

Law Library Lights

VOLUME 49, NUMBER 1 FALL 2005

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

*Elizabeth LeDoux
Covington & Burling*

We are going to have such a great year in D.C. I can't wait to get started.

2005 AALL CONVENTION

The AALL convention in San Antonio was one of the great ones. A beautiful, fun, interesting city surrounded a great convention. I came back in July inspired and a little overwhelmed by what needs to be done. So much of the work we did in Texas dovetails perfectly with the work we have before us this year.

RECRUITING AND MENTORING NEW LAW LIBRARIANS

It is no secret that with two library schools in the National Capital region, law libraries should be recruiting some of the very best and brightest library school students to our profession. In the call for volunteers e-mail I put out in June, a lot of you jumped at the chance to work on the Mentoring Committee this year, and I am thrilled to get this committee rolling. We will spend the year developing a world class recruiting and mentoring program, allowing us to show students what law libraries have to offer for a career, and allowing law libraries to meet and get to know the students who are interested in our profession.

GETTING LAW LIBRARIANS PUBLISHED

The AALL Publishing Initiative Caucus (PIC) met in San Antonio to talk about ways law librarians can write for and get published in the papers, newsletters, and journals that are read by the greater legal community. Not only can we share the value of law libraries and law librarians, we can also show off our leadership, technology, and research skills in ways that help attorneys and judges do their jobs better.

If you have been published in the last couple of years or have a great idea for an article, please let me know. PIC has set up a website to capture what librarians are writing and to facilitate getting law librarians published. The publishing initiative is a brilliant PR idea, and as important as anything we are doing to ensure the long term success of law libraries.

OTHER EXCITING EVENTS IN THE YEAR AHEAD

Besides the national work we do as an AALL chapter, we also have a lot of local work. We have a huge number of committees and SIS's staffed with dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers. The local arrangement committee, co-chaired by Kate Martin and Laurie Green, concocted the most glamorous and enticing Opening Reception in years, An Evening in Provence. Steve Anderson from the AALL Executive Board, DC/SLA's Shirley Loo, DC Public Library director Fran Buckley, and Kathryn Ray from the DCLA chapter, as well as Roberta Shaffer, the new Executive Director of FLICC, joined us as special guests.

Please consider getting involved in LLSDC this year. We need all the volunteers we can get and this is going to be a very fun year. We are entering a song and dance routine in the AALL Variety Show in St. Louis next year. Elaine Clarke from Westlaw is heading up the team of hams and big name talent to knock everyone's socks off. We are going to charm the library school students into joining our ranks and we are going to charm our patrons into funding our institutions for years to come. But mostly we are going to have fun getting to know each other, working together and making our profession the best place to be in 2006! ■

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Elaine M. Clark

SEARCH SUPPORT

In search of a better Union List? Look no further than Susan C.'s "Eye on Serials" in this issue. Searching for the latest association news? Catch up on all of the LLSDC minutes this year. In search of a better browser? Read all about "IE7" in Tech Talk by Roger Skalbeck. In search of inspired leadership? Look no further than Elizabeth LeDoux's President's column.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina our nation has been searching for so much. For lost and absent loved ones, for new homes, for misplaced identification and missing identities. In our churches, workplaces and communities there is a quest for meaning. Among politi-

cians and civic leaders there is a need to understand the enormity of the disaster and find a plan for action. The media and the populace search for the devastation's causes (weak levees) and for a solution (could this have been predicted?). Now autumn blows cool with falling leaves, and carries on its boughs a moment to reflect, a moment to search inside ourselves for answers.

Let us, as professional searchers, use this as an aid to perspective. We, a community of librarians, help each other find answers to our research every day. And there's something meaningful in that model of community and collaboration. ■

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JANUARY 12, 2005
AT SPIEGEL AND McDIARMID

IN ATTENDANCE: Linda Davis, Tanya Thomas, David Mao, Debbie Troochi, Herb Somers, Elizabeth LeDoux, John Moore, Frances Brillantine, Scott Larson

PRESIDENT: Reviewed minutes from last meeting. Motion approved. Planning Peterson Lecture and Closing Banquet.

TREASURER: Distributed spreadsheet of expenses and revenues for year-to-date. We are running another deficit year. Asked board to consider places to reduce costs including electronic balloting and electronic version of *Lights*.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Demonstrated new corporate seal. Other board member did not have anything additional to report.

MANAGEMENT GROUP REPORT: Reviewed new members and dates to remember. New Members approved. We have 720 members. Dates to Remember.

COMMITTEES

FEDERAL SIS: SLA co-event coming up on Intellectual Property.

ARCHIVES: Heather Bourke would like an intern, and is working on a position Description.

