IT'S BEEN A BUSY SPRING FOR THE ILL SIS. Our February meeting was held at Crowell & Moring (big thanks to host Charles Simms!) A record turnout crowd enjoyed a presentation by Carrie Russell, an ALA copyright expert and author of Complete Copyright: an Everyday Guide for Librarians. Attendees were treated to a lively and informative discussion of the issues facing us every day. Thanks again to Ms. Russell for speaking to us and thanks to all those who posed questions or shared their insights—you helped make it a memorable and enriching session.

In March, we were hosted by former ILL SIS president Tricia Peavler at Jenner & Block. The group rebounded nicely after a last-minute cancellation by our guest speaker to have a conversation about general copyright issues and other topics of interest. I'd like to apologize once again to all those who were inconvenienced by the short-notice of the meeting change. As always, the members of LLSDC proved themselves to be gracious and understanding, for which I am truly grateful.

April found us enjoying the hospitality of Beverly Miller at Nixon Peabody. Our topic (suggested by the ever-inventive Steve Shearer of Steptoe & Johnson) was the possibility of creating an ILL FAQ. Such a document might serve not only as a way to further diminish ILL posts to the LLSDC listserv but also as a tool to educate and support those new to ILL and those at small firms who may lack the resources their colleagues at larger organizations enjoy. The group was enthusiastic about the idea of a FAQ, and although no firm plans were put in place, several excellent suggestions were floated. Hmm, do I see a project for next year's SIS president? Stay tuned....

Our May meeting was a joint production between the ILL SIS and the Academic SIS. Academic SIS president Christine Ciambella and I felt strongly that both our sections could benefit from a chance to share ideas, exchange perspectives, and simply meet face-to-face. The attendees confirmed our best expectations. Thanks very much to our host, Mary Alice Durphy of Baker & Hostetler for helping to make the meeting possible.

June will bring the end of our year and my last meeting as SIS president. We'll be coming full-circle by meeting at my firm, Williams & Connolly, at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, June 6. Please join us as we elect a new president and vice president and celebrate another successful year! Please RSVP to me at soconnell@wc.com or 202-434-5303 no later than Wednesday, May 31.

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE WELCOMED NEW MEMBERS TO LLSDC AT A SPRING LUNCHEON held Wednesday, April 26, at Elephant and Castle.

We have exciting career news from some of our LLSDC colleagues:

Sabrina I. Pacifici was chosen as one of the Movers & Shakers 2006. The People Shaping the Future of Libraries, in the March 15, 2006 issue of Library Journal.

Abigail Ross writes that not only has she moved to Keller & Heckman to be their Informational Resources Manager, but has also been selected to be a trainer this spring during the Teaching Research In Private Law Libraries (TRIPLL) conference sponsored by Lexis.

Ropes & Gray has created a new library assistant position, which will be filled by Kate Rears. Kate begins library school at the Catholic University School of Library and Information Science in the fall.

Since the end of November 2005, Bob Osakiewski has been at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe's DC office, serving as library assistant. "Actually I'm the entire DC library staff," he says.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dates to Remember (DTR) is a monthly (September - May) newsletter designed to keep the membership informed of current Society events. To use your date and publicize the event, please contact Bonnie Fedchuck at 703/649-5033 or exec@llsdc.org.

LIGHTS DEADLINE

If you would like to write for Lights, please contact Dawn Bohls at lights@llsdc.org. For back issues of Lights, please check the LLSDC website at http://www.llsdc.org.
The ILL SIS wrapped up 2005 with the annual December Cookie Party. This year, the party returned to its traditional home at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman. Host Danielle Young treated the attendees to quite a spread: he provided sandwiches, music, and tours of the firm’s new library. For those of you who haven’t had the pleasure of visiting, they’ve got quite the setup at Pillsbury Winthrop; Danielle even has a fish tank! Partygoers were treated to a delicious variety of cookies contributed by the attendees. Thanks to everyone for participating so enthusiastically! The festive atmosphere was somewhat tempered by the departure of this year’s ILL SIS vice president, Emily Skelton. Formerly with the library at Blank Rome, Emily is now working as a Project Manager with MVI Post, a digital post-production company. We sent her off with thanks for all her contributions this year and best wishes for the future.

