Getting Future Ready for Philly!

February 4, 2011 Categories: Conference Tags: Conference, Philadelphia

The 2011 SLA Conference is just months away. From June 12-15, thousands of Special Librarians will descend upon the “City of Brotherly Love” for four days of networking, education, and fun. It promises to be an excellent event for all! Will we see you there? Your Legal Division has been preparing its programming for over a year now and we are excited to show you what we’ve got.

From Cost-Prevention to Social Media Strategies, we are looking towards tomorrow and rising to SLA President Cindy Romaine’s call to be “Future Ready”. Your Division has set a fabulous slate of cutting edge programs and secured a line-up of thought-provoking speakers and experts. We are also digging in our heels to have some fun and celebrate you, our members. The receptions and unconference we have planned are perfect opportunities to network with fellow Legal Division members and to make your voices heard by the Division’s Board. We just about have everything set on our end, Now all we need is you!

In the months ahead, what this site for information on the sessions we will be offering and the luminaries who will be bringing them to you. We will have information on grants too that could help you get to the Conference. We are excited for Philadelphia and to have the chance to meet you all in person. Grab a soft pretzel or a cheese steak and join us!

No Comments
Falling in Love Again!

February 9, 2011 Categories: News, Social Media Tags: Initiatives, Legal Division, Website

When was the last time you fell in love? Was it someone who swept you off your feet? Or maybe it was something you saw in a shop window? Wasn't it a wonderful feeling?

A week from today, we will be celebrating the joy of falling in love here in America with the candy, cards, and flowers rituals that we so . . . well . . . lovingly . . . call Valentine's Day. One does not have to live in the United States to celebrate love, however. In fact, this Valentine's Day, we challenge all of you to fall head over heels yet again. We want you to fall in love with the Legal Division!

When asked how they knew they were in love, many people will say that special someone or something simply "fit" or that something seemed to "click". That is how we want you to feel about your Legal Division. We want to fit you and what you do. We want to click with your professional needs. The Legal Division wants to sweep you off your feet by adding real value to your SLA membership. Love is a two-way street, however, and we need your help.

The Legal Division of SLA is launching an almost unprecedented year of outreach to its members. We want to get to know you, what you do, and how best we can serve your needs. We want you, our members, to feel as valued and integral as you are. In the days ahead, a number of initiatives will launch. From a new, streamlined member survey to a members only listserv and even this brand, new Division Website designed to focus on you and your needs, we are preparing to woo you and court your affections once again.

We hope you like this new Legal Division website and we welcome any feedback you may have. Stay tuned also for opportunities to share your stories, successes, and concerns. We are ready, willing, and able to serve. Are you ready to fall in love with the Legal Division all over again?

No Comments
Digital Conference Preview Program Goes Live!

March 2, 2011 Categories: Conference, News Tags: Conference, Philadelphia

See the hundreds of reasons you must attend SLA 2011 in the conference preview program.

With the digital conference preview program you can:

- Search events and sessions (look for links to the online session catalog)
- Bookmark pages of interest
- Add notes
- Print only the information needed
- Send the program to your boss or colleagues
- Save the brochure to your desktop
- View the program on your mobile device

Visit the conference Website for additional details about SLA 2011.

See you in Philadelphia!!!

No Comments
Outsourcing Law Library Services

March 5, 2011 Categories: News Tags: Outsourcing

A while back I received an email from one of my mentors and a fellow Legal Division member. She had been corresponding with another law librarian about Integreon’s latest announcement about outsourcing.

That began a conversation with the current SLA board, our LDQ Editor and members who have a strong knowledge of the outsourcing trends. I feel pretty confident in telling you that the upcoming LDQ will have some good info about the issue.

It is great that this conversation began. It was even greater to see our network of professionals so quickly connect, discuss and provide insight into the issue. What a great strength we have within our SLA network. Knowledge, insight and sharing quality information.

So watch for the upcoming articles in the LDQ and remember to provide your feedback.

Constance Ard

No Comments
Networking into Retirement: SLA Value Beyond the Job

March 18, 2011 Categories: News Tags: Membership, Value

Today I received an email with a statement about the importance of retired “members” staying in touch with the happenings of their SLA home. I agree. I think it is important.

I can’t imagine what I would do for entertainment if my SLA friends didn’t spend time with me in our leisure. I also know that that network of friends is broad based and if I want to stay in touch with them, SLA is the common denominator. Therefore, I’m pretty certain that as long as I can afford to I will be a paying member of SLA so that I can keep those connections.

This made me wonder why a “listserv” was so important in terms of keeping up for retired members, because a listserv was the tool in question in the email I received. Comfortable, easy, non-intrusive. But definitely not social in the way that Facebook and Blogs and other 2.0 mediums are.

Is it just generational? Probably not. I think its more about educating our members of the new ways to connect. So I encourage us, my fellow SLA members, to think forward about the tools we use to connect with one another and the value that brings to our professional and personal lives.

Can you put a price on it? I don’t mind paying to be a part of the “cool kids” club and I certainly think I’ll continue to get value when I am way past the “cool kids” stage. Oh wait, I am way past that stage. So if you are a retired member of SLA I highly encourage you to consider staying active. You can get information about SLA membership online.

Constance Ard March 17, 2011

Author’s Note: This post is also published to the Kentucky Chapter Blog.

No Comments
Legal Division Launches Member Survey

April 1, 2011 Categories: News Tags: Members, Membership, Strategic Planning, Survey

Hello Legal Division Members!

It is that time again! Time for us to learn more about you, our members, as we strive to better serve you. To that end, your Division leaders have asked the Strategic Planning Committee to create and administer a survey to you. The goals of this survey are simple, yet so very important:

- To learn more about the Legal Division's members and the different environments in which they work;
- To learn how effectively the division is meeting the professional needs of its members;
- To effectively plan useful and informative programs at the annual SLA conference and in other venues as appropriate.

The results of this survey will assist the Legal Division in better understanding you and your needs, developing more effective programs at the SLA annual conferences and meeting the evolving professional needs of all our members. They will also be instrumental in developing a new strategic plan for the Division. We will share the results of the survey with you following the SLA conference in Philadelphia in June 2011.

The survey open today, April 1, and will close on April 22. Please take a few minutes and make your voice heard!
You can access the survey here: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PDKQQM9

Thank you!

The Division also extends special thanks to the members of the Strategic Planning Committee: Martha Foote, Constance Ard, and Dagfinn Senturia.

No Comments
Get Excited for Philadelphia!

April 4, 2011 Categories: Conference Tags: Conference, Philadelphia

The deadline for the Early Bird Registration discount is just days away. After Friday, April 8, the prices go up! If you want to lock in the best rate, go to SLA's registration page and take advantage of this now!

Not sure whether you want to join us in Philadelphia? Well, allow us to whet your appetite a bit. The Legal Division has planned some fantastic sessions for this year’s conference. From strategies to raising your profile to making the most of social networking, we are getting FUTURE READY IN PHILLY! Watch our site and our Twitter feed (@SLALegal) all week for previews of what we have in store. We will be posting about our programs and that awesome presenters who will be bringing them to you.

We want to see you in Philadelphia. Join us as we give you a week of reasons to make the trip!

Best Wishes,

John J. DiGilio, MLIS, JD
Chair, Legal Division of SLA
National Manager of Research Services
312-207-3902
jdgilio@reedsmith.com

No Comments
Philly Preview: 60 Sites Packs Dyn-O-Mite!


With just five weeks to go before SLA descends upon the City of Brotherly Love, your Legal Division is hard at work putting the finishing touches on its great slate of programs. We are pleased to be bringing back an annual conference favorite again this year – 60 Sites in 60 Minutes!

For the last few years, Gayle Lynn-Nelson and John DiGilio have sharing their top picks with standingroom only crowds. From the fascinating to the fun (and even the ridiculous), John and Gayle bring you the best of what the Web has to offer. This year, in honor of the Future Ready theme, they are putting a twist on their formula. For 2011, 60 Sites in 60 Minutes is going collaborative!

Collaboration is key to being Future Ready and finding success in the workplace of tomorrow. Gayle and John are eager to share with you their favorite sites for collaboration in work and play. We expect another full house, so get there early and get your collaboration on!

Gayle Lynn-Nelson is a Senior Librarian Relations Consultant for the LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group, serving librarians in New York City, New Jersey and Philadelphia.

John DiGilio is the National Manager of Research Services at Reed Smith LLP in Chicago. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Carlow University in Pittsburgh, PA, and a freelance writer.

This session is generously sponsored by Fastcase and ProQuest Dialog.

No Comments
Go Mobile in Philly!


If you are travelling with a smartphone that allows for web browsing, the Legal Division has scheduler designed for you. You can now take the list of our 2011 programs with you in your pocket, thanks to the 2011 Legal Division Mobile Planner.

Simply click on the link for the day in question and you will get a list of all Legal Division events with their times and locations. It is that simple.

Point your mobile browser to:

http://sialegal2011.wirenode.mobi

The Mobile Planner is optimized for the iPhone and Android units, where the link can be saved as a desktop app. It will, however, also work with Blackberry phones and others that allow for mobile web browsing.

Check it out today!

No Comments
New Blog Discusses VALUE of Law Firm Librarians!


Your Division is proud to be part of an exciting new collaboration. Along with our colleagues in the Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (PLL-SIS) and the Private Law Libraries Special Interest Group of the Canadian Association of Law Libraries (l'Association Canadienne des Bibliothèques de Droit), and the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians, we are delighted to unveil On Firmer Ground, a blog Promoting the VALUE of Law Firm Librarians. You can find it here.

More than just a blog, On Firmer Ground is designed to be a celebration of who law firm librarians are and what they do. We encourage you to share your thoughts on the featured postings and engage your fellow law firm librarians in meaningful discussion. This new blog is the first international collaboration of its kind and represents a chance for us to develop a common voice and strategies for success that transcend geographic boundaries. We hope to have even more global partners signed on soon! It is a great time to be part of this profession and, working together, we raise its profile. We invite all our law firm librarians to get involved, represent your profession and Division, and make the most of this powerful new resource.

Your Legal Division is comprised of law librarians from across many sectors: academic, corporate, and government, as well as private firms. While we know this blog is focused on but one sector of our membership, we thought it important that our organization take an active and supporting stake in its maintenance. We are on the lookout for similar opportunities to suit our other demographics as well. In the meantime, we are sure you will agree that regardless of segment, the entire legal information industry benefits when we come together to exercise a collective voice. On Firmer Ground is an important step in that direction.

Check out On Firmer Ground today. The first post is an excellent piece on Cost Prevention versus Cost Recovery. We look forward to your thoughts. Let the discussion begin! Is your library on firmer ground?

Twitter users can get the latest from On Firmer Ground’s feed by following @FirmerGround.

No Comments
On Firmer Ground Grows Globally!


We are excited to announce that our collaborative blog, On Firmer Ground (OFG) is truly becoming global. Adding our sixth participating association today, we now have the following of organizations who represent law firm librarians in Africa, North America, and Europe. It is an unprecedented foray into international collaboration in the private sector. We look forward to welcoming other library associations who represent law firm librarians into our professional family. Please help us share the news about On Firmer Ground. For those of you in academic, government, and corporate law libraries, know that we are on the lookout for similar opportunities within those communities too. We want to sing the virtues of all our members and all who make the legal information industry so awesome!

Subscribe today so that you can receive new posts when they are published. And remember to comment on what you read so that we can start an exchange of ideas to move law firm librarians forward. OFG is an ongoing discussion about the challenges law firm librarians face and strategies for surmounting them. We are not here to merely talk about the state of our industry. We are here to discuss proactive solutions and innovative ideas that will not only sustain this noble profession, but help it thrive in a changing world. We invite you into our discussion. Join your colleagues and other luminaries as we open our minds and share our opinions on the future of law firm libraries.

Participating Organizations:
- British & Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL)
- Canadian Association of Law Libraries/L'Association Canadienne des Bibliotheques de Droit (CALL/ACBD)
- Organisation of South African Law Libraries (OSALL)
- Private Law Librarians Special Interest Section (PLL-SIS of AALL)
- Scottish Law Librarians Group
- Special Libraries Association (SLA) Legal Division

No Comments
Virtual Lunch with Constance Ard, August 18 2011

August 4, 2011 Categories: Events

The Rocky Mountain Chapter (RMSLA) welcomes SLA Legal member, Constance Ard, presenting their August 18 Virtual Lunch webinar, starting at 12:00 noon Mountain daylight time. Her topic –

Value Plus: Getting and Receiving the Value of Information Professionals

In this session, Constance will talk about the value of information professionals from the perspective of what is provided by the skills and experience of the profession. Discussion will center on methods to use when having the value conversation with management and clients. Communication, strategic partners, working relationships, and technology are the tools needed to create, carry, and deliver the message.

Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat now at: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/713975249

Free or Fee?

This session is free to all SLA members (RMSLA chapter members and others).

People who are not SLA members are welcome to attend for a $20 registration fee. Use the PayPal link at right to pay for your registration. You’ll receive the program link after we receive your payment. Please allow 48 hours for our committee volunteers to approve your registration.

System Requirements

PC-based attendees
Required: Windows® 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh®-based attendees
Required: Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer

About the Presenter –

Constance Ard has an extensive background in content management, research, and law librarianship. She was a founding member of The Seed 2020, a grassroots business networking organization in Louisville, Kentucky, that fosters the development of women and minority owned business. She is a past Chair of the Legal Division of the SLA and Chair of the Kentucky Virtual Library Advisory Committee. Read more at http://www.answermavensolutions.com.

No Comments
SLA Philly: An In-depth Review

August 22, 2011 Categories: Conference

by Nathan Rosen

Attendance at SLA conference was worth the time and money spent as many useful insights were gained by attendance at programs and conversations with other librarians from around the world and in other industries. My speeches were very well received and led to many follow up conversations with long time CI librarians. Exhibits were interesting and exposed me to a few vendors that I had never seen before that might prove to be useful. Below are my notes from some of the sessions that I attended along with the PowerPoints of the presentations.

The conference attracted 4,238 attendees, 1,539 vendors, and had over 250 sessions (plus dozens of workshops). Programs attended range from large (200+) sessions to smaller sessions (80+). One particularly fun session was a Pecha Kucha on CI. There were six presentations – very fast moving, interesting, and visually appealing, with rapid fire commentary.

CI is hot – everyone is talking about it as newest evolving area. As I attended many CI sponsored programs, I discovered that the CI Division is mostly made up of people who have been doing CI for a relatively long time in non-legal areas.

There was a lot of talk about LinkedIn. One speaker referred to it as a “gift from God” and another as “one of top five free sources of information”. It seemed like most CI dedicated people have premium accounts and they indicate that it really makes a difference. There seemed to be many people taking notes on iPads and people were doing a lot of tweeting (over 5,000 tweets during the four days).

More than one person commented on the fact that the Chinese word for crisis is made up of two parts. The first part is the word for danger and second part is the word for opportunities. Another common image used by a number of speakers was the Jeopardy show where Watson won against two human champions with people commenting on the power of the computer for information retrieval.

This year was SLA’s first where they ran a Virtual Conference in both 2d and 3d including participants from around the world. A former colleague from Credit Suisse wrote about how successful the Virtual Conference was – as it provided access to the most popular programs from remote locations with a high degree of interaction.

Insights from individual programs

CI best practices by Toni Wilson (Principal Consultant MarketSmart Research) and Clifford Kab (President, Kab & Associates)

Toni and Clifford focused on “tried and true” practices showing how we can work in a collaborative manner to create value in our organization. They provided both general tips and ideas and real-world examples and cases that illustrated their points.

- Librarians have the advantage in CI partly because of our skills at the reference interview – get down to the real question.
- CI takes intelligence and turns it into assistance in making decisions. CI is much like putting together puzzle pieces that are used to create a picture while the librarian traditionally gathers the substantiates and relevant information.
- Librarians have the ability to show where gaps are in what we know and do not know, as well as where further research is needed. Librarians are able to identify sources for primary research (who are the experts who have the answers). Also our skills at secondary research allow us to know what to ask.
- Librarians often have the efficiencies and effectiveness in searching databases as compared to CI/Marketing people. Librarians often have the historical perspective – tribal knowledge – history – previously asked question. Vast advantage of collecting all projects and searching previously researched topics before start a new project. Librarians are often a nexus of the people in the firm and often know the right people within the company to ask.
- Before starting know where you are going – that makes the roadmap easier. Ask ahead of time what is defined as success and then track how you do in meeting that goal.
- Soft and hard ROI (impact of work) – turn your department into a profit center rather than a cost center.
- Gain respect of clients – instead of doing everything refer to others who may be better skilled or knowledgeable about that particular task.
- More librarians are doing CI and the lines are blurring between librarians and CI, as they are now both doing decision support.

Creating Client Luv: What phenomenal results look like by Mary Ellen Bates (Bates Information Services). The PowerPoint for this session is available on the Library Blog.

Bates suggests that Info pros are immersed in information, so it's easy for us to forget that most of our clients and users want less information, not more. She focuses on ideas on how to format research results so it can easily be absorbed and acted upon. She argues that “less is more” and we can strive for clear enough results so it could even be a tweet.

- Find ways to make yourself unique. Analysis – our added value starts when our research is over
- Patron counting on us – don’t forget that they are counting on us and that they are going to do something with the information.
- Questions – tell me more – ask why – what’s the context.
- What is the ultimate purpose of this project? If know why will be able to do more. What can I do to help you get there? What else can I do to make this more useful?
- Understanding our clients – Make time for client luv.
- Allocate work time into five parts:
  - 20 minute prep then take a deep breath
  - 1 hour for low hanging fruit research
  - Pause to review
  - 1 – 2 hours additional focused research
  - 1 – 1 ½ hours to create a polished package and write exec summary
- If we are commodity – they can always find someone else to do it cheaper. Need WOW – set it aside.
- Learn to love slide decks – it’s a format – not a presentation.
- First impressions matter. Create simple clean branded template.
- Tell a story.
- They really only care that the information came from a reliable source and current – they really do not care about the source.
- Raise the dissatisfaction with Google.
- Build a library of examples. If I had 5 minutes to show what I learned, here’s what I’d show.
- Include a cover letter – with description of project, what not found, and next steps.
- Use * as it is comfortable as compared to footnotes or endnotes.
- Summarize your findings – making a structure of the information. Design it for your client
- Stretch yourself – have fun
- We have been and will continue to see a shift from information scarcity to information abundance.

Creating Groupies: Info-Pro Guerrilla Marketing by Mary Ellen Bates (Bates Information Services).

Bates was great (like she is always). PowerPoint of her presentation is loaded on the Library Blog. Also loaded is her Elevator Speech PowerPoint which I heard was particularly entertaining. Her point is that while marketing may not be in your job description – it is a critical part of everyone’s job. Bates presents techniques for raising our profile and that of our library in ways that are authentic and comfortable to even the most marketing-phobic. She points out that if we want to create value in our organization, we need to make sure the organization is aware of our capabilities and potential contributions.

- See yourself as the brand
- We go deeper than Google, we bring you analysis that you can use as compared to providing just results
- Average is not good enough – what do you do that is unique – extras
- Are you sure that you know what your organization really needs.
Express value in terms of what they need
Difference between Features and Benefits – focus on what is in it for them.
The responsibility is on you – the seller to sell
Know who you are and know what you do
Build info access – instead of cataloging
Tap into global professional networks to provide resources not available on Google – instead of ILL
Client info needs assessment – instead of Reference interviews
We provide information when you need it when decisions need to be made. We make critical information findable. We reduce risk through better understanding and enable our clients to work more strategically
Tell a story – marketing vignettes and focus on what is in it for them. In story – describe your client’s situation in sentence (set the stage) – gave client an overview of market with key issues highlighted – what does your client do as a result.
To be strategic – you need to account for the bottom line.
Use every interaction to teach (market)
Ask follow up questions – what can I do that would make this easier to use
They care about result rather than the process
Build champions
Create a brag-o-gugue, Collect kudos, compliments and comments
Show passion – develop enthusiasm
How do you differentiate yourself in this competitive marketplace?

Dispelling the Myths About Competitive Intelligence – Moderated by Fred Wegeres (Fred Wegeres & Associates) and Jill Heinze (Research Analyst – Affinio Loyalty Group); Nathan Rosen; Seena Sharp (Principal – Sharp Market Intelligence); and Victor Camtelik (VP Market Intelligence – Thomson Reuters)

This program focused on the myths about competitive intelligence. The various panelists addressed different myths and debunk them (like the TV show “MythBusters”) and explained the whys and wherefores of ethical, legal and effective market intelligence programs.

Extreme Makeover: CI Edition by Seena Sharp (Sharp Market Intelligence)

Sharp is a very well known CI speaker who has recently published a new book on CI (Extreme Makeover: CI Edition: How to Minimize Risk, Avoid Surprises, and Grow Your Business in a Changing World). Her point is to show the positive impact of utilizing intelligence and the negative impact of missing important strategic changes in the organization’s market. She illustrates how CI makes money or saves money every time. Her point include why data is not intelligence, how to unlearn what is no longer true, how to recognize what is emerging, why executives don’t hear the truth from staff, and how to change company culture.

CI = competitor intelligence is subset of competitive intelligence
Everyone loves metrics
Need executive buy in
Strong ties to other teams
Data or Information is not the same as Intelligence (which must be analyzed)
Reality = Competitive Intelligence (made up of current, accurate, relevant, objective & sufficient data)
Important questions to ask: What is the purpose? Who is using the results? Breadth & depth needed? Presentation preference?
Competitive intelligence is your competitive advantage,

Mining Public Records by Bridget Gilhool (Head Librarian, Antitrust Library – Department of Justice) & Jennifer McMahan (Department of Justice), PowerPoint loaded on Library Blog.

The two DOJ librarians spent a lot of time looking for information about people and companies. Their presentation covered a large amount of web sites and strategies which seemed useful in public records research and help to locate real property data, birth/death and marriage/divorce records, company affiliations, professional licensees, court records, and more.

Roadmap – start with summary reports, then go to more specific databases, and then use state wide public records searches. Caution – summary reports do not get everyone included.
Birth and death records – best social security death records – easy to use some of the genealogical society web sites. Ancestry.com via Rootsweb has good search. Death indexes.com – state and county level death records,
Vitalrec.com – leads to county clerk info with what records available with cost.
Where they lived – often use Superpages or Switchboard for address/phone. See International numbering parts for analysis of telephone numbers – location with carrier.
SearchSystems.net – US and foreign public records links
ZoomInfo.com – also good for people searching.
Excluded parties list – opts – federal contractors list who are not allowed to do business with federal government. Along with POGO – Federal Contractor Misconduct Database,
Excellent – Foundation Center – tax returns for not for-profits. Guiderist
Whois lookup – search DomainTools as good site – www.domaintools.com
Campaign contribution – Federal Election Commission – find people with company affiliation and address

Researching Privately Held Companies: Information Sources and Techniques That Work by August Jackson (Market Intelligence Analyst and Project Manager – Verizon)

August Jackson, a competitive intelligence and strategy professional, tech pundit and social software evangelist working for Verizon showed how SLA members can delve deeply into information about private organizations. PowerPoint loaded on Library Blog. www.augustjackson.com

Key first step is defining KIT to make sure that research is decision focused intelligence.
Think about Analysis vs Data; Subjective vs Objective; and Primary vs Secondary.
Look at meta data in web sites to learn how company views themselves
Check out link analysis via Yahoo site explorer or link command in Google
Useful to search twitter posts
Look for places that the company is a big fish in a small pond – there is where will find good information about company in unusual places.

ROI and beyond by James King (Information Architect – National Institutes of Health) and Jennifer Klang (Department of the Interior Library). Both PowerPoints are on the Library Blog.

King and Klang talk about how to show your value to your stakeholders. Both speakers discussed how they were using various tools and techniques to demonstrate the value of the library and how tracking metrics of internal services (including reference and instruction) can be used to show value, impact, and satisfaction. They also described how strategic planning can help focus the services being offered to ensure they are “future ready.” They also described how qualitative measures and intangible values can be factored into the discussion of library value.

Quantitative value of libraries through numbers.
Reference collection, database usage statistics, cataloguing data, physical visits to the library, web survey tools and training course reviews.
Qualitative value of libraries through service, programs and publicity.
Market yourself aggressively – Publish and share your ideas
Know your audience.
Be part of the organization – Attend organization-wide events and all hands meetings
Find an advocate
Offer training – library tours, provide TOC services, get published, develop a great website, & offer lectures from experts.
• Intellectual curiosity and passion for learning – offer love of the hunt, suggest better search methodologies to patrons – provide value of MLS via instruction ad knowledge of database structures and indexing.
• Offer best practices of other libraries.
• Provide CE and training.
• Offer opportunities to draw on collective knowledge and wisdom of peers, knowledge of IP, KM practices.
• Focused attention on future of the library – focus should not be on building physical collection but on providing information as part of the flow where people are and when people need it.
• Now more than ever need to be value driven and relevant – need to be careful not to be expendable.
• Focus on key user groups – high dollar – high value.
• Trend to distillation or summary or executive summary but riskier than providing the content.
• Creating personas for different types of customers and then use them to think about services.
• Evolving trend is to move information to mobile devices and provide access to data in the cloud. Their library bought new cutting edge mobile devices for everyone in the library and are working to build mobile device apps and think about how information can get delivered to those devices. There has been a huge growth of mobile devices access to web and many estimates say that we are just barely seeing trend.
• “Information wants to be free” – at least according to some. On one hand “information wants to be expensive”, because it is so valuable. On the other hand, information wants to be free, because the cost of getting it distributed is getting lower and lower all the time. So you have these two fighting ideas fighting against each other.
• Tremendous change in the perception of the library as a place – we are experiencing a vast change in role from traditional warehouse of books to a place to share – “information commons”.
• To continue to be relevant, we need to take risks.

The Intelligence Café – unusual interactive format with ten moderators.

Topics include Knowledge networks for CL, Technology tools for CL, Unique intelligence collection sources, CL model innovation, Collaborating with clients & end users, CL advantage, CL in the law library, Knowledge networks for CI, Legal & ethical CI, and Analytical toolkits. Anna Shallenberger (President – Shallenberger Intelligence); Carolyn Vella (The Helicon Group); Craig McHenry (Pfizer); Derek Johnson (CEO – Aurora WDC); Dr. Craig S. Flesher (Dean of Business and Public Affairs & Professor of Management and Strategy – College of Coastal Georgia); Ellen Naylor (Business Intelligence Source); Eric Garlant (Competitive Futures, Inc.); John McGonagle (The Helicon Group); Nathan Rosen; Seena Sharp (Principal – Sharp Market Intelligence); Toni Wilson (Principal Consultant); Arick Johnson (Chairman – Aurora WOC); August Jackson (Market Intelligence Analyst and Project Manager – Verizon)

Anna Shallenberger’s Integrating with Sales & Marketing to capture and deliver intelligence is loaded on LibraryBlog which summarizes her presentation and was discussed in the Intelligence Café. Also in the blog is Librarian: The Original Search Engine. Mining Unique Information Sources & The Deep Invisible/Hidden Web.

Conclusions from the CI in the law firm four sessions include:

• CI in the law firm is more important than ever before as total dollar pie is shrinking and firms are fighting over business more than ever.
• Law librarians are ramping up to meet new demands
  o More information needed
  o Quick turn around times
  o New executive summaries and analysis required
  o Improved visual presentations
• Many new CI/Business Development jobs
• Traditional law librarians focused on the practice of law and the CI law librarian focuses on the business of law. Law firms are moving from lawyer-partnership model to business-professional manager model implementing business type marketing people and programs.
• CI in law has seen a lot of movement in the last decade – from no recognition, to the 1st programs on CI in law firms, to a national conference and now to significant amount of attention being paid to it.
• People are doing more with less, but with the same time frame, improved style and with substantive analysis, even though those changes require a lot more time to prepare. There is a possible negative impact of increased CI on library budget as greater use of databases drives up usage but does not increase client chargeable return.
• Law librarians have historically been doing most of what people talk about as CI, such as researching possible clients, firm competitors, industries, monitoring news, and attorneys.
• Librarians in law firm doing CI often feel uncomfortable with providing answers that are giving advice or interpretation of the data that could have impact on the firm’s actions.

An interesting quote by Hyrum Smith (one of the closing speakers) about change: “Bad things happen to good people, Pain is inevitable, Misery is optional.”

A couple of people mentioned the podcasts out www.ciodocast.com. Some of the PowerPoint slideshow are available at slideshare.net. A popular program is 60 sites in 60 minutes (the list of sites shown is included in the blog documents).

No Comments
It Takes a Village Part 2: Thanks for my Legal Division Colleagues

September 14, 2011 Categories: News

The Legal Division has been my SLA home base longer than the Kentucky Chapter. When I got my first job as a law librarian and joined SLA I joined the Legal Division and became an active member of the Cincinnati Chapter before coming home to Kentucky.