PLL SIS: GSI educational program on December 7 was well attended. Ice Skating event January 19. Spy Museum visit in February.

NOMINATIONS: Has compiled a list of potential candidates and will be calling them this week. We can expect a slate next week.

MENTORING: Has contacted Catholic for help with the Archives Committee request. One mentee was hired and is working out great!

JOINT SPRING WORKSHOP: In April at Library of Congress on Taxonomies.

SCHOLARSHIPS: \$2,900 was distributed in December.

OLD BUSINESS

TREASURER IS PROPOSING A DUES INCREASE. We have not had one since 1993. We are running on a deficit. Members get a lot of benefits from LLSDC. In fact it costs the association \$78.00 per member per year in administrative fees. We also provide *Lights*, the *Directory*, excellent educational programming, and professional services. A 25% increase would increase our revenue \$11,000, but it will not make up for our deficit.

MOTION: Accept Treasurer's proposal for a dues increase, pending a by-laws review. Passed. Detailed report attached.

VENDOR PROMOTIONS. President proposed guidelines based on a review of the by-laws and the procedures manual. We will not endorse products. Vendors can not use our logo, must pay for their advertising, and must purchase membership information.

MOTION: Accept proposed guidelines for vendor promotions. Passed.

NEW BUSINESS

BY-LAWS AMENDMENT FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING. In the future, electronic voting is a distinct possibility, and a by-laws change now opens the door for future changes to how we vote. The word "mail" will be replaced with the word "distribute" in Article VII and the word "electronic" in Article VIII.

Motion to accept proposed by-laws changes as amended. Passed. This will be passed on to the by-laws committee, then brought before the entire membership.

ELECTRONIC BALLOT. The Secretary proposes the board consider several different ways to institute electronic voting for the society. This will save the society time and money, and very well may increase the voting rate among members. Discussion of how voting could be implemented and the associated costs in server and technical staff. AALL may be able to assist us. The election committee will discuss.

COST OF THE LEGAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE. LRI chair is proposing raising the costs for the first time in 12 years, from \$30 to \$40 for members and \$75 to \$100 for non-members, to cover the cost of the one day program..

MOTION to raise cost of LRI to \$40 for members and \$100 for non-members. Passed.

FEBRUARY 9, 2005
AT MORGAN LEWIS

IN ATTENDANCE: Herb Somers, Keith Gabel, David Mao, Debbie Troochi, Frances Brillantine, John Moore, Scott Larson, Elizabeth LeDoux, Diahann Munoz, Craig Lelansky

PRESIDENT: Reviewed minutes from last meeting. Motion to accept minutes approved. Planning Peterson Lecture and Closing Banquet. Town Hall Meeting at GW on March 23 to discuss dues increase and by-laws amendments. Ballots will need to be mailed 10 days from date of the meeting. We will have a board meeting the same day.

TREASURER: We are still running on a steep deficit.

ASSISTANT TREASURER: No deposits in Jan-

LLSDC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Elizabeth LeDoux
Covington & Burling

uary, but there will be a lot in February.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Asked board to approve the purchase of a copy of *The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, 4th Edition* by Alice Sturgis. Motion approved.

Other board member did not have anything additional to report.

MANAGEMENT GROUP REPORT: Reviewed new members and Dates to Remember. Motion to accept new Members approved. We have 734 members. Dates to Remember.

COMMITTEES

FEDERAL SIS: SLA co-event coming up on Intellectual Property. Also planning an agency day.

PLL SIS: Ice Skating event February 3 was very fun. Spy Museum visit in February.

NOMINATIONS: Presented the slate.

MENTORING: Meeting with legal research professors from Maryland and Catholic. Want to host a pizza event for students in April.

JOINT SPRING WORKSHOP: In April at Library of Congress; topic is Taxonomies.

LEGAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE: March 8th and 9th; everyone is encouraged to attend.

PUBLICATIONS: The 7th edition of the Union List is 2 weeks away from going live. We have collected nearly \$22,000 in revenue, which puts us at the break-even point. We are waiting on 6 firms to submit their holdings.

OLD BUSINESS

BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS. Several by-laws changes are proposed, mostly to change the language to allow for electronic voting. We have also switch from *Roberts Rules of Order* to *The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, 4th Edition* by Alice Sturgis. The additional changes will be sent back to the By-Laws Committee, which approved the first round of changes. Then the proposed changes are sent to the AALL By-Laws Committee, which is chaired by David Mao.

Herb will draft a letter to the membership about the proposed changes, which will be voted on during the April election. At that time, he will also propose the dues increase, which will be discussed at the Town Meeting on March 23.