We began the New Year at Clifford Chance with a lively discussion about problem patrons. Tips were traded on a variety of issues from how best to enforce due dates to how to deliver news that an item cannot be obtained. Everyone seemed to agree that it is best to prevent potential problem situations before they start. Defensive strategies include clearly communicating due dates and loan terms, keeping clients informed on the progress and status of their requests, maintaining records of actions taken, and establishing definite time frames. We also took a moment to mourn the loss of the Gelman Library Information Service (GLIS), which closed down at the end of December. Many of us had come to rely on Gerald & Dawn’s superior service and unfailing good cheer. GLIS, you will be missed! Thanks to Craig Levin for hosting such a successful and enjoyable meeting!

Everyone looked forward to the February meeting on copyright. Carrie Russell, an ALA copyright expert and the author of Complete Copyright: an Everyday Guide for Librarians, delivered a presentation based on questions submitted by our members. The program proved to be a very informative session and will hopefully alleviate some of the confusion and trepidation many of us feel when faced with copyright issues. The meeting was held on Wednesday, February 8th at the offices of Crowell & Moring.

I’ve been ridiculously lucky this past year to have had so many people volunteer to host ILL meetings, but I’m still looking for people to host our spring meetings. If you’re interested, please contact me at soconnell@wc.com or 202-434-5303.

On December 1, 2005, a large number of federal, private, and academic law librarians toured the Department of Justice Library, both physically and virtually. A tour of the Main Library and a demonstration of the DOJ Virtual Library were provided by Jennifer McMahan. In addition, a tour of the beautiful artwork and architecture of the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building was conducted by Jan Oberla. Many thanks to Jennifer, Jan, Blane Dessey, and the rest of the Department of Justice Library Staff.

At the time of writing, we are planning a program on Legislative History Collections in Federal Libraries, a tour of the GPO in conjunction with the Education Committee, and a demonstration of PACER, the Federal Courts’ electronic docketing information system. If you have any ideas for future programs, particularly for this year’s Annual Agency Day, please contact David Lockwood at lockwood@cafc. uxcourts.gov or by phone at 202-312-5502.

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) will hold its Centennial Meeting this spring. The theme for the Society’s 100th Annual Meeting will be “A Just World Under Law.” Please consider attending the session, which begins March 29th and closes April 1st, 2006. Registration is available online at the Society’s website www.asil.org.

If you have ideas for upcoming programs, please contact me at JFridie@Venable.com.
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
Hoevey 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 listserve for more information.

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

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 Faid 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 a 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 ILL-SIS held its end-of-year luncheon in June at the firm of Blank Rome, LLP, giving us a timely visit to the Watergate just as the identity of Deep Throat was revealed in the press. The only great mystery solved at the meeting was the identity of our new officers for next year. Shannon O’Connell will be the new President and Emily Skelton will serve as Vice President.

It has been an excellent year for the SIS with several useful discussion meetings and guest speakers. A committee of the SIS successfully completed revisions of the Interlibrary Loan Guidelines and they are available on the LLSDC website or in the Spring issue of Lights. I would like to thank this year's Vice President, Natalie Walter, everyone who has hosted a meeting this year, and the members of the guidelines revision committee for all their efforts this year. On behalf of the ILL-SIS I extend a special thanks to Keith Gabel and the members of the Union List Committee whose work makes our Interlibrary Loan community work. I have enjoyed serving the group and look forward to more ILL-SIS events in the coming year.

I hope you will permit me the liberty as outgoing President to get on my soapbox about a couple of things that have been on my mind. These are addressed to everyone, not just the ILL-SIS members, because they are more far-reaching than that. The first has to do with showing up when you sign up for events where lunch is provided. I know most of us have been in a situation where an urgent request comes up and it is impossible to get out of the office. I am not trying to discourage anyone from coming to events—please, please participate as much as you are able—however, I think it would be courteous to think a little harder about the likelihood that you will actually be able to attend and let the planners know if you are a maybe. In April the SIS hosted a representative of the British Library for a demo that was open to all LLSDC members. Fifty-five people signed up but only 30 showed up. Thirty-one people signed up for the ILL-SIS end-of-year luncheon but only 17 came. In both cases only one or two people let me know they could not make it or that they were maybes. That is a lot of wasted food and money, both for vendors and for the LLSDC in the case of our Section luncheon.

The other issue that has got my librarian bun in a twist is people who use the LLSDC listserv for interlibrary loan requests that they could have gotten from the Union List. The Interlibrary Loan Guidelines clearly state that the listserv is supposed to be a last resort. I do not have any sympathy for the argument that a particular organization will not pay for the Union List. Considering the price of legal materials, it is a very reasonably priced resource. All it would take for the money to be forthcoming would be attorneys hearing a few times “Sorry, you can’t have [insert critically important book or article here], or have it today, because our firm hasn’t paid for a Union List and no one will loan to us.” I think firms that use the listserv without checking the Union List first are taking advantage of the good will and collegial spirit of all the librarians who do their part to make our cooperative system work for everyone. It may sound harsh, but I wish LLSDC member libraries would stop assisting people who repeatedly abuse the system. I would be interested in hearing other viewpoints on this issue in future issues of Lights. 

