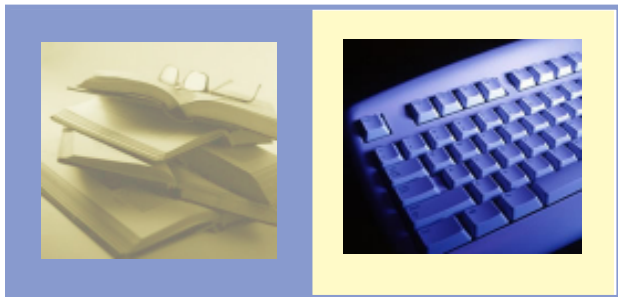


# LLNE News

*Newsletter of the Law Librarians of New England*  
Volume 25, Number 1, 2005/2006



## Print vs. Electronic – What's a Legal Research Trainer To Do?

*By Susan Vaughn*

Recently the director of our first year research and writing program turned to the library for some help on the subject of teaching print versus electronic research. She wanted real-life examples that demonstrated when using a print resource would yield an answer more quickly or thoroughly than online. She felt that only concrete examples could convince the web-wedded first year students to consider print resources their friends.

First year students at Suffolk are required to do their first research assignment in paper and we hold training labs in the hopes of demystifying paper reports, digests, statutes, and Shepards (at least to some extent). Despite our best efforts, on the day their Westlaw and Lexis access is upgraded, we see many students dancing a little jig. I don't know if delaying access to the electronic resources makes them that much more attractive but I do know that after getting full access to online resources it is hard to convince many students to use print resources.

Of course, probably the best way to teach legal research would be to allow students to become more familiar with all types of resources by requiring more substantive legal work during their stint in law school. This could come in the form of more practicum requirements or more emphasis

on actual legal problems in the regular curriculum. But until we have a law librarian as the dean of our law school, my guess is we shouldn't start drawing up lesson plans to support this type of program. So what can we as legal research trainers do in the short time we are allotted?

I did show the trainers in our first year writing program some examples of how the index to the print statutes can sometimes supply an answer very quickly, how you can find older law review articles using the print Index to Legal Periodicals (we don't have access to the online retrospective collection<sup>1</sup>), and how an MCLE publication could help by giving you commentary, the top cases, the statute and regulations on point, as well as forms and case-checklists, all in one place.

One thing I learned by putting together a presentation on this topic is that by using some features of Westlaw and Lexis, you can find similar resources, if you know where to look. For example, the statutory section on joyriding (my example) was hard to find by running an online search in the statutory database because of the wording of the statute but if you add the MCLE treatise on Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Offenses, available on Westlaw, Lexis, and LoisLaw, you can easily find the statutory section and additional information. But then the question is, will our students know enough to check another resource be it online or print, if their online search isn't successful?

Shouldn't we be teaching an overall theory of research, rather than print **versus** electronic? After all when we do research, it isn't a battle but a synergy of resources (or at least it should be). How do we get students excited about research, whether print or electronic, excited enough that they take the time to explore the various sources of legal information?

I would be interested in hearing from other librarians involved in the teaching of legal research, including firm

*Continued on p. 10*

**Forward Membership News items to the Editor or to the following:**

**Connecticut**

**Hartford/Northern Connecticut**

Susan Severo  
University of Connecticut  
School of Law Library  
39 Elizabeth St.  
Hartford, CT 06105-2213  
(860) 570-5063; fax: (860) 570-5104  
ssevero@law.uconn.edu

**Yale/New Haven**

Michelle Sullivan  
Yale Law Library  
127 Wall St.  
New Haven, CT 06520  
(203) 432-6443; fax: (203) 432-9692  
michelle.sullivan@yale.edu

**Maine**

Lynn Randall  
Law & Legislative Reference Library  
State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1600; fax: (207) 287-2467  
Lynn.Randall@legislature.maine.gov

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Karin Thurman  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Office of Attorney General Library  
20th Floor, One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108-1698  
(617) 727-2200 x209; fax: (617) 727-5768  
karin.thurman@ago.state.ma.us

