

Scenes From An Academic Law Library Makeover

John Smith, Access Services Librarian, The Pence Law Library, Washington College of Law

Extreme makeovers—being a bit of a DIYer I'm familiar with television shows that provide tips, instructions, and guidance for homeowners seeking to add to or improve their homes. Some common themes for these shows are doing the makeover on a budget, within a short time frame, or with the homeowners providing the labor under the guidance of professionals. The desired outcomes can be as simple as embellishing a single room, to a complete overhaul where the original structure is virtually unrecognizable.

Have you ever considered how things might play out if an academic law library were the focus of one of these shows, and what the end result might look like? I'll walk you through the changes that have taken place at the library I've been at for the past five years.

What's In a Name?

For many years, the Law Library was simply known as the Law Library or the WCL Library. In the fall of 2004 the Pence family kicked off the Washington College of Law's capital campaign with an extremely generous naming gift for the Law Library and in May of 2005 we were officially dedicated as the Pence Law Library.

I think that becoming the Pence Law Library was an important action that characterizes our makeover in two fundamental ways. First, it gave us a new and very specific identity, and while we still work to fulfill the same mission to our students, faculty, and staff, we are more clearly defined as specific part of the

Washington College of Law. We even have a sign outside the building identifying us, which wasn't there before.

Secondly, being given a new name offered us the opportunity to reconsider who we are and how we do things. We were given the opportunity from this external act to take a good look at the services and facilities we have and consider where we might want to go in the future.

Changes to the Outside

Painting, new fixtures, reallocating space, and creating new space are all fairly common activities on the various extreme makeover shows and the Pence Law Library was no exception. We did have one significant obstacle that impacted all of our considerations that most homeowners don't have to deal with—550,000 volumes distributed over 55,000 square feet and over 1700 students.

Over winter break in 2004 we painted the library from top to bottom. This was a significant undertaking in that we needed to move all the materials on the perimeter of the library, as well as everything from all our offices (some of which probably qualified as archaeological dig sites). We were closed to students at this time, and faced a deadline of having everything done and replaced to be ready for the influx of students at the beginning of January. Even though the painting went close to the deadline, we had a successful outcome with minimal disruption to students and library staff. With the fresh paint,

continued on page 3

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Librarians: Students and Teachers

Shannon O'Connell, Interlibrary Loan Assistant, Williams & Connolly, LLP

The start of a new year is a time of renewal. This issue of *Lights*, focusing on library makeovers, embraces that spirit of change and rejuvenation. In the popular imagination, libraries are staid bastions of tradition, often woefully out-dated. In reality, the modern library is a dynamic environment, brimming with developments in physical space, technology, and work practices.

One of the recurring themes in this issue is the idea of a makeover as an opportunity for growth. While it might seem paradoxical to view a loss of space as a chance to grow, some libraries have done just that. Rather than being immobilized by forces of change, these librarians and their organizations choose to evolve. By

continued on page 3

Law Library **Lights**

Deadline for Submissions

If you would like to write for *Lights*, please contact **Shannon O'Connell** at **soconnell@wc.com**. For information regarding submission deadlines and issue themes, visit the LLSDC Web site at **www.llsdc.org**.

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Table of Contents

FEATURES

Scenes From An Academic Law Library Makeover <i>John Smith</i>	1
Challenges and Changes; the IRS Counsel Library Transitions <i>Barbara Hillson</i>	6
Pressed for Space: Is Movable Compact Shelving the Solution <i>Frances M. Brillantine</i>	7
Developing a Web Site on Chinese Environmental Law <i>Mary Grady</i>	10
Patrick Henry Library—Transforming Space <i>Michele Masias</i>	12
We Want Half Your Space...Now! <i>Sarah T. Stephens</i>	13
Who Moved My Library? <i>Cameron Gowan</i>	16
LLSDC 2008 Election Candidate Biographies	21
Winter Scholarship and Grants Awards <i>Joan Sherer</i>	21

COLUMNS

Editor's Column <i>Shannon O'Connell</i>	2
President's Column <i>Abigail Ross</i>	4
Tech Talk <i>Roger V. Skalbeck</i>	17
Book Review <i>Karen W. Silber</i>	19
Eye on Serials <i>Susan Chinoransky</i>	20
Membership News <i>Amy Taylor</i>	20



From the Editor *continued from page 2*

doing so, they ensure that they and their libraries remain relevant to users.

The makeovers profiled here take a variety of forms, from the relocation of a private firm library, to the development of a government library's website, to the installation of compact shelving in an academic library. What's common to all the projects is the careful consideration given to them and the satisfaction felt upon their completion. The librarians involved all put

a great deal of planning into every aspect of the makeovers. Finding new ways to best serve their patrons was challenging, but even those who had change thrust upon them seem to feel a true investment in the process and a real satisfaction in the outcomes.

I invite you to explore the experiences of your colleague chronicled in these pages. Maybe you'll find comfort in knowing you're not alone in facing change. Maybe you'll draw inspiration from the projects described. Whatever your reaction, I hope you enjoy this issue. **LLL**

Academic Law Library Makeover

continued from page 1

we addressed the issue (identified by students) of the Library being too dark; the Library was now a noticeably brighter and better environment for the students.

2006 proved to be another busy year for the Pence Law Library. Over the summer we built a new space for the Information Technology help desk staff, who had previously been operating out of an undersized office elsewhere in the building, far away from the computer lab. By creating dedicated space for the Help Desk staff in the Library, we were able to make it easier for students to resolve any issues they may have with their laptops and workstations in the lab. It is also much easier for the Library staff to direct those with technology issues or questions to the Help Desk.

Over the holidays in 2006 and before the start of classes in 2007, we took another step in the cosmetic makeover of the physical space of the Library with the installation of new carpet tiles throughout the space. No home makeover, whether on television or in one's own home comes off without a glitch or two (ask me about my new screen door that was supposed to install in six easy steps), and our glitches in the Library were saved until the very end. The flooring was slated for completion just prior to the start of classes this past January and, by and large, the carpeting was done on schedule. Unfortunately, while all the carpet tiles and stair surfaces were done prior to the start of classes, they didn't all stay attached after the start of classes. It took us a couple of months to finally get this issue resolved.

This past summer we took additional steps to change the appearance and function of the

library, involving power tools and lots of hard labor. We had fourteen new group study rooms built; again in response to requests by students. Additionally, a new 18-seat instructional technology classroom was built adjacent to the Help Desk and the computer lab. These new rooms are now in constant use and have given us much greater flexibility to handle special events, accommodate classes and exams, and let the students study in ways that meet their needs.

While contractors were handling the build-out of the new rooms, we undertook a rearrangement and shift of the nearly all of Library's collection. Each of the 550,000 volumes in our collection was touched and almost every one had a new location when the dust cleared. Once again, the motivation was to meet the needs of Library users by making the collection easier to access. In our case we moved unclassified federal material to the first floor placing it with local jurisdictions (DC, MD, and VA) that were already there. We also chose to move our legal fiction collection to the first floor to allow users easier access to this material that was receiving little use. Additionally, we have space to accommodate other special collections, and currently have the Lillie Goldstein Traveling Judaica Collection on loan through May 2008 from the Touro Law School. Our second floor now contains separate sections for state materials, the general collection, reporters, and bound journals.

Changes on the Inside

In addition to the changes made with the physical structure of the library, we've also started on an extensive series of changes and enhancements to our ILS (Innovative Interfaces' Millennium)—on both the front and the back

continued on page 5

No home makeover, whether on television or in one's own home comes off without a glitch or two... and our glitches in the Library were saved until the very end.

Happy New Year to All Our Members...

WWith the holiday season behind us it is time to get back to work and start thinking about how to keep our New Year resolutions. Some of those resolutions no doubt dovetail nicely with our theme this month: “Extreme Makeover: Library Edition.”

The concept of a library makeover is almost funny in this day and age. After all, anyone in the profession more than three or four years has probably undergone some sort of library renovation, move, or digital overhaul. My library will be doing all three; starting in March 2008 we are renovating our current space, downsizing the Library collection and moving into a smaller space down the hall, implementing a new ILS, and attempting to keep our sanity all at the same time. I hear that many others are doing something similar in the next year.

This is why sharing our experiences with our colleagues is so valuable. This issue of *Lights* will offer a look into past experiences—the good, the bad, the ugly and (perhaps?) even the perfect. Reading the experience of others can help you (and me!) avoid common mistakes or help ease the process along. And be sure to keep notes on your own changes this year so you can help future librarians avoid moving or renovation pitfalls.

I have a few additional administrative items to detail for the membership:

Our Holiday Party, held December 7 at Tony Cheng’s Mongolian Barbecue, was great fun. A special thank you to Cameron Gowan and the Arrangements Committee for putting on such a great event!

Our bylaws amendments passed. The updated bylaws are available on our website.

The LLSDC Board puts great stock in our members’ comment and concerns. We have felt the pain of listserv problems, and so starting in January we will be using AALL for our chapter listserv. Thank you to Roger Skalbeck for tackling all the details associated with this switch—and please bear with us as we move all e-mails over to the new list.

On a sadder note, we lost a beloved colleague in the fall: Bob Oakley passed away unexpectedly. A good man and an asset to our profession, he will be missed. LLSDC has decided to start a fund in his honor that will be used to pay registration fees to the joint LLSDC/SEAALL conference here in March. Stay tuned to the listserv for details on how to donate to this fund or apply for a grant for the conference.

Speaking of the conference, it is starting to come together and I am very excited. Helen Thomas, Judge Leonie Brinkema, and Dr. Michael Kurtz will all be speaking. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you there, socializing with our southeastern colleagues. Mark your calendars now—March 27–29, 2008, in Old Town Alexandria!



