



Southern California Association of Law Libraries

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**From the President**

*By Patrick M. Sullivan  
Research Librarian  
Jones Day*

Who is ready for Summer 2022?!?!? I am, that is who!

When I think about all that summer in Southern California entails, I cannot believe how lucky we are to have the Golden State as our home. Beaches, mountains, parks of every description, libraries of every variety ... yes, we have it darn good. And summer also means the Annual SCALL Business Meeting in June, followed shortly after by the AALL Annual Meeting in July. I am thinking that spending a week of July in Denver sounds sweet.

This is my last column I will write as President of SCALL. Waaaay back in 2011, when I had not even earned my MLIS yet, I had a goal to never accidentally become President of SCALL. What a total noob. (Yes, a newbie. I feel justified with my word choice. The Oxford English Dictionary has had a definition for noob since 2019, if you were wondering.)

I had no idea what SCALL could do for me. Instead, I was concerned about what I would have to do for SCALL, and how that would be so impossible to fit into my busy life. Thinking back, the massive ignorance I had at my command in 2011 merits a stronger word than noob. Is there a word for a person with amazing resources all around him and does not get the half of

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it? Who does not know the extent of what he does not know? That was me. I started in 2011 with just a toe in the water: Committee Member on the Programs Committee. So many things have happened since then. The names of the roles (Secretary, Liaison to the IT Committee, etc.) are not too important. But the amazing people I got to work with – that is mind-blowing. Skilled professionals who combine creative problem-solving with warmth



and compassion for the people around them. Learning new skills from experts firsthand is awesome, but the change in perspective on how to approach people and problems was a huge, unexpected dividend. If you have not volunteered for anything lately, I think you should selfishly grab the next available position. Because if you do not, someone else will receive the benefit. I think you should go for it. You deserve it.

★ SCALL Election 5/18-6/15 ★



## Meet the Candidates

**Joy Shoemaker—  
VP/President-Elect**



I became a law librarian in 2004 and have worked in law school and court settings: at Duke Law School, then the Supreme Court of the United States Library, UC Irvine School of Law, and currently at the U.S. Court of Appeals Library in Pasadena. I have also been involved in AALL throughout my career, having chaired several committees and juries, and most recently serving on the Appointments Committee this year. I've enjoyed all my jobs and volunteer experiences in our profession and would love to take on this new opportunity.

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Vice President/President-Elect on the SCALL Executive Board. I joined SCALL in 2010 and first served on the Library School Liaison

Committee (2010-2019), then as the SCALL Newsletter compiler (2014-2016), and SCALL Treasurer (2015-2017). I hope to rejoin the SCALL Executive Board to continue and build on the wonderful work of our local law librarian community.

Law Librarianship has been a natural fit for me for nearly 20 years, after I learned of this career path during law school. We can affect so many lives and support so many aspects of the legal profession. The networking and educational outlets available through our professional organizations such as SCALL are vital to our careers. I hope I can contribute to SCALL and our professional growth in the coming years. Thank you for this nomination.

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## Suzie Shatarevyan—Secretary



Suzie Shatarevyan is Head of Access & Collection Management Services at LMU Loyola Law School. She has served various roles at the Rains Library since 2002. She began her career with a position as an Assistant in Public Services. After completing her MLIS, she became the Electronic Resources Librarian, followed by a role in Reference, then moved back to Public Services as head of the department and eventually also assumed management of Collection Management Services to create a combined Access & CMS Team. Suzie earned her MLIS from San Jose State and her B.A from UC Santa Barbara. She has served as SCALL IT Chair since 2011.

I am honored to be nominated to join the SCALL Board as Secretary. I joined SCALL as a student member in 2005 and felt supported from the very beginning. In 2007 I received a SCALL Scholarship, for which I had applied through the encouragement of other SCALL members. When the opportunity came to serve as IT Chair in 2011, I gladly accepted. As a result of outstanding service to SCALL, in 2016 I was awarded the Rohan Chapter Service Award. I have since had many opportunities to encourage and recommend other aspiring librarians. SCALL is a wonderful source for learning and making connections and I am indebted to SCALL for turning colleagues into friends. I therefore welcome the opportunity to give back and continue to make SCALL the wonderful chapter that it is.