E-BALLOTING. After the January meeting, Herb sent an e-mail to the other chapter presidents to see if they are considering e-balloting and how they plan to implement it. Reggie Swan at AALL Headquarters responded that they will be sharing their technology with the

chapters this year. We will wait to see what AALL has to offer before looking for outside vendors.

NEW BUSINESS

There is no New Business.

LLSDC TOWN HALL MEETING

MARCH 22, 2005

AT GW UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

TREASURER'S STATE OF THE TREASURY REPORT: Treasurer stated current balances in Society's five accounts. Total assets as of March 1, 2005 are \$117, 522.56.

PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE SOCIETY REPORT: Opening Reception at the Press Club in the fall was a success.

Society currently has 738 members, with 301 from Private Law Libraries.

The SIS's are doing a great job with programming this year.

Elections are coming up very soon. The ballots must be sent out within 10 days of the town meeting. The last day to vote is Friday, April 22. There are also proposed by-laws changes on the ballot. Peterson Memorial Lecture is planned for April 27. The speaker is Siva Vaidhyanathan on "How Fair and Useful is Fair Use" at the U.S. Supreme Court.

LLSDC Bay Socks Day. Come out for baseball and a picnic on May 15.

LLSDC *Membership Directory* is being typeset and will be out in 4-5 weeks.

LIGHTS EDITOR, MATTHEW MANTEL: The next *Lights* deadline is April 30. The current edition (Winter) will be out in 2 weeks, then we will be back on track, with the spring issue coming out in the spring.

PUBLICATIONS CHAIR, KEITH GABEL: The Union List is going live next week. Thank you to the firms who submitted their holdings. The passwords will be given out over three days so as not to crash the server. There are 125 participating libraries. *COUNSEL*, the periodicals union list, is included. It hadn't been updated since 2000, when Capcon produced it. This new combined Union List will have ILL capabilities, and links to the big academic law libraries that allowed us to link to them, though no electronic ILL will be available through their systems.

BY-LAWS REVISION PROPOSAL: There are two proposed by-laws changes:

Article X: Sturgis will replace *Robert's Rules*



of Order. This is in line with AALL's by-laws.

Articles III, IV, VII, IX: The word "mailed" will be replaced with the word "distributed", allowing for distribution of ballots and other official society documents by means other than the U.S. Mail, and allowing for any new technology in the future

In **Article IX**, one instance of "mailed" was overlooked. A motion to amend the proposed amendment by striking the word "mailed" in the second sentence and replacing it with the word "distributed" was proposed and seconded. The motion was PASSED by a voice vote by a majority of the members present.

The proposed by-laws changes will be included in the ballot and voted on by the entire society.

The group discussed, at great length, the possibility of the Society using an electronic voting method in the future. The Society has not decided on any electronic delivery system yet, and there are several factors to take into account, including how to distribute the ballots in a secure way and how to guarantee members without e-mails can still participate.

DUES INCREASE

Treasurer David Mao proposed a dues increase for all membership categories and for SIS dues, the first such increase since 1993. The increase was PASSED by voice vote by more than 3/4 of the membership in attendance.

LLSDC BOARD MEETING

APRIL 13, 2005

AT COVINGTON & BURLING

IN ATTENDANCE: Linda Davis, Tanya Thomas, David Mao, Debbie Troochi, Herb Somers, Elizabeth LeDoux, John Moore, Frances Brillantine, Keith Gabel, Craig Lelansky, Diahann Munoz

PRESIDENT: Minutes from the March 23 Town Meeting approved. Reminder about the Peterson Lecture on April 27 at the Supreme Court. The Closing Banquet will be May 24 at the Fairmont Hotel, with a cash bar, dinner in the colonnade room and the speaker TBD.

VICE PRESIDENT: Tanya will be leaving the D.C. area in August. A run off election will need to be held in the fall to elect a new VP.

TREASURER: We will finish the year in a deficit, but we are a little ahead this month. COUNSEL checks are in and we have broken even.

RECORDING SECRETARY: The election is being handled by the Election committee,

chaired by Dawn Sobol. The ballots will be counted on April 28.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: A lifetime member was sent a card. Connie Dixon retired, and was sent a card. Eleanor Hart also retired, but was not sent a card. Will purchase Sturgis when the by-laws are decided.

ASSISTANT TREASURER: Diahann is moving outside the D.C. area, will finish out the year, but will not be the Treasurer next year. The two treasurer candidates will be contacted about the situation.

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP: New member lunch at P.F. Chang's on April 14.

PUBLICATIONS: Training sessions are underway for COUNSEL. Several more rounds of passwords and paperwork will go out next week. We are in the black financially.

FOREIGN & INTERNATIONAL SIS: Cosponsoring with the Academic SIS "LLSDC at the Baysocks" baseball picnic in May. Hosting a tour of the new Georgetown International Library on April 20.

LEGAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE: Very successful. Twenty people per day signed up.

FEDERAL SIS: Annual Agency Day scheduled for May 25, dealing with agencies that generate statistics. A social event will be held at the U.S. Supreme Court in June.

MENTORING: The pizza gathering in March was a big success. Two internships were made available this spring.

MANAGEMENT GROUP REPORT: 735 members. One new member was approved. Reviewed Dates to Remember.

OLD BUSINESS:

October 17-20, 2007 is the joint Northeast and Mid-Atlantic chapters meeting in Toronto. Each chapter is asked to contribute \$1,000 seed money. We committed to this event last fall, and will send a check this month. We expect to recoup this money after the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A special election will be called in the fall. The next board will have to appoint a treasurer. It makes sense that the elected assistant treasurer will become the treasurer and the person not elected will become the assistant. We will make the appointment at the May meeting.

Keith Gabel reported that Bill Grady sent an e-mail about his non-participation in OCLC. Capcon content from COUNSEL is



automatically sent to OCLC, and COUNSEL members who are not OCLC members have no control over this OCLC content. A letter will be sent to Capcon asking them to delete the members who are not OCLC members from Capcon's holdings.

LLSDC BOARD MEETING
MAY 11, 2005
AT GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

IN ATTENDANCE: Herb Somers, Elizabeth LeDoux, Linda Davis, Keith Gabel, David Mao, Frances Brillantine, Tom Moore, Craig Lelansky, Debbie Troochi

PRESIDENT: April meeting minutes approved. Closing banquet is May 25. We had to change the date at the last minute due to an SLA meeting conflict. West generously donated \$2,000.00. It will be at the Carnegie Freedom Foundation, and there will not be a speaker.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Motion to approve Sarah Stephens to position of Recording Secretary (when Recording Secretary becomes President in June). Reintroduced during New Business.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: LLSDC will send flowers to the Pat Keller memorial ceremony. A copy of Sturgis on Parliamentary Procedure has been purchased. Draft copies of the banquet program were amended and approved.

TREASURER: Signature cards need to be updated. Elizabeth, Heather, Jennifer and Herb will sign.

COMMITTEES

PLL SIS: Elections will be held in June.

JOINT SPRING WORKSHOP: Excellent program and good attendance this year.

PUBLICATIONS: The print copies of COUNSEL will be mailed in May.

FEDERAL SIS: Agency Day is Wednesday, May 25.

MENTORING: There was a successful social event this year.

MANAGEMENT GROUP REPORT: 737 members. Motion to approve 2 new members. Dates to Remember was approved. Membership directory will be mailed in May.

OLD BUSINESS

Hein Online loaded *Lights* on their website. *Lights* editor needs to keep sending copies to Hein.

Several libraries have entries in COUNSEL but are not OCLC members. This will need to be addressed with Capcon this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mike Petit joined us to report that the South-eastern Association of Law Libraries (SEALL) regional meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. in 2008 and will be a joint meeting with LLSDC. Mike is the co-chair of the local arrangements committee, and will find 3 more people to join the committee. LLSDC needs to appoint a co-chair and a committee of 3 members. The event will be held on a Thursday, a Friday, and half day on Saturday. Thursday will be a board and committee meeting day, with a reception in the evening. Friday and Saturday will be programs. Herb Somers volunteered to help, and Mike would also like a firm librarian involved.

MOTION to approve Sarah Stephens as Recording Secretary. Motion PASSED.

MOTION to make newly-elected Assistant Treasurer Jennifer Dollar the Treasurer and appoint the other treasurer candidate Heather Rories the assistant treasurer. Motion PASSED. [Note: Assistant Treasurer Diahann Munoz is moving out the area, and will not be able to fulfill her duties as Treasurer next year.]

There will be a transition meeting for the new officers and chairs in June in the Moot Courtroom at George Washington University Law Library.

AALL is celebrating its Centennial in 2006. The chapters have been asked to participate. We can create a special issue of *Lights*, take oral histories, ask the Archivist for ideas, and create an interesting display for the activities area in St. Louis. ■

SEE YOUR NAME IN "LIGHTS!"



Law Library Lights welcomes submissions of feature and hot topic articles for publication. Authors whose articles are selected for publication will receive a gift compliments of the *Lights* committee. Editorial inquiries or requests for additional information should be addressed to Elaine Clark, editor, at lights@llsdc.org or 202/842-7570.