I have met and learned from many of the Division’s founding members: Barbara Silbersack and Anne Abate come to mind immediately. These professionals and all the other professionals I have met during my tenure as an LD member are critical components of my success.

I learned from you, I received encouragement to present, and feedback that you found those presentations valuable. Without this network, without the community of knowledge that is freely shared, I have no doubt that I would have struggled.

Your support and encouragement during my career, my business launch and most recently my SLA Board candidacy is much appreciated. Thank you to all the Legal Division members who have taught me and made me a better librarian throughout my career.

Constance Ard September 7, 2011

Note: A privilege of service to and access as a blogger for the Division allowed me the opportunity to publish this post. Thank you!

No Comments
Business Communication Skills for the Special Librarian: Reporting Up in the New Normal Economy

September 27, 2011 Categories: Events

Sponsored by BNA

WHEN: Thursday, October 20th, 1:00 - 2:30 Eastern Time


COST:
$15 – SLA members
$20 – Non SLA members
$60 – Site license for 4+ where at least one attending is an SLA member
$75 – Site license for 4+ where none attending are SLA members

WHAT
As the latest job reports continue to disappoint, we’re all wondering how to improve or simply solidify our standing in this new normal economy. The focus of this program is to provide all types of special librarians with business and reporting concepts, terminology, and business communication soft skills to help them stand out and stand strong within their organizations. See below for speaker bios and a more detailed agenda of what will be covered:

Introduction – Terri Mottershead
* Defining the new normal economy and how to align your library with organizational goals.
* Business communication skills and how to identify, measure and report on key data.

Communicating & Marketing Library Value – Holly Riccio
* Communicating and connecting with people above you
* Understand organizational goals and strategies and adapt library initiatives and services accordingly
* Recognize the importance of visibility for everyone in the library
* Marketing isn’t our issue…relationships are

Aligning the Library’s Goals with Organizational Goals – Monice Kaczorowski
* Understanding the library in context of the organization’s goals
* What organizational directives are changing the direction of the library?
* Identify organizations strategic plan and aligning library goals and budget with it
* Who should you be talking to and what meetings should you be sitting in on?

Reporting Up in a Way That Will Be Remembered – Kathy Skinner
* Reporting data to the people above you
* What type of information is important to management?
* What measurement tools are needed to demonstrate what you want to report?
* Choosing the right format and understanding your audience when presenting information.

Closing, Parting Words of Wisdom & Questions – Terri Mottershead

SPEAKERS

Monice Kaczorowski has been Director, Library Services, Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP since June 2003. Prior to joining the firm, she was Director of Libraries for Ross & Hardies for 14 years. She is a member of Neal Gerber Eisenberg’s Marketing Committee, works closely with the Marketing Department and attends monthly Practice Group meetings to develop needs assessments and promote business development within the firm. Monice has created a Competitive Intelligence Unit within the library that supports the firm’s practice development efforts and RFP process. Monice continues to work with the firm’s Legal Education Committee and has developed a new associate legal research training program.

Monice’s professional affiliations include memberships in the Special Libraries Association (SLA), Chicago Association of Law Libraries (CALL), American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), SCIP (Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals). She is a past member of the WEST Advisory Board 2002-2004, 2008-2010. In addition, Monice is the AALL liaison to the Association of Legal Administrators 2010-2013 and co-chair of AALL’s Publishing Initiatives Caucus (PIC) 2010-2011. Monice earned her B.A. from St. Mary’s College, Notre Dame, Indiana and her M.L.S. from Dominican University. She can be reached at mkaczorowski@ngelaw.com.

Terri Mottershead is the founding Principal of Mottershead Consulting. She brings more than 27 years of experience in international law practice, legal institution building, talent management, organizational development, legal education and training to her consulting work. Terri has worked in-house in attorney talent management for Amlaw 100 law firms in the US, for a regional firm in Hong Kong and for global law firm associations in Asia and the US. She practiced law in Australia and Hong Kong and was a law school academic and consultant in Hong Kong, Terri has extensive experience working with senior management and law firm stakeholders in strategically aligning and successfully implementing talent management goals that support business performance goals. Terri can be contacted at tmo@mottersheadconsulting.com or (415) 812 1825.

Holly Riccio is the Library and Calendar Manager for the San Francisco and Silicon Valley offices of O’Melveny & Myers LLP, a global law firm. In her role, she is responsible for managing the staff and operations for both departments in both offices. She has been with the firm since 2004 as the Library Manager and has assumed numerous additional responsibilities over the years, including acting as the library liaison to the Knowledge Management department and taking on the responsibility for leading and implementing a firmwide management training program. Holly received her B.A. from New York University and her M.L.S. from the University of Michigan. She is very involved in law library professional organizations at both the local and national levels and is currently serving as the President for the Northern California Association of Law Libraries (NOCALL). She has presented at AALL, PLI, AMPLL, TRIPLL, NOCALL, LegalTech and LMA Tech and speaks and publishes regularly on the topics of legal research and law library management. She can be contacted at hricio@omm.com.

Kathy Skinner is the Firmwide Information Resources Manager at Morrison & Foerster LLP, a global law firm with 1100 attorneys and 15 offices. She has been at Morrison & Foerster for 8 years. In her role as manager of the Research & Intelligence department, Kathy leads 23 staff members who collaborate across time zones to provide tailored research results and access to information resources to meet client needs. Kathy’s team is also responsible for Morrison & Foerster’s Competitive
Intelligence research function. Kathy received her A.B. and her M.L.I.S. from the University of California at Berkeley. She has presented at AALL, PLI, NOCALL, and ACLEA conferences and she speaks regularly in law schools about legal research in the law firm setting. She can be contacted at kskinner@mofo.com.

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No Comments
Serving as Past Chair: A Journey with the Legal Division

December 14, 2011 Categories: News Tags: Members, Service, Value

Wow! Four years passes fast when you are learning, planning programs, serving as the face of an SLA division and then acting as senior advisor. Those four phases sum of the duties of the progression from Chair-Elect-Elect to Past-Chair of the SLA Legal Division.

It has been wonderful to work with the leaders and members of SLA Legal. The challenges we faced with the pressures of the economic crisis did not subdue the opportunities offered by the division. The work I have seen executed has been tremendous and our members are reaping the benefits. The work is always a one of progression. As Chair, I had specific goals, to improve communications through a new website, grow partnerships and offer education opportunities outside the annual conference. Before my tenure, Martha Foote, established the importance of “member-only” benefits such as the listserv. While the work for our individual goals may not be completed during our tenure, it is good to know that the work does progress with each successive leader.

The energy that our soon-to-be Past Chair, John DiGilio has put into the Legal Division is astounding. Part of his work was to continue to solidify partner relations that began during my term. He also crossed the finish line with the website redesign. He then continued on with his own goals. I am thankful for the collaboration that all of our board members participate in to continue to offer exceptional value to SLA Legal Division members.

The ideas that flow through all have one underlying theme: SERVE THE MEMBERS.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you during my terms. It is a commitment I was honored to make.

Constance Ard, December 14, 2011

No Comments
Libraries and Knowledge Management: Taming the KM Monster

February 13, 2012 Categories: Events, Professional Development

You are invited to join your Legal Division colleagues as well as our friends from PLL-SIS KM Group, the KM Division of SLA, and the Canadian Association of Law Libraries for a professional development session sponsored by Attensa at 3PM EST on February 29, 2012.

Attendance free, but space is limited! Register here today.

Learn how librarians are using their expertise to develop connections within their organizations that deliver value by meeting the needs of internal and external customers. Discover how you can implement KM initiatives in your organization using existing tools and creative problem solving. Internal knowledge sharing, information silos and developing products that integrate internal and external data which vendors can’t duplicate create added value for attorneys, managers, directors, and other professionals. The first talk provides tips on how to start small, market your successes, and build on those successes for larger-scale initiatives, discusses how to define KM in a way that fits your organizational culture and mission, which, in turn, sets realistic expectations of what KM can and cannot achieve.

Learning outcome 1: Participants will learn how librarian expertise can be applied to KM projects within Law Firms & other organizations

Learning outcome 2: Participants will learn how to scale KM projects and utilize existing tools to add value to their organizations via KM projects

Level: Intermediate to Advanced

Audience: For any librarian or information specialist interested in knowledge management and adding value to their organization.

Speakers:
- Camille Reynolds, MLS, Director of Knowledge Management, Nossaman LLP
- Jaye Lapachet, MLIS, Manager of Library Services, Coblentz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP

*Program recording from Attensa on Vimeo

Comments

1. Johanne Godon
   March 1, 2012
   Hello,
   I missed the Libraries & Knowledge Management: Taming the KM Monster conference yesterday. Will there be a replay??
   Thanks
   Johanne

2. Al Bondigas
   March 1, 2012
   I had registered for the webinar a while back, but when I tried to join yesterday I got a “This session is full” error. Anyone else have this problem?

3. admin
   March 1, 2012
   Response to this program was overwhelming with over 400 people signing up for 100 available spots. However, the program was recorded and a link to it will be provided soon.

4. admin
   March 6, 2012
   A recording of this program is now available on Vimeo from Attensa’s website at: http://www.attsena.com/sla-presents-libraries-and-knowledge-management-taming-the-km-monster/
CALL 2012 ACBD Towering Opportunities

March 8, 2012 Categories: Events

*The following information was provided by the Canadian Association of Law Libraries. SLA members are eligible for the Membership Rate discount.

Our Pre-Conference Workshop, Advocacy 101 will help you to advocate and effectively communicate with decision-makers to explain why we are so important to their operations. Speaker Wendy Newman of U of T will help us to understand the advocacy process and how we need to become leaders for our profession and in our organizations.

The plenary sessions, as to be expected, reflect the diverse interests and environments of the CALL membership. Rick Power, from the Rotman School of Management will explain how librarians can assist organizations in reputation monitoring and management. Joe Janes, from the University of Washington Information School, will discuss how librarians can position themselves to grow professionally. And Nigel Holloway, Founder of Holloway Forums, who will discuss Future Trends in Legal Information and Law Libraries. If you have not yet completed his SURVEY, please do so now since the results of this survey will create a dynamic presentation geared to our specific needs.

The programs will provide you with information about collection development, statistics, legal research training, cataloguing using RDA, Library systems migration, website usability, background research on businesses and individuals. There are also sessions with speakers such as Marion the Die-brarian, a roller derby skater by night and legislative librarian during the day, Rebecca Strange on strategic innovations, and no library conference would be complete without a KM presentation. Our KM in Law Libraries panel includes Steve Lastres from Debevoise & Plimpton in NYC who brings is renowned for the innovations that he has implemented in his law firm. We also will hear from Canadian innovators as well. Increasingly, our patrons are asking for us to provide information while they are on the run. To help us we have Sarah Glassmeyer from the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction, presenting Library in Their Pocket: Using Technology to Meet your Patrons Halfway will be a popular session as the growth of these devices is exploding and we need to be seen as on the vanguard of this trend. Copyright and "fair dealing" is always on our radar and Colin Lachance, CanLII, will speak about developments in Canadian copyright law.

Click here for further details about each of our sessions.

A key component of every conference is the opportunity to meet new colleagues from across Canada as well as continuing the connections made in previous years. We have several fun Social Events planned for you by our very busy Social Committee. You may wish to tour some of Toronto’s beautiful landmarks. There are several tours arranged that will showcase different sides of Toronto. Sign up for these tours on the Registration Form. There is also a unique opportunity to attend a play by the Soulpepper Theatre company, You Can’t Take It With You, that you can enjoy on Saturday night.

Our Sponsors have also been busy getting ready to showcase their latest products and resources in our Exhibit Hall.

Need to make the case to your boss? Have a look at Connie Crosby’s insightful post, Why you should attend a CALL conference.

Deadline for REGISTRATION for our Early Bird Rate is Friday March 16th.

If you are a Member of AALL, SLA or CLA, you can receive the Membership Rate discount.

Information about how to travel to Toronto is on our CALL 2012 website.

Our Accommodations will be at the resplendent Royal York hotel, a landmark hotel in Toronto. Please click here for Reservations and how to receive internet access in your room. This must be done one month in advance.

We hope that you will be able to take advantage of this Towering Opportunity to attend CALL 2012 ACBD!

Jacquie Fex
Chair, CALL 2012 Communications

No Comments
Resources for Older Americans

May 2, 2012 Categories: Diversity

May is Older Americans Month. This group faces circumstances that require specialized counsel, from health issues to job discrimination, as well as changing financial landscapes and evolving family roles.

In honor of older Americans, here are a few legal resources that focus on their needs:

Electronic Resources

In addition to a wealth of state-level information, Westlaw offers several databases for attorneys representing elderly clients, which cover areas like estate planning, disability, retirement, and health insurance:

- Begley and Hook: Representing the Elderly or Disabled Client (database identifier: WGL-REPELDER)
- Frolik and Brown: Advising the Elderly or Disabled Client (database identifier: WGL-ADVELDER)
- Elder Law Advisory (database identifier: ELDLAWADV)

Lexis also has resources on Elder Law, which cover ethics, taxes, pensions, and property, among other areas:

- Estate Planning for the Aging or Incapacitated Client (database identifier: CLEPI)
- Tax, Estate & Financial Planning for the Elderly (database identifier: ELDERP)
- Long-Term Care Advocacy (database identifier: LTCARE)

Books


Lawrence Frolik, co-author of the Westlaw treatise on elder law above, also publishes a current book for the layperson. It was published in April 2012, and is co-written with Linda Whitton.

- Mastering Elder Law by Brashear (ISBN 1594604487)

This book covers most areas of law that relate to representing the elderly, just a few of which are employment discrimination, government benefits, economic security, and elder abuse.


Websites of interest

- http://www.naela.org/

This is the website for the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. It offers information to non-members through brochures and fact sheets, as well as current awareness through the section “Eye on Elder Issues” (http://www.naela.org/Public/About_NAELA/Media/Eye_On_Elder_Issues.aspx).

Also, the NAE LA database in Westlaw contains the NAELA Journal, as well as material from their Annual Institute and Annual Symposium.


The National Legal Resource Center from the Administration on Aging is a government clearinghouse for legal information concentrating on older Americans.

- http://www.aarp.org/states/dc/LCE/about_legal_counsel_for_the_elderly/

AARP’s legal work is focused primarily on policy, but the DC chapter of AARP devotes a special section of their work for legal representation of the elderly.

Join me in celebrating all Older Americans this month.

Jennifer Dismukes Vail
Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division

No Comments
Legal Division Programs at SLA Chicago

May 10, 2012 Categories: Events, SLA Chicago

by Tracy Z. Mai eff, Legal Division Chair, Duane Morris LLP (Reprinted from the Legal Division Docket)

We have a fantastic line-up of professional development and networking sessions scheduled for the SLA 2012 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO, to be held July 15-18 at McCormick Place in Chicago, Illinois. To maximize our members' conference experience, the Legal Division has collaborated with a variety of SLA Divisions in order to enhance your learning and networking needs. We are grateful for our generous sponsorships. Please thank our sponsor partners when you see them! If you want to be a part of this Windy City fun, register before May 11th to take advantage of the Early Bird Rate. For more information about registration and hotel reservations, please visit http://sla2012.sla.org/. Hope to see you in Chicago!

Follow @SLACHicago or #SLACHicago on Twitter for updates and announcements.

Click on the hyperlinked session names below for full details about each of the events. In many cases, the locations of the events are still to be determined. See http://sla2012.sla.org/conference-planner/ for all the SLA 2012 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO sessions and online planner.

Sunday, July 15th

12n-1:30pm Legal Division Board Meeting
* Annual meeting of the Legal Division Board. All Legal Division Committee Chairs and Legal Division members are welcome to attend. Come to share ideas or just to listen!

8pm-10pm Legal Division Sponsor Appreciation Reception

Monday, July 16th

8am-9:30am Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA Breakfast & Legal Division Business Meeting
* This event is by invitation only. Legal Division members in good standing and special guests will receive an invitation directly from our hosts, Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA.
Platinum sponsor: Bloomberg Law / Bloomberg BNA

10:30am-11:30am 60 Sites in 60 Minutes
Speakers: John DiGilio, Reed Smith LLP & Gayle Lynn-Nelson, LexisNexis
Silver sponsor: Fastcase, Inc.

12n-1:30pm The Intelligence Café
* This Competitive Intelligence Division session may be of interest to Legal Division members.
Speakers: Chris Hote, Digimind; August Jackson, Mosi Systems; Karen Rothwell, Outward Insights, LLC; Karen Sutton, G; Fred Wergeles, Fred Wergeles & Associates LLC.

4pm-5:30pm The Evolving Role of Competitive Intelligence in the Legal Marketplace
* Co-sponsored session with the Competitive Intelligence Division.
Speakers: Zena Applebaum; Nathan Roson, Morrison & Foerster; Toni Wilson, MarketSmart Research.

Tuesday, July 17th

8am-9:30am SPOTLIGHT SESSION: E – Discovery Preparation Through Information Management and Data Mapping
Speakers: Constance Ard [Legal Division Past Chair] & Miller Montague from Answer Maven Solutions.
Bronze sponsor: ProQuest Dialog

10am-11:30am Tales from the Trenches: Contract Negotiation is Not for the Faint of Heart
* Co-sponsored session with the Leadership & Management Division.
Sponsored by: ProQuest Dialog

2pm-3:30pm Librarian as Entrepreneur: Contributing to Your Organization’s Bottom Line through Marketing Initiatives
* Co-sponsored session with the Solo Librarians Division.
Speaker: Louis Abramovitz, Wilkinson Barker Knauer LLP
Platinum sponsor: Wolters Kluwer Law & Business

4pm-5:30pm Insurance Research
* Co-sponsored with the Insurance & Employee Benefits Division
Sponsored by: Reman

7pm-9pm Joint DPHT and Legal Division Networking Mixer
* Co-sponsored with the Division of Pharmaceutical and Health Technology.
Platinum sponsor: Leadership Directories
Wednesday, July 18th

10am-11:30am Legal Division Unconference, Featuring the Corporate Café
Moderated by: Tracy Maleeff, Legal Division Chair, Duane Morris LLP and Tricia Thomas, Legal Division Chair-Elect, Alston + Bird LLP.
Platinum sponsor: Wolters Kluwer Law & Business

12n-1:30pm Competitive Intelligence: Identifying, Managing, Disseminating and Leveraging Reliable, Current, Actionable Knowledge
* This Education Division session will be presented by a speaker well-known to the legal research community, Sabrina Pacifici of LLRX.com.

4:30pm-6:30pm Closing Reception
* Our friends in the Kentucky Chapter invite all conference attendees to join them in putting the icing on the cake of another successful conference. Take this chance to bid adieu to your friends and colleagues before we travel back to our places of origin. Ease your parting tears by including in your registration fee a drink ticket and a chance in a raffle for a little taste of Kentucky.
Silver sponsor: Morningstar

No Comments
Internationalisation of Australian Law Firms

May 11, 2012 Categories: International Relations Tags: australia, international relations

The Australian Law Firm market is in the process of being reshaped as a number of large Australian law firms merge or form alliances with international firms. Traditionally the large Australian firms have dominated the Australian legal market and made it difficult for foreign firms to gain a foothold.

Many of the mergers are using Australian law firms reach into the Asian market place, to capitalise on the shift of the world economy to Asia with the rise of the Chinese and Indian economies.

Merger mania kicked of nearly two years ago with the arrival Norton Rose who merged with Deacons. Then in 2011 DLA Piper merged with the Australian firm Phillips Fox.

Since mid May 2011 the international invasion has been unprecedented. Clifford Chance merged with two small boutique firms in Sydney and Perth. Allen and Overy raided a number of partners from the Australian law firm Clayton Utz and Squire Sanders poached the Perth office of Minter Ellison.

This year, Ashurst has merged with Australian law firm Blake Dawson Waldron. Blakes is now known as Ashurst. The most significant development is the merger of the Australian law firm Mallesons (by revenue Australia’s largest law firm) with the Chinese firm King and Wood, in a deal that could “potentially catapult it to one of the largest law firms in China”.

Finally this week we have seen one of Australia’s most prestigious law firm Allens Arthur Robinson establish an Asian alliance with Linklaters.

There is talk of other major firms merging or entering alliances. Two years ago all these developments would have been unthinkable. The reality is that the GFC has changed legal business in Australia and the rest of the world.

I am unsure what all this means for Australian Libraries or Knowledge people. In the short term I suppose it means we will have to start thinking about how to access more international sources and form our own alliances with friendly SLA people in Asia.

Phil Mullen
International Relations Committee, SLA Legal Division

No Comments
Opportunity Opens Doors for Information Pros in eDiscovery

May 15, 2012 Categories: Events, Professional Development Tags: eDiscovery, Law Library TNT

The Legal Division of SLA and Wolters Kluwer Law & Business invite you to attend the next Law Library TNT webinar!

Presentation: Opportunity Opens Doors for Information Pros in eDiscovery

Speaker: Constance Ard of Answer Maven

When: Thursday, May 31, at 2 PM CT (3 PM ET / 12 PM PT)

Cost: FREE to Legal Division Members!!! Limit of 200 attendees!

Register here: http://www.anymeeting.com/PID=EE53DB82804C

Description:
eDiscovery is an evolving information management issue. Companies are beginning to treat eDiscovery in a proactive rather than a reactive manner. Information managers, law librarians, corporate knowledge managers and records management professionals have an important role to play on the eDiscovery team that prepares organizations for their eDiscovery strategy.

Information professionals add a tremendous value to successful eDiscovery team both in terms of strategy, preparation and response.

This webinar will discuss the shift to preparation and expose valuable opportunities for information professionals in the complicated world of eDiscovery.

No Comments
Free SLA Student Memberships

May 22, 2012 Categories: Awards Tags: Membership, students

Do you like hearing about the latest legal cases or staying on top business and legal trends? Then consider being a Law Librarian! Law librarians work in many settings including law schools, law firms, government libraries and many public and private companies. They go by many titles: law librarian, researcher or information analyst.

If you’re interested in learning more about this exciting field, then join the SLA Legal Division. SLA Legal Division offers a wide variety of online education opportunities designed to sharpen professional skills throughout your career. Previous webinar topics have included using social media tools for research, business communication, and career development/job search. You can also find a mentor to help you learn more about law librarianship.

SLA Legal Division also offers several grants to attend the annual conference. The conference creates an environment for networking, communication, learning and other developmental opportunities for information professionals. Student membership is only $40. This includes one chapter and one division. Here’s the membership link: http://www.sla.org/content/membership/psinai/index.cfm.

As an incentive to join Legal Division, the Student Relations Group will sponsor a contest to win 10 SLA student memberships. Just write a short paragraph describing your interest in the legal information profession and send this to SLA Student Relations Group Chair Grace Rosales by Friday, June 22, 2012. Winning entries will receive a one-year free membership with SLA. We will need a receipt of payment and we will send you reimbursement for payment of your membership. If you are currently a member, we will pay for your next renewal. Winners will be notified by Friday, June 29. Please note that if you are a winner we would like to get a photo of you to include with the winning entries along with a signed waiver so that we can use it for future promotional materials.

Come join us and explore the exciting field of law librarianship! Send in your entries today!

Any questions? Feel free to contact the SLA Student Relations Group Chair: Grace Rosales.

No Comments
LGBT Resources

June 1, 2012 Categories: Diversity Tags: LGBT

June is LGBT month. Attention to the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgender people has increased, especially in the areas of military service, insurance benefits, and employment non-discrimination. In honor of all members of this group, the following is a list of resources to help effectively represent them:

Westlaw

- Joslin and Minter: *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Family Law*
  In terms of both federal and state law, this treatise addresses aspects of LGBT relationships such as: marriage, divorce, adoption, custody, and parenting. (Database identifier: LGFAMLAW)
- For purposes of current awareness, Westlaw summarizes recent court decisions and other legal occurrences in *Westlaw Topical Highlights – Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Law.* (Database identifier: WTH-GLBT)
- Westlaw has several periodical databases devoted to LGBT issues, such as: *Gay and Lesbian Review* (Database identifier: GAY:LESREV); *Scholar: St. Mary’s Law Review on Minority Issues* (Database identifier: SCHOLAR); and *Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality* (Database identifier: LSEX)

Lexis

- *Columbia Journal of Gender and Law* (Library/File: LAWREV/COLJGL)
  This journal focuses on the intersection of gender and law, including issues related to sexual orientation.
- *Mega News, Gender and Sex Discrimination in Employment* (Library/File: MEGANW/GSDMGA)
  This sources combines general and legal news on employment discrimination due to sexual orientation or gender.

Books/Periodicals

  For the layperson, this guide (updated for 2012) addresses traditional as well as novel aspects, such as estate planning, living together contracts, and legal matters in the event a relationship ends.
  Also current as of 2012, Gilreath’s book includes chapters on military service, freedom of expression, and sexual identity and the Constitution.
- *The Dukeminier Awards: Best Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law Review Articles* (http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/dukeminier-awards-journal/)
  Each year, the Williams Institute at UCLA gathers law review articles that discuss sexual orientation and public policy, then chooses the very best to publish in an annual volume.

Websites of interest

- [http://www.aclu.org/lgbt-rights](http://www.aclu.org/lgbt-rights)
  Among many other sections, the ACLU website features sections on LGBT parenting, how to create safe environments for LGBT youth, and the state of ENDA (the Employment Non-Discrimination Act).
- [http://www.hrc.org/](http://www.hrc.org/)
  In addition to its work for ENDA (see above), the Human Rights Campaign also advocates for legislation to include same-sex partners in their texts. A small sampling of the bills it aims to change include immigration, the tax code, protection from discrimination in creditworthiness decisions, and equal access to spousal insurance benefits.
- [http://www.lgbtbar.org/](http://www.lgbtbar.org/)
  The LGBT Bar Association, a section of ABA, has an active Twitter feed, a job board for LGBT-friendly employers, as well as online CLE credits in many practice fields.

Join me in celebrating LGBT month this June.

*Jennifer Dismukes Vail*
*Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division*

No Comments
SLA Legal & AALL PLL-SIS Collaboration

June 1, 2012 Categories: Professional Development Tags: AALL PLL-SIS

“Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together.” – James Cash Penney

The leadership of both SLA’s Legal Division and AALL’s Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section want to remind our members of the collaboration efforts we are making together!

- Webinars – both LD and PLL members can participate in each other’s professional development webinars, allowing for a larger pool of potential learning experiences.

- On Firmer Ground – don’t forget about this great multi-organization joint-effort blog that promotes the value of law firm librarians. Read what others have to say, or contribute posts yourself! www.firmerground.com

- Official Liaisons / Representatives – as an illustration of how important our connection is, both AALL and SLA have made inter-organizational appointments for many years. AALL President Jean Wenger is the Liaison to SLA for the current year. In addition, there is a specific AALL Private Law Libraries (PLL) Special Interest Section (SIS) Liaison to the Legal Division of SLA, Denise Pagh of Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard in Sacramento, CA. On the SLA side, Past Chair John DiGilio will be the official delegate to the AALL conference on behalf of the Legal Division. SLA CEO Janice Lachance has a standing invitation to represent SLA as an organization at AALL conferences.

SLA Legal & AALL PLL-SIS — forces working together to create a firmer ground!

**AALL PLL-SIS Vice-Chair:** Linda-Jean Schneider
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No Comments
Call for Volunteers at SLA Chicago

June 19, 2012 Categories: SLA Chicago Tags: LDD

Hello all,

If you are planning on attending this year’s SLA conference in Chicago, I am still looking for a couple more volunteers who are willing to write a review of various Legal Division sessions. The reviews will be published in the summer issue of the Legal Division Docket. Each article needs to be approximately 1000 words and should contain a summary of the session and commentary on the content and speaker. To avoid duplicate articles state which session you would like to cover. Photographs with captions are greatly welcomed. I also still need a photographer to cover certain sessions.

The following is the list of LD sessions and events that still need to be covered:

- Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA Breakfast and Legal Division Business Meeting (Monday July 16, 2012 8:00am – 9:30am)
- SPOTLIGHT SESSION: E-Discovery Preparation through Information Management and Data Mapping (Tuesday July 17, 2012 8:00am – 9:30am)
- Insurance Research (Tuesday July 17, 2012 4:00pm – 5:30pm)
- Legal Division Unconference Featuring the Corporate Café (Wednesday July 18, 2012 10:00am – 11:30am)

Best regards,

Jessica King

Legal Division Docket Editor

No Comments
Patent Reform: What Patent Searchers Need to Know

June 22, 2012 Categories: Events, Professional Development Tags: Law Library TNT, patents


When: Wednesday, June 27, 2012 at 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Central Time

Register Here: http://www.anymeeting.com/AccountManager/ReqEv.aspx?PILD=EF51D782814F&rslt=62bab624-c0af-41e6-8099-29e439ec3e2c

Cost: FREE to Legal Division Members. Space is limited to the first 200, so sign up today!