## Alina Kelly—Secretary



I started my librarian career in Chicago and have been the Director of Research & Library Services in Los Angeles at a mid-size firm since 2016. Throughout my career, I've been active in local and national library associations, including SCALL's Programs Committee and AALL's AMPC. One thing I learned fast is that you don't learn what you need to know to work as a law firm librarian in library school. Most of the learning is on the job, and through the network of law librarians who are willing to answer questions and help colleagues navigate the niche world of law librarianship. Building and maintaining a base of librarian colleagues and friends has been my greatest joy in this career – I am forever agog at the variety and depth of colleagues' knowledge, character and skill.

That's why I am so honored by the nomination for Secretary for the SCALL board. I would love an opportunity to give back to the community that helped form my career and brought me so much joy.

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# AALL 2022

ADVANCING JUSTICE FOR ALL

JULY 16-19 / DENVER, CO



*continued from page 3 (SCALL Election)*

## Sherry Leysen—Member at Large



As we approach SCALL's 70th Anniversary as a chapter of AALL, it is exciting to think about its growth and impact on our profession. Through the enthusiasm and dedication of its Executive Board, committees, and members, SCALL is a thriving association that offers excellent programming, helpful publications, and a spirit of support and collegiality. It would be an honor to contribute to SCALL's tradition of service as a member of the Executive Board.

After graduating from Loyola Law School and working in IP licensing, I began to seriously contemplate a change to law librarianship while volunteering at the Orange County Public Law Library under the leadership of Maryruth Storer, a SCALL past president. I am grateful to Maryruth (now retired) for introducing me to new possibilities and encouraging me to seek the MLIS. More than a decade later, and having held various positions in law libraries (I'm currently steering the law library at Chapman), I am delighted to have found my way to such a meaningful career.

My SCALL service thus far has been as a member of the Newsletter Committee, an opportunity I cherish and one that has given me an occasion to connect with a talented group of colleagues. I would be delighted to enlarge my involvement with SCALL, contribute to its governance, and collaborate with Board and committee members in an expanded role. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

## Elizabeth Caulfield—Member at Large



I am grateful for the opportunity to run for Member-at-Large on the SCALL Executive Board. If elected, I understand that this position would allow me to participate in the governance and oversight of the chapter by performing tasks that support the Board. I am especially interested in contributing to SCALL's endeavors to retain and communicate institutional knowledge between committees.

From my earliest experiences working with legal materials as an intern at the LA Law Library, law librarianship has been a calling for me because it provides the opportunity to connect people with their government. That goal prompted me to join and chair SCALL's Public Access to Legal Information Committee in 2015. I am fortunate to work with and learn from an expert group of law library professionals through my job as Law Librarian at the California Court of Appeal. I would like to use that experience and my concern for the public's right to know to assist SCALL in continuing to serve law librarians, who in turn support the broader community in meeting its legal information needs.

### The SCALL Library School Liaison Committee is pleased to announce that the following library school students have been awarded 2022 SCALL Scholarships:

**Evette Allahverdian** (Los Angeles) – San José State University

**Ashley Newton** (Irvine) – San José State University

**Linnea Schuster** (San Diego) – San José State University

**Kaitlyn Winkle** (San Pedro) – San José State University

\*One 2022 SCALL Scholarship recipient elected to remain anonymous.

Congratulations to these talented and ambitious MLIS candidates who have demonstrated a vested interest in law librarianship as a career! We look forward to their future contributions to our profession.



## SCALL Archives: The Hidden Treasure Trove at the LA Law Library

By *Serena Rodholm*  
*Cataloging & Reference Law Librarian*  
*San Bernardino County Law Library*

Do you ever wonder about the history of SCALL? You might be surprised to learn that the vast majority of SCALL's history is maintained within the confines of the LA Law Library. Although we are primarily law librarians, some of our members also serve as archivists and work to preserve SCALL's memories for future generations. Margaret Hall, Southwestern Law Library Director and Associate Professor, and Ryan Metheny, LA County Law Library Managing Librarian, along with the late Southwestern Associate Director Tiffani Willis, are the most recent in a line of distinguished custodians of SCALL's archival materials.