BNA AD



INTERLIBRARY LOAN SIS NEWS

*Shannon O'Connell
Williams & Connolly LLP*

THE ILL SIS WRAPPED UP ANOTHER GREAT YEAR IN JUNE with our end-of-the-year luncheon, hosted this year by Blank Rome. Despite the rain, there was a good turnout for the meeting, the main business of which was designating new officers for the 2005-2006 year. I, Shannon O'Connell of Williams & Connolly, am the new president of the section and Emily Skelton of Blank Rome will serve as vice president. Both Emily and I are excited to begin another year with the ILL SIS.

Also at the June meeting, section members discussed their developing impressions of the new electronic Union List. This new tool had just debuted; it will be interesting to follow up this fall and find out what everyone thinks after spending the summer working with the system.

On behalf of the entire section, I'd like to thank outgoing president Tricia Peavler for her leadership this past year. Trish will be a tough act to follow! She oversaw the completion of several important projects including the new

Union list and the update of the Interlibrary Loan Guidelines. As if that weren't enough, Tricia coordinated a calendar of informative and enjoyable meetings. She capitalized on the collective knowledge of the section with meetings such as our forum on sources of technical and scientific information sources in which members shared tips and strategies. Tricia also connected members to external resources by arranging meetings with vendors from Capitol District Information & the British Library. Thanks, Tricia, for an interesting & educational year!

Our first meeting this fall was a brown bag lunch held at Williams & Connolly on Wednesday, September 21st. We discussed possible topics for future meetings as well as ideas for expanding our section's activities. If you were unable to attend the meeting but would like to share your ideas, please send me an email at soconnell@wc.com. I hope to see many of you at our upcoming meetings! ■

PRIVATE LAW LIBRARIES SIS NEWS

*Abigail Ross
Howrey LLP*

WELCOME TO ANOTHER FUN YEAR of PLL programs! I look forward to my year as President, but I know I have a tough act to follow.

COMING SOON...As this issue goes to press, the PLL Board is busy planning educational and social programs for the next few months. We will certainly hold our annual Holiday Party and we hope to host lunch sessions on such interesting topics as locating financial information and library marketing. Keep an eye on the LLSDC listserv for more information.

SAVE THE DATE...The annual Scrabble/Game Night will be Thursday, November 17th. Location will be announced a few weeks beforehand.

VOLUNTEER...for PLL this year. The Education and Social committees both need volunteers to help plan and organize events. Your involvement can be whatever you want to it be – from organizing a Brown Bag lunch to offering to host an event just because your firm's conference room has a lovely view – we welcome any level of participation.

THANK YOU...to last year's PLL Board: President Jennifer Korpacz, Treasurer Tanya Thomas, and Secretary Barbara Folensbee-Moore for all of their hard work and dedication. We wish Tanya luck on her move to Florida and we hope to see everyone else at future events.

I look forward to seeing you all soon. ■

FOREIGN & INTERNATIONAL LAW SIS NEWS

*Janice Fridie
Venable LLP*

AS AUTUMN BEGINS, THE FIL CALENDAR IS SLOWLY TAKING SHAPE. Kathleen Daly Higgs at the Carnegie Endowment Library has graciously agreed to host a brown bag lunch on Thursday, October 27th. A discussion on Library Intranets will take place from noon till one, with a brief tour to follow. Thanks to Kathleen for inviting us and to Allen Overland and the Washington International Librarians Group for proposing the topic and co-sponsoring the event.

In November, I hope to have Fuad Bateh from the World Bank speak to us. Date and topic have yet to be decided.

We've lots of room for suggestions from our members for the rest of the year. Please give me call, send a message, or discuss plans over a section lunch at Venable in December. I hope everyone will participate. Your thoughts, pet projects, and lists of most-lusted-after libraries are all welcome. ■

**WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS ... SO WHEN
YOU USE THEIR SERVICES, TELL THEM YOU SAW
IT IN LAW LIBRARY LIGHTS!**



THE LEGISLATIVE SIS KICKED OFF THE SEASON WITH A JAM-PACKED ROOM listening to a presentation by Shannon Hein of Hein Online on an exciting future module covering Legislative Histories. The product is nearing release, potentially by the end of this year. Stressing how Hein operates on customer requests, Shannon Hein welcomed anyone's wish list of histories for inclusion in the product. Feel free to send a list of the top 3 legislative histories you'd like to see to one or both of the following e-mail addresses at Hein: s_hein@wshein.com or s_fiddler@wshein.com.

THE ACADEMIC SIS KICKED OFF THE SEASON IN THE USUAL FASHION WITH THE ANNUAL PICNIC. This year's festivities were held in the library of the newly fully-accredited David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia. As many of you know, our host, Brian Baker, will leave D.C. in May to take over at the San Joaquin College of Law Library in Fresno, California. It was fitting that we celebrated Brian's contributions to LLSDC and to UDC before he moves on to new challenges.