**Western**

Bonnie L. Koneski-White  
cfwblw@aol.com

**Trial Court Law Libraries**

Carolyn Michaud, Acting Head Law Librarian  
Bristol Law Library  
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9 Court Street  
Taunton, MA 02780  
508 824-7632; fax: 508 824-4723  
bristollawlibrary@yahoo.com

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Kathy Fletcher  
New Hampshire Law Library  
Supreme Court Building  
One Noble Drive  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 271-3777  
kfletcher@courts.state.nh.us

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Karen Quinn  
Rhode Island State Law Library  
Frank Licht Judicial Complex, 250 Benefit St.  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 277-3275; fax: (401) 277-3865

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Christine Ryan  
Vermont Law School  
Julien and Virginia Cornell Library  
9 Chelsea St., P.O. Box 60  
South Royalton, VT 05068  
(802) 763-8303 x2448; fax: (802) 763-7159  
cryan@vermontlaw.edu

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**The Law Librarians of New England (LLNE)** is a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. *LLNE News*, the chapter newsletter, is published quarterly on the LLNE webpage at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapters/llne>. LLNE does not assume any responsibility for the statements advanced by the contributors to *LLNE News* nor do the views expressed necessarily represent the views of LLNE or its members. Any questions concerning *LLNE News* including requests for reprints should be directed to:

Susan M. Farago  
Business Manager, LLNE News  
Social Law Library  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 523-0018, Ext. 304; fax (617) 523-2458



## CO-EDITORS' NOTE

This issue is coming out a few weeks after April Fool's Day, the same day as the LLNE Spring Meeting. How felicitous that our meeting fell on April Fool's Day, the first full month after Spring began at the Equinox on March 21<sup>st</sup>. I'm sure you are as happy as we are to finally see the first signs of spring.

In keeping with the light and humorous spirit of April Fool's Day, we are pleased to announce the inauguration of the "Ask Miss Nomer" column, a humorous take on the deep questions facing law librarians in the modern era. We are delighted that the column is currently being written by a former LLNE President. If *you* have any questions for Miss Nomer please send them to any of us at the emails below.

If you are interested in contributing an article or announcement for our next issue, please contact Susan Vaughn, Sharon Persons, or John Pedini.

*Your Co-editors*



## EDITORIAL BOARD

### Editors-in-Chief

John Pedini  
Director of Media Services  
Social Law Library  
1200 Court House  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 523-0018, Ext. 337  
jpedini@sociallaw.com

Susan Vaughn  
Reference Librarian  
Moakley Law Library  
Suffolk University Law School  
120 Tremont Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 573-8199  
svaughn@suffolk.edu

Sharon Persons  
Head of Reader Services  
Northeastern University  
School of Law  
400 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 373-3883  
s.persons@neu.edu

### Copy Editors

Deanna Barmakian  
Reference Librarian  
Harvard Law School Library  
Areeda Hall 521  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 496-2125  
barm@law.harvard.edu

Ginny McVarish  
Serial Services  
Widener 190  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 495-2422  
mcvarish@fas.harvard.edu

### Layout Editor

Kim Dulin  
Associate Librarian for  
Research Services  
Harvard Law School Library  
Areeda Hall 526  
1545 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 496-3292  
kdulin@law.harvard.edu

### Business Manager

Susan M. Farago  
Social Law Library  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 523-0018, Ext. 304  
sfarago@sociallaw.com



## **LLNE President's Message**

Spring has finally arrived in New England and with it all the usual things that come with the season. As I was thinking what to write for this column, I began seeing parallels between the usual spring happenings and the various things that we are undergoing as an association.

I've always looked forward to the spring, when I feel refreshed and ready to learn something new. Our spring meeting at Harvard was one of those great spring learning experiences. In the morning, a distinguished group of speakers spoke eloquently about the international law ramifications of 9/11 and the war on terrorism. The afternoon speakers were equally fantastic, providing lessons on what "war" really means, the best sources for terrorism research, and closing with a presentation on the awe-inspiring Nuremberg records digitization project. Congratulations to the staff at Harvard Law School Library for another great LLNE meeting!