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Tricia Peadler
Jenner & Block LLP

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CAL INFO AD
PRINT PUBLICATIONS
This publication covers the administrative activities of the Connecticut state government. Contents include executive orders of the governor, rulemaking, lists of proposed and enacted bills, various state agency opinions, and reports of other regulatory actions. This publication comes with an annual cumulative index.

Legal Affairs, 2002.
Published bimonthly by Legal Affairs, Inc., P.O. Box 469050 Escondido, CA 92046; 800/406-5615. Price: $49.95 per year.
This magazine, associated with the Yale Law School, is designed to provide thought-provoking articles about the law to both a legal and general audience. Authors with differing points of view will present their perspectives on major legal issues of the day in an attempt to foster greater awareness of a wide variety of legal issues both to lawyers and to members of the general public.

ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION
Published weekly by the Bureau of National Affairs, 1231 25th St., NW, Washington D.C. 20037; 800/372-1033; Fax: 800/253-0332; Web site: http://www.bna.com. Price: $1,495.00 per year for up to two users at one location; $1,695.00 per year for up to five users at multiple locations.
This publication is updated weekly on the Web, with reports archived back to January 7, 2001. Major topics include online advertising and money laundering, identity theft, encryption, electronic data interchange standards, employee e-mail monitoring and network security.

TITLE CHANGE
Published quarterly by the International Law Students Association Executive Office, 1615 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009; 202/299-9101; Fax: 202/299-9102; Web site: http://www.ilsa.org; E-mail: ilsa@iamdigex.net. Price: $15.00 per year.
Formerly Ad Rem, this new publication began with the fall 2001 issue. The last issue of the previous title was dated 2001.

THE ILL SIS HOSTED A DEMONSTRATION AT ITS MARCH MEETING BY LASERSHIP.COM.
Chris Harney, senior account manager, showed us the bells and whistles of Lasership's new product "Desktop Deliveries," which can be ordered, tracked, and confirmed on the company's home page. Members of the ILL group discussed the exciting advantages of this product. Mr. Harney solicited ideas from attendees on how the product could be helpful in our jobs.

The topic of the April meeting was the creation of a second listserv specifically for interlibrary loans. This ILL listserv would help to control the number and frequency of ILL requests that appear on the LLSDC's current listserv. The pros and cons of adding a second listserv were discussed in great detail. On behalf of the ILL SIS, I want to thank all of those members who came and gave their opinions. Most of the ILL SIS members felt that a second listserv dedicated to ILL requests would not solve the problem of too many postings and postings for "easy" ILL requests. We have decided to revise the Interlibrary Loan Protocols to provide a set of guidelines for how and when to post ILL requests on the listerv. The Interlibrary Loan Protocols, approved at the 1993 LLSDC Town Meeting, are entirely voluntary, as are all interlibrary loan privileges. We plan to post the new guidelines on the ILL section of the LLSDC Web page and in other appropriate places. The ILL SIS strives to assist not only those who have questions about the use of the LLSDC listserv for ILL, but also newer LLSDC members who need information on basic ILL procedures within the community. The ILL SIS's final meetings focused on the selection of new officers and topics for the 2002-2003 year.

I would like to end my final column by thanking ILL SIS members for their loyalty and participation this year. I have enjoyed meeting all of you and serving as the ILL SIS president. I extend a special thank you to those who volunteered to host our meetings. To my vice-president, Patrick Hawkins, I thank you for your support this year. I wish you much success as president next year.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN SIS NEWS
Michelle Wollmann, Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal

EYE ON SERIALS
Susan Ryan
Georgetown University Law Library
The Legislative Research SIS held a brown bag lunch on December 14, 2000 at Dickstein, Shapiro, Morin & Oshinsky. The topic was the legislative tracking service, Gallerywatch.com. The presentation allowed current subscribers to see new service features, and also allowed non-subscribers a chance to take a closer look at this tool.

In early January, Julia Taylor and I attended the Interlibrary Loan SIS’s January brown bag lunch to talk about legislative histories — why they are important and how to find them. Thank you to Pete Vay for allowing us to share some insight on this important topic.

At the end of January, the SIS officially marks the beginning of the 107th Congress (and a new administration) with its “Welcome Back Congress” party. We hope many in the SIS will attend. Recent suggestions for future programs include using portable document format (.pdf) to compile and maintain legislative histories, and legislative history research in local jurisdictions. Please check upcoming Dates to Remember for further details.