Abigail Ross

Academic Law Library Makeover

continued from page 3

ends. Since the ILS impacts so much of what we do and how we do it, it would be short-sighted not to examine one of the most important tools of our trade. It has been many years since we looked at the ILS as a unified system, so we elected to have Innovative Interfaces perform a system audit. Each department, and each individual within each department, spent time with the auditor who looked at how and why we did things with an eye toward how we might improve. The audit took three days and we received an extensive report that is helping to direct our decision-making process as we move forward with developing new policies, practices, and procedures that arise from our users' needs.

To accompany the changes taking place behind the scenes, we are adding several new products that will assist us with our administration of electronic resources and accessibility to these resources by our users. We will also be refreshing our OPAC, giving it a new look and feel and adding features such as spell checking and RSS feeds. Also, at some point in 2008, we will be implementing and offering our users Innovative's Encore product which provides the user with search, discovery, and access to library resources through a simple Google-like interface and faceted results sets, community tagging, and relevance ranking. To cap off the system makeover, the entire library staff is being retrained, and in some cases, cross-trained, on the various modules that keep us going and the new products that we are rolling out. The end result of the training upon its completion in December 2007 is that we will be able to more effectively use the system to manage and deliver information to our users and truly capitalize on this important investment.

The Team

Makeovers, whether extreme or mundane, do not happen on their own—they are driven and done by people. In the case of the Pence Law Library, the people involved with making over the space and the system have also undergone some significant changes as well. In 2003 we welcomed a new Director, Billie Jo Kaufman, and in 2004 Adeen Postar joined us as Deputy Director. Since 2003 we've added four new

librarians: one each in Acquisitions (Marilyn Estes), Cataloging (Sima Mirkin), Reference (Ripple Weistling), and Access Services (me, John Smith). Additionally, we have had a great deal of turnover of support staff over the same period, with changes taking place in all departments. Currently, the overall staff profile is just about an even split between folks who have been here more than five years and those that have been here five years or less.

The mix of old and new staff with widely varying backgrounds and library experience has helped to make each step, stage, or change relating to the makeover process more effective. While strong opinions were often expressed in response to the various changes that have taken place, after living and working with the changes, we seem to have reached a pretty high level of satisfaction with the ultimate outcomes.

The Closing Scene

Most of the makeover shows close with a montage of the before, the after, and the people that made it happen. For the Pence Law Library the before is a strong library providing solid traditional services to our users. Over the past five years we have changed our identity, added new services, modified the space, and experienced staff changes that have transformed how we look and the services we provide to our users. If where we are now is any indication of our future, we will likely continue with our evolution as we work to deliver services to our users and work effectively.

If you have any questions about the changes made at the Pence Law Library, feel free to contact me at jasmith@wcl.american.edu. **LLL**

Challenges and Changes; the IRS Counsel Library Transitions

Barbara Hillson, Reference Librarian, IRS Office of Chief Counsel Library

The IRS Chief Counsel Library has a long tradition dating back to 1917 when Model T's chugged down Constitution Avenue and manual typewriters were the technology of the day. But the IRS Library has always met the challenge of the changing information landscape, particularly during the past year. Many significant events, new staff, workplace transitions and ever-unfolding information needs have offered the library opportunities to evolve into the digital age, thus enhancing its ever-relevant place in the legal environment of the Office of Chief Counsel.

Library as Place

When the June flood of 2006 affected several buildings in the Federal Triangle area, the entire National Office building at 1111 Constitution Avenue was unoccupied for more than five and a half months. The Library, Legislative History, and Digest sections located on its fourth floor were included in the displacement. During that time a thorough restoration of the building systems and equipment, many of which were destroyed, occurred at 1111. The ongoing work required employees to be dispersed to alternate work sites until the projects were completed and the building was cleaned, inspected and again ready for occupancy. Chief Counsel Librarians met the challenge by creating a core collection of legal, tax and reserve volumes in their assigned Crystal City offices, as they continued to maintain reference, acquisitions and interlibrary loan services for their relocated users. Gail Henderson-Green, Library Director for the past nine years, noted many positive aspects of this temporary displacement. Primary among them was that it compelled the client community to rely more on electronic material and raised the visibility of the many e-resources available on Counsel employees' desktop work-stations. New on the horizon for 2008 is a renovation of the Chief Counsel Library at 1111 which will feature improved lighting, new furniture and modernized staff offices, and an instruction/

conference area, along with redesigned reference and circulation service desks.

Collections: Blending Old and New

At our origins in the 1917 "Internal Revenue Library," print materials abounded, with their dark cloth bindings and official government stamps. Reports of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue dating back to 1864 lined the shelves, along with loose-leaf volumes from commercial firms such as CCH and Prentice Hall. Today these materials still are found in the Library's collection, along with other unique material such as a collection of historical collection of IRS forms, documents and publications, including a paper copy of the first W-2 form issued in 1943. But the Library has moved into the digital age with an impressive roster of electronic resources including Westlaw, Lexis, Hein Online and Tax Analysts, to mention just a few. These online information sources help Counsel Librarians to serve their clientele within the Office of Chief Counsel as well as throughout the IRS The network of field offices located coast-to-coast now encompasses over 1,500 attorneys in the Office of Chief Counsel, plus their paralegals and support staff, as well as IRS employees throughout the 50 states, including economists, revenue agents, and investigators. Quite a change from the Library's inception in the early twentieth century when, following the passage of the 1917 wartime revenue law, the field forces were comprised of 64 internal revenue collectors and 31 internal revenue agents!

Staffing Transitions

From 2006-2007, the Chief Counsel Library saw the retirement of four longtime staff members, whose combined experience represented over 100 years of service to the Library. Their dedication and institutional knowledge helped build the very positive reputation of the Chief Counsel Library among its clientele. The influx of three new staff who joined the Chief Counsel Library in 2006 meant a new dynamic with individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds.

Mike McDonald, new Head of Research Services, has a background in private law firm librarianship. Two new Reference Librarians also joined the staff in 2006. Barbara Hillson came most recently from an academic library, with prior years of federal government library experience, and Linda Hutchinson came from LexisNexis where she served as Senior Librarian Relations Consultant.

Digital Dynamics

New means of electronic access are always in demand, and IRS Chief Counsel has met the challenge in a number of ways. Library users can stay abreast of new articles in often-requested periodicals through a "Table of Contents" posting on the Library Intranet. Every two weeks the current Table of Contents of more than a dozen periodicals and journals are scanned and provided on the library home page. Also popular is the monthly electronic Library newsletter in which subscribers are alerted to research tips, Websites of interest, and lists of new acquisitions. The Library's online catalog also includes some links to electronic resources which are embedded in catalog records. An example of this catalog feature are individual titles from the Books24x7 database, which are cataloged with links to the log-in screen. Also available to Chief Counsel Library clients are online legislative histories of tax-related measures, with links to full text or scanned documents, dating back to 1995.

Special Projects

The Chief Counsel Library has rich holdings in agency material and Congressional documents, and projects are already underway to scan some of these fragile, volumes so they can be available online. Scanning of older legislative documents, administrative materials, and other noteworthy historic publications is also planned as a means of preservation and access. Also underway is an active oral history project which records the people and events significant to the long history of the Office of Chief Counsel. Other emerging initiatives include increased library instruction offerings, including some via online courseware, and increased library marketing and publicity. One recent example is National Library Week 2007 which featured daily events including drop-in sessions, trivia contests, handouts and tours.

The Future at 1111

As library challenges and opportunities constantly evolve, the Office of Chief Counsel Library continues to move forward with a solid foundation in its historic past along with strategies and plans for the digital age. Building on the past 90 years of connecting agency personnel with needed information, the IRS Counsel Library forges ahead with new technologies, a library redesign, and new outreach. **LLL**

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Pressed for Space: Is Movable Compact Shelving the Solution?

Frances M. Brillantine, Head of Access Services, DuFour Law Library, Catholic University of America

Is compact shelving right for your library? Compact shelving, also known as high density movable shelving, can significantly ease space constraints, but is not suitable for all libraries and all collections. This article will serve as a brief introduction to the issues you should consider when contemplating the installation of a compact shelving system.

To determine if compact shelving is the right choice for your library, there are several factors to keep in mind: your facility (i.e., can your library accommodate compact shelving),

the collection to be stored in compact shelving, the type of system to be installed, and cost.

Floor Load & Other Configuration Issues

The first thing you must consider is your library's floor load, i.e., how much weight the floor can accommodate. In general, a floor load of 300 – 350 pounds per square foot is recommended,¹
continued on page 8

¹ Stephen G. Margeton, *Introduction to Design for Law and Other Academic Libraries: Reflection and Change* 150 (2nd ed. 2007).

In general, three factors should be considered when determining if your collection is right for compact shelving: usage, growth, and maintenance.

Pressed for Space *continued from page 7*

but the number may be higher depending on the system and the materials stored. A structural engineer should be consulted to determine your library's floor load. If your floor load is not strong enough, in most cases it can be modified to accommodate the extra weight. Consult a structural engineer and an architect for recommendations.

Height of the system must also be considered. Newer libraries are sometimes built to accommodate the future installation of compact shelving. In addition to adequate floor load capacity, the rails required by compact shelving are installed in the floor. If this is not the case in your library, a raised platform is required, which will add to the height of the system. If your library has a sprinkler system, this will also affect the maximum height that your library can accommodate. The distance between the shelving and the sprinkler heads is determined by the fire code and is generally eighteen inches.²

Another factor to consider is where to install a compact shelving system. This issue may be pre-determined by existing floor load capacity or the size of your library. The collection you are hoping to store in compact shelving may also impact the location. Although not as important as floor load capacity and height accommodations, aesthetics should also be considered when contemplating compact shelving. Vendors typically offer a wide range of colors, finishes, and end-panel materials to enable you to match your existing design. Of course, these design features can also raise the cost of the system.