The SCALL archives collection is housed on the LA Law Library's first floor, which is actually two floors below ground level. Tucked away behind a stairwell in the closed stacks area, SCALL's historical items are stored in an optimal archival environment at a low temperature and low humidity. The materials are not stored in boxes, thus lessening the possibility of damage from insects, water, mold, and the like. Dating back to SCALL's founding in 1953, the archives now span approximately 30 feet of shelf space.

According to Ralph Stahlberg, former caretaker of the archives and LA Law Library's retired Director of Reference and Research, the collection has been housed at its current location since he took oversight of it in 1989. Ralph noted that the archive formerly traveled with the SCALL secretary, moving from location to location as that officer changed, until finally solidifying its permanent home at the LA Law Library in 1989, under then-Director Richard lamele.

In addition to Ralph, former SCALL archivists in charge of preserving and maintaining the collection include Vern Ford and Betty Anne McCarthy. And much of the current organization is thanks to the work of former LA County Law Library Reference Librarian Christine Langteau. Five years ago, Christine worked to organize the archives first by subject and then chronologically, greatly increasing their accessibility.

The current steward, Margaret Hall, has tried to make the archives more visible to the SCALL community by including archival material at SCALL events. For example, at the



*Some of the SCALL archives preserved at the LA Law Library. Are those print editions of the SCALL Newsletter?? (Photo courtesy of Ryan Metheny)*

2022 SCALL Institute, held in February at the Palm Springs Margaritaville Resort, Margaret set up an educational display

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# trellis

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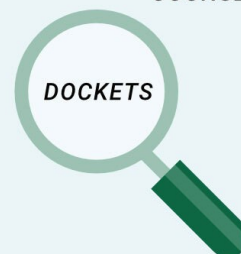
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MOTIONS





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in the lobby of the conference hall. In keeping with the Institute's theme of "The History and Future of Legal Research," Margaret and her team helped demonstrate the many ways that law librarianship has changed over the years. The display also illustrated the impact that SCALL's members have had on the history of our organization.

The Institute display is representative of the types of materials the SCALL archival collection holds, but it is only a small part. According to Ralph Stahlberg, the archive consists of official historical documents such as membership directories, the newsletter, SCALL Institute materials, and SCALL president notebooks. Non-print media like cassette tapes of AALL programs, and photographs from institutes and other events are also included. Even SCALL promotional items such as baseball caps, mugs, pens, t-shirts and paper binders have found their way into the collection. The archive also contains various awards, the SCALL union list of periodicals, the binders created for display at SCALL's 50th-anniversary program, and even old canceled checks! Who but a group of conscientious librarians could create such an extensive preservation of our own history?

When asked how the archives have changed over the years, Ryan Metheny observed that they are more organized than in the past; they can easily be navigated by someone unfamiliar with the collection. They are also in an accessible location in the heart of Los Angeles. However, he acknowledged that the collection could do with a few more improvements,

like better labeling and cataloging on a digital platform for long-term preservation. Several years ago, Ralph Stahlberg did create general holding lists and worked with former SCALL President Ramon Barajas to create an Archives Committee page on SCALL's previous website. That page is no longer a part of SCALL's current internet presence, however. Finally, Ryan suggested that some archival materials relating to AALL meetings could even be deaccessioned due to duplicative preservation efforts undertaken by AALL.

Some of Ryan's favorite parts of the archives are the photos of the very first SCALL meetings, which showcase the founding members, including a former director of the LA Law Library. For Ryan, learning not only about the history of SCALL but also about the institution where he works is profound. Ralph noted that items piquing his interest include "the handwritten notes of the first meeting, photos of colleagues through the years, [and] complaints about dinners costing too much!"