In the spring, nature begins a period of rapid growth after the dormant winter. LLNE continues moving forward and growing each year, and this year is no exception. LLNE's blog, is the first blog hosted by an AALL chapter and a natural complement to our other communications media. A new academic scholarship has been created by our Scholarships Committee to provide some assistance to our members who are attending library school or law school in furtherance of their law librarianship careers. The Education Committee will be seeking your input on various projects, so take a few minutes to reply to their postcard.

For me, spring also means renewal and LLNE continues to renew itself in several different ways. I have appointed Cathy Breen as chair of our 2005-2006 nominating committee. Cathy, Darcy Kirk, and Lynn Randall are hard at work identifying candidates for the offices of Vice-President/President-Elect, Treasurer, and Education Director. They will present a slate of candidates to the membership that will reflect our continuing commitment to great LLNE leadership. LLNE also renews itself each year through our members. Renewal notices will be coming out later this year, but I also remind you that participation is a

great benefit of membership, so consider volunteering some time to LLNE.

While most dread it, spring cleaning is a great thing for LLNE. Over the past year, Susan Sullivan has been "cleaning up" our organizational documents to reflect LLNE as an organization today. These proposed changes will be disseminated to the entire membership later this spring via all of our communications media as required by the LLNE constitution. Our other "cleaning" projects have included writing and revising the charges for various committees and Executive Committee positions, as well as updating the Meeting Planning Manual and Procedures Manual. Updated versions of these documents will be available via the website in the months to come.

In the spring, my mind wanders on sunny weekend days and I begin to plan for the summer. My plans this year include the LLNE Luncheon and Business Meeting at the AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio. This year's luncheon will include an important vote on changes to our Constitution and Bylaws, as well as the election of new officers. If you are attending the AALL meeting, please join us for the LLNE luncheon and exercise your membership right to vote on the future of LLNE. A hyperlink to the registration form for this year's luncheon and business meeting is included elsewhere in this issue.

### **LLNE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2004-2005**

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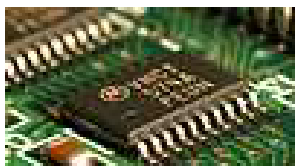
#### ***Treasurer***

Juliana Hayden

#### ***Educational Director***

Sue Zago





# High Tech Hints

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## Nextaris- The Next Step in Information Management and Sharing

So what is the *next* stop on our tour of the various tools for storing and sharing information? Meet Nextaris! Billed as “an *all-in-one* set of web-based tools for searching the Web, capturing content, saving/sharing files, publishing blogs, messaging and networking,” Nextaris lets you search, store and share information with a completely web-based application. There is nothing to install or download. You can sign up for free and get 100MB of storage or pay \$49 to get 250MB of storage for one year.

You can use folders to save web pages, images, clippings or other types of documents.

These folders can also be shared with other Nextaris users (or groups) or published on a web page open to the public. (You can also assign folders to Archives to keep records of projects.) Within each folder, you can add a variety of documents fairly easily. By going to the folder to which you want to add a file, you have a variety of options. You can “add URL” to add specific websites/pages with the option of including a cache copy. You can also use “add URL” to add documents that you have exported to html from other applications like calendars and spreadsheets. If you “add file” you can search your drive to add other file formats like Word documents or images. Within each file, you can annotate with notes, as well as download, rename, move, copy and delete.

When you search within Nextaris, you are given the option of a choosing from a selection of search engines, including specialized ones for news and weblogs and RSS. You can then easily save these results to a shared folder or for yourself. For web searching, you can also add bookmarklets

so you can save web page content (NextarisPages for entire web pages to be added to your folders, NextarisClippings for portions for web pages to be added to your Nextaris blog or folder and NextarisImages for pictures and graphics to your folders). See Nextaris instructions for more information.

Nextaris also allows you to create groups where you can include existing users (or invite people to Nextaris) to share information. Nextaris users can also create messages in their own account to be sent to yours. These messages can later be moved to folders for further sharing, annotation, etc. The feature seems very useful for sharing and retaining comments about projects.

Another very useful aspect of Nextaris is that it can serve as an option for web publishing. You can use it to create webpages or blogs. This feature can make it convenient for turning clippings into webliographies or updating blogs for current awareness.