The Collection

In general, three factors should be considered when determining if your collection is right for compact shelving: usage, growth, and maintenance. In terms of usage, take into account the number of simultaneous users who will need access to the collection. Bear in mind that only one aisle per module can be open at a time, so ideally you will want to store a low-use collection in compact shelving. Also consider whether the collection lends itself to browsing or quick retrieval of a volume. For example, a treatise collection is often browsed, while a

² *Id.* at 152.

journal collection usually involves a patron using a citation to quickly retrieve a volume.

Collection growth must also be taken into account. Growth can be difficult to determine, especially in treatise collections. For this reason, "dead" collections or sets are good choices for compact shelving. Maintenance concerns include updating (i.e., filing looseleaf releases and pocket parts), but also relate to usage and growth. Highly-used collections will require frequent reshelving. Growing collections will require frequent shifting. Keep in mind that reshelving and shifting in compact shelving requires twice as much time as that required in regular shelving. In addition, the collection will often be inaccessible to patrons while these tasks are being performed.

In summary, a good choice for compact shelving is a collection that is low-use, has low growth or growth that is easily calculated (such as journals or reporters), and is low maintenance. Although this type of collection is best suited for compact shelving, smaller libraries may not have a choice in this area. Space constraints require some libraries to house their entire collections in compact shelving. Although not ideal, it is possible to use compact shelving for high-use collections. One option to consider is using a larger number of fixed ranges, thereby breaking up the system into smaller units that permit more aisles to be open at one time. This option will decrease the amount of space gained by the installation of compact shelving, depending on how many fixed ranges you decide to have. As I discuss further below, electrical compact shelving facilitates access if you must store a large and/or highly-used collection in compact shelving.

Types of Shelving: Manual, Mechanical Assist & Electrical

In a manual system, users open the aisles by pushing fixed handles to the left or right. Mechanical assist systems use three-spoke rotating handles. The handles work in conjunction with a chain drive system that has adjustable gear ratios. The gear ratios determine the amount of effort required to turn the handle. Electrical systems operate with the push of a button.

In a manual system, the carriages are moved one at a time, by the force of the person pushing them. Since the carriages cannot be moved with a lot of speed or force, manual systems are not equipped with safety devices. Because of these

factors, manual shelving should be used only for small, low-use collections that are not open to the public.

In a mechanical assist system, two to three carriages can be moved at a time, depending on the length and weight of the carriages. Gear ratios can be adjusted at any time by the manufacturer. In a typical system, it takes one pound of effort to move 6000 pounds of weight. The initial gear ratio may need adjustment as the shelves fill up and the weight in a carriage increases. A variety of safety devices are available with mechanical assist systems, some standard and some optional, depending on the vendor. Devices are active (requiring action on the part of the user) or passive (requiring no action on the part of the user) and include a selection of aisle locks and safety sweeps that are manual or electric. If your collection will be used by the public, it is wise to install passive safety devices. The cost of the safety devices you choose will vary depending on the vendor.

Mechanical assist systems can accommodate ranges up to a length of 45 linear feet, so they are a good choice for medium-sized collections. Some concerns to keep in mind are safety and proper usage by patrons. If a system is equipped with an active safety device, such as a manual pin that prevents a carriage from being moved, there is always a chance that patrons won't use the pin. Manual safety sweeps, such as "kick" panels, sometimes make patrons nervous. No one wants to take the chance that a range won't stop when he kicks the panel! Education is a must so that users understand how all safety features operate. Another concern is the user who tries to move too many carriages at one time. This can be a problem in larger systems with fewer fixed ranges. An impatient user may not want to move the recommended two or three carriages at a time to get to the aisle he needs.

With a capacity for heavier loads and longer ranges, electrical systems can accommodate a collection of almost any size. Carriages move together in one controlled movement at the press of a button. Electrical systems are equipped with a number of passive safety devices designed to provide the maximum level of safety. Electrical systems are also fully programmable, offering a variety of options such as controlled access to designated aisles and automatic reset to a particular aisle. Because electrical systems require no force on the part of the user, they are the

best choice for collections used by persons with disabilities. Electrical systems are also a good choice for large collections that are more heavily used. Users can access aisles more quickly than in mechanical assist systems because all carriages move at one time. Concerns with electrical systems include maintenance, power failures, and ease of use. Although problematic in the past, electrical systems today require very little maintenance. Even so, you may want to consider a yearly maintenance contract which will add to the overall cost of the system. Electrical systems come with battery packs that can be used in the event of a power failure. While not suitable for long-term use, they are fully acceptable in an emergency.

Another factor to keep in mind with electrical systems is user education. Although electrical systems are very easy to operate, they sometimes intimidate users. Clear instructions will need to be posted to assist patrons in proper usage. State-of-the-art safety devices mean that the system will sometimes err on the side of caution and shut down an aisle, making it necessary to reset that aisle before opening another. For example, in our library, students cut through the compact shelving to reach study rooms. Because groups of students move from one end of an aisle to another fairly quickly, the system does not always sense that all users have vacated an aisle. For that reason, aisles in our system have to be reset frequently.

Cost

Obviously, the biggest factor to consider when contemplating compact shelving is cost. There are cost considerations associated with the system itself and those associated with the installation. In terms of the system itself, the cost will depend on what type of system you select, whether you can use your existing shelving or need to purchase new shelving, and options you may select, such as controls at both ends of each aisle and non-standard safety devices. According to library building consultant Gloria Novak, the initial cost of an electrical system is between seven and fifty percent higher than the cost for a mechanical assist system.³ The wide range is due to the options that are available with each system which also vary according to vendor.

continued on page 10

³ Gloria Novak, *Movable Compact Shelving Systems: Selection and Specifications*, 35 *Libr. Tech. Rep.* 555, 576 (1999).

In summary, a good choice for compact shelving is a collection that is low-use, has low growth or growth that is easily calculated (such as journals or reporters), and is low maintenance. Although this type of collection is best suited for compact shelving, smaller libraries may not have a choice in this area.

It is important to visit libraries that are not on a vendor's list. Be armed with a specific list of questions that cover areas such as the type of system, safety devices, how heavily the collection is used, who uses the system, and any pros and cons.

Pressed for Space *continued from page 9*

In addition to the cost of the system itself, there may be costs associated with the installation, such as floor load renovations, carpeting, wiring, and lighting. Typically, a platform must be installed to accommodate the rails required by a compact shelving system and this platform will require new carpeting. If you select an electrical system or electrical safety devices, additional circuits will need to be installed. Existing lighting may need to be reconfigured to accommodate the new shelving. Moving the collection may also increase the total cost if it is necessary to hire contractors.

Do Your Homework

When deciding if compact shelving is right for your library, it's important to familiarize yourself with all aspects of compact shelving. In addition to consulting with several vendors, be sure to visit libraries that have different types of compact shelving systems. Vendors are more than happy to supply you with a list of libraries

to visit. However, it is also important to visit libraries that are not on a vendor's list. Be armed with a specific list of questions that cover areas such as the type of system, safety devices, how heavily the collection is used, who uses the system, and any pros and cons.

Recommended Reading

This article is intended only as a brief introduction to compact shelving. If you do decide that compact shelving is right for your library, please consider consulting the following publications.

1. Bright, Franklyn F. *Planning for a Movable Compact Shelving System*. Chicago: American Library Association, 1991.
2. Margeton, Stephen G. "Shelving." In *Introduction to Design for Law and Other Academic Libraries: Reflection and Change*, 133-157. Buffalo: W.S. Hein, 2007.
3. Novak, Gloria. "Compact Shelving Systems: Selection and Specifications." *Library Technology Reports* 35 (1999): 555-708. **LLL**

Developing a Web Site on Chinese Environmental Law

Mary Grady, Law Librarian, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA General Counsel Roger Martella made an official visit to China in September, 2007 where he met with Chinese government officials and environmental law experts from universities, non-governmental organizations, and industry. Upon his return, Mr. Martella wanted to encourage a continuing dialogue between the U.S. and China on environmental law issues in order to share EPA's legal experience and expertise, with the goal of helping to improve China's environmental health. His mandate: to create quickly a Web site aimed at both those individuals and organizations in China with an interest in environmental law and American entities with business or other stakes in how China addresses environmental issues. The "EPA-China Environmental Law Initiative" was born!

The task of developing this Web site has been a team effort involving myself (law librari-

an and web manager for the EPA Office of General Counsel) and staff attorney Steve Wolfson, who accompanied the General Counsel on his China trip. I saw this as an opportunity to draw upon both my law librarian skills (identifying, locating, and organizing relevant information) and my web knowledge (present the information in a useful way). Until this point, my duties as the Office's web manager have consisted of maintaining Intranet and public web pages, fairly routine stuff compared to this new project which offered the exciting prospect of having a world-wide readership.

Too Large an Audience?

Initially, the task seemed daunting since the General Counsel wanted this Web site to be not only a primary source of information on Chinese environmental law, but also the place for a Chinese audience to find materials about the

U.S. environmental law framework, translated into Chinese! Since we wanted to develop and launch the Web site quickly, Steve and I agreed to focus on some basic content: information on new developments in Chinese environmental law; legal resources such as Chinese environmental statutes, regulations, and treaties; substantive articles on Chinese environmental law; and a list of useful links.

I quickly determined that reliable, free sources for the full text English version of Chinese environmental statutes were few and far between. SEPA (the Chinese State Environmental Protection Agency) and the ECOLEX database, an information service on international environmental law co-sponsored by several United Nations organizations, appeared to be the only two web-based access points. Locating the Chinese equivalent of regulations and guidance documents in English proved to be equally frustrating.