Description:

In this one-hour session, we will cover:

- The value of patent searching.
- What has changed since the reform was passed.
- How that change affects what you deliver.

About our speaker:

Denise Chochrek is the Sr. Knowledge Analyst for Frito Lay since 2006. She has spent over 20 years as an Information Specialist starting in the banking industry, then to investments, a spell as an independent and finally moving to R&D at one of the best snack companies. Denise is currently focused on competitive intelligence, knowledge management and scientific/business research.

Sponsor: Wolters Kluwer Law & Business

Comments

1. Ted Baldwin
   July 10, 2012
   Will a recording or slides be made available?

2. admin
   July 11, 2012
   A link to the slides will be posted here soon: http://legalела.org/programming/professional-development/tnt-series/
Money for Nothing! An SLA Legal Division Raffle for Conference Attendees

June 26, 2012 Categories: SLA Chicago Tags: LAC Group, sponsors

Our fabulous vendor partner, LAC Group, has generously given the Legal Division $50 USD gift cards to be raffled off to members in good standing at SLA 2012 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO!

Four members will each receive a gift card just for attending the annual conference. But, you need to prove it. Send your contact information, along with your official SLA conference registration receipt to slaldchair@gmail.com — get your entries in by July 6th!

Winners will be notified in advance by either email or telephone, no later than Saturday, July 14, 2012. Distribution of the gift cards will be done in person at the annual conference in Chicago, location and time to be determined.

Well, what are you waiting for? Enter today!

My Way or the Highway, aka Rules & Regulations:

1. Eligible participants must be current SLA Legal Division members in good standing. (Or, sitting. We just need to make sure you paid your dues.)
2. Legal Division Executive Board members are not eligible to enter or win. (Sorry, Charlie.)
3. Committee Chairs and Committee members are eligible to enter and win. (Good luck!)
4. 2012 Legal Division Award Winners (travel grants, ECCA, LD awards) are not eligible to enter or win. (You’re already winners!)
5. Conference registration may be for one day or the full conference. The most important part is the official SLA receipt for the 2012 conference registration. Registration must match the name of the person entering the contest. (So, no trying to cash in on your co-worker’s registration.)
6. All entries must be sent via email only to the address slaldchair@gmail.com. Entries will be invalid if sent to any other email address other than the one specified for this contest. (Yes, you will be penalized for not following instructions. #ToughLove)
7. Entries must be received by 11:59 PM Eastern on Friday, July 6, 2012. Any entries received after that deadline are ineligible. (Tell Siri to remind you.)
8. All entries become property of the SLA Legal Division and your name and/or photo (if we get one from you) may be used on our website and/or social media. By accepting the gift card, you consent to us using your name and/or photo for promotional/informational reasons. (You’ll be dodging the paparazzi before you know it.)
9. Neither SLA, SLA Legal Division nor LAC Group is responsible for any taxes or income reporting, if applicable. (If you go all Lauryn Hill on us, it’s not our fault or responsibility.)
10. Winners will be drawn at random. Judges’ decisions are final. (I cite the precedent of My Way v. Highway.)

No Comments
European Resources

June 26, 2012 Categories: International Relations Tags: Europe

The International Relations Committee brings you soccer-themed round up of European useful links.

England were (not unsurprisingly) eliminated from the Euro 2012 football competition this week – another penalty shoot out deciding the team’s fate. Still, Wimbledon is now under way, and we’ve got the Olympics coming up – literally on our doorstep here in the City of London – so there is plenty of summer left for us Brits to get our fix of sport. We thought a few links to useful resources from the teams still in the soccer tournament might be of interest – so here’s a round up of some key legal sites that might help with queries (or not!) about the remaining Euro 2012 countries or the Olympic games.

The European Union publishes short guides to each country’s legal system – a good place to start.

Portugal
https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_member_state_law-6-pt-en.do?member=1

Italy
https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_member_state_law-6-it-en.do?member=1

Spain
https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_member_state_law-6-es-en.do?member=1

Germany
https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_member_state_law-6-de-en.do?member=1

The amount, currency and quality of freely available local information varies between individual companies, I’d say I have a 50:50 hit rate obtaining a case or a piece of legislation for free in the searches I have run. Other sources include Lexis.com and academic libraries – I’ve used the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies to obtain documents in the past.

Company information is available either via agents for the European Business Register or individual country directories. Google Translate may be your friend when negotiating European business registers, there is little consistency between countries about what is available and what is searchable online independently.


Spain – the companies’ register can’t be searched outside a subscription service in any detail – the site is at http://www.rmc.es/InfGeneral.aspx?lang=en.

Italy – I have never managed to obtain anything useful directly from http://www.infocamere.it/eng/about_us.htm so have generally resorted to agents.

Germany – details are here https://www.unternehmensregister.de/ureg/?subitation=language&language=en

This PDF provides indicative pricing and availability for EU countries’ company information... http://www.gbrdirect.eu/GBRDirect%20Pricelist.pdf , other agents are available (see also http://www.7side.co.uk/moreinfo/International_Registry_and_Documents_Service.pdf from UK agents 7Side)

If you want to know more about the Olympics, the official site is at http://www.london2012.com/ and the BBC’s getting geared up over at http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/0/olympics/2012/

Wishing you a happy summer of sport,

Sara Battis
International Relations Chair

No Comments
Legal Division Sponsors at SLA Chicago

June 28, 2012 Categories: SLA Chicago Tags: sponsors

The Legal Division would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support of its programming at the annual conference in Chicago!

**PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

- **Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA**
- **Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA Breakfast & Legal Division Business Meeting**
- **Leadership Directories**
- **Joint Division of Pharmaceutical and Health & Legal Division Networking Mixer**
- **Wolters Kluwer Law & Business**
- **Librarian as Entrepreneur: Contributing to Your Organization’s Bottom Line through Marketing Initiatives**
- **Legal Division Unconference, Featuring the Corporate Cafe**
- **Wolters Kluwer Law & Business Non-U.S. Law Librarian Travel Grant Award**

**SILVER SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

- **Fastcase**
- **60 Sites in 60 Minutes**
- **Morningstar**
- **Closing Reception**
- **LexisNexis**
- **LexisNexis U.S. Law Librarian Veteran Member Travel Grant Award**
- **Thomson Reuters Westlaw**
- **Thomson Reuters Westlaw U.S. Law Librarian New Member Travel Grant Award**

**BRONZE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

- **ProQuest Dialog**
- **Spotlight Session: e-Discovery Preparation through Information Management and Data Mapping**
- **Teles from the Trenches: Contract Negotiation is Not for the Faint of Heart**
- **Springer**
- **Legal Division Leadership Tea**

**ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

- **Berman**
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- **Jones McClure Publishing**
- **Early Career Conference Award**
- **LAC Group**
- **Legal Division Raffle**

No Comments
LAC Group Conference Raffle Winners

July 10, 2012 Categories: SLA Chicago Tags: LAC Group, sponsors

Thank you to all who entered our *Mo' Money, No Problems – Money for Nothing!* An SLA Legal Division Raffle for Conference Attendees. The names of four winners were drawn at random by an impartial judge. Each of these lucky Legal Division members will receive a $50 USD gift card from our fabulous vendor friend LAC Group!

Visit LAC Group at Booth #514 at the SLA 2012 INFO-EXPO to say hello and learn what they can do for you.

Drumroll, please … congratulations to our winners!

- Jamie Keller – Reference Law Librarian, Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, FL
- Karen Krupka – Research Librarian, Columbia Wanger Asset Management in Chicago, IL
- Tracy Leming – Research Specialist, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP in Denver, CO
- Dahlia Saleh – Law Librarian, Allstate Insurance Company in Northbrook, IL

No Comments
Islamic Law Resources

July 13, 2012 Categories: Diversity Tags: islamic law, muslim americans, sharia

Ramadan begins July 19. Shari’a law has been granted special attention recently in state legislative chambers, not to mention the interest shown in the ramifications of Egypt’s presidential election. Because of the recent discussions about shari’a law, here are just a few sources to help understand the legal context surrounding it:

**Westlaw**
- Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern and Islamic Law (Database BJMIEL)
  According to the periodical’s website (http://www.jmeil.boalt.org/), this journal analyzes Islamic laws and jurisprudence, and their effect on Muslim communities throughout the world.
- UCLA Journal of Islamic and Near Eastern Law (Database UCLAJINEL)
  This journal analyzes Islamic legal issues from different contexts: “social, political, civil, historical, economic, and commercial” (http://oros.law.ucla.edu/jinel/Pages/Default.aspx).

**Lexis**
- Journal of Islamic Law and Culture (Library/File Location LAWREV/JILC)
  This journal focuses especially on law as it relates to the meeting of Western and Muslim legal cultures. Although Lexis is no longer updating the file, check Hein and the periodical’s website (http://las.depaul.edu/iws/About/JILC/index.asp) for current material.

**Books/Periodicals**
- *An Introduction to Islamic Law* by Wael Hallaq (ISBN 9780521861465)
  This book explains Islamic law from its origins, through its transformations, and to its current state.
  This text covers the evolution of Islamic law, its sources, and many individual areas of law, including: family, property, contracts, and criminal.
- *Shari’a in the West* by Rex Ahdar and Nicholas Aroney (ISBN 9780199582914)
  This book is a collection of scholarly essays that explores the possible convergence of Islamic and Western law.

**Websites**
  This website provides a very quick primer on shari’a. The site also contains audio clips, task force reports, books, and blogs that address sharia law.
  This website is a pathfinder for religious law, and has a section for Islamic law.
- “Materials” from the Centre of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law (http://www.soas.ac.uk/cimel/materials/)
  This website links to many different areas of concern in Islamic Law, like: feminism, Arab-Israeli Accords, commercial law, and even water rights in the Middle East.

JOIN me in celebrating the Muslim celebration of Ramadan this month.

Jennifer Dismukes Vail
Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division

No Comments
Conference News and Survey

July 13, 2012 Categories: SLA Chicago

The schedule and QR Code for the Legal Division’s sponsored and co-sponsored conference events are available at: http://slald2012.wirenode.mobi. The complete schedule is also available on our website, at: http://legal.sla.org/2012/05/legaldivisionprograms.

Stay updated by visiting our Facebook and LinkedIn groups and by following us on Twitter @SLALegal & @SLACHicago and also by using these popular hashtags: #SLAChicago and #SLALegal.

Please don’t forget to get a brand-spanking-new Legal Division ribbon for your conference lanyard. They will be available at the kiosk in the Registration area.

Refer to the 2012 SLA Chicago Hospitality Conference Wiki @SLAIIIinois for your travel planning.

Lastly, please provide your feedback following the conference by completing this brief survey about the Legal Division’s sponsored or co-sponsored events and sessions, at: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YNSRBR8

No Comments
Native American Resources

August 6, 2012 Categories: Diversity, Uncategorized Tags: native americans, tribal law

August is American Indian Heritage Month. Tribal laws coexist with federal law in interesting ways, not only in criminal matters, but also in terms of gaming law, gas and oil law, and tax law. Below are resources for further exploration of Native American law and its relation to federal law.

**Westlaw**
- **Federal Native American Treaties** (Database [FNAM-TREATIES](#))
  
  This database contains full-text treaties between Native American tribes and the United States federal government back to 1797.

- **Westlaw Topical Highlights – Native American Law** (Database [WTH-NAM](#))
  
  Coverage of recent government actions that affect Native Americans is included in this database. It includes tribal, state and federal courts; legislation on the state and federal level, and administrative agency actions.

- **Native American Law – Law Reviews, Texts and Bar Journals** (Database [NAM-TP](#))
  
  This handy resource pulls together not only law review articles, but CLE handbooks, encyclopedias, and legal periodicals as well.

**Lexis**
- **American Indian Law Review** (Library/File Location LAWREV/AMLR)
  
  This law review dedicates itself to Native American law, and especially encourages differing viewpoints on issues,

- **MH Legal Articles – Native American** (Library/File Location MARHUB/ARTNAM)
  
  This database is the Lexis counterpart to Westlaw's Topical Highlights for Native American law above.

**Books/Periodicals**
- **An Introduction to Tribal Legal Studies** by Justin Richland and Sarah Deer (ISBN 0759105782)
  
  Richland and Deer provide an extensive overview of tribal law, from its origins in oral tradition, to the current state of tribal courts. It also covers such federal government legislation as the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Indian Civil Rights Act. Lastly, it dives into the issues surrounding the interweaving of Native American and federal law.

- **Tribal Contracting: Understanding and Drafting Business Contracts with American Indian Tribes** by M. Brent Leonhard (ISBN 9781604426083)
  
  Leonhard explains the underpinnings of tribal economies and then addresses the many areas of federal law that intersect with tribal contracting law.

- **Indian Gaming and Tribal Sovereignty: The Casino Compromise** by Steven Light and Kathyrn Rand (ISBN 0700614060)
  
  As casinos on Indian reservations become more popular, the cost-benefit analysis becomes more important for all stakeholders. Light and Rand cover the legislation that allows tribes the sovereignty to build casinos, and offer policy recommendations at all levels of government.

**Websites of Interest**
  
  The Justice Department’s main point of contact for federally recognized tribes, the Office of Tribal Justice website includes links to pressing issues like methamphetamine prosecution, gaming, and civil rights.

- **National Native American Bar Association** ([http://www.nylawglobal.org/Globalex/Religious_Legal_Systems1.htm](http://www.nylawglobal.org/Globalex/Religious_Legal_Systems1.htm))
  
  Some of the efforts of this organization are: instituting tribal law on state bar exams and in law school curricula; increasing the number of Native American law students and judges; and bringing more large law firms to the table to represent tribes on a pro bono basis.

- **Indian Law Resource Center** ([http://www.indianlaw.org/](http://www.indianlaw.org/))
  
  This website on Native American legal issues includes their work on matters like: ending violence against Native American women; the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and environmental protection in terms of tribal land law.

**Research Guides from the National Indian Law Library (NARF)**, provided by David Selden of NARF
- [How to Find Tribal Law: Codes and Ordinances](#)
- [How to Find Tribal Law: Constitutions](#)
- [How to Find Tribal Court Opinions](#)
- [Online Research Guides by Topic](#)
- [Tribal Law](#)
- [Federal Indian Law](#)

Join me in celebrating American Indian Heritage Month.

*Jennifer Dismukes Vail*

*Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division*

No Comments
International Law Firms Merger: an Update from Down Under

August 8, 2012 Categories: International Relations Tags: australia, international law firms

Mates for life – International Law Firms Merger – An update from down under.

International law firm activity has continued to develop in the Australian legal market. Late in June Freehills one of the largest Australian Law Firms entered into a full financial merger with Herbert Smith. The new firm will be known as Herbert Smith Freehills (HSF).

HSF claim the new firm will be the largest integrated legal practice in the Asia Pacific region. With 7 different offices spread across the Asia Pacific region.

The International insurance firm Clyde & Co has raided the insurance partners in the newly aligned Allen’s (Aust) and Linklaters. Clyde & Co will be opening new offices in Sydney and Perth in early October.

Whether these mergers and new firms in Australia will provide more work for Information Services/Law Library people in Australia will be interesting to see. Or will this hasten the development of outsourcing?

Phil Mullen
SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee

No Comments
SLA Student Membership Award Winners

August 8, 2012 Categories: Awards Tags: Members, students

In May of this year, the Legal Division’s Student Relations Committee launched a contest for people currently enrolled in library school. This essay contest asked the question, “Why do you want to be a law librarian/legal information professional?” We received many stellar responses, but only ten could be chosen as the recipients of a one-year SLA student-level membership.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming the newest members of the Legal Division!

- Neel Agrawal, University of Washington
- Angela Aranas, Catholic University of America
- Veronika Kollbrand, Dalhousie University
- Dave Lyons, Rutgers University
- Lorena Neal, University of Illinois
- Vuong Nguyen, University of California, Los Angeles
- Karen Ronga, Kent State University
- Hilary Stamper, Dalhousie University
- Barbara Tafuto, The State University of New York, University at Buffalo
- Kirsten Terry, University of Michigan

Thank you on behalf of the Student Relations Committee:

Grace Rosales, Chair
Helen Mok
Emily Roberts

No Comments
Budgeting Tips

September 5, 2012 Categories: Mentoring, Professional Development Tags: budgeting

Because our membership is so spread out geographically, I thought one way to reach some of our newer members would be to post some helpful tips and tricks about various topics affecting legal information professionals everywhere. My intention is to post something each month.

This month, I’m offering some tips and tricks about BUDGETING that I have picked up over the years...

DISCLAIMER: I have no MBA, no formal budget training, and no clue as to various budget models. However, I come from a long line of accountants, if that counts for anything. I also currently manage budgets for three of my firm’s office libraries.

YOUR GOAL: To maximize your budget, not to save your organization money.

BUDGET PREPARATION – You may not get all you ask for, so always ask for more than you really want or need.

- Use the current year’s actual expenses to estimate expenses for next year’s budget.
- The 10% rule – increase actual expenses by 10% – this makes estimating increases a lot easier.
- Round up to whole dollar amounts ending in 0 or 5 [EXAMPLE: $262 actual expense this year, $285 budgeted for next year]
- If you anticipate a new big expense, estimate what month (or months) the expense will hit your budget.
- If you can’t tell exactly when an expense may hit the budget, you might want to spread out the cost evenly throughout the year.


- Become very familiar with using your organization’s spreadsheet application.
- Keep tabs on current budget figures throughout the year.
- If you can get monthly reports from your Accounting Department, reconcile those reports against your own figures.
- Be sure you can justify any large expenses or variances from your budget figures.
- Keep a list of possible cancellations that you may be able to use to offset any expensive requests for new purchases.
- If you know you don’t have enough money in your budget to cover a new purchase request this year, offer to build it into next year’s budget.

END OF THE FISCAL YEAR – Once it’s gone, it’s gone.

- The “nothing left” rule — if it looks like you will have money left in your budget at the end of the year, try to use it up.
- Keep a list of non-urgent purchase requests and missing materials you would like to replace.
- Pay attention to when an expense will hit your budget — if you purchase something at the end of your current fiscal year, you may end up paying for it out of next year’s budget.
- No one will give you an award for being underbudget at the end of the fiscal year.
- If you are over budget at the end of this year, there’s always next year

REMEMBER: Budgeting is both an art and a science.

Joan Ogden
SLA Legal Division Mentoring Committee Chair

No Comments
DNA, Genomics and Stem Cell Education

September 7, 2012 Categories: Diversity Tags: health law, privacy

September is “DNA, Genomics and Stem Cell Education and Awareness Month.” This type of research is proceeding as quickly as ever, but few federal laws and a patchwork of state laws protect the privacy of research subjects. Also, the controversy over stem cells has not abated, leaving many who might be helped by them at a loss for possible treatment. There are additional controversies: how DNA data banks are used in police departments; the various implications of genetic testing, and the patentability of a person’s DNA, just to name a few. For all groups of people affected in different ways by genetic research, the following is a short list of resources on the subject:

**Westlaw**
- **Johnson's Bioethics in a Nutshell** (Database Identifier: BIOETHIC-NS)
  This Nutshell book delivers a concise take on multiple areas of bioethics, and has sections on genetics, research subjects, and the ethical obligations of researchers.
- **Nanotechnology Law** (Database Identifier: NANOTECH)
  This database is billed as a “comprehensive single legal source for all issues related to nanotechnology” and focuses on IP and environmental issues.
- **BNA Chemical Regulation Reporter – Current Reports** (Database Identifier: BNA-CHEM)
  This publication analyzes judicial, legislative and executive actions in terms of their effect on chemical manufacturers, including biotechnology manufacturers.

**Lexis**
- **Legal Medicine** (File LEGMED)
  Legal Medicine publishes original articles that address the intersection of law and medicine. Special emphasis is given to articles covering DNA analysis, and articles on medical ethics are also featured.
- **New Atlantis** (File NEWATL)
  This periodical is a bold undertaking that strives to deepen an understanding of the issues surrounding technology and society, not only among the public and policymakers, but also among scientists and researchers.
- **Northwestern Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property** (File NJTAIP)
  This journal is devoted to the study of IP law in relation to technology, and as such it has a good deal to offer on biotechnology, ethics, and the law.

**Books and Periodicals**
- **Journal of STEM Education: Innovations and Research** (ISSN: 1557-5284)
  This periodical features case studies in science and technology research, including biotechnology. Special emphasis is given to studies that cover the non-technical side of research, such as management, risk, finance, and so on.
- **Bioethics** (Online ISSN: 1467-8519)
  Bioethics offers a platform to debate ethical, legal and policy issues in relation to biotechnology research.
- **Genetic Justice: DNA Data Banks, Criminal Investigations, and Civil Liberties** by Sheldon Krimsky and Tania Simoncelli (ISBN 9780231145206)
  Krimsky and Simoncelli address the recent use of law enforcement DNA data banks to store data for people other than violent criminals. In organizations that use these banks to store the DNA of all arrestees (even juveniles), civil right issues have arisen. The authors study this trend from an American perspective, but also compare the United States to Australia, Japan, and some European countries.

**Websites of Interest**
- **Genetic Information: Legal Issues Relating to Discrimination and Privacy** (http://assets.opengrs.com/rots/RL0006_20080310.pdf)
  This CRS report addresses the ways in which legislatures might approach genetic research.
- **Genetic Discrimination** (http://www.genome.gov/1002077)
  This website delves further into genetic nondiscrimination legislation, and provides links to state-level and federal laws.
- **Hastings Center** (http://www.thehastingscenter.org/Default.aspx)
  The Hastings Institute is a nonpartisan organization that studies bioethics. Their website compiles special reports, articles, and briefs on genetic screening, stem cells, and many other related subjects.

Join me in celebrating DNA, Genomics and Stem Cell Education and Awareness Month.

Jennifer Dismukes Vail
Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division

**No Comments**
Libraries & Knowledge Management: Taming the KM Monster

September 27, 2012 Categories: Events, Professional Development Tags: Knowledge Management

By popular demand, the Legal Division of SLA is proud to present a reprise of the hit program, “Libraries & Knowledge Management: Taming the KM Monster” by Jaye Lapachet and Camille Reynolds!

Wednesday, September 26, 2012
1 – 2 PM CT / 11 AM – 12 PM PT / 2 – 3 PM ET

Session Description:
Learn how librarians are using their expertise to develop connections within their organizations that deliver value by meeting the needs of internal and external customers. Discover how you can implement KM initiatives in your organization using existing tools and creative problem solving. Internal knowledge sharing, information silos and developing products that integrate internal and external data which vendors can’t duplicate create added value for attorneys, managers, directors, and other professionals. This talk provides tips on how to start small, market your successes, and build on those successes for larger-scale initiatives, discusses how to define KM in a way that fits your organizational culture and mission, which, in turn, sets realistic expectations of what KM can and cannot achieve.

Attendance is free to SLA, AALL, & CALL/ACBD members, but space is limited! Register here today.

Learning Outcomes:
- Participants will learn how librarian expertise can be applied to KM projects within Law Firms & other organizations
- Participants will learn how to scale KM projects and utilize existing tools to add value to their organizations via KM projects

Speakers:
Camille Reynolds, MLS, Director of Risk Management & Information Services at Fenwick and West
Jaye Lapachet, MLIS, Manager of Library Services, Coblenz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP

Attendance is free to SLA, AALL, & CALL/ACBD members, but space is limited! Register here today.

The Law Library TNT Series is made possible through the generous support of our friends at Wolters Kluwer Law & Business!

No Comments
Depression Education and Awareness

October 3, 2012 Categories: Diversity Tags: depression

October is Depression Education and Awareness Month. Depression and other mental health issues cut across all demographics and aspects of society, so it is no surprise that they also figure prominently in the legal field. The following is a short list of resources on the subject of mental health and the law:

**Westlaw**
- *Law and Psychology Review* (Database Identifier: LPSYR)
  
  This annual periodical covers multiple topics in the fields of law and psychology, including the death penalty, juror selection, and juvenile rights.
- *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law* (Database Identifier: PSYPPL)
  
  The editorial board of this journal is composed of psychologists and lawyers, so it is especially suited for the task of analyzing the intersection of law and mental health.

**Lexis**
- *Mental Disability Law: Civil and Criminal* (File MDLCC)
  
  This treatise addresses mental illness and law in several aspects, some of which are: involuntary committal; rights to treatment (or to refuse it); and competency issues of the mentally ill in a court of law, including the insanity defense.
- *Larson’s Workers’ Compensation* (File LARSON)
  
  Larson’s covers mental health issues in terms of workplace safety and compensation claims. It is special for its focus on differences in state law.

**Books**
- *Crime, Punishment and Mental Illness: Law and the Behavioral Sciences in Conflict* by Patricia and Steven Erickson (ISBN 0813543371)
  
  The Ericksons delve into the problem of the mentally ill in prisons, and the issues that arise therein: the standards used to determine competency in court; the lack of mental treatment in prison; and the special questions of sex offenders and mentally ill juveniles.
- *Legal Aspects of Mental Capacity* by Bridgit Dimond (ISBN 978140513593)
  
  For the layperson, this book helps to make practical sense of the Mental Capacity Act of 2005, which details the procedures for making decisions on behalf of those who cannot give informed consent.
- *Evaluation of Capacity to Consent to Treatment and Research* by Scott Y.H. Kim (ISBN 9780195322958)
  
  Kim’s book evaluates the foundations, history and use in court of an individual’s competency to submit to treatment and research.

**Websites of Interest**
  
  The Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act equalizes insurance coverage of mental health visits to those of physical health visits, eliminates the cap on annual visits to mental health professionals, and extends coverage to more Americans than were covered previously. The American Psychological Association has other valuable and informative links on this page as well.
- *International Academy of Law and Mental Health* ([http://www.ialmh.org/template.cgi?content=index.html](http://www.ialmh.org/template.cgi?content=index.html))
  
  IALMH holds a congress every other year, bringing together experts in social sciences, health and law, in order to bring a comprehensive look at the issues that are unique to the legal and mental health fields. They also publish a quarterly journal in order to disseminate research more quickly.
  
  This journal focuses on comparative forensic practices on an international level, especially in the areas of criminal responsibility, competency issues, risk assessment, and treatment.

Join me in honoring Depression Education and Awareness Month.

*Jennifer Dismukes Vail*

*Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division*

No Comments
Space Management Tips

October 3, 2012 Categories: Mentoring, Professional Development Tags: space management

Whether you are faced with a move of your collection or a downsizing, SPACE MANAGEMENT is an essential skill to have.

Here are some things I've learned about space management...

LIBRARY TRUTHS:

- Library space is prime real estate.
- If you give up space today, you likely will need that space tomorrow.
- What you cancel and toss or recycle today, someone probably will want tomorrow.

PREPARING FOR A COLLECTION REDUCTION:

- Always keep a list of possible cancellation candidates, even if you haven’t been told to downsize.
- Try to keep tabs on what is and what is not being used.
- Compare what’s available online versus what you have in print.
- Get the most bang for your cancellation buck — look for larger sets and/or expensive sets that aren’t being used.
- Don’t immediately toss/recycle cancelled or obsolete material; use it as a place-holder on your shelves.
- If you find out that you do need something that you have cancelled, accept the fact that you may have to reorder it.

PREPARING FOR A MOVE:

- Be an active participant in the planning process for the new library space.
- Get accurate floor plans of your new library space.
- Measure your shelving needs in terms of "linear feet" — one linear foot might hold 6 books that are 2" wide, but remember that not all books are the same width.
- If you have a shelf that is only half-full, count that shelf as an entire shelf.
- Incorporate empty shelf space throughout the collection, in the event that you need to shift or if you want to offer some open shelves for your patrons to use.
- Keep in mind the depth and the height of the shelves — if you have a shelf that’s 10" high, and you have 3-ring looseleaf binders that are 12" high, you just lost an entire shelf.
- Ideal shelving dimensions to accommodate most print materials: 36" wide X 12" deep X 12" high.
- Make sure you know how to adjust your shelves and that you don’t need extra tools, like a screwdriver, to do so.
- If possible, adjust the shelves before the books are moved.
- A handy tool to have on hand is a metal tape measure that you can lock.
- Find out if the movers you are using have any experience moving books.
- If possible, be around when the movers are working, so you can spot and correct any problems that may arise.

Joan Ogden
SLA Legal Division Mentoring Committee Chair

No Comments
Supervising Tips

November 3, 2012 Categories: Mentoring, Professional Development Tags: supervising

Let’s talk about SUPERVISING this month…it’s not unlike coaching football.…

There has been a ton of information published on how to supervise, from all different perspectives. My focus will be from a personal development perspective.