It seems like you must know HTML (or UBB) coding to create web pages within Nextaris, but you can also easily add HTML files created from programs such as Dreamweaver with “add file.”

Would you like to track current news related to your project? Newstracker lets you automatically find news from 4,000 Internet-based news sources. Nextaris creates a separate page and checks twice daily. You can then take the Newstracker and copy it to your folders

Finally, Nextaris offers an easy way for you to share photographs. By creating a “photo album” on Nextaris, you can easily add images which can be shared with a group of users (as other types of folders can be shared) or published to the web for the world to see.

If you are looking for a free and relatively simple way to share information with colleagues for small projects or current awareness, this could be a great resource for you. It might also come in handy for storing information for presentations, classes or pathfinders/bibliographies as its accessibility makes it easy to work on the same project in various environments. On a personal note, it could also be a great tool for sharing photos and other information with family and friends.

Ready to check out Nextaris? Visit this sample page we created. We also added a sample blog.

On our Nextaris web page, we have added a preview of some resources from Annette Demers’ presentation “Researching Terrorism” at the LLNE Spring Meeting on April 1, 2005 at Harvard Law School. Check out her full

continued from previous page

bibliography. Hopefully, it will illustrate how you can use the product to save pages/documents for a project and then make them available for a subsequent presentation or webliography. If you want to experience the inner working of Nextaris, send a message to llnetech and we will invite you to Nextaris and our user group (llnews) so you can see the shared folders from within the system!

If you want additional information about Nextaris, check out:

<http://www.nextaris.com/nextaris-umix.html>

<http://www.nextaris.com/nextaris-story.html>

<http://www.nextaris.com/whatcando.html>

<http://www.nextaris.com/nextarisfaq.html>

For some other reviews of Nextaris, see:

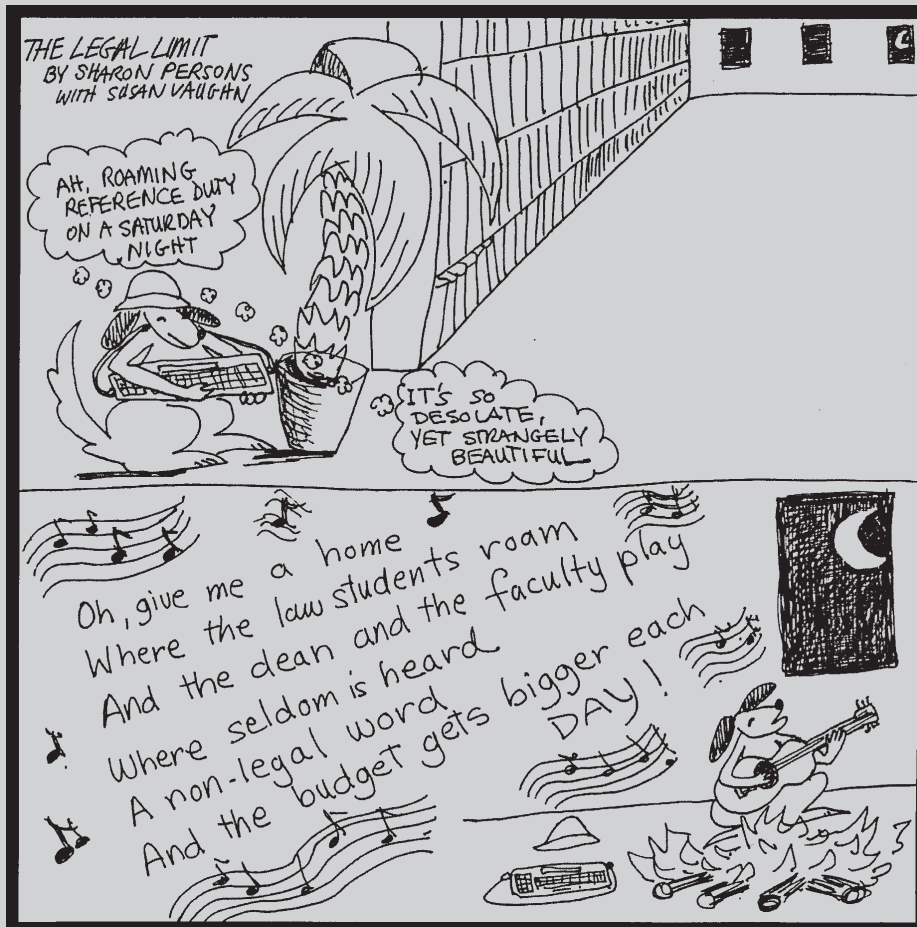
Chris Sherman, *Nextaris: An Integrated Web Research Dashboard*, SearchEngine Watch (September 9, 2004).