The Holiday season is a time for traditional gatherings with friends. This is what the Interlibrary Loan SIS did in December. The tradition is the annual Holiday Party held at Shaw Pittman. This past year made the third straight year that this generous firm hosted the gathering. This “get together” has always been an opportunity for members of the section to interact socially with their counterparts around town. The party is better known as the “cookie party” because of the abundance of sweet treats brought by the guests. This year was no different, as there were enough leftover cookies for everyone to get a plate to go!

The first meeting of 2001 for the SIS was much more business related. The group convened at Paul, Hastings, Janofsky, and Walker for a discussion of legislative histories. Judging by the large number of attendees, this subject is very important to section members. Guest speakers David Mao and Julia Taylor of the Legislative SIS were present to talk about the topic and answer the questions of group members. Real life examples were used in the discussion of tools for identifying, borrowing and/or compiling legislative histories. Presenting a difficult topic, like legislative histories, to a diverse group like ours is not easy. Our guest did this very well.

February will bring the group together again to deliberate library science graduate programs. The meeting will be held at Howrey, Simon, Arnold and White. We hope to improve upon previous meetings on this subject by having students of distance learning programs relate their experiences. Students from the local schools will also be present to contribute to the discussion.

Future meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month. Watch for locations and topics of meetings in Dates to Remember and on the LLSDC listserv.

The PLL SIS continues to be active and will offer several relevant programs this spring. Gary Price will present his program, The Gumshoe Librarian over a brown bag luncheon on February 1, 2001. The PLL is sponsoring a program entitled You Want Me to Do What? The Skills You Need on February 12, 2001. The program will be presented by Mary Ellen Bates. The PLL SIS also offers social events, such as the Happy Hour at the Phillips Collection, which was held on January 25, 2001. For these and other PLL programs and events, please continue to read this column and Dates to Remember. All LLSDC members are welcome to attend.

On Wednesday, March 7, 2001, a program on Fundamentals of Foreign Legal Research in Canada will be held from 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. This is the first program in a series led by foreign legal specialists from the Library of Congress. Future programs will include legal resources for Russia, Greece, and other countries. These programs are coordinated with Malo Bernal, Law Library of Congress and sponsored by the LLSDC Foreign and International Law SIS. The programs are open to everyone interested in the topic. Contact Kelly Vinopal at vinopalk@dsmon.com if you have questions. Our SIS needs eager, self-starter volunteers to help with this series. Contact Kelly at 202/775-4774 or Pat at 202/689-7010 to volunteer. Future programs in this series will include legal resources for Russia, Greece, and other countries. These programs are coordinated with Malo Bernal, Law Library of Congress and sponsored by the LLSDC Foreign and International Law SIS.

Foreign and International Law SIS

Patricia Gudas-Mitchell and Kelly Vinopal
Piper & Marbury
Dickstein Shapiro, Morin & Oshinsky

January/February 2001
INTERLIBRARY
LOAN/SIS NEWS

Keith Gabel
Thompson Coburn LLP

THE FIRST TWO MEETINGS OF THE YEAR 2000 for the Inter-Library Loan SIS were graced with the presence of guest speakers. In terms of familiarity, our topics joined both old and new. The January gathering introduced an old friend, copyright law, to the new technology of the Internet and electronic databases. February’s meeting brought us together to discuss courier services and the ways to make ILL faster and more efficient. Both events were well attended with a good mix of librarians and library specialists.

Michelle Wolman of Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal served as host for January’s copyright meeting. Mike Songer, a Howrey & Simon partner and Georgetown Law School adjunct professor, was the featured speaker. Mr. Songer enthralled all in attendance with his knowledgeable presentation on how current copyright law affects electronic resources, with special attention given to the Internet. His talk was so well received that he was kept to answer questions long after the meeting officially concluded. We were all very appreciative of his presence and his ability to translate a complicated area of law into something usable by librarians.

Marty Burke of Perkins Coie hosted February’s meeting. At this meeting, the courier services Dyanmix, Washington Express and Apple Courier provided representatives to show us the best services they had to offer. The talks were handled professionally, with each courier company being respectful of the others. At the end of the presentations, each representative fielded questions and comments from those present on what they liked and disliked about courier services, how the services could be improved and what a library looks for in a courier. As usual, plenty of handouts were made available to be taken back to the office. We also left knowing that the courier services take ILL specialists seriously.

WASHINGTON DOCUMENT SERVICE AD