Matt Cizek has recently taken a new position at the Georgetown University Law Library where he is the Access Services Librarian.

Jeff Berns is now Librarian at Spiegel & McDiarmid.

Dawn Bohls has joined Covington & Burling as a Research Librarian. Two new MLS graduates have also joined the Covington staff: **Karen Lehmkühl** as Conflicts Coordinator and **Felicia Maynard** as Research/Conflicts Librarian.

Alanna White writes "We have had many changes at Crowell & Moring in the past few weeks! I've included member news on 4 people (including myself)": **Marvin Lewis** is the new Manager of Technical Research Services at Crowell & Moring; **Alanna White** is now Manager of Reference Research Services; **Meg McGinn** and **Michael VanderHeijden** are Reference Librarians.

Martha F. Klein is now Reference Librarian at McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP.

Congratulations to **Louis Abramovitz**, who graduated from Catholic University in May. He is responsible for managing the library at Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP, as well as per-

Also, judging from the feedback received following our spring group meeting, the Legislative SIS group will be organizing a number of programs this year to share ideas, bounce suggestions off each other, or just say hello. I promise no future assignments will be distributed to those in attendance! Other programs are being developed and will be announced in Dates to Remember, including a potential joint meeting with the Federal SIS on Legislative Drafting procedures. If anyone has a suggestion or thought on a program, please feel free to contact me. ■

Several programs are also planned for the coming year. The Academic SIS will present round table discussions addressing many of the issues facing academic librarians. Topics under consideration include faculty and journal support, student workers, library security, media resources, and resource sharing. Please contact me if you are interested in hosting a round table, or in proposing a topic.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at many LLSDC functions throughout the year. ■

forming some marketing functions.

The New Member Breakfast is scheduled for Monday, October 17, 2005 at Old Ebbitt Grill. Invitations will be mailed shortly. ■

A REMINDER FOR ALL PLANNERS OF SOCIETY EVENTS

All meetings, educational programs, and other LLSDC events must be coordinated on the Society's master calendar. Each person who is planning a meeting must check with Millie Gallahan at 703/619-5033 or management@llsdc.org to ensure that the date is available, and that the function does not conflict with any other gathering. A current list of scheduled LLSDC activities is available at <http://www.llsdc.org/calendar.htm>.

LEGISLATIVE SIS NEWS

*Debbie Atkins
Sonnenschein Nath
& Rosenthal LLP*

ACADEMIC SIS NEWS

*Christine Ciambella
George Mason
University Law Library*

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*Laura W. Reilly
Morgan Lewis &
Bockius LLP*

LEXIS NEXIS AD

Roger V. Skalbeck
Technology Librarian
George Mason School of Law

INTERNET EXPLORER 7

In the very near future, the single piece of software almost everybody uses to access the Internet will change. Maybe it will happen early next year. Or maybe it will happen after that. Whatever the case, Microsoft is releasing a new version of Internet Explorer, the only piece of widely-used software the company gives away for free.

An initial list of features shows that Internet Explorer version 7 (“IE 7”) includes tabbed browsing (a way to open multiple websites in a single application window), the ability to zoom in on web pages and graphics, and better security and fraud protection. Also, Microsoft will incorporate features for reading automated news feeds such as those available in the RSS (rich site summary) format. If you’ve looked at an internet browser other than IE recently, these features should sound familiar. They are standard aspects of the Mozilla, Firefox and Opera browsers.

As this column goes to press, there is little other information available on the newest version of IE. Some people are so desperate for news about IE 7 that even a newly-designed logo made headlines. The release of IE 7 will precede a new version of Microsoft Office, which should happen around the time a new operating system, called Vista, which is slated to come out in late 2006.

Web designers hope that the newest version of IE will conform better to web design standards such as those for Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), as well as simple things like being able to change font sizes. Moreover, I’m sure that many web site owners and designers are hoping that code adapted to other versions of IE (typically 5, 5.5 or 6) won’t ‘break’.

Other problems arise when web designers create websites to take advantage of specific IE conventions. Creating websites for multiple browsers often requires “hacks,” which are programming workarounds to allow different browser software to get the same results. Hopefully, IE 7 won’t require more hacks, and hopefully, existing web sites will continue to look and act the same in the new browser.

Because IE 7 carries a version number and not a year (e.g. 95, 2000, 2003), Microsoft has no absolute deadline for getting IE 7 “right.” Depending on how pessimistic you are, it may be that they have yet to get the current version “right” so it’s probably best to move on.

FIREFOX EXTENSIONS

Since IE 7 won’t be out for a while, I thought it

would be worthwhile to look at some features available to enhance the Firefox browser, which is probably Microsoft’s closest competitor in the internet browser market. Firefox (and its companion Mozilla) can be downloaded from <http://www.mozilla.org>.