Even if you have had a lot of experience working as a professional law librarian, being promoted to a supervisor for the first time can be a little daunting. Suddenly, you are responsible for your entire team’s performance, and you feel like you don’t have any control over how your employees perform. Here are a few things you can do to make the transition to supervisor a little easier:

- Become very familiar with your organization’s policies and procedures.
- Be a model employee – you can’t expect your staff members to arrive on time every day if you are always late.
- Have an open-door policy – let your staff know that you are available if they have any questions or need help with a project.
- Keep the lines of communication open – share information with your staff, if it’s appropriate to do so.
- Be fair and impartial – treat your staff members equally and never play favorites.
- Remain calm and rational, even if you are feeling anger or frustration. Give yourself time before you respond. Sometimes taking a walk helps.

Remember, you’re the coach, not the whole team:

- If an employee is not doing a certain assigned task, work with the employee to make sure she or he understands how to do the task successfully.
- If a staff member is clearly overwhelmed with a particular task, consider adjusting work assignments and asking another staff member to help out.
- Under some circumstances, you may want to pitch in to help out your staff, but never take over and do an assignment for an employee just because you know you can do it more efficiently.
- If a staff member comes to you for a quick answer, try encouraging the staff member to find the answer on his or her own. Alternatively, demonstrate how you got to the answer.
- If an employee complains about another employee, gather all the facts from every side, rather than accepting only one employee’s side of the story.
- When you meet with an employee about a staffing problem, ask questions and be sure to allow the employee to do most of the talking.
- Don’t make any judgments until you have all the facts. You may assume an employee has done something wrong, but there might be a good reason for his or her actions.
- If you’ve identified a serious staffing problem, you will need to document, document, document – dates, times, participants, witnesses, etc.

Be sure to sign up to take any management training offered by your organization.

Take advantage of the knowledgeable staff of your Human Resources Department – remember, they are the experts!

Joan Ogden
SLA Legal Division Mentoring Committee Chair

No Comments
Ethics in Law Librarianship

November 3, 2012 Categories: Ethics
Dear SLA Legal Division Members!

It is time for another update from your Ethics Ambassador. This newsletter update contains a mix of thoughts from your fellow members, and links to some helpful resources to get you thinking about ethics within law librarianship.

To start us off, a few thoughts from one of our Canadian colleagues, Cyndi Murphy:

“Maintaining high ethical standards is integral to the work of the law librarian, even in – or more appropriately, especially in – uncertain economic times. We define ourselves and our profession by critically and judiciously determining which information resources in which to invest; by providing service using the most appropriate information resources; by treating colleagues with respect and cooperation; by continually enhancing our own knowledge and skills; and, by encouraging the professional development of co-workers and potential members of the profession.”

– Cyndi Murphy, President, Canadian Association of Law Libraries / Association canadienne des bibliothèques de droit

Despite the distance between the UK (where I am based) and Canada, all of Cyndi’s points still resonate strongly. Whilst the resources we use may change from region to region, our ethical approach to work will often be the same. To demonstrate how ethics can remain the same the world over, why not take a look at IFLA’s ethics guidelines?

- http://www.ifla.org/ifafe/professional-codes-of-ethics-for-librarians

Virginia Mattingly has kindly shared some of her thoughts on ethics from the perspective of a law librarian in an academic setting:

Ethics in academic law librarianship to me is exhibiting courtesy to my colleagues and respect for my patrons. It requires carefully balancing the delivery of information without crossing the line over into offering advice and always maintaining our patron’s confidentiality.

– Virginia Mattingly, Cybrarian at the University of Louisville’s Louis D. Brandeis School of Law

If you are feeling inspired by Virginia’s academic environment, why not try to contemplate changes in library ethics over time? Take a look way back to 1922 with this article by Charles Knowles Bolton, from the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science:


Charles identifies 30 areas for a librarian to keep in mind when doing their job. Whilst many of these were written with a public library in mind, how many do you think are relevant today? If you felt so inclined, why not try to compare them to SLA’s professional ethics guidelines?

- http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/ethics_guidelines.cfm

Finally, to round off this email update, a few thoughts from SLA Legal Division’s president, Tracy Z. Maleeff:

“What ethics means to me as an information professional in the legal field really isn’t that much different than the ethics I hold myself to in my personal life. But, strictly speaking as a legal librarian, I see ethical behavior as adhering to copyright laws and obtaining research from credible sources that you are proud to hand over as your work product. I see our role of ethics to never tire of answering questions, even if it’s the same one over and over again. That our duty to the legal community is to put forth the best work possible and not to cut corners because we are librarians and we should hold ourselves to a higher standard. As Chair of the Legal Division, I believe it is my duty to lead by example and accomplish goals that don’t just benefit me, but are to the advantage of the 1,000+ members of the division. I believe that ethics as a leader of a professional organization means that you represent all those voices within your voice, and that you constantly think of the greater good of your actions. I hope that I have accomplished all this, both in my professional life and in my role as Chair. I believe that ethics are standing up for what is fair or right, but not at the expense or detriment of others. I also believe that work ethic and ethics in general are intertwined. I strongly believe, right or wrong, that my Master of Library and Information Science degree requires me to hold myself to a higher professional standard. Many legal information professionals I have met seem to subscribe to that philosophy as well, and that’s what makes the ethics of being a law/legal librarian so unique and special.”

– Tracy Z. Maleeff, Library Resources Manager, Duane Morris LLP, SLA Legal Division, Chair (2012)

That’s all for this update, but why not take a few minutes to sit and think about your views towards ethics in the sector this evening? Perhaps they correspond exactly to the views kindly shared with us by Tracy, Virginia and Cyndi? If not, why not get in touch and share your views for the next email update? I’d love to hear from you.

Best wishes,

Sam Wiggins
SLA Legal Division Ethics Ambassador

No Comments
Food Law

November 9, 2012 Categories: Diversity Tags: food law

In honor of U.S. Thanksgiving on November 22, this column is devoted to food law. Here are just a few helpful resources:

Westlaw

- **Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics** (Database Identifier: JAGREECOM)

  This journal provides original and food-centric articles on topics like natural resources, rural development, and economics.

- **Nutrition Reviews** (Database Identifier: NUTRITREVs)

  Geared toward students, researchers and professionals in fields such as medicine, public health and nutrition, this journal features articles on nutrition policy, as well as applied and experimental nutrition science.

- **FDA Enforcement Report** (Database Identifier: FHTH-FDA)

  The FDA records its regulatory efforts in this periodical. It includes prosecutions, seizures, injunctions, and recalls.

Lexis

- **Food and Drug Law Weekly** (File FDLWK)

  Written for attorneys, this periodical keeps readers updated on the latest in food and drug regulation, not only from the FDA, but also CDC.

- **Biomass and Bioenergy** (File BIOM&E)

  This journal focuses on renewable sources of food and energy with articles in the form of research papers, reviews and case studies.

- **Trends in Food Science and Technology** (File ETDSCT)

  The intent of this periodical is to bridge the gap between specialized scientific journals and trade magazines by presenting new research developments and their possible applications in food science and nutrition.

Books

- **A Consumer’s Guide to Food Regulation & Safety** by James O’Reilly (ISBN 0199730210)

  Written for the layperson, O’Reilly explains food and drug laws, as well as what should be done if consumers come to harm from food.

- **The Little Book of Foodie Law** by Cecil C. Kuhne III (ISBN 9781614383109)

  A quirky book from the ABA, this publication addresses some interesting anecdotal food fights in the legal world, from food patents to litigation over poor restaurant reviews.


  Covering not only American law, but also international regulations, Williams and Carter introduce food law via court cases, with subject matters like religious food laws, food labeling, obesity and fair trade.

Websites of Interest


  In the effort to create a sustainable and balanced food supply, the Harvard Food Law Society participates in projects such as promotion of locally-grown food, and analyzing the lack of uniform laws in food expiration date labels. They also have a special advocacy organization in the Mississippi Delta region that is working to improve food policy and legislation in the area.


  Maintained by the National Agricultural Law Center at the University of Arkansas and the American Agricultural Law Association, this blog provides stakeholders in the agricultural community with updated information and research.

- **The Sustainable Economies Law Center** ([http://www.theselc.org/food/](http://www.theselc.org/food/))

  Because SELC believes that centralized ownership of food production by large conglomerated organizations leads to resource waste and a misguided philosophy of food production, they promote localized ownership of the food system. Some of their resources include: legal clinics, a library for those interested in urban agriculture, policy advocacy and promotion of co-op farming.

Happy Thanksgiving to all my colleagues.

Jennifer Dismukes Vail
Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division

No Comments
Application of Domestic Laws on International Businesses

November 10, 2012 Categories: International Relations

The International Relations Committee brings you two recent judgments this month on the application of domestic laws on international businesses. The first judgment is a defamation action against Google. The second is an insolvency decision in the United Kingdom involving US and Australian Companies.

Defamation

Google has just lost a defamation case in Australia. From a news article,

“Google was yesterday found liable for damages by a jury in Australia after a man complained that the website’s search results had harmed his reputation by wrongly linking him to Melbourne gang crime.”

There is no judgment as yet on the damages, if you are interested keep an eye on the Recent Decisions page on Austlii. Earlier decisions are on Austlii.

Trkulja v Google Inc & Anor [2011] VSC 560 (3 November 2011) – Discovery
Trkulja v Google Inc & Anor (No 3) [2011] VSC 503 (5 October 2011) – Confidentiality
Trkulja v Google Inc & Anor (No 2) [2010] VSC 490 – (28 October 2010) DEFAMATION – Pleading

Earlier this year Mr Trkulja won a similar case against Yahoo, Trkulja v Yahoo! Inc LLC & Anor [2012] VSC 88 (15 March 2012).

International Jurisdiction

The UK Supreme Court in New Cap Re v Grant (the case involved US and Australian interests) has decided that a foreign judgment cannot be enforced where a party has not submitted to the foreign jurisdiction.

The judgment asserts the importance of the territorial limits of foreign jurisdiction in insolvency proceedings, and the value of the UNCITRAL Model Law. See also the very handy Press summary.

Phil Mullen
SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee

No Comments
Marketing Yourself and Your Library

December 5, 2012 Categories: Mentoring, Professional Development Tags: marketing

Let’s talk about MARKETING this month.

Marketing is an important part of the law librarian profession. Not only do law librarians do research for marketing personnel in law firms, but we also need to market our services and ourselves within our own organizations. Here are just a few quick tips to keep in mind...

MARKETING YOURSELF AND YOUR LIBRARY

- Make sure your users understand what you can do for them and how you can add value to your organization and your clients’ organizations.
- Speak to users in terms that they can understand and try not to use library jargon.
- Be sure to read research requests carefully, to make sure you understand completely what you are being asked to do.
- Always reply to e-mails promptly and professionally.
- Get in the habit of re-reading e-mails that you are composing before you send them.
- If you are dashing off a response based on an emotional reaction, it may be better to wait awhile before responding.
- Take advantage of the few minutes you are in an elevator with an attorney to market your services and your library resources.
- Try to think up creative ways to connect with your users. For example, one librarian I know started posting a single-page library newsletter in each of the stalls of the washrooms!
- Invite your users to visit you in the library – set up an open house or arrange regular training sessions for online resources. Food is always a great motivation!
- Be open to visiting your users in their offices and helping them with whatever issues they might be having.
- If possible, get involved with your in-house Intranet website and develop web pages for the library.
- Try to foster a good working relationship with people in your Marketing Department.
- If you get a research request from someone in your Marketing Department, be sure to find out which attorney has requested the information and then copy the attorney on your research results.
- Set up alerts to monitor news about your firm, your particular office, and key members of your organization. Send out articles of interest to key members of the organization.
- Retain copies of all national and global surveys on your industry (For example, AmLaw 100, AmLaw 200, AmLaw Global 100, Of Counsel’s Annual Survey, National Law Journal’s 250 Annual Survey).
- Retain copies of all state and local surveys pertinent to your office as well.
- Retain an archive of at least 5 years of annual surveys.

Joan Ogden
SLA Legal Division Mentoring Committee Chair

No Comments
National Identity Theft Prevention and Awareness Month

December 7, 2012 Categories: Diversity Tags: identity theft

December is National Identity Theft Prevention and Awareness Month. ID theft is in the news every time a major database is compromised (through hacking or human error) for our identifying information, whether it is a government agency, payment services provider, or data center. Most would agree that laws can not necessarily keep up with the rapid-fire changes in the tech industry. Plus, in terms of effectively recovering your good name and holding companies legally responsible for poor protection of your data, some would say the law is sorely lacking. In order to help those who have suffered through identity theft and worked to salvage their reputation, here are just a few resources:

Westlaw
- Computer Crime and Technology in Law Enforcement (Database identifier: QNLNCCT)

As a newsletter, this periodical keeps police and prosecutors up to date, not only on identity theft, but also related subjects like Internet fraud, mail fraud, and cyber-stalking.


New for 2012, this treatise covers identity theft law, but also analyzes and advises on subjects like electronic medical records, pharming, and financial privacy.

- ID World (Database Identifier IDWORLD)

This is an industry publication that features expert interviews market research, and news on the fast-changing landscape of digital identities.

Lexis
- Computer Law and Security Report (Library/File: ELSCJL/ECMLSR)

Identity theft is truly a worldwide problem, so it is helpful to have an international perspective on the issue. This periodical focuses regionally on the US, UK, EU and Pacific Rim, and topicality on IT security, telecom regulation, and data protection, among other things.

- Data Identity and Security: Mealey’s Litigation Report(Library/File: MEALEY/MEADAT)

Mealey’s combines news with court filings and coverage of legislative activity, so it is particularly helpful to the legal world. This periodical centers on data privacy, whether it is personal, medical or financial, and whether it is sought by government, employer or hacker.

Books/Periodicals

In this book, Thomson dives into data breaches, their causes, and prevention by using real-life examples and helpful graphics. Current state and federal laws are covered, as is encryption technology and related issues.


From an author with years in the business of preventing identity theft, this book traces the origins and predicts the future of ID theft. He addresses some of the more notorious ID thieves, types of ID theft, how to prevent ID theft and how to recover your identity if it is stolen.

- Politis, Iglezakis, and Kozyris: Socioeconomic and Legal Implications of Electronic Intrusion (ISBN 9781605662046)

Written as a reference source for policymakers, academics, and researchers, the authors explore the background of cyber crime, the fine line between marketing and privacy invasion, spam, digital forensics and many other related topics.

Websites of interest
- http://www.idtheftcenter.org/

This is a very helpful consumer resource, with a section geared especially towards teens, an interactive map for state-specific resources, and helpful boilerplate letters that aid victims on the road to recovering their identity.

Federal Websites

Noting that cyber crime consists of activities like hacking, online extortion, ID theft, and IP matters, and that one activity often overlaps another, IC3 was created as a partnership between the FBI and the National White Collar Crime Center. The two-pronged mission of IC3 is to create an easy reporting mechanism for victims of cyber crime, and a central location for all levels of law enforcement to converge and share information.


This site includes a section on a pilot program the IRS is undertaking to partner with law enforcement to prosecute individual cases of identity theft.


The FTC includes a section on ID theft affecting military families. Note: the FTC is the primary federal agency which should receive reports of ID theft.

- http://www.utlca.edu/academic/institutes/ctrlp/

The Center for Identity Management and Information Protection was established as a research center in order to inform policymakers and stakeholders about best practices and put results of new research into legislation and regulations.

Jennifer Dismukes Vail
Diversity Committee Chair, SLA Legal Division
Ethics During the Holidays

December 19, 2012 Categories: Ethics

The holiday season is here! Carol-singers are knocking at doors and the smell of mince pies is drifting through many a household.

Perhaps you’ve been well behaved this year, and are hoping to receive a new tablet or smartphone? If so, you would be wise to read on as I have selected a few resources relating to the acceptable use of social media in the workplace, and how it can affect you!

Shoosmiths have put together some information helpfully outlining the acceptable use of social media in relation to employment:


Perhaps you could try contrasting it to a similar, but older report from Jones Day to see if you can spot any differences? Social media is a fast moving subject:

http://www.jonesday.com/facebook_twitter

For a more global perspective, Baker & McKenzie have approached social media from an employment perspective relating to 17 different countries, ranging from Argentina to the United States:

http://www.bakermckenzie.com/files/Publication/fbb96048-99a8-49f0-9d4f-fb12a0bec1c0/Presentation/PublicationAttachment/2ee3b2aa-40e1-4612-93b8-03b7ea1feddb/bk_employment_globalemployersocialmedia_sep12.pdf

Of course, if your foray into social media does go wrong, you can always try apologising! The UK Director of Public Prosecutions has today tried to make the situation regarding offensive and criminal remarks via Twitter a bit clearer for those of us in England and Wales:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-20777002

Once you are up to speed with acceptable social media policy, why not try out a new app? The Copyright Licensing Agency in the UK has launched a new app that allows users to quickly check if they are allowed to make copies of a text or journal! Encouraging lawyers and students to install the app may be a great way to ensure copyright compliance:

http://www.cla.co.uk/about/news/article/?article_id=159&subject=CLA+launches+new+mobile+app

Once you return to the office in the New Year, you may feel like your IT structure doesn’t quite match up to the likes of Android’s Jelly Bean or iOS 6. If this is the case, it might be worth having a look at this video by Linklaters on upgrading law firm software:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xx6WFIVCdNg

That’s it for this update – if you would like to contribute anything to the next email update, please let me know. I’d love to hear from you.

Seasons Greetings,

Sam Wiggins
SLA Legal Division Ethics Ambassador

No Comments
Vendor Relations

January 9, 2013 Categories: Mentoring, Professional Development Tags: vendor relations

Happy New Year!

Time for a new Mentoring topic. This month I will provide you with some basic tips on managing VENDOR RELATIONS.

- Keep a list of vendor information for those vendors that you call the most often, including customer service phone number and your account number.
- Have your account number handy whenever you call any vendor.
- Be sure to document your interactions – write down the name of the contact, the contact date, and what was said.
- When renewing a subscription, ask for the new expiration date.
- Be sure to ask for a receipt, especially if you are ordering over the phone and charging a credit card.
- At all times, conduct business in a professional manner and always be courteous with vendors.
- Be very clear about what you want and make sure you get all your questions answered before you hang up.
- Be persistent – you may have to make multiple calls to get all the information you need.
- Ask for possible discounts, labels for free shipping of returned items, free replacement materials, etc.
- If you are having a problem resolving an issue, be sure to document your phone contacts and retain all e-mails.
- If you are getting frustrated dealing with your current representative, speak with that person's manager and/or ask to have a new representative assigned.
- Be polite yet firm during unsolicited calls from vendors – you don’t need to renew an invoice or to agree to a meeting on the spot – remember, they called you.
- If you order materials or renew subscriptions online, be sure to print out your order information and/or your receipt and/or your order number.
- Make sure you don’t press the BUY button more than once when ordering online.
- If you are having problems with ordering online, be sure to call the vendor right away to straighten things out.

Joan Ogden
SLA Legal Division Mentoring Committee Chair

No Comments
San Diego 2013 Preview

January 17, 2013 Categories: SLA San Diego

by Tricia Thomas, Legal Division Chair Elect, Alston + Bird LLP (Originally published in the LDD on December 18, 2012)

Mark your calendars! The Legal Division has some exciting programming in place for the annual conference in fabulous San Diego. Plus, we will be celebrating the division’s 20th anniversary! The annual conference will be held June 9-11th at the San Diego Convention Center. Our session topics will include:

Bad Food: The Life Cycle of a Food Recall (co-sponsored with the Food, Agriculture & Nutrition division). Monday, June 10th at 8:00 a.m. This session will cover the life cycle of a food recall from its inception to its conclusion. Stages of the recall to be examined will include the regulatory and investigative issues involved from the government perspective, pre and post crisis planning for food companies, issues involved in investigating and adjusting recall claims, and types of losses and amounts involved with a recall.

Border and Immigration Issues: How They Affect Libraries, Information Centers and Community Outreach Programs. Monday, June 10th at 12:00 p.m. Topics to be addressed will include collection development for multi-lingual collections, literacy services for immigrants, production of communications and publications addressing multilingual audiences, resources used for refugee resettlement, and access to books and online sources in Spanish.

KM in the Legal Environment: Content that Delivers: Learn from the Early Adopters. (co-sponsored with the Knowledge Management division). Monday, June 10th at 4:00 p.m. As early adopters of KM, the legal environment is in a unique position to provide “lessons learned” from their KM programs. Hear how the legal environment has raised the standards, workflows, and processes to deliver true efficiency in service delivery and agility in performance outcomes.

Practitioner’s Picks: Best CI Tools from Various Industries (co-sponsored with the Competitive Intelligence division). Tuesday, June 11th 7:30 a.m. This session promises to have broad appeal as a diverse group of speakers from multiple industries will distill the process of CI and intelligence gathering using the top tools that help information professionals add value to their services. Attendees will learn the importance of catering to individual client needs and will be given practical ideas and tools they can take with them and adapt to their own industry needs.

60 Sites in 60 Minutes. Tuesday, June 11th at 8:00 a.m. John DiGilio and Gayle Lynn-Nelson will join us again for this wildly popular session that explores new and under-utilized Web sites. Fast-paced and fun, it offers a glimpse of what you may be missing on the Web. Slides: http://www.slideshare.net/libraryGuy/60-sites-in-60-minutes-slc-2013

Public Access to DoD Funded Research (co-sponsored with the Military division). Tuesday, June 11th at 10:00 a.m. This session seeks to offer a brief primer of the tools and resources used to access DoD funded research, to address the copyright and sensitivity issues related to this research, and to offer possible solutions. Attendees will learn how to access publicly funded DoD research and how to manage issues such as, but not limited to, classified documents, disclosures, and FOIA requests.

Legal Division Unconference. Tuesday, June 11th at 2:00 p.m. The return of the successful Unconference session where Legal Division minds meet to discuss current issues, swap ideas and realize they aren’t working in a bubble!

And of course, we’ll be celebrating our 20th anniversary with a spectacular Vendor Appreciation and 20th Anniversary Party! Also, Bloomberg BNA has kindly and generously agreed to be our sponsor for our Legal Division Business Meeting and Breakfast. As you can see, we have some fantastic programming lined up for the 2013 annual conference. We hope you can join us in San Diego!

No Comments
In honor of African American History Month, the Legal Division is saluting the accomplishments of African Americans in the legal community. This is just a sampling of information that we hope you find to be educational and insightful.

Unless otherwise noted, the citations for the information written below are contained in the hyperlinked terms.

First African American Lawyers

- This link from the Just the Beginning Foundation has a chart that lists by state the first African Americans admitted to practice law.
- Maccon Bolling Allen (1816-1894) earned his license to practice law in the state of Maine on July 3, 1844, thus becoming the first African American licensed to practice law in the United States.
- John Swett Rock (1825-1866) was the first African American man to be admitted to practice for the Supreme Court of the United States, in 1865.
- Charlotte E. Ray (1850-1911) was the first female African American lawyer in the United States. She graduated from Howard University Law School in 1872 and became the first female practicing lawyer in Washington, D.C.
- Violette Anderson (1862-1937) was the first African American woman to be admitted to practice for the Supreme Court of the United States, in 1926.

First African American Judges

- The Federal Judicial Center has a list of "Milestones of Judicial Service." Included in that list are the accomplishments of the three of the first African American judges.
- Please note that the term "good behavior" listed below comes from Article III, Section 1 of the United States Constitution which basically means, "life tenure."
- William Henry Hastie (1904-1976) became the first African American to serve as a judge appointed during good behavior when he was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in 1950. Hastie had served a fixed term as judge of the U.S. District Court for the Virgin Islands from 1937 to 1939.
- The first African American to serve on a U.S. district court as a judge appointed during good behavior was James B. Parsons (1961-1981), who was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in 1961.
- Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993) was the first African American Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States. He was appointed in 1967. Marshall previously served as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Find out more!

- The American Bar Association’s Center for Racial and Ethnic Diversity http://www.americanbar.org/groups/diversity.html
- The history and mission of the National Black Law Students Association http://www.nblsa.org/index.php?pID=1
- NAACP Legal History http://www.naacp.org/pages/naacp-legal-history
- National Bar Association – Founded in 1925, the National Bar Association (NBA) is the nation’s oldest and largest association of African American lawyers and judges. http://www.nationalbar.org/our_milestones

African American History Month is the entire month of February. Take a moment to learn about these important milestones in both legal and African American history!

Tracy Z. Maleeff (filling in for Jennifer Dismukes Vail, Diversity Committee Chair)
Legal Division, Past Chair (2012)

No Comments
Online Resources

February 12, 2013 Categories: Mentoring, Professional Development Tags: online resources

More and more of our collections, not to mention our budgets, consist of Online Resources. Here are a few tips to keep in mind when managing these valuable resources:

- Find out the terms of the license upfront: Is it a single user license or a five concurrent user license? Any restrictions by location? Copyright restrictions?
- Redistribution restrictions?
- Weigh the cost of multiple individual licenses versus a firmwide license.
- Try to negotiate with the vendors, to see if they will come down from their initial price quotes.
- If you are opting for a firmwide license, consider getting IP Authentication, so your users will not have to enter logon information when accessing within your network.
- Users may not be able to access IP Authenticated resources if they are using a device that is outside of the network – have the vendor provide you with firmwide logon information for those situations.
- Keep a list of all your online resources that use IP Authentication, along with contact information – If the IP Authentication addresses change, use the list to notify all the vendors of the changes.
- If you have multiple single-user licenses, have the vendor provide you with the logon information for each user.
- Make sure you know how to add and delete users for each resource.
- If the service doesn’t have a management tool for the logon information, keep the information in your own database or spreadsheet – users will come to you if they forget or lose their logon information.
- Try to get the vendors to provide you with meaningful usage statistics – there are not a lot of other ways to determine whether the resource is being used.

A Few Definitions

- Concurrent user – a license that allows multiple users to access the resource, but only one user at any given time.
- Redistribution restrictions – can you forward on an article from an online resource to someone within your organization or to someone outside your organization, such as a client?
- Logon information – usually consisting of a logon/username and a password.
- IP Authentication – way to provide secure access to online content by filtering, based on certain criteria, such as an IP address. There is no need for users to enter logon information.

Joan Ogden
SLA Legal Division Mentoring Committee Chair

Comments

1. Anna F.
   February 12, 2013

   Joan, this list is really helpful and comprehensive! It will be especially useful for training new employees.

   To assist with the sixth point, I created a Contact List in MS Outlook with contacts for all of the vendors of IP-authenticated resources so that I just send one email, with the Contact List bcc’ed, when there is a change to our IP addresses.

   Something else to keep track of – as if there wasn’t enough already! – are auto-renewal clauses. Our policy is to negotiate their removal from agreements, which has been surprisingly successful, but when we’re not able to, we set up alerts (both through MS Outlook and through the ILS) as reminders.
Hi, I am Anneli Sarkanen, your new SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee Chair. I am an Information Officer at Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP in London. I wish to thank my predecessor Sara Baits, who was chair of this committee in 2012.

This month saw the start of the new lunar year and the Year of the Snake, with millions of people across Asia celebrating with firework displays and family gatherings. It seems predictions for the year can be elusive and the last two snake years (2001 and 1989) have seen major events take place in the world. To help with any uncertainty this year many bring, the SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee has put together a list of resources to make researching Chinese law less haphazard.

This is brought to you with great thanks to our Legal Division colleague Dave Lyons, who is working as an academic librarian for the Beijing Centre for Chinese Studies.

EN = English language use; ZH = Chinese.

Laws & Regulations:

AsianLI: http://www.asianlii.org/cn/legis/eng/laws/ EN

Laws of the People’s Republic of China. This database contains selected Chinese legislation and related documents that have been translated into English. It includes: laws, regulations, pronouncements, resolutions, notices, measures, rules, decisions, decrees, principles, provisions, announcements, procedures, official replies and circulars (in interim, current and/or planned versions). Some warning: All translations are unofficial and it says it was last updated in March 2008.

Hong Kong Legal Information Institute: http://www.hklii.hk/eng/databases.html EN

HKLII is a free, independent, non-profit internet facility providing access to legal information relating to Hong Kong, including cases and legislative materials.


The official English page of the Legislative Affairs Office, but the translation quality is a bit suspect and more importantly the site has not been updated since 2007. The Chinese version (http://www.chinalaw.gov.cn/ ZH), however, is up-to-date.