Help From Collaborators

Luckily, Steve had some great ideas about how to get advice on obtaining this elusive information: approach organizations with a high level of expertise on Chinese environmental law issues and ask them to serve as collaborators on our Web site. Since he has been practicing in the international environmental law area for a number of years, Steve has many contacts, and he quickly began calling various organizations and institutions. Currently, we have four Web site collaborators on board (and anticipate adding more): the American Chamber of Commerce Shanghai's Environment Committee, the China Environment Forum at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the George Washington University Law School, and the University of Maryland Environmental Law Program. Each has signed a Memorandum of Understanding which describes their roles as Web site collaborators. They may share materi-

als to post on our Web site, and also advise us concerning which materials would be useful to include.

Task Assignment

The division of labor for the Web site allows me to perform the tasks I do best: seeking out and evaluating news items, documents, articles, and legal materials which I think would be useful additions. Steve's role is to review my selections, keeping in mind any potentially sensitive policy issues. As the team's legal expert in matters of international environmental law, he is in the best position to recognize the value of any particular item I locate.

Making the Web site accessible to our Chinese audience was next on our agenda. EPA's Office of Public Affairs has already implemented a Chinese portal containing a variety of EPA-produced information translated into both traditional and simplified Chinese. The Office of General Counsel's project was of great interest to them, since web search statistics have already indicated that the majority of hits on the Chinese portal are to legal materials. We were delighted to discover that EPA has a team of Chinese-speaking employees who volunteered to translate web materials; once our initial web pages were complete, they were quickly translated and links created on the Chinese portal.

The Web site was officially launched on November 30 with a press release (in both English and Chinese) issued by the EPA Office of Public Affairs. Included was a digital recording of the General Counsel making a brief statement. We offer a monthly e-mail update service which will alert users about any new materials which have been added to the site. A number of individuals who have already requested the updates included suggestions for topics they would like to see covered, so we plan to monitor these comments carefully in order to make our site as useful as possible. **!!!**

EPA-China Environmental Law Initiative Web site

http://www.epa.gov/ogc/china/initiative_home.htm

Press release

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/200956e8f7aa98b1852573a300682b6a?OpenDocument>

EPA Chinese Portal

<http://www.epa.gov/chinese/>

Patrick Henry Library— Transforming Space

Michele Masias, Law Librarian, Department of Justice Patrick Henry Library

Can you spot the difference between 1st century B.C. and 21st century libraries?

In the book *A History of Building Types*, the author, Pevsner, quotes Vitruvius, a Roman architect of the 1st Century BC, as saying that libraries of the ancient world were built “ad communem delectation”,¹ meaning “for the enjoyment of all.” In keeping with this spirit, our traditional brick-and-mortar library model has had to evolve to meet the needs of 21st century library patrons who require stronger electronic research support, while still finding ways to encourage patrons to see their libraries as an integral part of their every day life.

Here at the Department of Justice, the Patrick Henry Library recently answered this call by undertaking a project that re-evaluated existing space and transformed a portion of its library into a “flexible space, people place”—and something that clearly would be “for the enjoyment of all.” Dubbed the “Information Commons,” the Patrick Henry Library staff initiated this project in response to a growing demand for libraries to expand patron services by offering access to multi-functional common space areas. The outcome of this conversion initiative was that significant portions of traditional library book stacks were transformed into a multi-use information commons which provide patrons with a more open “people-centered” environment. The development of the Patrick Henry Information Commons compliments our evolving profession and helps keep pace with the increasing demands of new library users who rely ever increasingly more on electronic sources and novel just-in-time information. Whether it is a 1st century BC, or 21st Century library, these emerging customer service trends demonstrate the need for libraries to adopt flexible common use spaces and adopt novel ways in offering patron services.

The development of the Patrick Henry Information Commons complements our evolving profession and helps keep pace with the increasing demands of new library users who rely ever increasingly more on electronic sources and novel just-in-time information.

¹ Pevsner, Nikolaus, *A History of Building Types* (Thames and Hudson, 1987), 91.

Where Do We Start?

Located on the 10th floor of the Patrick Henry DOJ building, the public area portion of the Patrick Henry Library is roughly 70 feet by 115 feet. Of this space, the area that was available to build the Information Commons consisted of an area approximately 70 feet by 20 feet. The big challenge of this project was to figure out where to move the print materials housed in the 2000 linear feet of shelving that was going to be displaced because of the project. After careful analysis, these print sources were removed from the collection because they were available electronically, relocated to other parts of the Patrick Henry Library, or distributed to other locations in the DOJ Library system. Taking advantage of a previously scheduled re-carpeting project, the information commons planning team quickly arranged for the removal and transfer of this shelving by advertising on several ListServs. As it turns out, the situation was a win-win since the shelving could be donated for use by another government library. The result was a total conversion of 1400 square feet of book stacks floor space to patron reading, research and mixed use space, which we would like to think of as a clear example of how libraries should accommodate shifting service patterns.

Building On a Dime!

With little funding available for this special project, we acquired used furniture at no cost from the DOJ warehouse and a GSA facility that had furniture to give away. This included several couches, comfortable chairs, a conference table and matching chairs, side chairs, end tables, and lamps. A small budget was available for moving expenses and such low cost items as a white board, easel, and power strips.

Is the Space Multi-functional?

In order to enhance the multi-functional aspect of the Commons, we decided to divide it into three sections. As patrons enter the space, on the right is a lounge area with couches, end tables and lamps. To the immediate left is a

conference area with a large table and chairs with casters. Further down on the left is a section with substantial seating suited for conducting presentations. Additionally, all three areas can be rearranged in a wide variety of groupings to accommodate flexible use.

If You Build it, They Will Come!

The debut of the Information Commons was officially celebrated on November 7, 2007 with a very successful open house. The staff actively marketed the event which was attended by new patrons, other librarians, staff, and current library users. Along with the over 100 people who attended this day long event, a variety of vendor demonstrations, refreshments, and presentations highlighted the spaciousness, flexibility and overall utility of the space.

Although the official debut of the Information Commons was held in November, the staff had been promoting and was able to offer the information commons space well before it was completed. To date, approximately 60 group meetings and special programs have been held in the Information Commons area including the Department of Justice Library All Staff Meeting and a six week fitness program sponsored by the Justice Gym staff.

What Does the Future Hold?

The Patrick Henry Library Staff will continue to evaluate the usefulness of this space and find ways to make it more attractive. As time and budget allow, the Patrick Henry Library staff is already planning on procuring new technologies. On the wish list is the addition of WiFi wireless services, the purchase of a video projection system with integrated electronic white board, and the purchase of print/scan hardware. All these changes should make the space attractive to patrons and ultimately increase patrons' connectedness and access to library resources, as well as to each other through the use of the meeting space.

The already frequent and popular use of the newly converted Information Commons area demonstrates the value-added to the physical library and its services. Patrick Henry Library is one example of how the DOJ Libraries are striving to adapt to the changing needs of library users by proactively striving to develop more efficient use of their precious library space. Even in the 21st century, the library should be for the enjoyment of all! **LLL**

We Want Half Your Space...Now!

Sarah T. Stephens, Manager of Library and Research Services, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP

The Ides of August was a fateful day for Sutherland's library staff and its users. It was on that day that I was informed by our Facilities Manager that one of our practice groups had requested we give up 75% of our library space to make way for work rooms. Sutherland's library had already experienced some recent space reduction, and reducing its physical footprint even more seemed drastic. After much consideration I agreed to give up 50% of our physical space so long as other conditions were met. Rather than fighting to preserve a small space and be cut again in a year or so we, as a library, decided that we would turn this set-back into a golden opportunity to make our library and its resources ubiquitous. Our decision: if we were to lose physical space, we would make up for it in virtual space. We would not simply give up our space, but rather we would sell it

back to the firm. We would ask for the online resources needed to attain our vision of a virtual and physical library that could provide research and resources anytime, anywhere, and stick to our demands.

Several factors went into our decision to give up physical space. Momentum to 'go virtual' has been mounting for many years. Over the last few years, Sutherland's library has been stealthily moving its collection towards an electronic state. Most of our main resources are available electronically as well as in print, and the use of electronic resources has been steadily increasing across all practice groups. Electronic access was already a fact of life in our New York office as their library consists of two print titles and research supplied by Washington librarians. While telecommuting is not yet common across

continued on page 14

We Want Half Your Space...Now!

continued from page 13

the firm, we have several partners who spend part of each month working in distant locations and need resources wherever they are. Finally, as part of a larger knowledge management initiative, a legal technology consultant recommended that we take the plunge publicly and irreversibly by moving the library into virtual space.

Assuming we would not have much notice before construction began, we immediately began to chart a course of action. We knew that if we were asking our users to become more reliant on electronic resources, we had to make them easier to find and use. At the outset we had three web pages: one focusing on library policies, one on research, and one dedicated to legislative research. Our objective was to give each practice group or subgroup a page focused on its research resources. In addition, there would be an improved legislative page and a page for non practice-specific library resources. We also created a page providing overviews of content and contracts for these databases. Previously we had not linked our electronic resources from our catalog; doing so became part of our electronic expansion. We knew this would be the most time-consuming part of our conversion.

Designing the new physical space came next. We were very fortunate to work with a designer who listened to our needs. After several meetings, she created a great design for our new library. We focused on the function of the space rather than on the form it should take. We knew that her expertise was design, not on knowing the library's function, while conversely we understood the function of our library but needed help in coming up with an appropriate design. For example, we need work space, though not necessarily tables. In the final design, we lost some table space, but gained a counter. We also gave up some shelf space in order to add office space for another librarian. One of the few things we felt strongly about was the re-orientation of our fixed shelving. Initially, our compact shelving ran North/South, and the section of fixed shelving ran East/West. This worked well when the fixed shelves were dedicated to our tax materials, but with the dramatic changes to our collection, we

wanted all aspects of the new library to be as user friendly as possible. Re-orienting our shelves required major work to both the floor and the entire ceiling, and added a considerable amount to the cost. We did not have to fight hard to make the change, but we did research library design so we could back up our arguments if necessary.