While it is an honor to view these historical materials in person, few SCALL members have sought items from the archives in recent years. Members of the Archives Committee are the primary individuals who search through its contents these days. If reading this article has inspired you to learn what secrets and insights the SCALL archival items have in store, you may want to join the SCALL Archives Committee, or even schedule a visit to view the materials. Email Margaret Hall at [mhall@swlaw.edu](mailto:mhall@swlaw.edu), and she will be happy to help!



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## Creating Shared Library Values

By Jessica Whytock

Associate Dean for the Law Library and Strategic Planning

Research Professor of Law

UC Irvine School of Law Library

In the 2021-2022 academic year, I was fortunate to participate in the [UC-Coro Systemwide Leadership Collaborative](#) program that among other goals, focused on enhancing participant leadership skills and developing future administrative and faculty leaders across the University of California campuses. During this yearlong program, a group of us from all UC campuses regularly met to learn and practice important skills that help facilitate more effective leaders and teams. As I learned new skills and concepts, such as running effective meetings and having difficult conversations, I brought them back to the library to incorporate them when appropriate. I am lucky to work with a group of colleagues willing to go along for the ride and who chose to be supportive of these efforts, even the less successful endeavors.

While not all the leadership skills we learned seemed appropriate for libraries, having established shared values that guide library operations made sense. After I realized the importance of clearly stating and following core or shared values, I immediately collaborated with my colleagues to create and communicate values to guide our work in the library. These values defined the principles on how we go about the day-to-day operations of running a library, and addressed how we comport ourselves at work and interact with each other. The last few years has taught us all a lot about who we are in times of stress. The session on shared values fell at just the right time for us at UCI since we were again returning to a more on-site presence in the library after the winter 2022 Covid-19 omicron surge.

Three critical steps in establishing core/shared values were to (1) define the library's shared values, (2) solicit feedback and buy-in for these values, and (3) communicate and establish these values and what they mean for us as a community. I tried to be thoughtful and to get feedback each step of the way since this was supposed to be a teambuilding endeavor. Without buy-in and authenticity, I was concerned this exercise could hurt morale and the articulated values could feel imposed upon others and cause resentment.

I was surprised to find articulating and defining shared values to be challenging. There are many ways to think about the work of libraries, what I value about working with others, and the service levels I hope we meet. When I started writing my ideas, the values felt obvious and less monumental than I



expected. I looked to resources on effective organizations and found that basic, every day, easy to understand values, are key to effective organizations and realized I might be on track. Once I created my list, I shared it with library managers to see if they agreed and to ensure nothing was missing. If you are interested, the newly articulated shared values of the UCI Law Library are not earth shattering, but they reflect essential ways of working together effectively:

- Communication
- Professionalism
- Collegiality
- Teamwork
- Expertise
- Innovation

As important as defining the core/shared values was, making sure staff had plenty of opportunity to give feedback and to have them adopt and accept them as values that guide how we interact with each other was just as important. I also needed to communicate them to be sure we all have easy access to them. I already mentioned how creating the values was a collaborative process and were not my creation alone, but this was only the first step to get feedback and buy-in. To foster communication with everyone in the library, I held an all-library meeting where we discussed these values. Listening to me talk about values and thinking about them and adopting them are two separate things. I then provided my colleagues with time to see these values in writing and to comment on them, so everyone had the chance to express their thoughts and ask questions. I used Microsoft Teams and wrote a post explaining the values and asking for comments.

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I spent that week further defining and explaining what I expect out of these shared values, especially with communication and professionalism since we can all improve in those two areas. An added benefit besides buy-in is that by posting and defining our core/shared values, managers have something to point to when necessary. When talking about professionalism I addressed: competence, knowledge, conscientiousness, integrity, respect for others, emotional intelligence, and appropriateness. Communication focused on verbal and non-verbal communication, written communication, and visual communication. I also discussed

ways we can all help create an environment for effective communication in the workplace.

The next step is to revisit these shared values and the communication about them and decide whether this was an effective endeavor and whether everyone in the library adopted them in their daily work. I will again ask for feedback from managers and all library staff since this cannot be a top-down task. It is likely I need to schedule additional meetings to see if and how we are expressing these core values as we go about the daily business of operating a busy law library. As much as these values matter to me, it matters that everyone feels they have meaning, and this was not simply a performative exercise.