China Law Translate: http://chinalawtranslate.com/ EN

This website was conceived by Jeremy Daum, a research fellow at the Yale-China Law Center and is a crowd-sourcing project to provide translations of Chinese legislation into English and vice versa. The site has yet to really get going but is an interesting concept. Naturally, as it is a wiki-style project, there is no note about the quality of the translation.

en.pkulaw.com http://en.pkulaw.cn/ EN

This website comes from Chinalawinfo Co, an provider of legal information, established by Peking University on the basis of its Legal Information Center. Access to English-language versions of "all the relevant documents for your legal needs in China". There are notes and links in the Chinese text, but only English translations are provided for the main contents, not the notes. Contains laws and regulations (all laws adopted by the National People's Congress from 1949 to present), case law database of typical judicial decisions approved and published by the Supreme People's Court or the Supreme People's Procuratorate, Tax treaties, Gazettes (title index only) and legal news. Subscription required for access to certain content.

Law Lib: http://www.law-lib.com/law/ ZH

Donald Clarke of George Washington University Law School says "This is a quite comprehensive free database of Chinese laws and regulations. It includes a great deal of local legislation, departmental regulations, and Supreme People’s Court interpretations. The main drawback is that it is not full-text-searchable; you can search by terms in the title or the issuing body. A nice feature is that you can separate central from local legislation in your results."


According to NYU Law Library, “Chinese legal materials in English at Baker & McKenzie. It is more a digest than a full-text database. CLRS contains news on the latest PRC regulations relevant to business, an advanced search facility that allows searching by keyword, year, category, region and translation.” Subscription required.

China Law & Practice: http://proquest.umi.com/pqddweb?RQT=318&VName=PQD&clientid=9269&omid=52143 EN

NYU Law says: “The printed publication is known as "Asia Law and Practice". Publishes news, a law digest, business law bulletins, archives, and lists of events.” Subscription required.

CEILAW: http://www.ceilaw.com.cn/ ZH

NYU Law says: “A fee-based service in the vernacular provided by the State Info Center, a governmental agency.”

Research Guides & Online Resource Lists:

Internet Chinese Legal Research Center: http://law.wustl.edu/chinalaw/ EN/ZH

Wei Luo’s guide of online law resources for PRC, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.


The Library of Congress has some helpful links, including:

- Donald Clarke’s list of online resources, including LawInfoChina, Law-Lib.com, and other more general resources: http://docs.law.gov.edu/facweb/dclarke/public/Chinese_Law_Resources.html EN
- A very helpful bilingual guide to the government’s departments, structure, and personnel. Maintained by the Chinese government: http://www.prcgov.org/ EN/ZH

Annelly Sarkanen
SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee
Comments

1. Raiders Jersey
   December 9, 2016
   I very happy to find this site on bing, just what I was searching for 😊 as well bookmarked.

2. noclegi wroclaw
   December 11, 2016
   Thanks for finally writing about > Chinese Legal Resources | SLA Legal Division < Liked it!
Ethics and Integrity

February 21, 2013 Categories: Ethics

It is time for another report from your ethics ambassador! In a break from tradition, rather than simply pointing you to resources this update poses two questions to get you thinking about ethics in libraries and information services.

Quite a lot has happened in the wider world regarding ethical practice of late; Australian sport was shocked by doping scandals, Lance Armstrong went on Oprah, and in the UK ex-MP Chris Huhne was charged with perverting the course of justice.

But what relevance do any these have to the library and information sector? Well, one of the above examples in particular caused great discussion in the library and information sphere. Any ideas which?

Of course, it was Lance, and the news that a library service had moved his books to the fiction department as a joke…

The humorous sign prompted a statement from the library service’s managers stating that books would not be reclassified without first receiving instructions from the Libraries Australia governing body. The important question to ask here is, did the library’s statement put ethics and their own integrity too far ahead of realising the humour intended by the sign? Is there a line to be drawn when the library’s integrity is put under the spotlight, or is there room for a bit of fun in a library service? I like to think that the two can be synonymous.

Elsewhere, the Google books settlement has been drawn back into the public eye. The BBC has aired a programme called Google and the World Brain in which the ethics behind digitising books is examined alongside Google’s intentions. For those in the UK, it is available on iPlayer for the rest of the week. For those outside the UK, information on the programme can be found here: http://www.worldbrainthefilm.com/

Have you ever recommended Google Books (or the DPLA / Europeana) to a library user when you can’t access a text, but it has been scanned online? What do you make of the ethical questions behind the mass digitisation of works? Do the projects’ usefulness outweigh the potential for copyright infringements?

If you have any topics you would like me to look into for my next update, please let me know.

Sam Wiggins
SLA Legal Division Ethics Ambassador

No Comments
Collaborations

March 6, 2013 Categories: Mentoring, Professional Development Tags: collaborations, ILL, lending, listservs

What are libraries best known for? The willingness to share, of course! This month we are looking at COLLABORATIONS!

- THE PRIME DIRECTIVE — To establish and expand your network of colleagues.
- Become involved in library organizations on all levels — locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally.
- Get to know the librarians whose organizations are located near your own organization.
- To the extent your employer allows, be willing to share advice and resources with all of your colleagues.
- Modern-day tools, like e-mail, discussion lists, and scanning, not to mention FedEx and UPS, are making sharing a lot easier.

BORROWING

- Do your homework before requesting a loan — if possible:
  - Make sure you have the full bibliographic record for the item you are looking for.
  - Find out how quickly your client needs the item and plan accordingly.
  - Determine which libraries may have the item you are looking for.
  - Only contact one library at a time — wait until you hear back from that library before contacting another.
  - Once you find a library willing to loan the item, arrange with the librarian how to pick up the item or have the item sent.
  - Determine any additional costs involved and relay that information to your client.

- Try to limit your use of discussion lists to request interlibrary loans of materials, especially for those items that are commonly available.
- If you are looking for a section from a treatise, consider using online resources that you have available that have tables of contents.
- If you are looking for an article, check the Internet to see whether the article might be available for free or for a reasonable fee online.
- Be aware of all the cost involved in getting a document: your billable time, messenger and/or delivery costs, document retrieval costs (typically, $20-40 for a journal article, $50-$200 for a court filing)

LENDING

- Set a reasonable due date and be willing to extend the loan, if the item is not immediately needed by your own clients.
- Be sure to note that the loan is subject to recall, in the event that your own client needs it back.
- If the book needs to be sent by a delivery service such as FedEx or UPS, consider asking the borrower to provide their company’s account number for the charge.
- If a library only needs a section from a treatise, consider scanning and sending a PDF of the section, rather than loaning the entire book.
- Always be aware of copyright restrictions.

ADVICE

- Imagine what it would be like if you were in the shoes of your colleague who is asking for help.
- Be an active participant in discussion lists.
- Be considerate and respectful of others when posting to discussion lists.
- Be sensitive to your own employer’s policies and procedures concerning interactions with others outside of your own organization.
- Consider being a MENTOR (hint-hint) for your colleagues who are new to the profession — you have a lot to share!

Joan Ogden
SLA Legal Division Mentoring Committee Chair

No Comments
March is Women's History Month and March 8th was International Women's Day. Wiley celebrated by providing a free compendium of thought-provoking research from Wiley's leading publications that celebrates women's accomplishments, past and present, and examines the barriers that continue to obstruct equality of the sexes. The "Women in Government" section includes a list of titles and links to free resources that may be of particular interest to Legal Division members. Below is a more in-depth listing of Women's History Month legal resources. Lastly, for our Canadian Colleagues on the list… May Be Me (a "growing annual campaign to raise awareness and funds to prevent violence against diverse women and youth") is holding a free webinar on Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace that will spell out "what constitutes harassment and what forms it commonly takes" from 12pm to 1pm EST on Wednesday March 27, 2013. You can register for it here.

**Westlaw**

- American University Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law → AMUJGSPL
- Andrews Sexual Harassment Litigation Reporter → ANSEXHLR
- Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice → BERJKJLJ
- Buffalo Journal of Gender Law & Social Policy → BFJGLSP
- Cardozo Journal of Law & Gender → CDZJLG
- Columbia Journal of Gender and Law → CLMGJL
- Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy → DUKEJGLP
- Harvard Journal of Law & Gender → HVLJG
- Hastings Women's Law Journal → HSTWLJ
- Journal of Gender, Race & Justice → JGRJ
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Family Law → LGFAMLAW
- Michigan Journal of Gender & Law → MJGJL
- Texas Journal of Women & the Law → TJWJL
- Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender & Society → WJLGS
- Women's Rights Law Reporter → WRLR
- William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law → WMMJWL
- UCLA Women's Law Journal → UCLAWLJ
- University of Maryland Law Journal of Race, Religion, Gender and Class → UMDRRC
- Yale Journal of Law and Feminism → YJLF

**Lexis**

- American University Journal of Gender Social Policy and the Law → LAWREV/AUJGS
- Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice → LAWREV/BRKJLJ
- Buffalo Journal of Gender, Law and Social Policy → LAWREV/BWLJ
- Cardozo Journal of Law & Gender → LAWREV/CWLJ
- Civil Remedies for Women Victimized by Violence → CLE/JKYVIC
- Columbia Journal of Gender and Law → LAWREV/COLGJL
- Duke Journal of Gender Law and Policy → LAWREV/DUKJLG
- Gender, Work & Organization → BUSFIN/ABI
- Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law → LAWREV/GJGLAW
- Harvard Journal of Law & Gender → LAWREV/HVWLJ
- Hastings Women's Law Journal → LAWREV/HWLJ
- Journal of Gender, Race & Justice → LAWREV/JGRJ
- Michigan Journal of Gender and Law → LAWREV/MJGLAW
- Texas Journal of Women and the Law → LAWREV/TXJL
- University of Maryland Law Journal of Race, Religion, Gender and Class → LAWREV/MARGIN
- William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law → LAWREV/MMJL
- Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender and Society → LAWREV/WIVLJ

**Reports of Interest**

- 2011-2012 Law Review Diversity Report — The New York Law School Law Review published its law review diversity report examining female and minority student representation among law review membership and leadership nationwide. The reports are based on research conducted in collaboration with Ms. JD and include results based on surveys of the flagship, general interest law review or journal at ABA-approved law schools. More info here.
- Israel: Reproduction and Abortion: Law and Policy — This report analyzes Israel's approach to reproductive care and discusses the governing law as well as the allocation of funding for this purpose.
- Sex Selection & Abortion — Sex determination, and the selective abortion of fetuses is widespread in some countries. In the past, this may have been due to permissive abortion laws, which in some circumstances led to abortion being used for sex selection. After abortion laws were tightened, technological innovation revolutionized medicine, with prenatal diagnosis being one such area. This new technology has immense potential to allow parents to avoid genetically oriented problems, but its use has had the effect of making it relatively easy for parents to opt for abortion as a means of sex selection when the parents did not wish to have a child of a particular sex. This comparative summary provides an analysis of laws on the subject of sex selection and abortion in Australia, Canada, India, and New Zealand.

**Recordings of Interest**

- New York Law School recently (on March 18, 2013) held a "Women in the Legal Profession: Leadership from Law School to Practice" panel, featuring a discussion about the ways in which women can identify and pursue leadership opportunities in the legal profession—beginning in law school and continuing as they transition into law practice and throughout their careers. Panelists addressed peer networking in law school, making the transition from law student to new attorney; and the role of mentors and sponsors in one’s professional development, including how to cultivate and maintain those relationships both at law school and in law practice. The program was aimed at law students, recent law school graduates, and new attorneys. A recording of the panel can be viewed here.
- This recording of the Women In International Law Networking Breakfast event, put on (in July of 2012) by the American Society of International Law features accomplished professionals in various practices of international law discussing their career paths and offering professional advice and insights for women interested in pursuing or changing careers in international law.
- The Ideas Exchange, recently (in February of 2013) held Women In-House Counsel—Quest for gender equality and diversity. The panel is comprised of Indian women speaking to the concerns of Indian women practicing law in India.

**Books of Interest**

- Feminist legal history: essays on women and law → ISBN 9780814787205
- Gender justice and legal pluralities : Latin American and African perspectives → 9780415526067
Websites of interest

The Center for Gender & Refugee Studies protects the fundamental human rights of refugee women, children, LGBTQI individuals, and others who flee persecution in their home countries. CGRS provides legal expertise and training, engages in impact litigation; policy development; research; and in-country fact-finding, and uses international human rights tools to advance refugees' human rights and address the root causes of their persecution.

The Center for Reproductive Rights works toward the time when that promise is enshrined in law in the United States and throughout the world. We envision a world where every woman is free to decide whether and when to have children; where every woman has access to the best reproductive healthcare available; where every woman can exercise her choices without coercion or discrimination. More simply put, we envision a world where every woman participates with full dignity as an equal member of society.

The National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum is a bridge. We bridge the many issues that confront API women and their communities. We bridge the diversity of the 40-plus language groups that are represented under the Asian and Pacific Islander census category. We bridge the many places where our communities reside. We bridge the many waves of immigration of the API community: mothers to daughters and first generation to 4th generation immigrants. We bridge strategies of individual empowerment with a larger vision of mobilizing power for justice, equality and peace.

The National Women’s Council of Ireland is the representative organisation for women and women’s groups in Ireland. Our mission is to achieve women’s equality and empower women to work together to remove inequalities. We have a growing number of nearly 200 member organisations throughout the South and North of Ireland, including community based women’s organisations, disability groups, violence against women organisations, national network, political parties, youth groups, trade unions and business organisations. We also have a growing number of supporting individuals and groups.

The National Council for Research on Women is a network of leading university and community based research, policy, and advocacy centers with a growing global reach dedicated to advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls. We also have a Corporate Circle comprised of senior diversity professionals from leading U.S. and global member companies and a Presidents Circle of college and university leaders who share our commitment, NCRW harnesses the collective power of its network to provide knowledge, analysis, and thought leadership on issues ranging from reducing women’s poverty to building a critical mass of women’s leadership across sectors.

The Ontario Women’s Justice Network focuses on legal aspects of violence against women and children. Specifically, OWJN seeks to “promote an understanding of the law with respect to the issue of violence against women and children” through the provision of accessible legal information. The website houses numerous resources on different forms of violence against women including court decisions and analyses, information regarding legislation, and other documents and publications. Links to other websites and research can also be located under “resources”.

The Service Women’s Action Network works to transform military culture by securing equal opportunity and freedom to serve without discrimination, harassment or assault; and to reform veterans’ services to ensure high quality health care and benefits for women veterans and their families.

The Sylvia Rivera Law Project works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine their gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race, and without facing harassment, discrimination, or violence. SRLP is a collective organization founded on the understanding that gender self-determination is inextricably intertwined with racial, social and economic justice. Therefore, we seek to increase the political voice and visibility of low-income people and people of color who are transgender, intersex, or gender non-conforming. SRLP works to improve access to respectful and affirming social, health, and legal services for our communities. We believe that in order to create meaningful political participation and leadership, we must have access to basic means of survival and safety from violence.

The Women’s Budget Group is an independent (UK-based) organisation bringing together individuals from academia, non-governmental organisations and trades unions to promote gender equality through appropriate economic policy. In all our work, we ask the question: ‘Where do resources go, and what impact does resource allocation have on gender equality?’ The impact that government expenditure can have on women’s everyday lives, especially women experiencing poverty, is of particular concern to us.

The Women’s Human Rights Resources Programme collects, organizes and disseminates information on women’s human rights law to facilitate research, teaching and cooperation. The information introduces women’s human rights law in general, emphasizes selected international and Canadian topics, and explores the interconnections between domestic and international human rights law.

The pan-African Women in Law and Development in Africa network was conceived through a conference entitled “Women, Law and Development: Networking for Empowerment in Africa” held in Harare, Zimbabwe, home to its present day secretariat. The aim of the conference was to establish an organization that promotes and strengthens a society that strives to empower women and improve their status in Africa.

Women’s Legal Services Australia is a national network of community legal centres spécialising in women’s legal issues. We are part of the National Association of Community Legal Centres. The National Network was established to be actively involved in law reform activities to ensure that, particularly women and children, are not disadvantaged by laws and to lobby for improved access to justice.

Enjoy!

Bacillo Mendez II (filling in for Jennifer Dismukes Vail, Diversity Committee Chair)
SLA New York Chapter Diversity Chair

No Comments
Recent UK Copyright Ruling

April 22, 2013 Categories: International Relations Tags: copyright, United Kingdom

Members of the Legal Division may be intrigued to read about a recent decision here in the UK relating to copyright and reading material on the internet. What makes this case interesting is the effect this could have on everyday users of the internet and their day-to-day browsing.

When a webpage is viewed on a computer, temporary copies are made in the internet cache on the hard disk of the computer. No actual copy made unless the webpage is downloaded or printed. Temporary copies of copyright material on a computer is dealt with by section 28A of the Copy, Designs and Patents Act 1988, which gives effect to an EU Directive giving copyright owners various rights.

In this case, a company called Meltwater (often used by marketing departments) provides members of a professional association with programmes to create a daily index of words appearing on newspaper websites in order to monitor news coverage for clients — customers supply Meltwater with search terms and a report is produced listing the results.

The question to be considered was whether Meltwater’s customers needed a licence from the Newspaper Licensing Agency to receive its service as the report is made available only on Meltwater’s website. The lower courts held that a licence would be required.

The Supreme Court judges said that because the temporary copying is necessary for the internet to work, a licence would not be required – if so, then everyday users could be held liable. Lord Sumption clarified: “If it is an infringement merely to view copyright material, without downloading or printing out, then those who browse the internet are likely unintentionally to incur civil liability, at least in principle, by merely coming upon a web-page containing copyright material in the course of browsing. This seems an unacceptable result, which would make infringers of many millions of ordinary users of the internet across the EU who use browsers and search engines for private as well as commercial purposes.”

On Wednesday last week, the UK Supreme Court gave its provisional views on how the Directive should be interpreted and then referred the question to the Court of Justice of the European Union (ECJ) asking them to rule on whether these temporary copies breach copyright laws.

So whilst there is no decision on this issue yet (we will have to wait a while for the ECJ’s decision and then for our courts to rule again) I think it is interesting to consider what impact this may have on everyday users of the internet and the work we do as information professionals, including advising other departments on copyright, if it is decided these temporary copies are held to breach copyright – heaven forbid!

*Please note that the above is a summary of the case as I see it. I am not legally qualified and this should not be taken as legal advice*

Further reading:

- Press summary from Supreme Court (pdf)
- Field Fisher Waterhouse e-alerter
- Newspaper Licensing Agency press release (pdf)

Anneli Sarkanen
SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee

No Comments
Financial Literacy Month

April 30, 2013 Categories: Diversity Tags: finances

April is Financial Literacy Month and as law librarians, we sometimes find ourselves spontaneously promoted to the role of lawyer of confessions and keeper of secrets. I, myself, have not been immune.

While a graduate student at Pratt, I served the pro se litigants of Kings County (aka Brooklyn), as the Nathan R. Sobel Law Library Fellow of the New York State Unified Court System and, though patrons would come to the Law Library to research one legal issue, more often than not, all roads would lead to them asking me for secondary and/or completely non-legal resources to help them deal with their seemingly insurmountable personal debt. An uncomfortable position to be in at any age, but especially so as a twenty-something Manhattanite standing in front of an elderly patron about to lose their apartment.

My example may never be the case for you, but the fact of the matter is, at some point, you be a public law librarian assisting a walk-in or a corporate/academic law librarian approached in confidence by a colleague or friend, you will be faced with someone in the same boat as Confessions’ protagonist—barely afloat and in desperate need of something outside of our grab bag of legal resources. Below, I offer you a few oars (ranging from the “highly academic” to the “kid friendly”) to throw their way.

Reports/Testimony/Speeches of Interest

- **Payday Loans and Deposit Advance Products: A White Paper of Initial Data Findings** — During the past year, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has engaged in an in-depth review of short-term small dollar loans, specifically payday loans extended by nondepository institutions and deposit advance products offered by a small, but growing, number of depository institutions to their deposit account customers.

- **Annual Report on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA)** — From the report: “This report covers much good work done together over the past year by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Federal Trade Commission. In the last year, we began an important new chapter in the history of the FDCPA. Under the larger participant rule recently adopted by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, any firm with more than $10 million in annual receipts from consumer debt collection activities is now subject to our supervisory authority. This authority extends to about 175 debt collectors, which accounts for over 80% of the industry’s annual receipts in the consumer debt collection market. This new federal authority enables us both to protect consumers and to promote a level playing field for all law-abiding debt collectors.”


- **Dept. of Commerce Fact Sheet: The Investing In Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP)** — The IMCP is a new Administration-wide initiative that will accelerate the resurgence of manufacturing and help communities cultivate an environment for businesses to create well-paying manufacturing jobs in cities across the country.


Articles/Videos/Webinars of Interest

- **USA Today** — Be wary of prepaid card protection: ‘Reloadable’ cards are popular, but many are not protected by federal insurance. — Written by Sheila Bair, the former chairwoman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and a senior adviser at The Pew Charitable Trusts.

- **The DA Focus Archive** — Past issues of the The Quarterly World Service Newsletter for the Fellowship of Debtors Anonymous

- **The FTC Blog** — Helping Victims of the Bombing in Boston — Make Sure Your Donations Count

- **Senior Identity Theft: A Problem in This Day and Age** — On May 7th the Federal Trade Commission will bring together experts from government, private industry, and public interest groups to discuss the unique challenges facing victims of senior identity theft. The free, in-person forum and webinar will include panels on different types of senior identity theft — tax and government benefits, medical, and long-term care — and will also explore the best consumer education and outreach techniques for reaching seniors.

- **In March 2012, Chairman Ben B. Bernanke delivered a four-part lecture series about the Federal Reserve and the financial crisis that emerged in 2007. The series** began with a lecture on the origins and missions of central banks, followed by a lecture that discussed the role and actions of the Federal Reserve in the period after World War II. In the final two lectures, the Chairman reviewed some of the causes of, and policy responses to, the recent financial crisis, focusing specifically on the actions of the Federal Reserve. The lectures were offered as part of an undergraduate course at the George Washington University School of Business. On-demand video, transcripts, and presentation slides are available for each lecture.

- **Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office (CLARO) Documentary** — Produced by the Feerick Center of Fordham Law School

- **The CFPB Blog** — Buying a car? Here’s what you need to know

eBooks of Interest

- **Managing Debt to Improve Your Mental Wealth** — Living underneath the burden of debt is a scary place to be. But there is a way out. First, we will look at the far-reaching impact of debt. Then, we will help you understand your personal situation and relationship with debt. Finally, we will give you the tips and tools you need to create your own plan that can set you on the path to financial freedom.

- **The Entrepreneur’s Guide to Personal Finance** — Prosperity and success are what many entrepreneurs envision when they start their own business. However, it takes more than a vision for your business to succeed. Capital, the money needed to start, operate, and grow a business is important, as is managing your personal finances while balancing the demands of your business. Fortunately, you have options when it comes to funding your business and the opportunity to gain the skills you need to effectively manage your finances both at work and at home.

- **Love & Money** — Noticing the polarizing effects finances can have on the most committed of couples, the educators at MM have addressed both. Part one is a fun, flirty take on love and money, while part two addresses the more pressing concerns of couples by offering advice on managing finances a delight, rather than a drain, on your relationship. As a bonus, part three features ideas to spark conversation and candid talk from couples on love and money.

Websites of Interest

- “April has been declared National Financial Literacy Month; and for good reason. Too many Americans are insufficiently educated about their personal finances. In honor of Financial Literacy Month, the experts at Money Management International created the Financial Literacy Month website. No matter what day or month of the year you are in, you will find a wealth of information to help you create a successful strategy to better their overall financial position.”

- **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau** — The mission of the Bureau is to make markets for consumer financial products and services work for Americans — whether they are applying for a mortgage, choosing among credit cards, or using any number of other consumer financial products.

- **How to file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC)** — The FTC is the nation's consumer protection agency. If a business doesn’t make good on its promises or cheats you out of your money, the FTC wants to know.

- **Filing Consumer Complaints** — Advice from USA.gov on how to file a complaint and resolve consumer problems.

- **Fair Lending Links for Consumers & Communities compiled by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)** — Topics include: Foreclosure Prevention; Identity Theft & Privacy; Financial Education; Banking Tools & Resources; Consumer Protection Assistance; and more.

- **OnGuard Online** — The federal government’s website to help you be safe, secure and responsible online. The FTC manages OnGuard Online and is a partner in the Stop Think Connect campaign, led by the Department of Homeland Security, and part of the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education, led by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

- **Read the Consumer Action Handbook Online** — Links to all the consumer topics, from banking to wills (and more).
The Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office (CLARO) provides limited legal advice to low-income New Yorkers being sued by debt collectors. CLARO is organized through the New York State Courts Access to Justice Program.

Feerick Center of Fordham Law School: Fighting Poverty Through Partnerships — Fordham Law’s Feerick Center for Social Justice works with students, alumni, lawyers, and community volunteers to connect low-income New Yorkers to the legal resources they need and cannot afford. We train law students and others to engage in social change efforts.

The College Affordability and Transparency Center (CATC) — The CATC was designed by the U.S. Department of Education to meet requirements in the Higher Education Opportunity Act and to provide better information to student and parent consumers about college costs. It serves as a central point to several tools that allow users to compare colleges tuition and fees, net price, and other characteristics. The CATC is maintained by the Office of Postsecondary Education with support and technical assistance from the National Center of Education Statistics.

Teach Children to Save Day
April 23rd is Teach Children to Save Day; here are some resources to help your patrons talk to their kids about managing their personal finances.

- The “It’s A Habit!” Company, Inc. (IAHC) is a socially conscious startup corporation located in Los Angeles, California that is dedicated to teaching financial literacy and other empowering life skills and habits in a strategic manner (ie, both entertaining and educational) to youths of all ages, with a focus on young children and their families. To achieve this objective, IAHC has spent the last five years developing and testing a children’s character (Sammy Rabbit), messages, products and services. The result of those efforts is Sammy … a rabbit with great habits! Simply put, Sammy is a wholesome, positive, multimedia, multilingual message machine everyone can be proud to be associated with. Sammy’s first and favorite great habit is to save money.
- Prosperity4Kids, Inc. — Giving kids the vocabulary, tools, games, and resources that engage them in the wonderful world of money.
- Money As You Grow: 20 Things Kids Need to Know to Live Financially Smart Lives — was developed as an initiative of the President’s Advisory Council on Financial Capability.
- Money as You Learn — provides teachers with Common Core aligned texts, lessons, and tasks that connect the Common Core to real life applications while also equipping students with the knowledge needed to make smart financial decisions.
- Kiplinger — How Parents Can Be Financial Role Models — Written by Janet Bodnar, editor of Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine, author of Money Smart Women and Raising Money Smart Kids

See you next month!

Bacilio Mendez II, Diversity Committee Chair

No Comments
The Queen’s Speech

May 9, 2013 Categories: International Relations Tags: United Kingdom

On May 8, many people got to watch the Queen’s Speech. No, this wasn’t a sequel to the film The King’s Speech, but a ceremonial event, full of pomp and pageantry, which dates back many years. It is part of the State Opening of Parliament in Westminster and marks the formal start of the Parliamentary year.

The State Opening begins with the Queen’s procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster and to the House of Lords. After she arrives at the House, Black Rod (a House of Lords official) goes to summon the members of the House of Commons to the Lords. As he does so, the doors to the Commons are shut in his face – a tradition which dates back to the Civil War to symbolise the Commons’ independence. After knocking on the door three times, he enters the Commons and addresses the Speaker, commanding the members of the Commons to “attend her Majesty immediately”. Members of the Commons then follow Black Rod to the House of Lords to listen to the speech.

The length of the speech has varied over the years – the Guardian has compiled some data on the word count of the speeches since 1994. You can see how the length peaked in the late 1990s – the first years of the new Labour government – and the recent speeches have been comparatively quite short.

The Queen doesn’t actually write the speech herself – it is written by the Government and sets out the legislative agenda for the forthcoming Parliamentary term. This year’s speech contained announcements of Bills relating to intellectual property, the High-Speed Two railway line, the reform of long-term care, pensions – along with many more.

Further reading:
- The Guardian has produced a helpful explanation of what was said in the speech
- The Daily Telegraph have provided a timeline of events of the day.
- Follow the hashtag: #QueensSpeech on Twitter.
- Watch the State Opening on YouTube.
- Parliament.uk: State Opening of Parliament explained

Anneli Sarkanen
SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee

No Comments
Cinco de Mayo
May 9, 2013 Categories: Diversity Tags: Mexico
¡Buenas Tardes!

This won't be a full blown Diversity Update, but, given the holiday, I thought that I would share a few posts by our friends at In Custodia Legis (the blog [or, blawg, if you prefer] of the Law Library of Congress).

Enjoy!

- The History of the Mexican Constitution
- Cinco de Mayo is Not Mexican Independence Day?
- 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Puebla (aka Cinco de Mayo!) – Pic of the Week

Keep an eye out for the Committee’s full Diversity Update for May 2013, on Military Law Resources, later in month.