Lars Vage, *Nextaris – Smart search related web application from SurfWax*, Pandia Search Engine News (September 1, 2004).



## Walk for Hunger

The Annual Walk for Hunger is coming up on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> in Boston. For those interested in learning more about the organization that sponsors this event, see <http://www.projectbread.org>. The Service Committee would like to see if we can put a group together to participate. Please contact Pat Newcombe or Barbara West, Co-Chairs, Service Committee, if you are interested in participating.



## Member News

Boston University's **Pappas Law Library** is pleased to welcome two additions to its staff.

**Stephen M. Donweber**, our new Reference and Electronic Services Librarian, is a recent MLIS graduate who has been working as a reference librarian intern at the University of Pennsylvania's Van Pelt Library. Previously he was an attorney in Philadelphia. Steve will be at the LLNE Spring Meeting and is eager to meet many of you.

**Teresa Gallego O'Rourke**, our new Reference and International Law Librarian, will join us from the Harvard Law School Library where she has been a temporary reference librarian since 2004. Terri will be joining our staff on April 27, 2005.

The **Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries** (TCLLs) have recently added several new staff members:

**Catherine Bransfield**, Law Library Assistant,  
Essex Law Library;

**Sarah Gordon**, Law Library Assistant, Middlesex  
Law Library;

**Debra O'Donnell**, Law Library Assistant, Bristol  
Law Library;

**Jacqueline Penney**, Fiscal Specialist,  
Administrative Office for the TCLLs;

**Gary Smith**, Law Library Assistant, Berkshire  
Law Library.

The TCLLs say, "Welcome to all and best wishes in your new positions!"

The **Northeastern University School of Law Library** is pleased to announce that **Sharon Persons** has accepted the position of Head of Reader Services. Sharon has been with the law library since 2002 and has been doing an excellent job of teaching, providing reference services to students and faculty, and participating in developing the collection. Sharon completed her J.D. at Stanford Law School in 1996 and practiced law for five years in California, New York and Massachusetts. She was a Clinical Instructor at Harvard Law School's low-income housing clinic in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. She received her Masters

of Library Science from Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science in January 2004. Sharon recently completed a thirteen week certificate program in High Performance Management at Northeastern University's School of Professional and Continuing Studies.

**Christine I. Hepler** has been named Interim Library Director at the *Garbrecht Law Library*, University of Maine School of Law

**Bill Wells** has been promoted to Chief Information Officer for the **University of Southern Maine**.

*Items for Member News should be submitted to:*

*Carolyn Michaud, Acting Head Law Librarian  
Bristol Law Library  
Superior Courthouse  
9 Court Street  
Taunton, MA 02780  
Phone: 508 824-7632  
Fax: 508 824-4723  
email: [bristolawlibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:bristolawlibrary@yahoo.com)*

### Southern New England Law Librarians Association

#### SNELLA LEGAL RESEARCH COURSE

Saturday, April 30, 2005  
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
An Intensive One-Day Workshop

Kelley, Drye & Warren LLP  
2 Stamford Plaza,  
281 Tresser Blvd.  
Stamford, CT 06901

Contact [Roseanne.Sheat@jud.state.ct.us](mailto:Roseanne.Sheat@jud.state.ct.us) for further  
information

## AALL Mentoring Committee's Mentor Project

Are you new to law librarianship, looking to move to another type of law library, or need advice about advancing in your career? Are you an experienced law librarian interested in meeting and advising those who are new to the profession? Then find a mentor or become a mentor through the AALL Mentoring Committee's Mentor Project!