A great advantage of the Firefox browser is that hundreds of programmers devote their time to coming up with new add-on features that users can install for free. Below are several free general-purpose programs to add new functions to Firefox. All are available at <https://addons.mozilla.org/extensions/>

COPY PLAIN TEXT: This extension allows you to copy the text from a website to exclude any extra formatting. It excludes font colors, sizes and typefaces. This feature is useful if you want to insert selected text into a document to maintain consistent formatting in your target document. You can achieve the same results if you copy text, paste it into Notepad and then copy it into another application. Thankfully, “Copy Plain Text” makes it easier. Also, you can set it so the command <CTRL><C> copies plain text by default.

FLASHBLOCK: Do you know those eye-catching animated ads you find on the New York Times, Yahoo! and so many advertising-supported website on the Internet? Well, many of them are created with Macromedia Flash, and I assume every one of them annoys *some* of the people *some* of the time. With the *Flashblock* extension, you can disable all Flash elements, replacing each with a small icon. To view items selectively, simply click the icon to ‘play’ it. Once you install *Flashblock*, it’s amazing how uncluttered and calming some websites can be.

With sites that use Flash to actually provide content (such as interactive maps, news slideshows, etc.), you can add them to an ‘allowed’ list so they always appear. If an advertisement is still animated after disabling Flash, try to hit the escape <ESC> key. This stops all animated GIFs on a website, and it works in IE, Firefox, and probably all browser software.

IE VIEW: One reason some users are averse to adopting Firefox as a primary browser is that some websites are coded so they only work in IE. Others just look bad when using non-IE software. To fix this problem, the “IE View” extension gives you the option to reload any page directly in IE with a right-click of the mouse. For primary browsing, use Firefox and

HEIN ONLINE AD

then ‘revert’ to the Microsoft browser when you come across a site that only works with IE.

SCREEN GRAB!: This extension lets you capture web pages and save them as a graphics file. It works a lot like the screen capture feature in a program called SnagIt! (www.snagit.com). The Screen Grab! extension doesn’t have all the bells and whistles of SnagIt!, but it’s free and it does a great job of capturing screen shots of long web pages.

EMAIL NOTIFIER: If you use Google mail (aka Gmail) for your personal e-mail account, this simple extension adds a notification window when new mail arrives in your account. It works just like the notification with Outlook and similar e-mail software. Now you can be equally distracted or on top of things (however you react to this notification) whether you use web-based e-mail or client software.

AND TWO UNUSUAL EXTENSIONS: BORK TEXT AND ABOUT: KITCHENSINK: While you’re adding some extensions to Firefox that are actually helpful, why not install two simple ones that are anything but useful? One, called “Bork Text,” allows you to turn all text on a web page into the kind of language used by the Swedish Chef on the Muppets (as in “mmm Bork Bork, mmm Bork Bork”). Under “View,” just select “Bork Text.” Finally, for those who think Firefox has just about everything, you can even add the kitchen sink. Install the extension and then type “about:kitchensink” in the Firefox location bar. This program unleashes a flowing stream of ASCII text, giving you that last missing feature!

MICROSOFT TRIES TO EVOLVE

A few months ago, Microsoft launched an advertising campaign trying to goad people into upgrading from Office 97 to Office 2003. The various ads featured dinosaurs in office settings, essentially suggesting that by using Office 97 you are living in the Mesozoic era. “Word 97? That is so, like, 146 million years ago!”

When the campaign was launched, people in dinosaur costumes handed out Wall Street Journal newspapers (yes, that centuries-old technology) as a publicity gimmick to get people to look for their newspaper ads.

Each ad in the series ends with a slogan like “The I CAN’T LEAVE UNTIL THE DATA COMES IN era is over.” or “The TEAM’S NOT WORKING AS A TEAM era is over.”



Apparently, Office 2003 represents a new era. It's an idyllic time when technology solves all human problems. It's a utopian world when data analysis is an effort-free task—as long as numbers are presented in neat, feature-rich spreadsheets. It means you'll never again create a polished, multi-million-dollar presentation with glaring grammatical errors. Well, while I'm dreaming, I'd like a pony too. Take a look at the

accompanying screen capture to see the dinosaur running the photocopier exclaim "Help! I'm up to my ears information!" and note the grammatical error. I just typed that sentence in Microsoft Word 2003 with my grammar check on and all patches installed. Word still thinks the sentence is written in proper English. Viva la evolution! Until next issue, keep evolving, but do it at your own pace! ■

LIGHTS DEADLINE



If you would like to write for *Lights*, please contact Elaine Clark at lights@llsdc.org. For the most up-to-date information regarding the 2003-2004 submission deadlines and issue themes, check the LLSDC Web site at <http://www.llsdc.org>.