Bacilio Mendez II, Diversity Committee Chair

No Comments
Institutional Ethics

May 14, 2013 Categories: Ethics

Welcome to the latest edition of the ‘ethics round up’ brought to you by your SLA Legal Division ethics ambassador.

In past updates we have explored ethics from a range of perspectives. We have looked at ethics in law librarianship through statements from your fellow Legal Division members. We discussed how best to conduct yourself over the holiday period (and how to approach technology). Most recently, we looked at integrity in relation to ethics. In this newsletter, I would like to encourage us, as information professionals, to broaden our minds from looking at our own service’s best practice, to exploring that of the institutions we work for.

Whilst I’m sure that all SLA members will be aware of the professional ethics guidelines, how many of us are aware of if our organisation has it’s own ethics code? The chances are it isn’t collated together into one neat document – most likely there are a range of conduct guidelines to follow, but is is vital that each of these is adhered to, allowing you to represent yourself and your firm in the best possible light.

Why not try to track down and pull together points that your institution considers key to acting in an ethical manner, and then try to match these against your information service’s approach? An improvement could be something as simple as donating old editions of key law texts to Pro Bono charities instead of recycling them. Or perhaps if your library operates on social media, maybe you need to check if the way in which it is operating also adheres to your organisation’s approach to ensure consistency?

It isn’t just about aligning yourself with your organisation though – as librarians and information professionals we are well equipped to influence others. We have excellent current awareness skills, and are tapped into how others are operating. Hopefully, we also have great relationships with key stakeholders in our institutions. We also tend to be good at thinking on a large, almost grandiose, scale. Perhaps you feel your organisation’s approaches could be updated? If so, try to effect a change (although, please do so respectfully)!

To leave you with some really big ethical ideas to ponder over, and get the creative juices flowing, I give you a link to the University of Oxford’s Practical Ethics Blog. The following post is from back in November 2012 and outlines some of the best new ethical decisions of last year.

Wouldn’t it be great to have an information professional on this list next year? I see that as perfectly achievable. We work in one of the most exciting, fast moving industries around. Information. The time seems right for an information professional to step up and help to think about how we all access information; be it in our homes, our libraries, institutions, or globally. Get thinking!

Best wishes,
Sam Wiggins
SLA Legal Division Ethics Ambassador

No Comments
Canadian Court Dockets

June 15, 2013 Categories: International Relations Tags: Canada, Canadian Courts

Have you ever tried to find dockets for a Canadian Court? Then you know how frustrating it can be!

Ted Tijaden, the National Director of Knowledge Management at McMillan LLP, made a great chart available on the website for his book Legal Research and Writing.

As outlined by Ted, the following jurisdictions provide access to court dockets:

Federal

- Federal Court – free to search and view dockets, charge for documents
- Federal Court of Appeal – free to search and view dockets, charge for documents
- Supreme Court of Canada – free to search and view dockets, some documents available

Regional

- Manitoba – free to search
- Quebec – charged by the search/document (database only available in French)
- Nova Scotia – very limited information available for free (limited time frame)

Paid databases available:

- Litigator (available on Westlaw Canada) – court documents (limited to cases reported by Carswell reporters)
- Bloomberg Law – only style of cause, docket number, type and category available for Toronto Court only
- Equifax Commercial Law Record – name, city, date of the action, amount and type of action, reason for the action, name of the court and its location and plaintiff’s name, no court documents
- Dun & Bradstreet Credit Check Reports – the number and value of legal filings (suits, liens, judgments), no court documents

Other useful sources for court documents:

- Plaintiff Class Action Websites
- National Class Action Database (Statements of Claim only)
- Insolvency monitor websites

Christine DeLuca
SLA Legal Division Canadian Ambassador

No Comments
You Can’t Handle the Truth!

July 6, 2013 Categories: Diversity Tags: military law, US military law

Whether or not you are a Nicholson, Cruise, or Moore fan, you will recognize May’s theme—Military Law, in honor of the United State’s National Military Appreciation Month—as being lifted from "A Few Good Men" (directed by Reiner and written by Sorkin).

I chose this quote specifically because, when a news story breaks involving military law, those with a casual understanding and intense knowledge of the American Legal System alike, oftentimes, let out a common and collective “Say what?”. (Plus, I thought it was a more current reference than the old chestnut about the " Sole Surviving Son or Daughter/Special Separation Policies for Survivorship" and “The Fighting Sailors” of Waterloo, Iowa.)

First, a little background …

“Congress designated May as National Military Appreciation Month in 1999 to ensure the nation was given the opportunity to publically demonstrate their appreciation for the sacrifices and successes made by our servicemembers – past and present. Each year the president makes a proclamation, reminding Americans of the important role the U.S. Armed Forces have played in the history and development of our country.

“May was selected because it has many days set aside for celebrating and commemorating our military’s achievements. These days include Loyalty Day, which was established in 1921, Victory in Europe (VE) Day commemorating the end of WWII in Europe on May 8, 1945, Armed Forces Day created in 1949, Military Spouse Appreciation Day established in 1984, and of course the best known of the May holidays, Memorial Day.

“Memorial Day, is the only federal holiday in May and is celebrated on the last Monday of the month. The day, dating from the Civil War era, traditionally has marked recognition of those who have died in service to the nation. Each year on Memorial Day, the White House Commission on Remembrance promotes one minute of silence at 3 p.m. local time to honor the military’s fallen comrades and to pay tribute to the sacrifices by the nation’s service members and veterans.

“National Military Appreciation Month started as a simple idea; to gather America around its military family to honor, remember, recognize and appreciate those who have served and those now serving and to know the history behind it all. Subsequent formal legislation informs our servicemembers that their country has set aside an entire month to honor, remember and appreciate them.

“In 1999, legislation passed in the U.S. Senate designating May as National Military Appreciation Month, with the support and sponsorship of Senator John McCain (R-AZ) and Representative Duncan Hunter (R-CA) of San Diego and over 50 veteran service organizations. In April 2004 more comprehensive legislation was passed by unanimous consent of both Houses of Congress, H. Con. Res. 328, that May is National Military Appreciation Month and urges the President to issue an annual proclamation calling on the American people to recognize this special month of May through appropriate ceremonies and events.” (source)

Now, the list below will obviously not fully demystify Military Law for you, but, hopefully, it will give you a better idea of where/whom to look to gain some understanding of it. After all, in many instances, it’s not about whether you can handle the truth (read: law), it’s about whether or not you understand it.

ABA Books of Interest

- The American Bar Association Legal Guide for Military Families: Everything You Need to Know about Family Law, Estate Planning, and the Service Members Civil Relief Act is the complete resource for servicemembers, veterans, and their families. This guide will help all servicemembers clarify their legal issues, understand the options, and locate assistance. Topics are presented in an easy-to-read format and every chapter includes a resources section with phone numbers, websites, and contacts to help servicemembers find answers and move forward.
- The Military Law Sourcebook is your complete guide to the acts, codes, and conventions governing U.S. military law, including: Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; Federal Tort Claims Act; Military Claims Act; National Guard Tort Claims Act; Foreign Claims Act; Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act; Francis Lieber’s Code; The Geneva Conventions; The Hague Conventions; Patriot Act; Servicemembers Civil Relief Act; The Uniform Code of Military Justice; and Uniformed Service member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).
- The Military Divorce Handbook: A Practical Guide to Representing Military Personnel and Their Families, Second Edition, guides you through the complexities of all aspects of representing military personnel or their spouses to help you provide competent and thorough representation for your client. Key chapters explain the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA), military tax issues, and the important issue of dividing military retirement benefits. Also, covered are the difficult and increasingly important issues of custody and domestic violence involving servicemembers.
- A Judge’s Benchbook for the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act is designed to acquaint judges of all levels regarding the provisions that protect servicemembers while they serve on active duty. The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act is especially important today given that hundreds of thousands of members of the National Guard and Reserves of the U.S. Armed Forces have been mobilized and sent overseas, removing them from their ability to represent themselves and their families’ interests first hand. Many judges are unfamiliar with the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, which literally can alter the terms of conventional contracts and obligations and alters the means by which creditors can enforce these obligations.

CLEs/Videos of interest

- Effects of sexual assault, sexual harassment on the Army Profession — Case-study addresses the crisis of sexual harassment and sexual assault through the lens of the Army Profession with a particular focus on trust relationships that are the bedrock of the Army Profession.
- “(Inter)vene, Act, and Motivate! I.A.M. Strong” is the Army’s campaign to combat sexual assaults by engaging all Soldiers in preventing sexual assaults before they occur. The link above is to the I.A.M. Strong short video series.
- Military Service and the Law DVD/CLE — American Bar Association CLE
- Representing Military Personnel or Their Spouses in Divorce Cases — American Bar Association CLE
- Observing the Rights of Service Members in Lending and Foreclosure Matters — American Bar Association CLE
- The Interplay Between USERRA and the ADA When Disabled Vets Return to the Workplace — American Bar Association CLE

Websites of interest

- Service members Civil Relief Act (SCRA) Website — SCRA is a program that provides certain protections from civil actions against servicemembers who are called to Active Duty. It restricts or limits actions against these personnel in the areas of financial management, such as rental agreements, security deposits, evictions, installment contracts, credit card interest rates, mortgages, civil judicial proceedings, income tax payments, and more.
- Military Law News Network
- The Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ, 64 Stat. 109, 10 U.S.C. Chapter 47), is the foundation of military law in the United States. The UCMJ applies to all members of the Uniformed services of the United States; the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps, and Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. The Coast Guard is administered under Title 14 of the United States Code when not operating as part of the U.S. Navy. However, commissioned members of the NOAA and PHS are only subject to the UCMJ when attached or detailed to a military unit or are militarized by presidential executive order.
- National Veterans Legal Service Program
- The ABA Military Pro Bono Project accepts case referrals from military attorneys on behalf of junior-enlisted, active-duty military personnel and their families with civil legal problems, and it places these cases with pro bono attorneys where the legal assistance is needed. The Project is also the platform for Operation Stand-By, through which military attorneys may seek attorney-to-attorney advice to further assist their servicemember clients.
- State-side Legal
The Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) program exists so the Army can prevent sexual harassment and sexual assaults before they occur. Our goal is to eliminate sexual harassment and sexual assaults by creating a climate that respects the dignity of every member of the Army Family.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) is the organization responsible for the oversight of Department of Defense (DoD) sexual assault policy. The Department of Defense is committed to the prevention of sexual assault. The Department has implemented a comprehensive policy to ensure the safety, dignity and well being of all members of the Armed Forces. Our men and women serving throughout the world deserve nothing less, and their leaders — both Military and civilian — are committed to maintaining a workplace environment that rejects sexual assault and reinforces a culture of prevention, response and accountability.

The National Lawyers Guild Military Law Task Force includes attorneys, legal workers, law students and "Barracks lawyers" interested in draft, military and veterans issues. It is a standing project of the National Lawyers Guild. MLTF assists those working on military law issues as well as military law counselors working directly with GIs. It trains and mentors counselors and beginning military law attorneys in all aspects of military law through training materials and direct communication. It tracks changes in military law and policy. The Task Force publishes ON WATCH, produces interim mailings on legal and political issues for Task Force members, sponsors seminars and workshops on draft, military and veterans law, produces educational materials on these issues, and provides support for members on particular cases or projects. It sponsors legal and educational work on military dissent, the rights of servicemembers, and challenges to oppressive military policies.

Bacilio Mendez II, Diversity Committee Chair

No Comments
Scottish Law

July 18, 2013 Categories: International Relations Tags: Scotland, Scottish Law

Last month, the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL) held their annual conference in Glasgow, Scotland. To keep with a Scottish theme from the conference, the International Relations Committee brings in guest blogger Jennie Findlay who gives the Legal Division members an introduction to Scots law.

Scotts law and UK law – the same, but different...

History of the formation of the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK) is a country formed from the legal joining together over time of various constituent countries, each of which had its own legal systems prior to the formation of the United Kingdom. The extent to which those legal systems were retained within those countries after they joined the UK was dependent on the political setup and negotiations made at the time of each country joining the union. Although each of these individual countries form a part of the United Kingdom, the specific legislation currently in force within each country can differ widely. For this article, I’ll focus on the situation within Scotland.

The Treaty of Union and the new Scottish Parliament

Scotland formally became part of the current United Kingdom in 1707 through the Treaty of Union with England, although the first written reference to a Scottish Parliament was in 1235. After the commencement of the 1707 Treaty, the old Scottish Parliament was dissolved, and Scotland did not have a Parliament or specific local legislative powers again until the passing of the Scotland Act in 1998, which led to the formation of a new Scottish Parliament in 1999. Prior to this, all legislative matters had been handled in Westminster, London by the United Kingdom Parliament, which drafted and implemented legislation for all the constituent countries of the UK. With the creation of this new Scottish Parliament in 1999 came devolved legislative powers, which meant that the Scottish Parliament could enact legislation that affected the interests of Scotland in certain specific areas. The creation of legislation in policy areas which affect the interests of the United Kingdom, such as international relations, defence, and social security, are “reserved”, and can only be legislated on by the United Kingdom Parliament. A full list of the Devolved powers of the Scottish Parliament and the Reserved powers of the United Kingdom Parliament can be found online.

Similarities between Scottish and United Kingdom laws

In many legislative areas, Scotland is subject to exactly the same laws as the rest of the United Kingdom. As mentioned above, legislative and policy areas which have wider UK national or international aspects are administered by the United Kingdom Parliament, which means that items such as the translation into UK law of European Union Directives are dealt with in Westminster, and the resulting legislation implemented across all the constituent nations of the UK. Thus, European Union Directives on certain matters (such as the EU Working Time Directive) are implemented by national legislation across the whole of the UK (e.g. the Working Time Regulations 1998).

Specific United Kingdom matters which require legislative involvement are also implemented in this manner, such as the UK taxation and social security system.

Differences between Scottish and United Kingdom laws

Scotts law has developed in a unique manner, which has developed organically over time by the assimilation of elements of Roman law, local customary laws, feudal law, canon (or ecclesiastical) law, European law, and some common law, cases and legislation from the neighbouring countries of England and Wales, to create a mixed or hybrid legal system. The terminology used in legislation and court practice differs from other UK countries, drawing on Scottish legal historical roots for court terms. Often textbooks and court procedures will use Latin terms which are not used in other UK jurisdictions, such as “delict”. There are also standard naming styles used to distinguish Scottish legislative materials from those relating to other constituent countries. Therefore, while statues relating to the UK created by the Parliament in Westminster are officially called UK Public General Acts, those created by the Scottish Parliament and relating to Scotland are called Acts of the Scottish Parliament. Items of secondary legislation covering the UK are called Statutory Instruments (SIs), while those created for Scottish matters are Scottish Statutory Instruments (SSIs).

Possible future developments in Scottish legislation

The Scottish National Party (SNP) is the current majority party within the Scottish Government. The SNP has committed to holding a Referendum in 2014 on whether Scotland should become an independent nation, and therefore leave membership of the group of nations comprising the United Kingdom. If the result of this referendum were to show that the Scottish population desired independence, there would be a knock-on effect on the Scottish legislative system. Matters which are currently reserved to the United Kingdom Government would then be dealt with by the Scottish Government, and the legislation relating to these matters would be drafted and created by the Scottish Parliament. In the event of the population not desiring independence, it is still likely that the Scottish Parliament would negotiate greater legislative powers in some areas currently reserved to the United Kingdom Parliament, a process popularly called “Devolution Max”. This would also result in the creation of more Scottish-specific legislation.

Information Sources

- Scottish Parliament
- Scottish Government
- Historic Acts of the Scottish Parliament (pre 1707)
- Acts of the Scottish Parliament
- Scottish Statutory Instruments
- Scottish Court Service
- Judiciary of Scotland
- Glossary of Scots Legal Terms
- Law Society of Scotland
- Faculty of Advocates
- Referendum 2014

Jennie Findlay is currently a publications assistant at the University of Edinburgh but has worked in law libraries in Scotland for 12 years. She is a member and previous Coerven of the Scottish Law Librarians Group and a new member to SLA Europe. She has her own blog, Dumpling in a Hanky, has contributed to the On Firmer Ground blog and she writes here as a guest blogger for the SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee.

Annell Sarkanen
SLA Legal Division International Relations Committee chair

No Comments
There's a fly in my research” and other tales from the vendors’ kitchen!

August 1, 2013 Categories: Professional Development Tags: vendors

by Alys Tryon, Lane Powell PC (Reprinted with permission from On Firmer Ground)

I want to preface this by first acknowledging all the really awesome corporate partner representatives I've been lucky enough to work with. Your hard work has enabled me to provide my attorneys excellent support, and you've saved my butt more times than I'd like to admit. Your work is more dynamic and complex than I'll ever know, and I hope your employers are just as committed to supporting you as you are to supporting us.

I'm guessing they might not be though, because there should be more of you.

Here are some actual examples of less-than-stellar interactions I've had with other representatives of our information providers:

- "Our system is down."
- "We were changing systems here, and there was a dark period, so we lost some of your information."
- "Our system won't be able to process that until early or mid-next week."
- "I'm sorry, our system isn't allowing me to see all of your information, so I don't quite know what you're talking about."
- "I'm sorry I forgot about you, we've just been really busy."
- "Well I can't really tell you any more other than [reads straight from the screen I'm looking at too] unless you want to escalate."
- "So what exactly do you think I should do?"
- "<endless hold music>"

I'm quite serious when I say the only world in which I've heard these lines delivered without a trace of compunction is in the world of our legal information providers. Players in this industry seem to hold themselves to astonishingly low service standards compared to just about every other industry I've worked in and around. If I sound cocksure for a first-year law librarian, it's because I spent my formative years accruing countless experiences in a motley array of service positions. I have opinions about this.

Examples? Well, when I waited tables at a hotel bar in my early 20s, we carried on even when our "system" was down for days. That's right: when Squirrel crashed, we figured sales tax on 10-key, hand-printed clear orders for the guys in the kitchen, and continued serving a bar full of holiday drunks every day for a week.

A few years later, when I managed membership for an arts nonprofit, I made a point to reply to emails the same day, even when we were preparing for the Big Benefit. Around this time I also worked in the call center at the Chicago Tribune. There we were advised to tell our more ornery customers that dialing 0 would take them to a person immediately: no hold music for folks phoning in with questions “the system” couldn't answer (to be fair, this was in the more innocent days of 2006, and I can't say if this practice has since changed). And, of course, my customer service CV all begins in high school, when I spent many long mornings schlepping coffee and bagels for yuppies with dietary restrictions that I learned to accommodate, and eventually anticipate. It was the sort of thing they came back for.

Doing stuff could be tedious. Customers rarely noticed, let alone appreciated, my efforts. It was part of the job though, and at the better gigs at least, the respect and support I received from my employers made it anywhere between bearable and downright worthwhile. I still regard that hotel bar job as one of the best gigs I've ever had, and I'm proud to have been on a team that could pull through under such circumstances.

No firm librarian in his right mind would ever shrug his shoulders and explain to an attorney that “the system is down”. I have yet to meet a colleague who would ever let herself “forget” about a research request because of “things” that have been “crazy.” If we don't know what they're talking about, we get the resources to figure it out. We aim to serve our attorneys with as much diligence and resourcefulness as they serve their clients: when the chips are down, we don’t “escalate”, we problem-solve.

Many of our service providers seem to have forgotten that their representatives are a crucial part of a whole service system. Our attorneys serve our clients' legal needs; we serve our attorneys' information needs; and we need our vendor-partners to dish up solid support for their products so that we can proudly deliver some four-star made-to-order research. (Check out this Reading Rainbow gem for an excellent choreographic representation of what I'm talking about, and skip to about 00:45 if you prefer gist to cartwheels. I'm certain it made an impression on a lot of five-year-olds from restaurant families in the early 80s.)

Unfortunately, however, I sometimes feel more like I'm serving at an overrated diner where the cooks are always telling me things like “Sorry, the deep-fryer is down. I don't know when we'll be able to process your fries’” or “Your table wants nachos without olives? We're gonna need to escalate this” or “I have no idea whether the soup's gluten free. I'll get back to you mid-week” or “So how do you think we should emulsify this dressing?” (If I had a clue, I'd be a chef not a server). Not exactly the sort of teammates I imagine cartwheels with.

I concede there are plenty of good reasons our corporate partners are having a hard time staying on top of this: endless mergers, bottomless budget cuts, rapidly-evolving technology, et al. I get it. My point, however, is that a server can only reasonably ask a limited amount of empathy from her table. If the food is overcooked, takes too long, or if they're out of everything, your tips tank, and eventually the whole restaurant does too.

Every good librarian and every good waiter knows his clients really doesn’t care about his “system”, nor should they. Every good library and every good restaurant makes sure its staff is knowledgeable about its “product”, whether that be research services or the menu. Good restaurants and libraries also do their best to hire staff that is resourceful and committed enough to deliver decent results despite unforeseeable obstacles. They also find ways to make their staff’s efforts worthwhile.

I don’t see our information providers doing this. Much of their customer support staff seems beleaguered at best and cynically apathetic at worst. Veterans of the restaurant world easily recognize when the waitstaff are being respectfully employed… and when they aren’t. We can smell the difference between the kind of bad service that results from bad management, and the kind just happens because your waiter’s a jerk. (Pro tip: it’s usually the former.)

So what gives? It’s not like the bottom-line value of good customer service is news. Sure, it’s great to provide sexy search features or have an awesome Thai salad. But the greatness of your menu diminishes significantly if the fryer’s always on the fritz, or if no one knows what’s in the dressing, or if the salad keeps arriving with peanuts—even after you’ve repeatedly explained your allergy.

So what can we as the customers do? Blog about it, I guess. It’s not like there’s a Yelp for vendors, and it’s not like we can just start going to the other “diner” down the street. The town I work in isn’t quite big enough to garner much corporate attention, so sometimes I wonder if my perspective is slightly skewed from being a less high-rotating (yet equally needy) customer.

I, for one, have decided to start staying on the line after phone calls to do those customer support surveys. They’re annoying, and sometimes those two extra minutes feel too precious to give up (not to mention the fact that after the more exhausting interactions, the last thing I want to do is rate each of these conversations’ attributes on a scale of 1 to 5). It’s the only time they ask though, so I might as well start answering.

As a newcomer to the profession, I’m curious about the more seasoned folks’ experiences. Have our information providers always been this inept at service, or have things taken a recent nosedive? How do you deal with unhelpful support when you are trying to deliver good results in a hurry? Has Reading Rainbow, along with all that time in bagel shops, bars, and call centers cursed me with irrational expectations of the brave new world of our corporate partners?

Alys Tryon has been a librarian at Lane Powell, PC in Portland, OR for almost a year. She received her M.L.I.S. from San José State University in 2011. Follow @alysgwyn on Twitter or Instagram to see what else she’s into.
Pozitive Aspects of the Law

August 22, 2013 Categories: Diversity Tags: criminal law, HIV/AIDS

Full Disclosure — In addition to being: a technical services law librarian; the immediate past co-chair of the SLA LGBT Issues Caucus; and your current SLA Legal Division Diversity Chair ... I am: the current co-chair of the Queer Caucus of the National Lawyers Guild; a 2012 W. Haywood Burns Memorial Fellow for Social & Economic Justice; a former Law & Technology Fellow for LeGal – The LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York; a former New York State Unified Court System Nathan R. Sobel Law Library Fellow; the 2013 National Lawyers Guild Legal Worker of the Year; and the current chair of ACT UP/DAWG — the Digital Activism Working Group of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power. To be clear, you should read that last, impossibly long run in sentence as stating that I am a New York City based HIV/AIDS activist and queer legal activist of color and that this post will be unapologetically biased in favor of The REPEAL Act.

Regular readers of my SLA Legal Diversity Updates know that I love to mix movie references into my not-so-lofty prose on legal research. While the subject matter of this update is much more serious (at least to me) than in previous months, I hope that I won’t let you down, as far as film references and legal information/resources go.

If you’re an avid follower of all things Oscar, you will recall that How to Survive a Plague was nominated for an Academy Award in the Documentary Feature category in 2012. [David] France’s widely acclaimed doc, which he co-wrote and directed, focuses on two coalitions—ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and Treatment Action Group (TAG)—whose activism and innovation helped turn AIDS from a death sentence into a manageable condition. Despite having no scientific training, these activists infiltrated the pharmaceutical industry and helped identify promising new drugs, moving them from experimental trials to real-world patients in record time. *(source)*

I encourage all of you to see it, not just because friends of mine are featured in it, but because it is a great snapshot of a contentious period of recent American (not just LGBT) history. I am not ashamed to say, though perhaps to the embarrassment of my IFC Center movie going companions, that I audibly and convulsively wept (more than once) when I saw it. ... If you do not have tissues and a sympathetic shoulder handy when you watch it (either on: SundanceNOW; iTunes; Amazon Instant Video; or Netflix), you can’t say that I didn’t warn you.

During the eponymous scene of the film, the epically awesome Larry Kramer, in a fit of rage over internal squabbles between ACT UP/NY members, screams: "Plague! We are in the middle of a plague. 40 million infected people is a plague! ... Until we get our acts together, we are as good as dead."

Larry was right and, unfortunately, he continues to be right.

"From the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, stigma and fear have fueled mistreatment of people living with HIV. One of the more troubling and persistent issues for people with HIV has been the prospect of criminal prosecution for consensual acts [of intimate contact] and for conduct, such as spitting or biting, that poses no significant risk of HIV transmission." *(source)*

As of this writing, there are over 30 states and over 60 countries that have what I and others feel are discriminatory HIV criminalization statutes, provisions, and mandatory sentencing guidelines for those living with HIV. In my view, we should Criminalize Hate, Not HIV. To put it another way, we should not put a Verdict on a Virus.

Hypothetical — Your friends are in a serodiscordant relationship (one in which one partner is HIV positive and the other is HIV negative). Let’s call them Patricia (HIV positive) and Nathan (HIV negative). *(I apologize for the tite naming convention, but it serves its purpose.)* Patricia and Nathan break up after a few months. It is a messy break up. Nathan calls the police and claims that Patricia intentionally withheld her serostatus from him and has possibly infected him with the virus. Oh wait, did I mention that Patricia and Nathan are residents of Louisiana? Well, they are, and even though Nathan is misleading the police, Patricia has to wait out the process of Nathan’s claims being proven outright lies while she sits in county lockup under Louisiana’s “Intentional Exposure to AIDS Virus” statute. To borrow a phrase from my much younger (and hipper) brothers “hashtag truth”.

This happens, not everyday in this country, but once is and should be enough to outrage you.