The purpose of the Mentor Project is three-fold: to provide an informal, personal source of information for newer members; to provide an avenue by which experienced law librarians may meet promising new members of the profession; and to provide a network for members who are contemplating a move to another type of library.

It is up to the individuals to decide how long to continue their mentoring relationship. If you previously participated in the Mentor Project and would like to be matched in a new mentoring relationship, you are encouraged to reapply.

The Mentor Project is open to librarians from all types of libraries. Applications will be reviewed by a Mentoring Committee member and representatives from ALL, PLL, and SCCLL Special Interest Sections so that each participant will be assigned a member whose profile matches, as closely as possible, his or her request.

Although attendance at the AALL Annual Meeting is not required for participation, those who apply by May 2, 2005 will be guaranteed a match in time for the Annual Meeting. The Mentoring Committee will host a Mentor Project reception at the meeting to provide an opportunity to get together and start the mentoring process. Applications are available at:

[http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor\\_project.html](http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor_project.html).

We look forward to hearing from you!

AALL Mentoring Committee

Visit us at <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/>



## Tip of the Day

Northeastern University Law Library brings us a research tip about the *Washington & Lee Most Cited Legal Periodicals Database*, created and maintained by John Doyle. This site was used to answer a faculty question about the popularity of several law review journals for potential publication of her article.

The journal list can be sorted alphabetically by journal name, or in rank order by citation count. You can choose which numeric citation source to display including Journals, 1995-2002, 1996-2003, and 1997-2004, containing citations from Westlaw's Journals & Law Reviews (JLR) Database; Journals Impact Factor, 1996-2003, and 1997-2004, showing the average number of citations to each article; Cases, 1995-2002, and 1996-2003 containing citations from Westlaw's Federal & State Case Law (ALLCASES) Database. You can also rerank by any of these parameters. The journal list may also be limited to General/Specialized, Country, and Student-edited/Peer-edited/Refereed as well as subject. The journal list can also be limited by keyword in names.

The website contains useful information for submissions, including a list of editorial addresses, urls, upload links, email address links and the journal submission policy.

Another source with submission information is the LexisNexis Directory of Law Reviews. This source contains a list of University Presses as well as General Student-Edited Law Reviews, Special Focus Student-Edited Law Journals, Non-Student Edited Peer Review and Trade Journals in HTML, PDF, spreadsheet and labels. It has a Title Index, Title Page, Table of Contents, and "How to Use" explanations section.

*Please email LLNE NEWS with your tips, additional information or comments on these sources to Susan Vaughn or Sharon Persons or post a comment to the BLOG, usernames LLNE NEWS, password LLNEPASS.*



# AALL News



## Scholarships Available

The LLNE Spring Meeting is over and now it is time to think ahead to AALL this summer. If you are worried about paying for the trip to San Antonio, consider applying for an LLNE scholarship. If you know someone who may not be able to attend without some financial help, please encourage him or her to apply.

For each Annual Meeting & Conference, AALL underwrites one free full registration for a number of chapters on a rotating basis. It is LLNE's turn in 2005. AALL's intent is for newer members to receive the grant, though the chapter Board may consider other criteria. The Scholarship Committee will consider all applicants for both the AALL registration grant and the LLNE funded awards.

Application forms are available on the LLNE website.

Please complete the application and send or fax it to:

Margaret Cianfarini, Chair  
LLNE Scholarship Committee  
Harvard Law School Library  
Langdell Hall  
1545 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
Fax: 617-496-4409

The deadline for applications is **Wednesday, April 20, 2005.**

## The Alan Holoch Memorial Grant

*Sponsored by the SR-SIS's Standing Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues.*

The \$500 Alan Holoch Memorial Grant may be awarded each year by the Standing Committee to assist members in attending the Annual Meeting. The grant is funded by a generous bequest made by Alan Holoch, who died in 1991, having served as treasurer of AALL and as Director of the Ohio State University Law Library. Further information on the grant and the application form may be found on AALLnet.

If you have any questions regarding the grant, please contact Jeffrey J. Berns, [bernsj@bskb.com](mailto:bernsj@bskb.com), Chair, AALL SR-SIS Standing Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues.