Several discussions focused on how to make the space welcoming without including a traditional a reference desk. Giving up shelving space for research librarian offices helped with this, as the offices are located very near the main entrance and have windows positioned to face into the main library space. The windows are frosted in the middle with clear glass borders to allow for privacy while still allowing librarians and patrons to see each other. Each staff member provided input as to his or her workspace need, and that input was incorporated into the plan. To maximize the use of space, modular furnishings were custom designed for each office. Our legislative analyst, for example, relies heavily on books and bill files. His furnishings include file drawers, shelves, cabinets, and an extensive work surface. research librarians, whose work is not so paper-based but who often work closely with visitors to the Library, were given small file cabinets in addition to their built-in file drawers. These small cabinets fit underneath the desks and are topped with a cushion allowing them to double as seating.

Our library occasionally functions as a space for vendor demonstrations and research training, but in the new design we would no longer have space for several tables and a portable movie screen. To compensate, the new layout includes space for a large plasma screen connected to a computer. Below the screen will be storage cabinets, and next to it a large dry erase board. A counter-top will serve dual use as overflow workspace or a display area. Our three work tables continue the high-tech theme, with hidden power outlets and network jacks.

With the library's design finalized, we knew how much shelf space we would have: approximately 1,500 linear feet. We had not thoroughly weeded since we moved from one floor to another several years ago, so we used this opportunity to discard outdated titles and rebalance our collection. We began reassuring partners that treatises would remain on the

shelves, but we planned to send offsite hundreds of boxes of CCH transfer binders, duplicate Internal Revenue Bulletins, Letter Rulings, SEC Dockets, and outdated and unused materials.

Approximately three weeks after we were first told about the restructuring, the Facilities Manager and I were told that the partner behind this idea wanted to see movement immediately! That was a Friday, and we were told to prepare to start moving Monday afternoon. The move was delayed for approximately a week, when it was revealed that the plan was to give the staff temporary offices at 1275 Pennsylvania (our main location) and move the books to the firm's space at 1201 Pennsylvania. The two buildings are adjacent, but Sutherland employees must go outside to get from one location to the other. This would be an unacceptably large separation of staff and resources. The move to this interim space was delayed while offices were prepared at 1201 Pennsylvania, and we used the time to hire temps to box the books being sent to offsite storage.

The move went smoothly, although we did experience some bumps after our arrival in our temporary space. Our printer took a day or two to be delivered, and it took almost a week for the copier/scanner to be delivered and hooked up. Despite our reliance on electronic resources, these were great inconveniences. Our books were shelved on crudely made moving company book carts. Despite being well-labeled, the carts were not placed in proper order in the space. They could not easily be shifted as each cart weighed hundreds of pounds. With all the electronic resources we use, research was not been disrupted to any significant degree, but we did have to come up with a way to assist attorneys looking for books. Our solution was to have attorneys call ahead so we could put a flag on the correct cart. Reshelving materials was also a time consuming procedure.

As part of publicizing our move to a more electronic library, we spent considerable time and effort reassuring our attorneys that we understood their fears and would work to make the transition as easy as possible. We had many conversations with staff members explaining the change and soliciting their opinions. As part of our grand re-opening, we will host four days of demonstrations of our new intranet pages, the catalogue, the process

for checking out books, and offerings from our vendors. We are also planning more in-depth training sessions for 2008.

We have had several surprises during this process, from the sudden acceleration, to delays, to the stress of separation from the rest of the firm. One of our biggest, and certainly our most pleasant surprise, has been the steady stream of visitors to the library. Despite the inconvenience of going outside from one building to another, almost every day has brought us a visit from at least one associate, partner, secretary, or paralegal. We have also been pleased with the support from our legal staff. Senior partners almost unanimously said that while they personally didn't like the changes to the library, they understood the rationale, saw the benefit, and accepted that their work practices might have to change.

We have learned many things during this process. The most important lesson for several of us was how to market a potentially unpopular change. We worked for several weeks to make our view of the coming benefits well known. We also learned to listen to what patrons weren't saying. To effectively send our message, we had to know what users' fears were so we could address them head-on. We all learned to embrace change and live with uncertainty. Our library staff members are not afraid of change, but this change was so big that it pushed even us to the boundaries of our comfort zones. Every one of us had moments of resistance to or anger at the loss of space but those moments were few, brief, and between ourselves. We welcome the opportunity to start a new year in our new spaces—both physical and virtual. **LLL**

Every one of us had moments of resistance to or anger at the loss of space but those moments were few, brief, and between ourselves. We welcome the opportunity to start a new year in our new spaces—both physical and virtual.

Who Moved My Library?

Cameron Gowan, Library Manager and Jeffrey M. Nelson, Library Assistant, Groom Law Group

MMy assistant would like to say that he moved the library; however, I tend to disagree. But in all fairness, he was the brawn and I was the brain, both necessary for a move like the one we recently underwent.

Planning for a library move and renovation of our entire office has been a long and time consuming process. The planning stage has taken nearly two years and much thought has been spent on what the new library would look like. Our attorneys wanted a streamlined library that provided them with the best resources, easy access, and a comfortable area in which to conduct legal research. We reviewed and revised plans many times and were pleased with the final design. Even with the best carefully thought out plans everything can change, albeit for the better.

Preparing to downsize a library collection with the “help” of sixty attorneys was a feat in itself. As we know, attorneys want to retain everything. I made a list of publications that were to be donated or discarded and let the attorneys take whatever they liked to their homes or offices. On several occasions attorneys would take pieces of the collection, after which many of them mysteriously returned to the library. I had to continuously send these books back to their offices and tell them they were ultimately responsible for storing them. It became a bit of a game of hot potato with books reappearing out of nowhere. MAGIC! We finally started stamping books “FOR DISPOSAL,” so that the books would not reappear in our collection.

The attorneys were not the only ones who challenged us. It seems the designers had difficulty designing our law library at first. Plans were constantly being edited as I continually pointed out changes that needed to be made to accommodate our new library. Original plans didn't include walls for the office, where we spend much of the day on the telephone with vendors and others. Most attorneys take refuge in our library because it is a quiet place to work without distractions. How could we not have walls? Just as we thought everything was settling down and the shelves were finally

installed another problem arose: the shelves had to be moved because they did not meet code standards! Nonetheless, everyone worked extremely hard to do their part to make sure that final product was acceptable.

We discarded almost 1,000 linear feet of books by ourselves. To make the physical task of loading cart after cart a bit more exciting, we made ongoing bets as to who could load faster. We would also race the carts around the hall-ways down to the loading dock where we then had to push the heavy carts up a steep hill. The winner got a milk shake from Potbelly's. At one point, my library assistant was in the dumpster flailing around in the law books, a task I am sure he never thought was part of his job description. As we would toss books into the dumpster, we found ourselves bidding farewell to old standards or warhorses of the print collections of the bygone twentieth century. “Goodbye, *Williston on Contracts!*” “Adios, *Supreme Court Reporter!*” It was almost painful to throw them away. To keep our sanity we even made the disposal process into an Olympic-style event (the Book Toss, naturally) in which we competed to throw the most books away in the fastest time. We even recruited some of the paralegals to come and participate. You would be surprised at how much of a workout it really is!

A word of warning: when discarding so many volumes of books, be careful to wash your hands thoroughly and often, as I incurred a nasty finger infection. Who would have thought that a library move would give a law librarian an infection?

Furniture for the library area still continues to be an ongoing challenge. Our designers provided a tiny, round, white, and essentially useless table for our space. Granted they have a very limited floor space to work with, this table was smaller than tables in the children's section of a public library (think Barbie townhouse). Needless to say, one of the partners called and asked why there was a child's table in our library. We have since obtained an adult-sized table.

During our renovation process other individuals have complained that they were

overwhelmed having to move their personal offices, to which I replied, "Try moving an office and a library!" After all is said and done, our new location is smaller but much more manageable. It seems to be worth all the hassle. Despite a couple bumps in the road we have successfully streamlined our collection to be

more useful and less duplicative. In the end, everyone seems to be pleased with our new space. Who would have thought that such a daunting project would turn into a fun experience?! I am sure we will be laughing about it for some time...until the day when they tell us we have to do it again. **LLL**

By early 2007 Georgetown's reference librarians had concluded that the old tutorials were too "low-tech" and text-driven to appeal to students who grew up using multimedia learning and entertainment tools.

TECH TALK

*Roger Skalbeck, Associate Law Librarian for Electronic Resources & Services,
Georgetown University Law Library*

AddThis.com—A Simple Bookmark Solution

Problems With Save and Share Links Online

If you read online newspapers or blogs, undoubtedly you have seen links that say something like "Share This" or "Save This." Typically, these links allow you to post links to a site such as Facebook, Digg, or del.icio.us. If you are not familiar with these three sites, each of them let users post links online for later retrieval, community ranking, or sharing with friends.

With finite screen real estate, website designers are often limited to selecting only a few sites where content can be shared. Selections may be influenced by an online publisher's corporate interest in promoting one service over another. This bias potential can make it inconvenient if you like to use a service that is not selected by the site's designer.

Thanks to a simple software solution from a site called AddThis.com, website designers no longer have to choose certain services to the exclusion of others. AddThis.com allows people to choose from three dozen services to bookmark, save, and share individual web links. And on your site it is all done with a single image that is only 125 pixels wide. Here is what it looks like:

What is AddThis?

The AddThis.com tool is best called a "bookmark widget." After signing up with a free account on AddThis.com, you may add this functionality to your site with a few lines of code. Once implemented, users can save or share content quite easily.

Once you have an account and add the code to your site, users can click on an AddThis bookmark link to pass a URL to their site, present-

ing you with a list that currently includes thirty-six bookmark sites. Many are predictable destinations, such as Google Bookmarks and Facebook. Others are more obscure, such as Segnalo and Netvouz. The most recent one they added is "Favorites," letting you bookmark your sites offline in your browser's bookmarks or Favorites folder.