"Criminalization of potential HIV exposure is largely a matter of state law, although some federal legislation addresses criminalization in discrete areas, such as blood donation. The National [United States] HIV/AIDS Strategy, released by the White House in July 2010, provides some guidance regarding the issue of criminalization, noting that in some instances, existing HIV exposure laws may need to be re-examined." *(source)*

Below is a list of states where persons living with HIV should be aware that they could be at risk of arrest and/or could face automatically increased sentences, should anyone (not just a consenting, intimate partner) claim the HIV positive party intentionally transmitted the virus to the HIV negative party. *(source)*

- **Alabama** — Ala. Code § 22-11A-21(c) Class C Misdemeanor
- **Alaska** — Alaska Stat. § 12.55.155(c)(33) Sentence Enhancement
- **Arkansas**
  - o Ark. Code Ann. § 5-14-123 Class A Felony
- **California**
  - o Cal. Health and Safety Code § 120291 Felony
  - o Cal. Health and Safety Code § 120290 Misdemeanor
  - o Cal. Health and Safety Code § 1621.5 Felony
  - o Cal. Penal Code § 12022.85 Sentence Enhancement
  - o Cal. Penal Code § 647f Penalty Enhancement
- **Colorado**
  - o Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-3-415.5 Sentence Enhancement
  - o Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-7-205.7 Class 6 Felony
  - o Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-7-201.7 Class 5 Felony
- **Florida**
  - o Fla. Stat. Ann. § 384.24(2) Third Degree Felony (First Degree if multiple violations) (§384.34(5))
  - o Fla. Stat. Ann. § 381.004(11)(b) Third Degree Felony
  - o Fla. Stat. Ann. § 796.08(5) Third Degree Felony
  - o Fla. Stat. Ann. § 775.087 Third Degree Felony
- **Georgia**
  - o Ga. Code Ann. § 16-5-60(c) Felony (punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years)
  - o Ga. Code Ann. § 16-5-60(d) Felony (punishable by imprisonment for between 5 and 20 years)
- **Idaho** — Idaho Code § 39-608 Felony (punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for a period not to exceed 15 years, by a fine not in excess of $5000, or both)
- **Illinois** — 720 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/12-16.2 Class 2 Felony
- **Indiana**
  - o Ind. Code § 35-42-1-7 Class C Felony, Class A Felony
  - o Ind. Code § 35-42-2-6(e) Class D Felony, Class C Felony, Class A Felony
  - o Ind. Code § 35-42-2-6(f) Class A Misdemeanor, Class D Felony, Class B Felony
  - o Ind. Code § 35-45-16-2(a) (bulb) Class B Misdemeanor, Class D Felony, Class B Felony
  - o Ind. Code § 35-45-16-2(d) Class A Misdemeanor, Class D Felony, Class B Felony
Ind. Code Ann. §§ 16-41-7-1, 35-42-1-9 Class B Misdemeanor, Class D Felony
Ind. Code § 16-41-14-17 Class C Felony, Class A Felony

Iowa → Iowa Code § 709C.1 Class B Felony

Kansas

Kentucky

Louisiana → La. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 14:43.5 Not Specified (punishable by a fine not more than $5000, imprisonment with or without hard labor for not more than 10 years, or both, except as noted in notes.)
- Md. Code Ann., Health-General § 18-601.1 Misdemeanor (punishable by a fine not exceeding $2,500 or imprisonment not exceeding 3 years, or both)
- Minn. Stat. § 609.2241 Felony or Misdemeanor
- Miss. Code Ann. § 97-27-14(1) Felony (punishable by a fine not exceeding $10,000 and imprisonment of 3 to 10 years, or both)
- Mo. Rev. Stat. § 191.677 Class B Felony, Class A Felony

Nevada
- Nev. Rev. Stat. § 201.205 Category B Felony (punishable by imprisonment for at least 2 years but not more than 10, or by a fine of not more than $10,000, or both)
- Nev. Rev. Stat. § 441A.300 Sentence Enhancement
- Nev. Rev. Stat. § 441A.180 Misdemeanor
- Nev. Rev. Stat. § 201.358 Class B Felony (punishable by 2 to 10 years imprisonment, or a fine of not more than $10,000, or both)
- N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 130A-144 Misdemeanor (imprisonment for not more than 2 years)
- N.D. Cent. Code § 12.1-20-17 Class A Felony
- Ohio
- Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2903.11 Second Degree Felony, First Degree Felony
- Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §§ 2907.24, 2907.25 Third Degree Felony
- Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2907.241 Fifth Degree Felony
- Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2921.38 Third Degree Felony
- Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 2927.13 Fourth Degree Felony

Oklahoma
- Okla. Stat. tit. 21, § 1031 Felony (punishable by imprisonment for not more than five years)
- Okla. Stat. tit. 21, § 1192.1 Felony (punishable by imprisonment for not more than five years)
- Okla. Stat. tit. 63, § 1-519 Felony

Pennsylvania
- Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 2704 Felony (penalty shall be the same as the penalty for murder of the second degree)

Rhode Island → R.I. Gen. Laws 1956 § 23-11-1 Punishable by a fine of not more than $100 or imprisonment for not more than three months.

South Carolina
- S.C. Code Ann. § 44-29-145 Felony (punishable by a fine of not more than $5000 or imprisonment for not more than 10 years)
- S.C. Code Ann. §§ 44-29-60, 44-29-140 Misdemeanor (punishable by a fine of not more than $200 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days)

South Dakota → S.D. Codified Laws §§ 22-18-31, 22-18-33, 22-18-34 Class 3 Felony

Tennessee
- Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-516 Class C Felony
- Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-35-114(21) Sentence enhancement

Utah
- Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-1309 Third Degree Felony (Enhanced Penalty)
- Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-102.8 Third Degree Felony

Virginia
- Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-67.4:1(A) Class 6 Felony
- Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-67.4:1(B) Class 1 Misdemeanor
- Va. Code Ann. § 32.1-289.2 Class 6 Felony


West Virginia → W. Va. Code §§ 16-4-20, 16-4-26 (A fine of up to $100, and up to thirty days in jail)

Wisconsin → Wis. Stat. § 973.017(4) Sentence Enhancement

Bacilio Mendez II, Diversity Committee Chair

No Comments
Are you a Dead Librarian Walking?

August 23, 2013 Categories: Uncategorized Tags: ILTA

by Colleen Cable, Division Chair-Elect-Elect (Reprinted with permission from 3 Geeks and a Law Blog)

The International Legal Technology Association’s annual conference is happening right now in Las Vegas. I’ve been keeping up on Twitter and reading Monica Bay’s posts on Legal Technology News. Not quite the same as being there, but a close second! I’m sure much of the Geek readership is attending and enjoying this amazing event.

I was especially intrigued by Monica’s summary of the keynote address by Scott Klosoky of Future Point of View, where he asked the question: Are you a dead leader walking or one with your high beams on?

Two quotes really caught my eye:

Leaders get stuck in what they have invested in, and cannot move forward

See 10 years ahead. Think about what services you will be offering, how they will be delivered, how you will find new clients, and what new businesses you will be handling

I was struck by how directly this applies to law firm libraries.

What have we invested in that prevents us from moving forward and how we are “seeing” 10 years ahead:

- Print?
  - We aren’t completely in control of what print we maintain, but we are in control of planning and presenting a vision of what the print collection will look like in the future. How are we planning to stop investing in print and utilizing emerging technologies to shape the collection of the future? How have we communicated that to firm leadership?

- Space?
  - Does our space or lack thereof, continue to define us? Do we need “space” in today’s law firm to be effective at our work or does it hinder us? If we look into the future, does space impact the services we provide? Maybe one day we are completely mobile with a tablet in one hand and our Google Glass on, working in attorney offices, client meetings, offering assistance as a roving service provider, How might we plan that kind of transition?

- Non-core activities?
  - Jean O’Grady has done a tremendous job over the past few years focusing on the non-core activities that we must be willing to give up or out/in-source to others in order to focus on core activities. I’ve also heard Steve Lastres say many times that he tries not to do anything that isn’t “client-facing”. Both of these leaders are attempting to see 10 years ahead and planning their services accordingly. How can we take on and provide new services if we still have everything else on our plates?

I’m watching a version of this “dead leaders walking” concept play out right here in Kansas City. Google Fiber announced last year that our fair city would be the first in the country to receive their services and I’m getting it very soon. I’m going to be saving $60/month plus getting many extras like a Google Nexus tablet that will function as our new TV remote!

What has my current provider done to keep my business? Absolutely nothing. Have they contacted me personally to offer an explanation of their value or thank me for my business? Have they voluntarily offered to lower my costs or add services? Not a peep. Do they not see the wave about to crash into them? Were they “seeing ahead” enough to anticipate this and implement strategies to mitigate the mass exodus? Apparently not. I have no idea what, if anything, the two incumbent providers are planning, but it’s too late now.

This is the latest call to action that we must heed and I hope we continue this conversation as information professionals and also within our organizations.

Colleen Cable is a Library Consultant for Profit Recovery Partners bringing the “consultant angle” to Three Geeks.

No Comments
Water, Water, Every Where, Nor Any Drop To Drink

August 24, 2013 Categories: Diversity Tags: water

August is the last full month of summer (in the Northern Hemisphere) and, if you’re anything like me, you’ve tried to spend every waking moment of August in a body of water. Don’t get me wrong, pools are fine, but I much prefer “bobbing along on the bottom of the beautiful briny sea”.

Be it fresh, salt, or chlorinated, I’m going to go out on a limb and guess that, again, if you’re anything like me, you’d prefer that body of water to be clean (and within shouting distance of tiny umbrellas, hollowed out coconuts, and as few corpses as possible), but what of the water we put in our own bodies?

“The United Nations has declared 2005-2015 an International Decade for Action ‘Water for Life’ in order to emphasize the importance of water quality as it relates to sanitation, human rights, geography, urbanization and sustainability.

“It has identified eutrophication, or the incidence of high-nutrient concentrations—phosphorus and nitrogen—as the most widespread water quality problem globally. The way people manage wastewater from cities, farms and industrial sites contributes to this phenomenon, which contributes to water pollution everywhere.” (source)

“There are over 180,000 public water systems in the United States alone. With a number this large, it stands to reason that some of these public water systems have been found to violate the maximum contaminant levels or treatment standards. In fact, in 2011 according to the EPA, there were 8,322 reported violations of maximum contaminant levels affecting 14,915,599 people. All told there was a total 108,167 violations in 2011.

“These numbers are particularly troubling where communities must rely on contaminated ground water. For example, in California there are 680 community water systems, which are forced to rely solely upon a contaminated groundwater source; nearly 40% of these systems were reported to have been in violation of contamination according to the California Department of Public Health.” (source)

Now, we may not all love the water, but, and more importantly, we all need clean water. So why is it that Americans apply 67 million pounds of pesticides that contain toxic and harmful chemicals to our lawns which then run off into aquifers and eventually make its way back to our taps?

Some of us even spend more time on the water than in it and yet we don’t actively think about how our more than 12 million recreational and houseboats and 10,000 boat marinas release solvents, gasoline, detergents, and raw sewage directly into our rivers, lakes and streams, leading to a host of environmental side effects and concerns (mutants, for example).

Below are some tips, regulations, and standards that relate to keeping our water from becoming anything less than crystal clear. Because, at least to me, biodiversity should be included when we, as people (not just SLA Legal Division members), think of diversity.

Tips
Each of us has an impact on our local water supplies, both in terms of water quality and the amount of water we use. Here are 10 things you can do to help protect our water quality and conserve water. (source)

1. Don’t use antibacterial soaps or cleaning products. Most of these contain trichlosan, a registered pesticide that has been found to harm aquatic life. The American Medical Association warns that use of antibacterial agents may lead to “superbugs” that will be antibiotic resistant. Regular soap and water kills germs just as effectively.

2. Never flush unwanted or out-of-date medicines down the toilet or the drain. Find out if your county or city has a site or program to collect unwanted pharmaceuticals. If not, remove all labels and wrap the products up before disposing in the garbage. If possible, pour water or vinegar in the bottle to destroy pills and make them inaccessible to children.

3. Don’t put anything except water down storm drains. These drains carry storm water to our local waterways. Used motor oil, detergents, lawn fertilizers, pesticides, and other contaminants get carried by storms into local waterways and cause unnecessary harm.

4. Fix leaks that drip from your car and put down a liner in your driveway to collect oil and other materials. These leaks and drips contribute to storm water pollution.

5. Avoid using pesticides or chemical fertilizers. They pose a serious threat to your health and safety and they pollute both ground and surface water.

6. Choose non-toxic household products whenever possible. The best way to keep from polluting is to use products that are not dangerous to the environment in the first place. For some suggestions of such alternatives, go to Home-SAFE-Home a project of Clean Water Fund and Clean Water Action.

7. Pick up after your pets. Like other contaminants, pet waste can run down storm drains, spreading bacteria.

8. Don’t dump your yard waste. More pavement there is, the more rain water will simply run off down the storm drains, picking up pollutants on the way and causing flooding. Allowing water to soak into the ground can prevent flooding, recharge groundwater supplies, and dilute contaminants. Planting native plants that do not require much water also helps save our precious supplies.

9. Spread the word and be a water advocate. Talk to your neighbors about how they can help too, and work with your local elected officials to ensure that pesticides, antibacterials, and other toxic chemicals are not used at schools, local parks, and other public areas. Attend your local water district meeting and tell your political leaders and water agencies to support local, state, and national policies that conserve water and stop pollution.

10. Keep informed. Make sure you receive your annual drinking water quality report from your water provider (also known as a Consumer Confidence Report). If you pay a water bill directly, you should receive it automatically by July of each year. If you rent or live in a condo, you can call the local water provider and ask for a copy to be sent to you.

Regulations
Congress authorizes EPA and other federal agencies to write rules and regulations that explain the critical details necessary to implement environmental laws. Below are some of the key rules and regulations that the Office of Water employs to implement key statutes and programs. (source)

Rules and Regulations Impelemented under the Safe Drinking Water Act

Rules and Regulations Impelemented under the Clean Water Act:

- **Analytical Methods (Sections 301(a), 304(h), and 501(a))** – EPA publishes laboratory analytical methods (test procedures) that are used by industries and municipalities to analyze the chemical, physical and biological components of wastewater and other environmental samples that are required by regulations under the CWA. Most of these methods are published as regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at Title 40 Part 136. Some methods may also be found at 40 CFR Parts 401–503 (these methods are sometimes referred to as wastewater, Part 136, or 304(h) methods).

- **Cooling Water Intakes (Section 316(b))** – Section 306(b) of the Clean Water Act requires that the location, design, construction and capacity of cooling water intake structures reflect the best technology available for minimizing adverse environmental impact.

- **Effluent Limitations Guidelines** – Existing regulations and regulations under development regarding national standards for industrial wastewater discharges to surface waters and publicly owned treatment works. (Current and proposed ELGs.)
  - **Section 304(m)(1)(B) and (C)** – Requires EPA to promulgate effluent guidelines for new categories of dischargers under certain circumstances.
  - **Sections 301(d), 304(b), 304(g)(1), 306(b)(1)(B)** – Requires that EPA periodically review existing effluent guidelines, pretreatment standards, and standards of performance for new sources and to revise them “if appropriate” or, in the case of new source performance standards, “as technology and alternatives change.”

- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Rules and Regulations (Section 402)** – Section 402 of the Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants into waters of the United States without a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by EPA, a state, or, where
authorized, a tribal government on an Indian reservation. To help implement this provision of the Clean Water Act, EPA has proposed new or revised NPDES rules, which have included:

- **Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Final Rule** – The CAFO Rule requires concentrated animal feeding operations to safely manage manure. Manure contains the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus, which, when not managed properly on agricultural land, can pollute nearby streams, lakes, and other waters. The rule requires that an owner or operator of a CAFO that actually discharges to streams, lakes, and other waters must apply for a NPDES permit under the Clean Water Act and that nutrient management plans for manure be submitted as part of the permit application.

- **Pretreatment Streamlining Rule** – The Pretreatment Streamlining Rule makes final changes to EPA's General Pretreatment Regulations, which requires publicly owned treatment works that meet certain criteria to develop pretreatment programs to control industrial discharges into their sewage collection systems. These programs must be approved by either EPA or states acting as the Pretreatment “Approval Authority.” The Pretreatment Streamlining Rule, promulgated in 2005, streamlined and clarified various provisions of the General Pretreatment Regulations for existing and new sources of pollution codified at 40 CFR Part 403.

- **NPDES Permit Program (Section 402)** – As authorized by Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, the NPDES permit program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. Point sources are discrete conveyances such as pipes or man-made ditches. Individual homes that are connected to a municipal system, use a septic system, or do not have a surface discharge do not need an NPDES permit; however, industrial, municipal, and other facilities that discharge to waters of the U.S. must obtain permits. There are two categories of NPDES permits: individual permits and general permits.

- **Individual permits** are issued to individual dischargers and are specifically tailored to the specific facility to regulate its discharge of pollutants.

- **General permits** cover several entities that have the same type of discharge and set forth requirements applicable to the entire category of covered dischargers and include: the Vessels General Permit, Multi-Sector General Permit, and Construction General Permit.

- **Section 404 Regulations** – Section 404 of the Clean Water Act establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have promulgated a number of regulations to implement the permitting program.

- **Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Rule (Section 405)** – The Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge rule (40 CFR Part 503) establishes requirements for the final use or disposal of sewage sludge (i.e., biosolids) when biosolids are: applied to land to condition the soil or fertilize crops or other vegetation grown in the soil; placed on a surface disposal site for final disposal; or fired in a biosolids incinerator. The Agency is required to conduct a review of the 503 standards at least every two years.

- **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Impaired Waters Rules (Section 303(d))** – As authorized by Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, states, territories, and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of impaired waters. These are waters that are too polluted or otherwise degraded to meet the water quality standards set by states, territories, or authorized tribes. The law requires that these jurisdictions establish priority rankings for waters on the lists and develop TMDLs for these waters. A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards. Visit the TMDL regulations page to view regulations for the TMDL program, including specific regulations for Great Lakes TMDLs.

- **Water Quality Standards** define the goals for a water body by designating its uses, setting criteria to measure attainment of those uses, and establishing policies to protect water quality from pollutants.

  - **Section 101(a) – Declaration of Goals and Policy**
  - **Section 303 – Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans**
  - **Water Quality Standards Regulation: CFR Title 40 Part 131**
  - **Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System: CFR Title 40 Part 132 Section 401 (PDF) (4 pp, 16K) – Permits and Licenses – Certification**
  - **Section 510 (PDF) (1 pp, 47K) – State Authority**
  - **Water Quality Standards Regulations and Determinations**

**Standards**

Water Quality Standards are the foundation of the water quality-based pollution control program mandated by the Clean Water Act. Water Quality Standards define the goals for a waterbody by designating its uses, setting criteria to protect those uses, and establishing provisions such as antidegradation policies to protect waterbodies from pollutants. (source)

List of Drinking Water Standards

Where You Live

Regional and state specific information.

**Basic Information**

The importance of Water Quality Standards and how they fit into overall water quality protection. Fact sheet (PDF) (2 pp, 204K, About PDF)

**Water Quality Standards Regulations and Federally Promulgated Standards**


**Policy & Guidance:** Water Quality Standards Handbook

The Water Quality Standards Handbook is the central repository for policy and guidance to help states, tribes, & territories comply with federal regulations addressing water quality standards. If you are looking for a specific document related to water quality standards, try our Policy and Guidance Library.

**State, Tribal & Territorial Standards**

A repository of the current standards for all waters of the U.S.

**Training, Meetings & Outreach Materials**

Courses, conduct public meetings, and provide resources to help you understand the basics and new developments.

**Partnership with Tribes**

See how to establish standards for federally recognized tribes.

**Regional Coordinators**

Points of contact for specific states and regions.

*Bacilio Mendez II, Diversity Committee Chair*

**No Comments**
Water, Water, Every Where, Nor Any Drop To Drink

August 25, 2013 Categories: Diversity Tags: diversity, water

Coleridge. The answer to the question you’re likely asking yourself (Who wrote the poem referenced in this blog post’s title?) is Coleridge, but I’m sure that you already knew that. Anyway, I promise that I won’t tell anyone if you didn’t.

Moving on …

August is the last full month of summer (in the Northern Hemisphere) and, if you’re anything like me, you’ve tried to spend every waking moment of August in a body of water. Don’t get me wrong, pools are fine, but I much prefer “bobbing along on the bottom of the beautiful briny sea”.

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Congress authorizes EPA and other federal agencies to write rules and regulations that explain the critical details necessary to implement environmental laws. Below are some of the key rules and regulations that the Office of Water employs to implement key statutes and programs. (source)

Rules and Regulations Implemented under the Safe Drinking Water Act

Rules and Regulations Implemented under the Clean Water Act:

- Analytical Methods (Sections 301(a), 304(h), and 501(a)) – EPA publishes laboratory analytical methods (test procedures) that are used by industries and municipalities to analyze the chemical, physical and biological components of wastewater and other environmental samples that are required by regulations under
the CWA. Most of these methods are published as regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at Title 40 Part 136. Some methods may also be found at 40 CFR Parts 401–503 (these methods are sometimes referred to as wastewater, Part 136, or 304(h) methods).

- **Cooling Water Intakes** (Section 316(b)) – Section 306(b) of the Clean Water Act requires that the location, design, construction and capacity of cooling water intake structures reflect the best technology available for minimizing adverse environmental impact.

- **Effluent Limitations Guidelines** – Existing regulations and regulations under development regarding national standards for industrial wastewater discharges to surface waters and publicly owned treatment works. (Current and proposed ELGs)
  - Section 304(m)(1)(B) and (C) – Requires EPA to promulgate effluent guidelines for new categories of dischargers under certain circumstances
  - Sections 301(d), 304(b), 304(g)(1), 306(b)(1)(B) – Requires that EPA periodically review existing effluent guidelines, pretreatment standards, and standards of performance for new sources and to revise them “if appropriate” or, in the case of new source performance standards, “as technology and alternatives change”

- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Rules and Regulations** (Section 402) – Section 402 of the Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants into waters of the United States without a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by EPA, a state, or, where authorized, a tribal government on an Indian reservation. To help implement this provision of the Clean Water Act, EPA has proposed new or revised NPDES rules, which have included:
  - **Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Final Rule** – The CAFO Rule requires concentrated animal feeding operations to safely manage manure. Manure contains the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus, which, when not managed properly on agricultural land, can pollute nearby streams, lakes, and other waters. The rule requires that an owner or operator of a CAFO that actually discharges to streams, lakes, and other waters must apply for a NPDES permit under the Clean Water Act and that nutrient management plans for manure be submitted as part of the permit application.
  - **Pretreatment Streamlining Rule** – The Pretreatment Streamlining Rule makes final changes to EPA’s General Pretreatment Regulations, which require publicly owned treatment works that meet certain criteria to develop pretreatment programs to control industrial discharges into their sewage collection systems. These programs must be approved by either EPA or states acting as the Pretreatment “Approval Authority.” The Pretreatment Streamlining Rule, promulgated in 2005, streamlined and clarified various provisions of the General Pretreatment Regulations for existing and new sources of pollution codified at 40 CFR Part 403.

- **NPDES Program** (Section 402) – As authorized by Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, the NPDES permit program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. Point sources are discrete conveyances such as pipes or man-made ditches. Individual homes that are connected to a municipal system, use a septic system, or do not have a surface discharge do not need an NPDES permit. However, industrial, municipal, and other facilities that discharge to waters of the U.S. must obtain permits. There are two categories of NPDES permits: individual permits and general permits.
  - **Individual permits** are issued to individual dischargers and are specifically tailored to the specific facility to regulate its discharge of pollutants.
  - **General permits** cover several entities that have the same type of discharge and set forth requirements applicable to the entire category of covered dischargers and include: the Vessels General Permit, Multi-Sector General Permit, and Construction General Permit.

- **Section 404 Regulations** – Section 404 of the Clean Water Act establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have promulgated a number of regulations to implement the permitting program.

- **Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Rule** (Section 405) – The Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge rule (40 CFR Part 503) establishes requirements for the final use or disposal of sewage sludge (i.e., biosolids) when biosolids are: applied to land to condition the soil or fertilize crops or other vegetation grown in the soil; placed on a surface disposal site for final disposal; or fired in a biosolids incinerator. The Agency is required to conduct a review of the 503 standards at least every two years.

- **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Impaired Waters Rules** (Section 303(d)) –As authorized by Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, states, territories, and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of impaired waters. These are waters that are too polluted or otherwise degraded to meet the water quality standards set by states, territories, or authorized tribes. The law requires that these jurisdictions establish priority rankings for waters on the lists and develop TMDLs for these waters. A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards. Visit the TMDL regulations page to view regulations for the TMDL program, including specific regulations for Great Lakes TMDLs.

- **Water Quality Standards** define the goals for a water body by designating its uses, setting criteria to measure attainment of those uses, and establishing policies to protect water quality from pollutants.
  - **Section 101(a)** – Declaration of Goals and Policy
  - **Section 303** – Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans
  - **Water Quality Standards Regulation: CFR Title 40 Part 131**
  - **Water Quality Guidance for the Great Lakes System: CFR Title 40 Part 132 Section 401 (PDF)** (4 pp, 16K) – Permits and Licenses – Certification
    - **Section 510 (PDF)** (1 pp, 47K) – State Authority
    - **Water Quality Standards Regulations and Determinations**

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**Standards**

Water Quality Standards are the foundation of the water quality-based pollution control program mandated by the Clean Water Act. Water Quality Standards define the goals for a waterbody by designating its uses, setting criteria to protect those uses, and establishing provisions such as antidegradation policies to protect waterbodies from pollutants. (source)

List of Drinking Water Standards

Where You Live
Regional and state specific information.

**Basic Information**

The importance of Water Quality Standards and how they fit into overall water quality protection. Fact sheet (PDF) (2 pp, 204K, About PDF)

**Water Quality Standards Regulations and Federally Promulgated Standards**


**Policy & Guidance:** Water Quality Standards Handbook

The Water Quality Standards Handbook is the central repository for policy and guidance to help states, tribes, & territories comply with federal regulations addressing water quality standards. If you are looking for a specific document related to water quality standards, try our Policy and Guidance Library.

State, Tribal & Territorial Standards

A repository of the current standards for all waters of the U.S.

Training, Meetings & Outreach Materials

Courses, conduct public meetings, and provide resources to help you understand the basics and new developments.

**Partnership with Tribes**

See how to establish standards for federally recognized tribes.

**Regional Coordinators**

Points of contact for specific states and regions.
Compulsory Voting – Australian Electoral Laws in Brief

September 5, 2013 Categories: International Relations Tags: australia, Elections

On Saturday the 7th of September (2013), Australia votes in our Commonwealth election. On Election Day, Australians will be voting for representatives in both the House of Representatives (Lower house) and the Senate (Upper house).

Authorised copies of the Commonwealth Electoral Act and Regulations, can be found on the Commonwealth legislation site Comlaw. This legislation controls the operation of Commonwealth Elections,

Australia’s first Commonwealth Electoral laws in 1902 provided for a secret ballot, votes for men and women but not for Aboriginals (not until 1962), and a first-past-the-post voting system for both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Subsequent rewrites of the Electoral laws have changed the voting system. We now have preferential voting for the House of Representatives and for the Senate, proportional representation is used. The proportional representation in the Senate means we are left with a ballot paper for the Senate that has 110 candidates and a maddening array of preference deals.

The most significant reform for the Australian voting public was the introduction of compulsory voting in 1924. Compulsory voting remains a feature of the Australian political system, despite a number of calls from political parties in recent years to repeal the provision. The reality is that for the majority of Australian voters, compulsory voting is a non-event.

Compulsory voting was introduced with the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1924 (No. 10 of 1924) (from Austlii). The second reading debates for this legislation is available from the Commonwealth Parliament.

You get a feel from the 1924 Second Reading debate why compulsory voting was introduced. “We should, I think, recognize that the natural corollary to compulsory enrollment is compulsory voting. Claiming to be a democratic community we naturally expect the people of Australia to be sufficiently interested in the constitution of the national Parliament to see that it is thoroughly representative of political thought in the electoral divisions. Unfortunately, – this claim cannot be substantiated. All our efforts to retain interest in electoral matters have failed lamentably ‘during the last few years. At the last Commonwealth elections in 1922 we were in the most unenviable position that only 57.95 per cent, of the people entitled to vote exercised the franchise.”

There have been a number of legal challenges to compulsory voting. The first challenge to the legislation was Judd v McKeon [1926] HCA 33; (1926) 38 CLR 380 (11 October 1926); and more recently Albert Langer, was prosecuted for distributing how to vote cards that encouraged people to vote informally, circumventing the compulsory voting legislation. In both instances the electoral laws were upheld. If you are particularly interested you can search for all the High Court challenges on Austlii.

Finally, for those interested enough you can follow all the action on Australian Broadcasting Corporation Federal Election 2013 website.

Phil Mullen
International Relations Committee, SLA Legal Division

No Comments
The Kids Are All Right: Resources for a Child-Centered Divorce

September 23, 2013 Categories: Diversity Tags: divorce

So … I don’t know about you, but the guy that I call “Dad” is not my biological father, he’s my “stepdad”.

Now, I was pretty young when my parents separated, but I was old enough to know (I kid you not) to ask my local librarians (or as I liked to refer to them the “honest answer-ers of all questions”) for help with things my parents would not fully explain.

The day after “the family talk”, I asked the librarian on duty at my local branch if she could help me find anything in the library about divorce. Normally very quick to point me in the right direction, I could sense that she was holding back, so (again, I kid you not) I went to my local video store (yes, there were still video stores around when I was a kid) and asked to rent a movie about divorce. The guy behind the counter handed me Kramer vs. Kramer. I, unwittingly, snuck into the living room that night after bedtime, watched it, and was completely horrified; very confused and horrified.

I learned two things the hard way that night:

1. Librarians and video store workers did not operate by the same “code”.
2. Divorce (or “dissolution of marriage”, depending on your jurisdiction) can be as tough on the children involved as it is on the “adults”.

Thankfully, at least to my knowledge, my parents’ divorce was on the less extreme side of the crazy divorce spectrum. The main thing that we had a problem with was what everyone would call each other. (I grew up in a bilingual household and the Spanish word for “stepdad” is “padastro”. Pretty terrible, right? It just didn’t feel right to call the sweet man who loved my Mom so much such an ugly sounding word.)