## LLNE/SNELLA Joint Luncheon

Please join us in San Antonio at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel for the LLNE/SNELLA Joint Luncheon at the AALL Annual Meeting, Tuesday, July 19, from 11:45am-1pm.

The luncheon will include the LLNE's business meeting, election of new officers, and other important business needing your vote.

The menu and registration form are now available at

<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/calendar/05AALLluncheon.pdf>

## New Vistas and Values for Europe Strategies for Researching European Law: a Workshop

Saturday, July 16, 2005 8:30-4:00 p.m.

This intermediate level workshop for academic and law firm librarians and information specialists will focus on European Union document research and the changes in the structure, constitutional foundation, and membership of the European Union. A distinguished roster of academic, governmental, and private research and practice experts will guide participants through these changes and much more. Transportation to St. Mary's University, where the workshop will take place, will be provided. The Wm.S. Hein Company is providing a reception following the program, which will conclude before evening events.

Please register as early as possible for this exciting workshop, part of a multi-year training strategy proposed by the Foreign, Comparative, International Law Special Interest Section. Your participation will help guarantee that the workshop and the series will move forward to keep information professionals trained in this developing area of research, practice, and trade.

We hope to see you there!

Marilyn J. Raisch, International and Foreign Law  
Librarian, Coordinator  
Duncan Alford, Head of Reference, Moderator  
Georgetown Law Library  
111 G St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

(See the full announcement in your preliminary program for the 98th Annual Meeting and Conference of AALL, page 27, recently distributed with Vol. 9, no. 5, March 2005 issue of AALL Spectrum.)

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## Being An Account of Library School From One Who Knows

by Ginny McVarish

I am almost two-thirds of the way through the MLIS program at Simmons, and I feel lucky that so far I have greatly enjoyed several of my classes. I am taking one class at a time while working full-time, but by taking vacation days from work to conduct research and write papers, I have even been able to savor my classes.

I took Reference/Information Services as my first class at Simmons. I was somewhat worried about taking this class first because I was afraid it would be my favorite class in the entire program, and I didn't want everything else to be a let-down. I did love it. I find researching a difficult question challenging and intriguing, somewhat like a puzzle, and much of the work in this class consisted of research. This was accompanied by thought-provoking in-class presentations and discussions. It was a great start to library school.

My fear of enjoying only one class proved unfounded. I also greatly enjoyed Legal Information Resources, taught by LLNE President Raquel Ortiz. I chose to take this class because I graduated from law school in 1983 (when most legal research was still done with print digests and reporters and paper Shepards) and have not practiced law in a number of years, and I wanted to be brought up to date. That goal was definitely achieved, although Raquel had to take me under her wing and encourage me when I doubted my ability to ever become proficient at Westlaw and Lexis. (She was right!) My final project, an annotated bibliography on Historic Preservation Law, brought me back into an area, historic preservation, in which I had worked during the late seventies and which I have loved ever since.

Finally, my most recent class, Modern Publishing and Librarianship, was just plain joy for me although I also worked very hard and learned a lot. Two of our projects in publishing involved working with a book we chose. I chose *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* by Virginia Lee Burton, so for me the class focused on children's book publishing, which I greatly enjoyed. For the third project, we were to choose a book we thought to be the best designed book of our genre and write a paper and presentation about it. We then had a class vote, and my book, *Hachiko* tied for best designed children's book. Our teacher, Anita Silvey, also brought in excellent guest speakers who were practitioners in the field of publishing.

My enjoyment of these three courses, disparate as they are, have demonstrated to me that I was right in choosing librarianship as a career. I am looking forward to my last classes at Simmons and to practicing as a professional in a field I truly love.

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*continued from page 1*

and government librarians who are doing on-the-job training of students and recent graduates. To get this discussion going, I will post the following questions to the LLNE News blog.