WWW.LLSDC.ORG

For up-to-date information about the Society and its activities, visit the Web site at www.llsdc.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Dates to Remember (DTR) is a monthly (September – May) newsletter designed to keep the membership informed of current Society events. *DTR* and the Society's Master Calendars are now being handled by the Society's management office. To clear your date and publicize the event, please contact Millie Gallahan at 703/619-5033 or management@llsdc.org.

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For questions regarding a subscription or potential problems with receiving listserv messages, please send a message to listadmin@llsdc.org.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



How interesting did you find this issue of *Lights*? Were the articles informative and relevant to you or someone you know? What topics would you like to see *Lights* cover? Are there other new features that you would like to see in *Lights*? How can we improve future issues? Please send feedback and suggestions to lights@llsdc.org. We value your input.



EYE ON SERIALS

Susan Chinoransky
The George Washington
University Law Library

UNION LISTING: DOES ANYONE CARE?

As I logged into OCLC Connexion this morning, I was greeted by today's message, alerting me to the imminent demise of Passport for OCLC's union listing application. With anxiety at having to learn yet another software application, I reflected on the apparent futility of maintaining my library's holdings in the Washington, D.C. area union list for periodicals.

Whatever happened to *COUNSEL*, the list of periodicals held by local law libraries, once described by a colleague as the "world's biggest paperweight"? I had my answer after one phone call to Keith Gabel, LLSDC chair of the publications committee. He told me that the print publication had lost its publisher several years ago. In an attempt to retain the contents of *COUNSEL*, the publications committee of LLSDC voted to merge the publication with another union list, the *General Legal Publications Union List*, or *GLP*. This publication is of particular use to law firms, although it is virtually unknown to academic law libraries: the LLSDC publications committee decided that the new publication would no longer list the holdings of the academic law libraries. Instead, *GLP* furnished its readers with links to the catalogs of the academics, thereby keeping the volume to a manageable size.

I prepared to write a memo justifying the cessation of maintenance to my library's holding records, to coincide with the closure of Passport. However, I learned of another, better union list that was already using my holdings information. WorldCat (OCLC) recently developed a way to display each member's individual holdings or local data record (LDR). I feared that OCLC might not have performed adequate advance research, because I am fairly confident that many libraries (in this area, at least) have not updated their holdings records in years. However, I checked a couple of records from the list below and was pleasantly surprised to discover that there are several area libraries who are maintaining their current holdings. I urge all members of OCLC to make sure their procedures on the maintenance of LDRs are up to date and currently followed. I myself now look forward to the day when I can update my records in Connexion rather than Passport.

NEW JOURNAL TITLES

Hastings Race and Poverty Law Journal, 2003-
Semiannual, University of California, Hastings College of Law

Journal of International Biotechnology Law, 2004-
Bimonthly, De Gruyter Recht

The New Atlantis, 2003-
Quarterly, Ethics and Public Policy Center

NYU Journal of Law & Liberty, 2005-
Quarterly, New York University, School of Law

TITLE CHANGES

Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice, 2005-
Annual, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law
Continues: *Berkeley Women's Law Journal*

Diverse Issues in Higher Education, 2005-
Biweekly, Cox, Matthews & Associates
Continues: *Black Issues in Higher Education*

Harvard Journal of Law & Gender, 2005-
Semiannual, Harvard Law School
Continues: *Harvard Women's Law Journal*

Journal of Catholic Legal Studies, 2005-
Semiannual, St. John's University School of Law
Continues: *The Catholic Lawyer*

DEAD TITLES (R.I.P.)

Communications and the Law, 1979-2003
Earl M. Coleman Enterprises

Export America, 1999-2004
U.S. Dept. of Commerce

International Business Lawyer, 1973-2004
International Bar Association

Journal of Government Information, 1994-2004
Pergamon Press

Journal of Legal Studies, 1990-2002/2003
Dept. of Law, U.S. Air Force Academy

The Responsive Community, 1990/91-2004
Center for Policy Research ■

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A CALL FROM THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE



Lisa Harrington
Holland & Knight LLP

LLSDC Needs You! Ever wonder how the great Opening Reception takes place or how all those great educational programs are carried out, or even how we get our electronic union list? The answer is simple: VOLUNTEERS. Whether it's a few hours or a few minutes, LLSDC is always looking for assistance. I know our daily lives are already busy, but if you can, give me a call or send me an email (202-457-5911; lisa.harrington@hkllaw.com) and I can get your name on the volunteer list. Let me know what time of day is better for you – it's as easy as that. Hope to hear from you soon!

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