An alternative implementation of the AddThis.com widget uses a short javascript file running on the AddThis.com site that shows a list of eleven bookmark destination sites when your mouse hovers over the widget icon. The twelfth option is for "More..." where the remaining sites can be found. They also have instructions for adding this to a blog using TypePad or Blogger, and there is a plugin for WordPress blogs as well.

User Convenience and Simple Site Analytics

We have implemented the AddThis service on numerous pages on the Georgetown Law Library site (<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu>), and it has made it much easier for our users to store links to our materials. Our users have the option of whatever target site they prefer, instead of having to choose from a few options selected by the library.

Beyond providing user convenience, we have found that AddThis.com gives us insight into the content people use and the services they choose to store their links. Our free account on AddThis.com provides us rudimentary statistics about bookmark sites people choose, as well as information on the individual pages they save from our site. Below are two charts showing the destination services since we started (we have used it less than a year) and those over the last month. *continued on page 18*

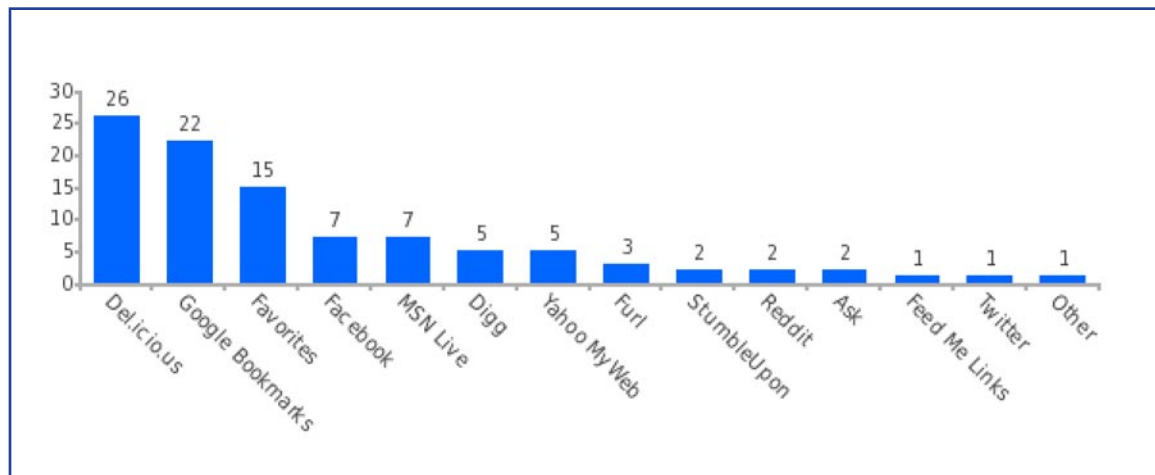
Shortcomings and Privacy Concerns

AddThis.com is easy to implement, and we have not had any complaints about it not working. Even though it works well, the service is not perfect. Usage statistics for AddThis.com give you only basic information, often listing just the top ten bookmarks people have saved on your site. Also, the online analytics cannot be aggregated for defined periods.

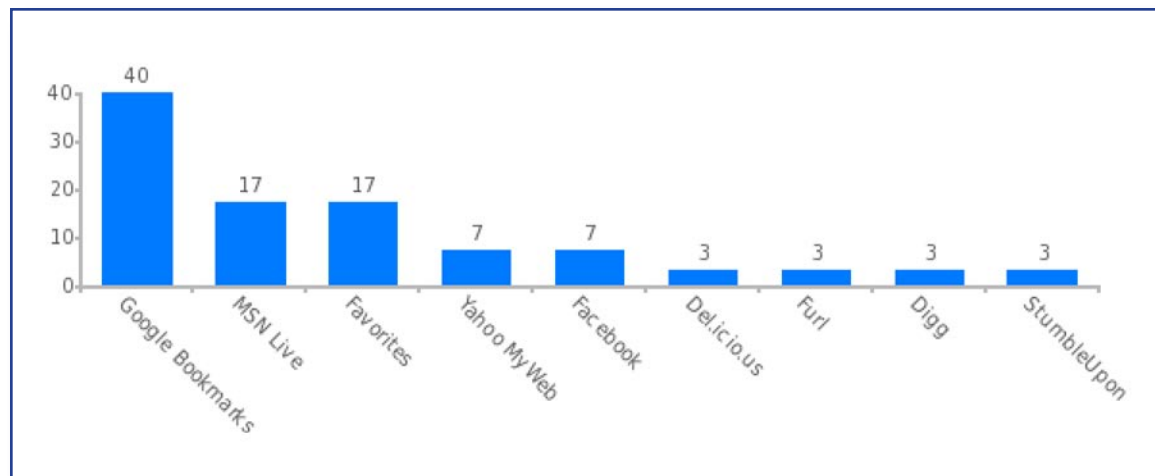
Another issue is the fact that information about page bookmarks is transmitted to an outside service unaffiliated with our law school, raising privacy concerns. If our users are concerned about privacy, they do not have to use this service. As is seen in countless examples with new Internet-based services, users are often willing to give up some privacy in order to gain personal convenience.

For now, we are quite happy with this service, and our patrons like using it. **LLL**

Top Destination Services (by percentage) Past Year



Top Destination Services (by percentage) Past Month



Karen Silber, *Legal Reference Librarian, Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.*

Print vs. Digital: The Future of Coexistence, edited by Sul H. Lee; Haworth Information Press, 2007, 138 pages, \$60 (hardback), \$45 (paperback).

With libraries shrinking in physical size and the burgeoning of digital materials, this issue's book selection, *Print vs. Digital: The Future of Coexistence*, relates well to the theme this Lights issue—"Extreme Makeover: Library Edition." *Print vs. Digital* is a collection of articles on how academic libraries can reach a comfortable and peaceful coexistence between traditional print and digital resources. Although it is geared toward the academic community, many of the ideas put forth relate to the law library community at large.

The change wrought by technology is apparent at universities and law libraries around the country. Fred Heath notes in his article, "The Impact of Evolving Information-Seeking Behaviors Upon Research Libraries: A Case Study," that "the time-honored practice of a community of scholars gathering on a single campus to pursue a common research interest is being challenged as the symbol of university research. In its stead there has emerged world-wide discipline-centered scholarship where collaboration and synergy are dependent upon the Internet and the World Wide Web." Heath's article details the closing of the undergraduate library at the University of Texas, how the decision was made and its outcomes. I wonder if the same is true of the private law library? Has there been a decline of visits from associates and is this why our space is shrinking?

Despite changes, libraries still play an important role in research. Our space has just been redefined. In the article, "Beyond Coexistence: Finding Synergies Between Print Content and Digital Information," Joan Lippincott stresses that print and digitized collections may be used to support and enhance each other. In this con-

text, librarians will do what they have always done, which is to locate useful materials, negotiate a price or contract/license, make materials available in a format usable and convenient to patrons, provide training, and put out fires. Michael Buckland notes in "The Digital Difference in Reference Collections" that "new technology does not change the mission of a library. It simply opens up alternative means: new procedures for the same purpose."

Digital materials do not mean an end to their print counterparts. Indeed, there are many who

rely on print. How many times have we seen on the Law-Lib listserv messages such as "I am in need of X—please do not send a copy from an online source—I need it from the print edition?" And no wonder, because according to Karen Hunter in "The End of Print Journals: (In) Frequently Asked Questions," scientific journals have been in existence since 1665. We are not going to erase the relevance of a medium that has been in existence for over 341 years. We are, however, going to make it easier to gain

access to the material. Many institutions make publications available to their patrons via a library intranet for ease of use. Thus, it is not that patrons will cease to come to the library; now the library can come to them.

For those who maintain a particular title in both print and electronic, there is a cost related to keeping both forms. The library must catalog both forms, circulate and/or post both, shelve and/or print both, and so on. It appears that, at least for the time being, both forms of certain materials may be needed. Electronic materials may seem, at first glance, easier to use, but not for the person flying at 37,000 feet and unable to connect to the Internet.

Because this book is divided into eight articles, small portions can be read in one sitting. It is not the easiest read but worth looking at for the ideas. **LLL**



EYE ON SERIALS

*Susan Chinoransky, Head of Serials & Processing, The George Washington University,
Jacob Burns Law Library*

New Periodical Titles

*Asian Journal of WTO & International health
Law and Policy*, 2006-
Semiannual, Asian Center for WTO &
International Health Law and Policy

*Brooklyn Journal of Corporate,
Financial & Commercial Law*, 2006-
Semiannual, Brooklyn Law School

*Golden Gate University Environmental
Law Journal*, 2007-
Semiannual, Golden Gate University
Law School

Journal of Animal Law, 2005-
Annual, Michigan State University
College of Law

New Electronic Journals

Global Trade and Customs Journal, 2006-
Irregular, Kluwer Law International
Issued by Kluwer Online

The Journal of Prediction Markets, 2007-
Irregular, University of Buckingham Press
Issued by Ingenta Connect

Title Changes

The California International Law Journal, 2006-
Semiannual, State Bar Education
Foundation, International Law Section
Continues: *California International Practitioner*

Journal of Health & Life Sciences Law, 2007-
Quarterly, American Health
Lawyers Association
Continues: *Journal of Health Law*

Reincarnations

*Government Contract, Costs, Pricing &
Accounting Report*, 2006-
Bimonthly, Thomson West
Originally published by Federal
Publications; ceased in 1998; brought back
to life in 2006 by West. **LLL**

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Amy Taylor, Reference Librarian, Georgetown University Law Library

John Cannon had an article on finding the history of the Maryland judicial rules published in the *Maryland State Bar Journal*. The citation is:

John Cannon, *Researching the Legislative History of Maryland Rules*, MD. ST. B. J., Nov.-Dec. 2007, at 48.