## Congratulations to the SCALL Grant recipient for the AALL Annual Meeting!

Karen Sanchez  
Law Librarian, Los Angeles County Counsel



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## Member Spotlight: Getting to Know Victoria Tokar

By Lisa Schultz

Head of Reference and Research Services  
Loyola Law School

Victoria Tokar is one of the new reference librarians at Loyola Law School. I recently sat down with her to discuss her path to law librarianship, and she offered some advice for new librarians and for those thinking about entering the field.

Although Victoria has only been part of the Loyola library community since July 2021, she is not new to Southern California or to Loyola. Victoria is a Southern California native and a Loyola Law alumna. Though she left briefly to attend undergrad (Berkeley), library school (University of Washington), and again for her first library position at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, she has spent most of her life in the Los Angeles area.



**Lake Trasimeno, Italy. When you're a Roman Republic geek, you just have to road trip the Second Punic War. I haven't made it to Cannae yet. Next time!**

*(Photo courtesy of Victoria Tokar)*

Like many of us, law librarianship is Victoria's second career. After law school, she worked in an employment law firm, but soon realized that it just didn't "fit." She found that law is full of Type A personalities and she just didn't have the "kill" impulse necessary to go after opposing counsel. She preferred looking for and finding the law that built a case, rather than using that information to argue. She spoke with friends and former law professors who encouraged her to look into the University of Washington program. Law librarianship has been a good fit for her. She



**Livia - Boundaries are meaningless to her.**  
*(Photo courtesy of Victoria Tokar)*

particularly enjoys teaching and working on the kinds of projects that are either complex enough that they require creativity to solve or that involve a deep dive and learning something new.

I asked Victoria if she had any advice for people considering the field of law librarianship and she encouraged anyone thinking about it to do what she did – talk to people! Discover what the job is really like and then ask yourself what it is specifically about law librarianship that interests you. Are you drawn to teaching? Do you really enjoy research? Or are you just over law entirely? Your answers to those questions will help you figure out if law librarianship is the career for you, and it will help you figure out what type of library would be the best fit.

The Loyola Law Library is blessed with more than our fair share of accomplished cooks and bakers, and Victoria is one of them. She often brings vegan-friendly cookies and bars in to share with her colleagues. She says that cookies are her favorite thing to bake because the recipes are fairly forgiving and the results are easy to eat. I asked her about her favorite thing to bake and she said that she once had a poppy seed cake at a museum in Berlin. It was the best cake she'd ever had in her life and she finally found a similar recipe. She also likes making carrot cake, but believes that cream cheese frosting is an abomination.

Outside of the library, Victoria says that she's into "things with strings" – shooting archery, playing the harp, and knitting. She also enjoys tabletop roleplaying games, and says that it helps her with "the improv part of teaching." Victoria also likes creative writing and hanging out with her

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cat Livia, who often joins her during Zoom meetings. Her favorite book is “American Gods” by Neil Gaiman. She has also done quite a bit of traveling and says that her favorite trip was a solo backpacking adventure to the Balkans (Croatia/Montenegro/Serbia/Bosnia) because the scenery was beautiful, the people were wonderfully kind, and the food was really good. She is not a “beach read” traveler, preferring to spend her vacations on the go. On the Balkan trip, she spent a lot of time hiking and looking at Greek and Roman ruins. She also went to the filming locations for the Game of Thrones in Dubrovnik, Croatia (before the series was ruined in the final season).

Since Victoria is relatively new to the profession, I asked her if she had any advice for new librarians. She said, “don’t be

shy about asking questions of other librarians, even if it seems like something super basic.” She mentioned that new librarians should ask those questions to avoid going down a “long rabbit hole” if the question could be answered quickly. Sometimes it’s just a matter of knowing what resources are available to you. She also noted that no information you have is wasted. You never know when something that you know could be useful and relevant. For example, Victoria studied Ancient Greek while an undergraduate at Berkeley. At UNLV, she worked with a professor researching Aristotle’s Poetics. Turns out, that Ancient Greek was really helpful!

