required only an MLS/MLIS. Since 2000 the majority of law library jobs have been JD required or JD preferred.

Does It Pay to get a JD?

From 1989 to 2009 college tuition rose by 71%. During that same time the cost of law school tuition rose by 317%. The entire panel agreed that, like the housing bubble which popped in 2008, the educational bubble is also about to pop. The cost of tuition combined with the amount jobs available and the salary of those jobs is unsustainable.

Mr. Young cited numbers from the American Bar Association's report titled, *The Value Proposition of Attending Law School*. According to the ABA, in 2009 a public law school student borrowed \$71,436 for law school and the average private law student borrowed \$91,506. Young rightly points out these figures do not include the opportunity cost of attending law school. That is, the amount of money one could have earned had he or she worked instead of studying law. When you include opportunity costs, the real cost of law school is closer to \$200,000.

Robert Nissenbaum from Fordham University Law Library pointed out that the 2009 salary survey published by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) shows that academic reference librarians who have dual degrees with 6-10 years of experience make \$59,811, whereas an individual who holds only a library degree makes on average \$52,207. As the panel noted, \$7600 additional salary is not going to make up for the cost of the \$200,000 law degree. Furthermore, Young added that when you look at the mean salary across all categories for academic reference librarians, a librarian with a dual degree earns only \$342 more than a librarian with only MLS/MLIS.

Is it Necessary to Have a JD?

The panel was in agreement that it is not necessary to have a JD in order to be a legal reference librarian. However, since there are so many qualified candidates who have both degrees, the inevitable result will be that the person with the dual degree is going to get the open position.

Implications for the Profession

Mr. Nissenbaum noted that in years past, when a law librarian earned a J.D. it meant that he would be a law library director. He is not sure what having a J.D. in the profession means now. Due to the unsustainable costs of law school, he is not sure what the profession will look like after this proverbial house of cards crumbles. The panel noted that one reason we are seeing an uptick in dual degree professionals is that many lawyers decide not to be lawyers anymore. Some lawyers are willing to take on the additional debt for the MLS/MLIS degree and become law librarians. I think everyone would agree that being a librarian is much preferred to being a lawyer!

Questioning the Paper Chase ... *continued*

Mr. Young expressed his concerns about this trend as he would like to see librarians who take an interest in law over having lawyers take an interest in librarianship. Also, he notes that law librarianship is not being heavily pursued by library students because they look at the possible added costs of having to add a JD to their resume in order to be employable. Young suggested that for our profession to continue to be viable, we need people who enter to become librarians primarily, not simply those who are finding an additional way to utilize their law degree.

Standards for Law Librarians

According to Mr. Young, the American Bar Association is writing law librarians out of their standards. He firmly believes that law schools do not necessarily care or even understand law librarianship. Which is why he believes it is incumbent upon AALL to create the gold standard of what a law librarian is and what their educational requirements should be. He suggests that law librarians do not need a law degree but should perhaps look to another degree like a Masters of Legal Studies. This would allow law librarians to have the law school experience, be able to relate to law students, and also develop an interest in a particular area of law.

Should I get a JD?

There was not a clear consensus on this matter. Nissenbaum noted that a JD gives you credibility, but also noted that you need to educate yourself before committing to the degree. Nissenbaum is not firmly convinced that a JD is needed to be a successful law librarian. Others on the panel suggested that getting a law school to pay for your degree is a great way for single degree librarians to achieve the dual degree. However, even this presents some problems. You are required to pay taxes on free tuition. Also, you have to be employed by a law school and the law school may have to offer a night program.

Marcus noted we may need to modify what our jobs are and how we approach them because of technology. A JD may be irrelevant to where the profession may go. Marcus advised librarians to be flexible. Young again urged audience members to avoid obtaining the JD and to push the law library community to create the gold standard for law librarians.

George P. Carter is Head of Reference & Public Services at the law Library for San Bernardino County in San Bernardino

Job Opportunities ... by Don Buffaloe

- **Loose-Leaf Filers; LAC Group; Los Angeles & Other Cities, September 14**
- **Branch Attendants (2 Positions); LA Law Library; Long Beach & Pomona, September 13**
- **Research Law Librarian for Instructional Services; University of California, Irvine School of Law; Irvine, July 27**
- **Electronic Resources and Metadata Librarian; University of California, Irvine School of Law; Irvine, July 27**
- **Law Library Director; Chapman University School of Law; Orange, June 22**
- **Librarians & Library Technical Assistants, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Statewide, Ongoing**

Don Buffaloe is Senior Research & Student Services Librarian at Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu. He is currently Chair of the SCALL Placement Committee.

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