See http://www.msba.org/departments/commpubl/publications/bar_journ/v40/v40n6.htm

Cameron Gowan, of the Groom Law Group, writes in to announce a new Library Assistant, Jeffrey Nelson, and a spring practicum student from CUA, Caroline Frances Jones.

At Williams & Connolly, LLP, **Shannon O'Connell** has been made a Reference/Interlibrary Loan Librarian. **LLL**

LLSDC 2008 Election Candidate Biographies

Vice President/President

Cameron Gowan

Employment:

Library Manager, Groom Law Group,
Chartered; April 2007–Present
Information Resources, Gilbert Randolph,
September 2002–April 2007

Education

M.S.L.S., Catholic University of America
J.D., Thomas Jefferson School of Law
B.A., University of Southern California

Professional Activities

LLSDC: Member, 2002 – Present;
Arrangements Chair, 2007–2008
AALL: Member, 2002–Present

SLA: Member, 2003–Present
Junior League of Washington: Events Chair-
man 2007; Nominations Committee 2006;
Fundraising Chairman 2005
AALL Management and Leadership
Certification 2007

Statement

I met the person who has become my mentor and remains priceless in helping guide my career as a law librarian at my first LLSDC meeting. This individual has made a significant impact on my career, as have many other LLSDC members, which is one of the great benefits of LLSDC. LLSDC offers the chance to get connected to other law librarians and be continuously challenged to grow in a fast-paced technological
continued on page 22

Winter Scholarship and Grants Awards

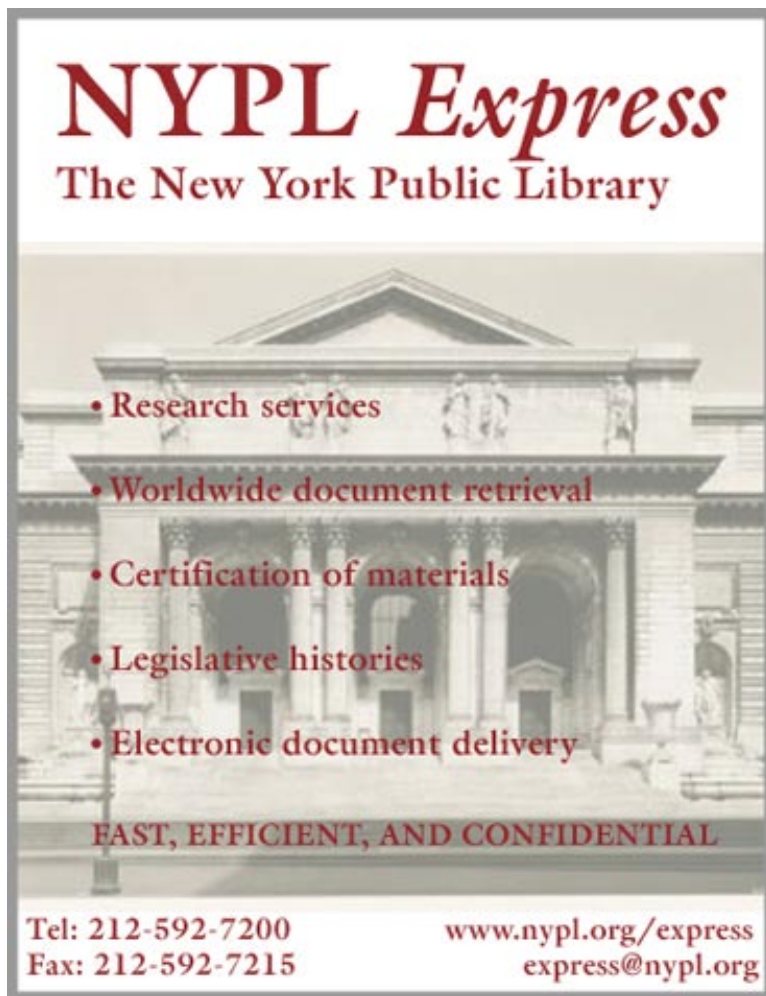
*Joan Sherer, Senior Reference Librarian, U.S.
Department of State*

The Scholarship and Grants Committee is pleased to announce Gary Cleland, Jr. and Jennifer Dismukes have been awarded scholarships for the winter cycle.

Gary Cleland, Jr. is currently enrolled in the masters degree program at the University of Alabama School of Library & Information Studies. The scholarship will be used toward tuition fees for the course Information Sources and Services. At present Mr. Cleland is an Interlibrary Loan Specialist at the law firm WilmerHale.

Jennifer Dismukes is a masters degree candidate at the Syracuse University School of Information Studies. Ms Dismukes will use her scholarship to participate in an Internship in Information Studies. She is a Research Assistant at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

We congratulate both candidates and wish them luck in their academic endeavors. **LLL**



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Candidate Biographies

continued from page 21

world and for that I am most grateful! Having fun socially with members is an added bonus.

My experiences in both the legal profession and charitable organizations have provided me with many leadership skills that I bring to LLSDC. Specifically, I will focus on member recruitment and retention, promoting more frequent attendance at meetings and special events, and increasing LLSDC presence in graduate school programs to highlight the profession and cultivate future law librarians. If elected Vice President Elect of LLSDC, I will help members to get more connected, give back to the profession, and to have fun in advancing law librarianship in the D.C. area.

Tracy Woodard

Employment

Reference Librarian, Howard University
Law Library, November 2002–Present
Reference Assistant / Reference Department,
Blagg Huey Library, Texas Woman's
University, 2002
Serials Assistant / Technical Services, Judge K.J.
Dufour Law Library, The Catholic
University of America, 2000–2001
Library Aide / Periodicals, Microforms, and
Reference Department, J.P. Adams Library,
Rhode Island College, 1995–1999

Volunteer

The Library of Congress, May 2005–present

Education

M.S. in Library Science, The Catholic
University of America, Washington,
D.C., 2002
B.A. in English, Rhode Island College,
Providence, RI, 1999

Professional Activities

Teach Research Labs, Legal, Reasoning,
Research & Writing Research Labs,
to first-year law students
Coordinator, Faculty Colloquy on Law
Related Research Websites—
Sept. 2005–present
Coordinator, Howard University Law Library
Project Book Donation Project to benefit
Ruth K. Webb Elementary School—
May 2004

L.L.M. Library Training & Tour Coordinator
and Resource Presenter
Newsletter Contributor, Howard University
Law Library article writer 2003–present
President, Association of Graduate Library &
Information Science Students (AGLISS),
The Catholic University of America—
2000–2001
Program Moderator, “Using Technology to
Add Research to Law Courses,”SEAALL
Annual Meeting conference—Nov. 2005

Statement

Dear LLSDC Members,

I am honored to have an opportunity to serve as your Vice President/President of LLSDC!

LLSDC was founded in 1939 and embraces firm principals to promote law libraries. Technology, spelled with a capital T, has impacted law libraries today. Today, law librarians email, text message, use Ipods, e-books, databases, Second Life, MySpace, Google and the Internet; but we also value and read books.

With your support, I hope that I may serve as a bridge for the continuation of promoting law libraries through LLSDC and the continuation of bringing LLSDC into the future. As technology emerges, so should the law library. LLSDC is a way that we can continue to reach forward in today's technological society.

My leadership activities are law, legal and Washington, D.C.-oriented. In addition to answering reference questions from students, faculty, and public patrons, each fall I teach eight legal research labs to first year law students, including preparing and correcting assignments at Howard University. Each spring I teach first year law students mandatory Lexis and Westlaw training. I visit faculty classrooms and teach legal resource gathering for research and seminar papers. I am a member of a law school staff committee that organized a major food donation to Bread For the City, a non-profit organization in Washington, D.C. I spearheaded the successful project to donate books and resources to Ruth K. Webb Elementary School in Washington, D.C. I give tours of the Howard University Law Library to students, public patrons and distinguished guests.

Outside of work, I volunteer at the Library of Congress and answer questions at the Information Desk in the Jefferson Building. I am also on the welcome committee at my church in Washington, D.C.

I would be delighted to serve as your Vice President/President of LLSDC and continue the tradition of promoting law libraries and continuing to bring LLSDC into the future.

Assistant Treasurer / Treasurer

Heather Bourk

Employment

Archivist, Georgetown University Law Center, April 2003–present
Assistant Archivist, Georgetown University, July 2001–April 2003

Education

MSLS, Catholic University of America
BSJ, Ohio University

Professional Activities

AALL: Member, 2003–present;
LH&RB-SIS Member, 2003–present
LLSDC: Member, 2003–present;
Archivist, 2003–present
Mid-Atlantic Regional Archive Conference: Member, 2004–present
Society of American Archivists: Member, 2001–present

Statement

Since joining LLSDC in 2003, I've benefited greatly from interacting with members at the Society's continuing education programs, meetings and social events. LLSDC has been a particularly rich resource for me considering I came to Georgetown from a non-law and non-librarian background. Serving as LLSDC's archivist has given me the opportunity to help maintain the organization's institutional memory, while also providing the occasion to assist members interested in the Society's history. I welcome the opportunity to continue serving LLSDC in the added role of Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer.

John Smith

Employment

Access Services Librarian, Pence Law Library, American University School of Law, November 2006–present
Serials/Technical Systems Coordinator, Pence Law Library, American University School of Law, September 2002–October 2006

Serials Acquisitions Assistant, MIT Libraries, November 2001–June 2002
University Library Assistant II Acquisitions Serials, University of Connecticut Law Library, April 2000–November 2001
Program Coordinator I Circulation, Clayton College and State University Library, July 1998–April 2000

Education

MSLS, The Catholic University of America
BA, English Literature, St. Michael's College

Professional Activities

AALL—member since 2005
LLSDC—member since 2003
Mid-Atlantic Innovative User's Group (MAIUG) member since 2002, Treasurer 2003–2006

Statement

I became a member of LLSDC in 2003, and as a recipient of an LLSDC scholarship, I'm certain that my LLSDC membership has helped me to advance professionally. While membership has its privileges, it also comes with responsibilities. I would like to accept my responsibility and go beyond membership and become an active participant in LLSDC. I would like to do this by serving as Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer. In this role, I can help support the organization that supports so many present and future librarians across the District. In doing this I can also begin to return the investment that LLSDC has made in my professional development. I bring experience as a former treasurer in MAIUG, and a strong desire to become more involved in this dynamic organization that regularly impacts law librarians in so many ways. I would welcome the opportunity to serve this vibrant organization as Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer.