Anyway, to be extremely scientific the Spectrum of Separation Contentiousness (a term I just coined and will sue you over if you use it without footnoting me [HA!]) has, at one end, all parties throwing on matching jumpsuits and harmonizing their way into the hearts of us all and, at the opposite end, Drew Barrymore rationing to be an emancipated minor. Below are a few resources to offer up to those who, aside from legal remedies, ask you for help going about a more child-centered approach to divorce and wish to avoid anything resembling

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Resources for a Child-Centered Divorce

- **Websites**
  - The Association for Family and Conciliation Courts — An interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.
  - The Child-Centered Divorce Network — It’s mission is to enlighten parents, educators and society as a whole about the emotional and psychological effects of divorce on children.
  - Children’s Rights Council — It is the mission of CRC to reduce the emotional, physical, and financial suffering of children that can be caused by growing up without both parents. This can be achieved through: providing access services to help interactions between non-custodial parents and their children and advocating for custody reform.
  - cofamilies — Schedule your shared parenting time with color-coded overnights, automatic notifications, and a complete history of schedules and communication — all easily sharable with your partner, caregivers, and children.
  - Council for Children’s Rights — The Council for Children’s Rights responds to crises in the lives of individual children to ensure they can grow up safe, healthy and educated. The work of The Larry King Center focuses on preventing these crises to ensure they will grow up safe, healthy and educated.
  - Kids On Time — Divorced? Separated? Blended Family? Whatever your scenario, Kids On Time will help you and your co-parent communicate more effectively. Kids On Time is the proven leader in reducing conflict, court appearances and improving the lives of the children when parents are living in separate homes. We know shared parenting isn’t easy, but it’s always worth it, and with Kids On Time it can be made easier.

- **Books**
  - For Kids
    - The Queen of Fire and the King of Ice: A fairy tale for children of divorce
    - Was It the Chocolate Pudding?: A Story for Little Kids about Divorce
    - A Smart Girl’s Guide to Her Parents’ Divorce
  - For Adults
    - Fathers’ Rights: Dealing with the Child Support System
    - Mediating Child Custody Disputes: A Strategic Approach
    - Child Custody A to Z: Winning with Evidence
    - Between Two Worlds: The Inner Lives of Children of Divorce
    - Mommy and Daddy are Getting Divorced – Helping Children Cope with Divorce

Legal Information on Divorce

- **Statutes by State**
  - Alabama — Title 30, Chapter 2
  - Alaska — Title 25, Chapter 24
  - Arizona — Chapter 3
  - Arkansas — Title 9, Subtitle 2, § 12
  - California — Part 3
  - Colorado — Title 14, Article 10 (Statute # 14-10-106)
  - Connecticut — Title 46, Chapter 810, Sections 46-13 to 46-31
  - Delaware — Title 13, Chapter 15
  - Florida — Title 8, Chapter 61
  - Georgia — §§ 19-4-1 thru 19-6-47
  - Hawaii — Chapter 580
  - Idaho — §§ 32-501 thru 32-901
  - Illinois — Chapter 750
  - Indiana — Title 31, Article 15
  - Iowa — Chapter 598 §§ 1-42
  - Kansas — Chapter 23
  - Kentucky — Chapter 403
  - Louisiana — Civil Code §§ 101 to 103
  - Maine — Title 19, Chapter 13
  - Maryland — §§ 8-101 thru 8-213
  - Massachusetts — Chapter 208
  - Michigan — Chapter 552
Determinative Factors for Child Custody/Best Interests of the Child Language

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

And, lastly (Because, well, who doesn’t love data?), here’s a few data sets for you to peruse and reference in your research reports.

Data on Marriage and Divorce from the United States Census Bureau
Marriage and divorce data can be found from a variety of sources. These sources are listed below with brief descriptions to help you decide which data source would best...
suit your needs. Availability of data by time and geography are highlighted in the sections below. The links below will take you to the appropriate page for marriage and divorce data by survey. (source)

- **The American Community Survey (ACS).** ACS is an annual national survey collected monthly which provides communities with reliable and timely demographic, housing, social, and economic data every year. Data on marriage and divorce characteristics are available for the U.S., states, and more specific geographic areas that meet minimum population sizes for the given survey year. There are over a thousand detailed tables in American FactFinder. There are more than 700 tables on marriage and divorce. Data are available from 2000 to the present.

- **The Current Population Survey (CPS).** CPS is a monthly survey of about 50,000 households conducted by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The survey has been conducted for more than 50 years. Marriage and divorce data are collected annually as part of the Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Data on marriage and divorce characteristics are available for the U.S. from 1950 to the present.

- **The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).** SIPP is a longitudinal panel survey of demographic information, income, labor force characteristics, and program participation in the United States. Supplemental topical modules are included on a rotating basis and include questions on topics such as marital history and household relationships. Data on marriage and divorce are available for the U.S. for each panel starting in 1984.

- **The Decennial Census** occurs every 10 years, in years ending in zero, to count the population and housing units for the entire United States. Its primary purpose is to provide the population counts that determine how seats in the U.S. House of Representatives are appointed. Data on marriage and divorce characteristics are available for the U.S., 50 states and the District of Columbia, counties, and sub-county statistical areas (such as zip codes and block groups), from 1880 to 2000.

_Bacilio Mendez II, Diversity Committee Chair_

No Comments
Metrics 101: Proving your Value

September 23, 2013 Categories: Events, Professional Development

SLA's IT and Legal Divisions present the following Webinar in the Wolters Kluwer Law & Business Webinar series.

Metrics 101: Proving your Value

Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2013
Time: 12 pm – 1 pm EDT (What time is that where you are?)
Cost: Free to SLA Members

Register Now: Please register online by Friday 11 October.

We often hear how important it is to quantify the return on investment (ROI) of our library, information center, or research services. But how do we start to measure our value beyond just visitor count or number of research questions answered? SLA members tackled these questions in a recent #SLATalk. Due to the overwhelming interest this topic generated, SLA members participating in the Twitter Talk have put together an exciting and informative webinar for the benefit of all SLA members!

In this session our speakers will explore

- Why it is important to collect metrics
- Understanding your organizational audience
- Tools and approaches to collecting metrics
- Obstacles to implementing metrics
- Proving your value through metrics
- …and more!

Speakers:

Eve Ross: Assistant Librarian/Research Specialist at McNair Law Firm in Columbia, South Carolina. Eve holds a law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law, and is a member of the South Carolina Bar, having practiced public finance law for three years. In addition to her work in the McNair Law Firm library, she is currently pursuing an MLIS at the University of South Carolina. She is a member of SLA’s Legal Division and South Carolina chapter. Her Twitter handle is @everoess and you can connect with her on LinkedIn.

Bess Reynolds: Technical Services Manager in the Library & Knowledge Management Department of Debevoise & Plimpton, LLP, where she has worked for eight years. Bess is the author of “The Challenges of e-Books in Law Firm Libraries,” published in The New Librarian, an AALL-ILTA Digital White Paper, October 2012. She has spoken at the annual meetings of AALL, CALL, and LLNE and for LLAGNY. Bess holds an MS in Information and Library Science from Pratt Institute, as well as an MBA in finance from the Stern School of Business at New York University. She is a member of the Board of Directors of LLAGNY, past chair of the AALLNET Committee for AALL, past chair of the New York Law Librarians Technical Services Roundtable, and a member of SLA. Her Twitter handle is @biblobess and you can connect with her on LinkedIn.

We will broadcast the presentation via AnyMeeting. Please verify that you can download the webinar software to the computer and verify the system test before registering.

Questions? Contact Adrienne Smith for programming questions or Bacilio Mendez for technical support.

No Comments
How to Find Canadian Law Firms and Lawyers

September 24, 2013 Categories: International Relations Tags: Canada

Are you doing research for a partner’s upcoming trip to a major city in Canada? Need to do some research on law firms in the area?

Of course there is always Chambers Global and Martindale.com if you are looking for a particular practice, but what if you are looking for a particular city in Canada??

You should check out the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory – Canada’s Largest Law Firms! This part of the Lexpert directory provides helpful charts by city of the largest law firms by lawyer count.

If you need to find contact information for a particular lawyer, or if you want to find the in-house counsel for a particular corporation, you might find the Canadian Law List helpful.

You can also find contact information in the directories at the law societies in each province and territory:

The Law Society of British Columbia – http://www.lawsociety.bc.ca/apps/lkup/mbrsearch.cfm
The Law Society of Manitoba – http://www.lawsociety.mb.ca/lawyer-lookup
The Law Society of the Northwest Territories – http://www.lawsociety.nt.ca/public/member-directory/
The Law Society of Newfoundland & Labrador – https://memberpro.lawsociety.nf.ca/net/main/body.cfm?menu=menu1&submenu=submenu8
Nova Scotia Barristers’ Society – http://nsbs.org/member-search
The Law Society of Nunavut – http://lawsociety.nu.ca/members/
The Law Society of Upper Canada (Ontario) – http://www2.lsuc.on.ca/LawyerParalegalDirectory/

Do you have a question about Canada? Send me an email and I will try to find you the best answer and share it with the division!

Christine DeLuca, Canadian Ambassador

No Comments
Keep Calm and Carry Garlic

December 18, 2013 Categories: Uncategorized

by Colleen Cable, Division Chair-Elect-Elect (Reprinted with permission from 3 Geeks and a Law Blog)

This is the time of year when we reflect on all that has happened over the past 12 months; the successes, the failures, the moments of epiphany, the stumbles, the growth and change, basically everything that makes us human. That is why I was so struck by the timing and subject of Seth Godin’s recent post about vampires (and he’s not talking about Team Edward or reviewing the latest True Blood episode), Seth explains that these metaphorical vampires are “people that feed on negativity, on shooting down ideas and most of all, on extinguishing your desire to make things better.” What is so striking to me is that Seth says that these vampires cannot be cured; they cannot be shown the error of their ways. Trying to change their minds and get them on board is a waste of time. Seth explains that all we can do for these people is pity them.

Our profession is undergoing a time of great change, one in which we are examining everything that we do and looking for new opportunities. One in which we cannot afford any vampires. However, we have taken to trying to “cure” the vampires in our midst with education and programs like the recent PLL Summit offerings of “Get out of your Comfort Zone and Lean Up” and “Changing Perceptions” and last year’s SLA conference sessions like “Just say NO to Aimlessness” or “How to Re-energize your Library”. I’m not saying we shouldn’t continue to encourage, educate and collaborate with the non-vampires, but maybe we should take Seth’s advice and stop trying to “cure” those among us who have gone over to the dark side.

We have some amazing evangelists for our profession. One of whom is constantly trying to shake things up with his provocative posts. Yes, I’m looking at you Greg Lambert. Greg consciously tries to poke the hornet’s nest in an effort to generate conversation and, hopefully, real change. But ask yourself this, when you read a provocative post or hear a controversial idea discussed, what is your first reaction? Do you immediately try to shoot it down or poke holes in it? Do you meet it with negativity or an open mind? Do you attend the above mentioned types of sessions at conferences and think of all the ways the ideas “won’t work for you”?

Maybe during this upcoming time of reflection, we should also be asking ourselves: have we turned to the darkness or are we still in the light?

No Comments
2014 Ethics Update

January 3, 2014 Categories: Ethics

Happy New Year from your SLA Legal Division Ethics Officer!

The start of January is a great time to take stock of all that has passed in the last 12 months, and to (idealistcally?) plan your New Year’s Resolutions. As the start of the year is often a time for personal reflection, I would like to use this update to think not about the ethical dilemmas of copyright, nor personal integrity, but rather taking some time to think about being ethical to yourself.

“Work-life balance” is a phrase that you will hear a great deal, either in the newspapers, touted by organisations both large and small, and by panic stricken individuals. Too often that balance is not managed correctly, leading to stress, falling morale and a myriad of other issues. This update will try to think about a few ways that a better balance can be achieved.

Flexible Working

Whilst flexible working arrangements are becoming more common, plucking up the courage to ask your employer to consider accommodating your needs can still be daunting. The Anywhere Working Campaign has pulled together some suggestions on how to make an application for flexible working, the benefits of remote working, and how to ensure that you can adapt successfully to your new hours.

Work Smarter, Not Longer

The Ethics Guy website has some great tips and insights into managing your time well.

Why not try using an app such as Rescue Time to monitor how you are using your time, and highlight when you are most (or least!) efficient.

Professional Development

One of the many joys of working in the library and information sector are the advances that take place around us, and the opportunities to continue to learn throughout our working lives. For many, professional development therefore takes up a substantial amount of time. Trying to ensure that CPD doesn’t impact negatively on our day to day roles, as well as our home life, can be very difficult.

Learning to say “no” is tough, but it is important to know how much you can take on, and weighing up if the benefits are worth the time invested.

Summary

The final point of this update is one that I’m sure many of you will have heard before. Ensure that you judge what you do by your own standards. Comparing oneself to others will not lead to a happy balanced lifestyle, but rather a bad case of the Keeping Up With The Joneses.

When deciding what to take on, consider factors such as if you are an introvert or an extrovert, and if interaction with others drains you or energises you. Think about the spare time you have, and what you would really like to do with it.

I wish you a Happy New Year and a fantastic 2014.

Best wishes,
Sam Wiggins
SLA Legal Division Ethics Ambassador

No Comments
Canadian Tip: Get out of your chair and “train”

March 18, 2014 Categories: International Relations Tags: advocacy, training

One of the major electronic research databases is changing platforms here in Canada, so I thought I would dedicate this tip to strategies for getting you out of your office and reminding people about the services you provide face to face.

The library staff at my firm took time to book great training sessions with the product’s trainer and tailored them to fit with the needs of our users. Unfortunately, attendance was lower than we had anticipated. Instead of accepting defeat, we took this as an invitation to walk the floors and you should too.

Here are some tips I picked up along the way:

- Send out an email to those you intend to visit a couple of hours before you go letting them know you will be on their floor. You will be surprised at how many responses you will get welcoming you to come. Do not ask for permission. If people are there, great! If they are not available…
- Bring some materials to leave on people’s desks in case they are not in their offices. Make it simple, clean and concise. Make sure that the materials have your contact information/branding so people can reach you for more information, i.e. do not just leave the handouts from the product’s trainer and expect people to magically know they came from you. We made sure to include a coloured cover sheet with information about accessing and logging onto the database, what to do if they had issues with their password, any important tips for logging on, and of course our contact information. Leave the materials some place they will see them and not just in their inbox. A great place is on their keyboard. They can’t work on their computer until they actually pick them up.
- Make a cheat sheet to bring along outlining what you would like to show your users when you get into their offices. Ensure your training session is only a few minutes long and that it outlines the most practical and important information that the user in front of you will need. By demonstrating that you value everyone’s time (your time is just as important as theirs), people will invite you in every time you walk the floor. For example, highlight specific aspects of the database to a partner for her specific practice group, but make the training for a student or associate more broad to accommodate a number of different research requests.
- If you are having trouble motivating your staff to visit lawyers by themselves, let them go in pairs. This takes up more resources, but you will have a much higher ROI if your staff has the confidence to knock on doors and talk to people.
- Remind users of other similar services that the library can offer. Once you are in the door, there is nothing preventing you from plugging your staff and services. Again, just be respectful of their time. For example, we did a current awareness survey in person a couple of years back, and before we left each person’s office, we reminded them that we could perform news searches on specific clients or topics. This led people to ask us other questions about our services. We were very surprised about how much work we ended up bringing back.
- Go with the flow of the conversation. If you enter someone’s office and they start asking you about other products or services, take the time to talk to them about it, or if you do not know the answer right there and then, make a note to get back to them when you get back to your desk.
- Follow up with the people you spoke with during your walk around. If they had issues, comments or questions, make sure that you get back to them in a reasonable amount of time. No one likes to feel like you forgot about them.
- BRING A TREAT!!! You would be surprised how people will light up over a small chocolate or candy bar. It is also a great present to leave in people’s offices when they are not there. Make labels to put on the wrappers with your contact information and/or a research tip. One time, we put advanced Google searching tips on smartsies boxes and a number of people posted them on their bulletin boards.

Christine DeLuca
SLA Legal Division Canadian Ambassador

No Comments
New Professionals Guide to Knowledge Management in Legal Services

April 22, 2014 Categories: Professional Development Tags: KM, new professionals

The Special Libraries Association are delighted to announce their very first event in Ireland, hosted by A&L Goodbody and SLA Europe in partnership with the Legal Division of the Special Libraries Association on May 7!

A&L Goodbody invite new information professionals to a lunch-time talk on Knowledge Management in law firms by Knowledge Partner, Paula Reid, and Assistant Knowledge Services Manager, Lauren Lawler. This talk would be suitable to all new professionals interested in finding out more about Knowledge Services and law firm librarianship. A&L Goodbody has a dedicated Knowledge team and has recently been the recipient of many awards, including the Best Management of Knowledge Award at The Lawyer Management Awards 2013. The session will detail the role of Knowledge Services in a large law firm. It will also discuss the responsibilities of the law librarian within Knowledge Services.

Entry is free. Tea and coffee will be provided. Please contact events@sla-europe.org with any questions about this event. Tickets are available at: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sla-new-professionals-guide-to-knowledge-management-in-legal-services-tickets-11322406623.

Caroline Frances Jones
SLA Legal Division – Chair
Conference Planner – Vancouver 2014

No Comments
Legal Division Programming at SLA Vancouver

May 20, 2014 Categories: SLA Vancouver

Here’s a preview of the Legal Division’s programs for the 2014 Annual Conference and INFO-EXPO that will be held June 8-10 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

Legal Division Board Meeting
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (may run later)
Black & Blue, 1032 Alberni Street (.3 mile / 600 meters / 9 minute walk from the Conference HQ hotels)
Join your LD board for their monthly meeting and lunch! Open to all members.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Library Outreach and the Italian Beef Sandwich
*Gold Level Sponsor: Wolters Kluwer Law & Business
11:45 AM – 1:15 PM
Co-hosted by the Leadership and Management Division

MONDAY, JUNE 9

Bloomberg BNA Legal Division Breakfast and Business Meeting
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
More Education Less Time: Implementing Learning Management Systems for the Legal Professional
*Gold Level Sponsor: Springer
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
Co-hosted by the IT Division

Legal Division Vendor Appreciation Night
7:30 – 9:30 PM

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

Digital Humanities: What Does It Really Mean for Libraries and Cultural Institutions
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Hosted by the Museums, Arts & Humanities Division, Co-hosted by the Legal Division

60 Sites in 60 Minutes
*Gold Level Sponsor: Lexis
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Legal Division Unconference
*Bronze Level Sponsor: OneLog
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

*Many thanks to our Platinum Level Event Sponsor: Bloomberg BNA, and our Gold Level Program Sponsors: Lexis Nexis, Wolters Kluwer Law & Business, and Springer. We also thank our generous Bronze Level Sponsor: OneLog.

No Comments
The Legal Division would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support of its programming at the annual conference in Vancouver!

**PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

- Bloomberg BNA
  - Bloomberg BNA Breakfast
  - Outstanding New Member Award

**GOLD SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

- Wolters Kluwer Law & Business
  - Library Outreach and the Italian Beef Sandwich
  - Innovations in Law Librarianship
- LexisNexis
  - 60 Sites in 60 Minutes
- Springer
  - More Education Less Time: Implementing Learning Management Systems for the Legal Professional

**BRONZE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL**

- OneLog
  - Legal Division Unconference

**OTHER**

- Thomson Reuters Westlaw
  - Career Achievement Award

No Comments
Legal Division Programming at SLA Boston

February 21, 2015 Categories: SLA Boston Tags: Boston

Here's a list of the Legal Division's programs for the 2015 Annual Conference and INFO-EXPO that will be held June 14-16 in Boston, Massachusetts. Lengthier descriptions are available in Jessica King's SLA 2015 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO Preview.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

**Legal Division Board Meeting**
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM  
Sponsor: HBR Consulting

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

**Islamic Finance and Banking: An Introduction for Researchers**  
11:45 AM – 1:15 PM  
Sponsor: Linex Systems  
Presented with the Business & Finance Division, Arabian Gulf Chapter, Legal Division, Insurance & Employee Benefits Division

**Legal Research for the Non-Law Librarian**  
1:30pm – 3:00pm

**New Roles for Librarians and Info Pros: Developing a CI Function from Beginner to Expert**  
1:30pm – 3:00pm  
Presented with the Competitive Intelligence Division

**Legal Resources and Research Using Twitter**  
1:30pm – 1:45pm

**Legal Division Vendor Appreciation Reception**  
7:30pm – 9:00pm

MONDAY, JUNE 15

**Bloomberg BNA Legal Division Breakfast & Business Meeting**  
8:00am – 9:30am  
Sponsor: Bloomberg BNA

**Working Together is Success: A Vendor Relationship Revolution**  
12:00pm – 1:30pm

**Get Out of Your Chair and Revolutionize Your Training Program!**  
4:00pm – 5:00pm

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

**Retirement: Collecting Data on It, Working Towards It, Surviving It**  
8:00am – 9:30am  
Sponsor: EBSCO Information Services  
Presented with the Insurance & Employee Benefits Division, Business & Finance Division, Encore – Retired Members Caucus

**Around the World of Legal Information Institutes (LII)**  
9:45am – 10:45am

**CI Resources: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly**  
11:00am – 12:00pm  
Presented with the Competitive Intelligence Division

Here are two more events hosted by our sponsors in the INFO-EXPO,

**Bloomberg Law Analytics: Line Graphs, and Pie Charts, and Bars, Oh My!**
- Sunday, June 14 • 3:15pm – 3:45pm: [http://sched.co/3H9w](http://sched.co/3H9w)
- Monday, June 15 • 3:15pm – 3:45pm: [http://sched.co/3H9x](http://sched.co/3H9x)

**Finding Meaning In the Mass: Using LexisNexis Analytics and Visualization to Find Actionable Insights**
- Monday June 15, 2015 1:00pm – 2:00pm: [http://sched.co/3s7](http://sched.co/3s7)

No Comments
Kudos to the 2015 Class of SLA Fellows!

May 27, 2015 Categories: Awards

The Legal Division is honored to count two of SLA’s new Class of 2015 Fellows among its membership. Fellowship in SLA is bestowed on active, mid-career information professionals in recognition of past, present and future service to the association and the profession. Fellows are called upon and expected to advise the association’s board of directors and alert the membership to issues and trends warranting action.

The first is a knowledge manager and taxonomist for an economic consulting firm in Chicago.

Amy Affelt is the director of database research worldwide for Compass Lexecon, where she conducts research and analysis and creates knowledge deliverables for economists who testify as expert witnesses in litigation. But she is probably better known as the author of The Accidental Data Scientist: Big Data Applications and Opportunities for Librarians and Information Professionals and as a presenter at information industry meetings such as the SLA Annual Conference, Internet Librarian, and Computers in Libraries. She also writes for Information Outlook, Online Searcher, and other industry publications.

An SLA member since 1992, Amy’s volunteer experience in SLA includes stints as chair of the Leadership & Management Division (in 2013) and the Public Relations Advisory Council (in 2011) and as an Alignment Project Ambassador. She also headed a group of SLA members and staff who developed the Future Ready Toolkit, which drew on the Alignment Project findings and on insights into emerging technology and industry trends.

Amy has been recognized frequently for her leadership of, and contributions to, SLA and the information profession. She received SLA Presidential Citations in 2008 and 2011, the Author Award (in 2010) and the Communications and Marketing Award (in 2011) from the Illinois Chapter, and the Alice Rankin Distinguished Lecturer Award (this year) from the New Jersey Chapter. In 2007, she was named an InfoStar by Thomson Scientific.

Next is a law librarian from Philadelphia.

Tracy Maleeff is the library resources manager at Duane Morris LLP in Philadelphia, where she has worked since 2008.

Just four years after joining SLA in 2003, Tracy was awarded the Legal Division’s New Member Professional Grant, which served as a springboard to greater involvement in the association. She became chair of the Legal Division in 2012 and served on SLA’s Conferencing Re-Envisioning Task Force in 2013 as chair of the International Subgroup and a member of the Online Subgroup. Her work on the task force helped prepare her for her role as chair of this year’s Annual Conference Advisory Council, which requires overseeing all chapter and division planners, ensuring that session content is relevant and fresh, and using SLA member feedback to improve the conference.

Tracy is currently the U.S. regional representative on the SLA Europe Chapter’s Board of Directors and the ethics ambassador for the SLA Kentucky Chapter. She is active in social media, serving as social media manager for the Leadership & Management Division and as chair of the SLA Online Content Advisory Council. In the latter role, she manages the @SLAhq and @SLAconf accounts and leads the #SLAtalk series of Twitter chats, which address topics such as working effectively with technology, improving the library degree curricula, and proving the value of information services.

In recognition of her many contributions to SLA and the information profession, Tracy was given the inaugural Dow Jones Innovate Award in 2014. That same year, she also received the SLA Legal Division’s Thomson Reuters Westlaw Award for Career Achievement.

No Comments
SLA Boston Proceedings

July 10, 2015 Categories: SLA Boston

Below is a collection of the Legal Division’s presentations at the 2015 Annual Conference and INFO-EXPO that was held June 14-16 in Boston, Massachusetts.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Legal Research for the Non-Law Librarian
Abigail F. Ellsworth Ross (RoFinCo, LLC)

Legal Resources and Research Using Twitter
Tracy Z. Maleeff (Duane Morris LLP)

MONDAY, JUNE 15

Working Together is Success: A Vendor Relationship Revolution
Jamie Marie Keller (Florida Coastal School of Law) and Kris Martin (HBR Consulting)

Get Out of Your Chair and Revolutionize Your Training Program!
Stephanie Ball (Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP), Christine DeLuca (Bennett Jones SLP), Jessica King (Perkins Coie LLP)

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Around the World of Legal Information Institutes (LIs)
Kreig Kitts (Crowell & Moring LLP) & Sam Wiggins

CI Resources: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
Jaye A. H. Lapachet (J8 Consulting), Carolyne Anderson (Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP), J.R. Yanchak (Orrick)

Many thanks to all who presented and a special thanks to those who generously shared their presentations!

No Comments
Lawmageddon – the Disruption is Now!

November 11, 2015 Categories: Events, Professional Development

The Legal Division is pleased to share a recording from the Lawmageddon 2015 – the Disruption is Now! webinar that was presented by legal research and tech bloggers Jean O’Grady (Dewey B. Strategic) and John DiGilio (TILTlegal / BraryGuy) on October 29, 2015. (38 MB MP3)

Links and list of disruptive technologies from the Lawmageddon 2015 webinar presentation

No Comments
SLA Philadelphia Conference Proceedings

June 26, 2016 Categories: Conference, SLA Philadelphia, Uncategorized

Below is a collection of the Legal Division’s presentations at the 2016 Annual Conference and INFO-EXPO that was held June 14-16 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Sunday, June 12**

- MASTER CLASS: The Reluctant Intrapreneur: Becoming the Info Center CEO (slides are also available)
- QUICK TAKE: Using Web Analytics: Basics and Beyond

**Monday, June 13**

- QUICK TAKE: Decrypting Cybersecurity: A Plaintext Talk About Information Security

**Tuesday, June 14**

- Voter ID Laws: What information professionals need to know and Politics, and the Public
- Cultivate Your Network Like a Garden: Post-Conference Networking Tips and Strategies

Many thanks to all who presented and a special thanks to those who generously shared their presentations!

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No Comments
Evolving Libraries for Law Firms Survey Results Webinar

October 5, 2016 Categories: Uncategorized

Join SLA Legal Division and HBR Consulting on October 20 @ Noon Eastern to gain insights into emerging trends related to library resources, technologies, staffing and roles, and organizational structure within the AmLaw 200 firm libraries.

In May 2016, HBR Consulting launched the Evolving Libraries for Law Firms Survey. The survey identified emerging trends that can be applied to support the changing and increasing demands of researchers and clients.

This event will inform you about the big discoveries and will enrich your knowledge of the current market and future opportunities that will serve to enhance your value and the value of the services delivered by your library.

Please register using this link: Evolving Libraries for Law Firms Survey- Fall Webinar

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Colleen Cable
Director of Information Services
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
1212-506-3517

No Comments
Evolving Libraries for Law Firms Survey Results

November 10, 2016 Categories: Uncategorized

In May 2016, HBR Consulting launched the Evolving Libraries for Law Firms Survey. The survey identified emerging trends that can be applied to support the changing and increasing demands of researchers and clients.

Visit HBR Consulting – Evolving Libraries for Law Firms Survey for more details

No Comments
SLA Legal Division Conference Program, Phoenix 2017

April 19, 2017 Categories: Uncategorized

We are very pleased to announce our conference program for Phoenix.

Legal Division Knowledge Café
Speakers – Marie Cannon, Victoria North, Bobbi Weaver
Sunday June 18, 2,15 pm

Changing roles of legal information professionals; adapting your skills to new challenges
Speakers – Geraldine Clement Stoneham, Susan Mecklen, Michele Villagran
Monday June 19, 9 am

Find facts fast, free or for a fee; successful due diligence and investigative research
Speaker – Howard Trivers
Monday June 19, 10.30 am

Data privacy in Japan
Speaker – Hiromi Kubo
Monday June 19, 11 am

Linkrot and legal documents – how to manage this growing problem
Speaker – Laura Gordon Murrane
Tuesday June 20, 9 am

No Comments