Victoria’s parting wisdom is, “Keep a good sense of humor about work. It can be embarrassing if the answer is really obvious to someone else, but it’s part of the learning process!”

## Membership News

*By Annie Mellott and David Isom*

### Welcome, new members!

**Rachel Grygorcewicz** is a Resource Specialist at **Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo**.

**Mark Kimmel** is the President of **LibraryWorks**.

**Stacie Schmidt** is a Librarian at **Haynes and Boone**.

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

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## Career Opportunities

Date Posted	Job Description	Location
May 12	Library Assistant; Riverside County Law Library	Riverside
May 11	Reference Librarian; Sullivan & Cromwell	Los Angeles
May 10	Student Services Librarian; UC Hastings Law Library	San Francisco
May 9	Sr. Research Analyst; Paul Weiss	Virtual; Ideally based on West Coast
May 9	Research Analyst; Mintz	Los Angeles; San Diego or San Francisco
May 4	Research Analyst; Buchalter	Los Angeles or Irvine
May 2	Research/Instruction Librarian; Chapman Law Library	Orange
May 2	Library Current Awareness Analyst; Ropes & Gray	San Francisco
May 2	Research Librarian (Temporary); Ropes & Gray	San Francisco
April 12	Research Analyst; Ballard Spahr	Virtual
April 12	Bilingual Reference Librarian; San Diego Law Library	San Diego
April 12	Research Librarian; Jones Day	Any U.S. Office
April 5	Reference Librarian; Western State College of Law	Irvine
March 28	Regional Director of Research Services; Morgan Lewis	Los Angeles or San Francisco
March 28	J. Paul Lomio Memorial Fellowship; Stanford Law Library	Palo Alto or Remote
March 18	Library Assistant; Riverside County Law Library	Temecula
March 4	Conflicts Analyst; Brattle Group	San Francisco or Other Cities
February 10	Research & Knowledge Analyst; Skadden	Los Angeles
February 4	Research Librarian; Nixon Peabody	Los Angeles; San Francisco or Other Cities
August 18	Research & Knowledge Analyst; Skadden	Palo Alto

By Don Buffaloe

Chair, SCALL Placement Committee  
donald.buffaloe@pepperdine.edu

View complete job descriptions at [scallnet.org/career-opportunities/](http://scallnet.org/career-opportunities/)





# Treasurer’s Report

By Sangeeta Pal, Access Services Librarian, UCLA School of Law

## SCALL Balances

Bank Balance as of May 2, 2022	\$37,504.24
Paypal Balance as of May 2, 2022	\$0.00
Petty Cash Balance as of May 2, 2022	\$84.75
Total Balance as of May 2, 2022	\$37,589.99

## Committee Income and Expenses since July 1, 2021

Committee	Budget	Income	Expenses	Budget Balance
Archives	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Awards	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Board	\$1,950.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$1,650.00
Community Youth Internship Experience	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
Government Relations	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Grants	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,996.00	\$5,004.00
IT	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$631.26	\$1,368.74
Institute	\$12,000.00	\$11,995.00	\$19,454.61	\$4,540.39
Library School Liaison	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Membership	\$1,400.00	\$3,620.00	\$343.37	\$4,676.63
Newsletter	\$300.00	\$1,003.00	\$0.00	\$1,303.00
Professional Development	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Programs	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$988.21	\$2,011.79
PALI	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Public Relations	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$450.00
Secretary	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$653.45	\$346.55
Treasurer	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$420.00
Totals	\$43,250.00	\$16,618.00	\$24,446.90	\$35,421.10

## Submission Deadlines

The SCALL Newsletter team welcomes submission of any articles of interest to the law library community. Contact Christina Tsou, SCALL Newsletter Editor: [ctsou@law.uci.edu](mailto:ctsou@law.uci.edu)

All submissions should be received by:

Fall 2022	September 6, 2022
Winter 2022	November 14, 2022
Spring 2023	March 13, 2023
Summer 2023	May 1, 2023

## Executive Board

2021–2022

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