Recording Secretary

Keith Gabel

Employment

Librarian, Stewart and Stewart:
11/2002–Present
Branch Librarian, Thompson Coburn LLP:
6/1999–11/2002
Assistant Librarian, Beveridge & Diamond:
9/1998–6/1999

continued on page 24

Candidate Biographies

continued from page 23

Library Assistant, Beveridge & Diamond:
9/1997–9/1998

Education

M.A., University of Kansas
M.A., University of Leeds
B.A., Loyola College in Maryland

Professional Activities

LLSDC: Member, 1997–Present; Board
Member at Large, 2004–2006; Publications
Committee Chairperson, 2002–Present;
Arrangements Committee Chairperson,
2001–2002; Directory Committee Member,
1998–2001

GLP Union List Chairperson 2000–2004

ILL-SIS Vice-President /President, 1998–2000;

PLL-SIS Nominations Committee

Chairperson, 1999–2000; PLL-SIS Social
Committee Member, 1998–2005; PLL-SIS
Program & Education Committee Member,
1998–2000; Speaker at the PLL-SIS
program, “Moving, Merging, & Shrinking”
(Spring 2000)

AALL: Member, 1997–2002

Publications

“The Quixotic Search for the Professional
Librarian,” *Law Library Lights*, vol. 43 no. 3
(July/August 2000). “The Past and Future of
the Cooperative Buying Program,” *Law
Library Lights*, vol. 42 no. 3 (January
February 1999)

Statement

My primary reason for seeking the office of
Recording Secretary is simple. I would like to
serve the Society and its members. An institution
is only as capable as its constituent parts. I have
come to realize that my own level of participation
within the Society has diminished as the years
have past. Part of my own rededication to the
profession is to do more for the Society, either as
an office holder or volunteer. Thus, I am seeking
to do more by serving more. I have a proven
record of being both a leader and a team player.
I am capable of serving in a variety of roles,
as can be seen from my professional activities.
Recording Secretary is a challenge I have yet
to undertake and believe that I would perform
admirably for the betterment of all.

It is clear that our Society has entered a
period of transition. This is a time for those of us
with a history of service to drag ourselves out
of the woodwork and to do more in the in-
terests of others. I have the drive, empathy,
and intellect to do what is best for the most
members, regardless of my own preferences. I
would enjoy yet another opportunity to prove
this to you by serving you again.

Shannon O’Connell

Employment

Research/Interlibrary Loan Librarian,
Williams & Connolly LLP,
January 2008–present
Interlibrary Loan Assistant, Williams &
Connolly LLP, August 2003–December 2007
Circulation Assistant, American University
Library, August 2001–August 2003

Education

MLS, University of Maryland,
College Park, 2007
BA, American University, 2001

Professional Affiliations

LLSDC: member since 2003; Editor
of *Law Library Lights*, 2007–2008; Assistant
Editor of *Law Library Lights*, 2006–2007;
ILL: SIS President, 2005–2006
SLA: member since 2006

Statement

Many of you know me as the editor of *Lights*,
an active member of the ILL SIS, or as the
voice answering the Williams & Connolly
ILL line. I truly value my membership in
LLSDC; not only for the benefits I receive
but also as an opportunity to give something
back to my professional community. As a
newly minted MLS, I highly appreciate
the opportunity to interact with so many
dedicated professionals in our field. I would
feel privileged to continue my involvement in
LLSDC by serving as Recording Secretary. If
elected, I would bring to the Board the energy
and enthusiasm needed to foster the next
generation of LLSDC leaders.

At-Large Board Member

Tricia Peavler

Employment

Reference Librarian, Jenner & Block LLP,
2000–present
Librarian, Lathrop & Gage, 1995-1999

Professional Activities

LLSDC: PLL-SIS President 2007–2008
PLL-SIS: Vice-President/President-Elect
2006-2007; ILL-SIS President 2004–2005;
ILL-SIS Vice-President 2003-2004
Lights Editor 2003-2004; *Lights* Assistant
Editor, 2002-2003
PLL-SIS Education Committee 2001–2002
ILL-SIS Treasurer 2001–2002
Special Libraries Association: Gay, Lesbian,
Bisexual, Transgender Issues Caucus
Co-Convener 2004–2005.
Kansas City Association of Law Libraries:
Executive Board Secretary 1999;
Program Committee Co-Chair 1997
Mid-America Association of Law Libraries:
Meeting Local Arrangements Committee
1999

Education

Emporia State University School, M.L.S. 1995
University of Kansas, J.D. 1993
University of Kansas B.S.J. 1988

Statement

I have found LLSDC tremendously helpful to my professional growth over the years and have enjoyed serving the Society in various capacities. We are at an exciting point in LLSDC's history as we move forward automating many of our procedures and looking for new ways to finance our Society activities so we can continue providing educational, professional and social opportunities for all our members. It would be an honor to serve on the Board and help LLSDC navigate the challenges ahead.

Adeen Postar

Employment

Deputy Director, Pence Law Library,
American University, June 2004–present
Washington Library Manager, Blank Rome
LLP, May 1998–May 2004

Coordinator of External Services, Edward
Bennett Williams Law Library, Georgetown
University Law Center, May 1985–
December 1997
Reference Librarian, Law Library of Congress,
1983–1984

Education

M.S.L.S., Catholic University of America; J.D.,
Washington University; A.B., Washington
University

Professional Activities

LLSDC: Member, Academic Law Libraries
SIS, 1985-1997; 2004–
Member, Private Law Libraries SIS, 1998–
2004; Secretary, Private Law Libraries SIS,
2001–2002; Member, Education
Committee, Private Law Libraries SIS,
1999–2000; Chair, Publications Committee,
1994–1998; Member, Public Relations
Committee, 1992; Member, Nominating
Committee, 1987; LLSDC representative to
the *Washington Area Library Directory*,
1994–1996
AALL: 1985-present: Member, Research
Committee, 2007– ; Member, Public
Relations Committee, 2005–2007;
Member, Membership Retention
Committee, 2003–2005; Chair and
Member, AALL/Lexis Call for Papers
Committee, 1999–2001; Sub-Committee
Chair and Member, Awards Committee,
1997–1999; Chair and Member, Publica-
tions Review Committee, 1995–1997;
Member, Publication Policy Committee,
1991–1993; Member, Biographical
Directory Committee, 1992–1993.

Recent Publications

“Use Best Practices to Promote Your Library:
Four Basic Principles to Promote Your
Library,” 10 AALL Spectrum 12 (May 2006)
Associate Editor, *State Practice Materials*,
Annotated Bibliographies, (Hein) 2005–
With Karen Beck and Maria Protti. “The Write
Way: Past ‘AALL Call for Papers’ Winners
Advise the Hesitant Writer,” 5 AALL
Spectrum 4 (December 2000)

continued on page 26

Candidate Biographies

continued from page 25

Recent Presentations

Coordinator and Presenter, “Services for New Faculty Members,” AALL Annual Meeting, Faculty Services Roundtable, July 2007
Lecturer, “Federal Regulations, Adjudications and Executive Orders: Basics of Administrative Law Research,” Legal Research Institute, LLSDC May, 2007

Statement

As I write this I am struck by how long I have been working with LLSDC and enjoying its many benefits. Although I have been active in committees and have participated in programs and presentations to our members I welcome the opportunity to take a more prominent role in our Society. More than ever, LLSDC is vital to our professional lives as law librarians—as a means to learn the latest developments in the law, technology, and information and for LLSDC as a vehicle to promote the sharing of information that benefits our common needs and interests. I believe my experience in LLSDC, AALL, and in both academic and firm libraries afford me unique experience and skills that will prove an asset to the operation of the Board. I am honored to be considered for a Board position and look forward to the opportunity to making a meaningful contribution to this organization.

Judith M. Weiss

Employment

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation,
Library Manager, 2007–present
Fulbright & Jaworksi, LLP, Librarian,
1986–2007
Law Librarian, Federal Reserve Board,
1981–1986
Legislative Librarian, Federal Reserve Board,
1978–1981

Education

Master of Library Science, State Univ.
of New York at Albany
Bachelor of Arts, University of Colorado

Professional Activities

LLSDC and AALL memberships since 1978
LLSDC PLL-SIS Board Member, 2005–2006
LLSDC Editor for *Washington Area Libraries Directory*, 2001–2003
LLSDC past activities: Consulting Committee
Chairperson, Education Committee
Chairperson, Arrangements Committee
Member, Program Coordinator, LLSDC
Executive Board Member
AALL Annual Conference Program
Coordinator (1986)

Statement

The LLSDC is a vital organization that offers education, camaraderie, and a voice for law librarians in all stages of their careers. In addition, it ably embraces the various groups within our organization, including private law firm librarians (my former life), academic, and government librarians (my current life). The Society has lead the way in presenting educational programs that are cutting-edge, innovative and of interest to a broad cross-section of our membership.

My goal as a LLSDC Board member would be to continue to foster the incredible spirit of professionalism that has driven the LLSDC for so many years. I would be honored to serve as a Board Member At-Large for the LLSDC and feel that my extensive and varied experience within LLSDC will enable me to serve capably. **LLL**



LLSDC

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A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

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