- How do you train students to use print resources?
- Do you still teach Shepards in print? Why or why not?
- How integrated is the training of print and electronic resources?
- Do you believe that students will use print resources for certain types of research? If so, which types?
- Do you have any examples that you use (and are willing to share) where you could only answer a research question by using a print resource? Or where a print resource is clearly superior?
- How often do **you** turn to print resources first? For what type(s) of research?
- For firm and government librarians, are students and recent graduates familiar with print resources? Any ideas about what we are teaching students and what we are not?

Please feel free to comment on any of these questions at the LLNE News blog or post your own observations or questions at [www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com) using the username, llnenews, and password, llnepass.

### (Footnotes)

<sup>1</sup> I have not touched on access and pricing issues but welcome comments on these topics.



## What are you reading?

*Under Oath* by Margaret McLean, Hot House Press (2004).

This is a convincing courtroom drama with local flavor (Charlestown), written by a 1991 BC Law grad who worked as an Assistant DA in Boston.

*Helen Litwack, New England School of Law*

*Birth of Venus* by Sarah Dunant

I've just finished reading *Birth of Venus* by Sarah Dunant. I think it's very good. It takes place at the end of the Medici period when art and literature flourished, before the rise to power of the monk Savonarola, who preached piety and hellfire. This is the time when the infamous "Bonfire of the Vanities" took place in 15th century Florence. The story is told through the eyes of a fifteen year old girl named Alessandra Cecchi. This book would be particularly interesting to anyone who has visited Florence since it takes place in all of the plazas and churches that you can see today.

*Karen Moss, Circuit Librarian, U.S. Courts, First Circuit*

*Hachiko, The True Story of a Loyal Dog*, by Pamela S. Turner, illustrated by Yan Nascimbene. Houghton Mifflin Co. (2004).

This is a beautiful way to introduce a child to the concepts of death and loyalty. Hachiko met his master every evening at the Shibuya train station in Tokyo. When his master died at work, Hachiko continued to wait for him every night at the station for ten years. Hachiko died at the station, still awaiting his master. A bronze sculpture now marks the place where Hachiko stood, and each Spring, there is a Hachiko Festival at the station.

Nascimbene's spare illustrations are what drew me to the book, and they are stunning. For a publishing class at Simmons, we were to write a paper on the best-designed book of the past few years, and I chose Hachiko. My

class also voted Hachiko the best-designed children's book proposed by class members, in a two-way tie.



*Virginia Lee Burton: A Life in Art*, by Barbara Elleman, Houghton Mifflin Co. (2002).

Do you remember having *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* read to you as a child? Or perhaps you have read the story to a child, grandchild, niece or nephew? This biography about the busy and fascinating life of Virginia Lee Burton, author of *Mike Mulligan*, is very readable and generously illustrated with drawings, photographs and copies of Folly Cove prints.

Burton was a pivotal member of Folly Cove Designers, an internationally recognized cooperative of artists who did linoleum printing on fabric. She lived most of her life in the Folly Cove section of Gloucester and was an extremely talented and well-liked author and artist.

Burton wrote and illustrated numerous children's books and won a Caldecott Medal in 1943 for *The Little House*. A quote from page 23 of Elleman's book tells us about her writing method:

My first book, *Jonifer Lint*, was about a piece of dust. I and my friends thought it was very clever, but thirteen publishers disagreed with us, and when I finally got the manuscript back and read it to Aris, [her son] aged three-and-one-half, he went to sleep before I could even finish it. That taught me a lesson, and from then on I worked with and for my audience, my own children. I would tell them the story over and over, watching their reaction and adjusting to their interest or lack of interest [and] the same with the drawings.

*Ginny McVarish, Harvard College Library*

# Feng Shui 101

by Sharon Persons

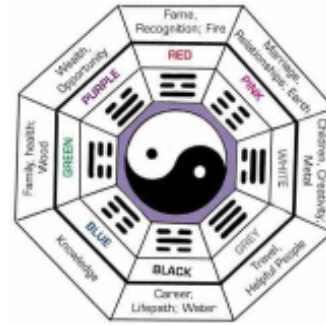
Feng shui, the ancient art of placement, has taken the U.S. by storm. While many experts in the field no doubt shudder at the incarnations this venerable art has taken in the West, the U.S. versions offer plenty of good advice that proponents swear has changed their lives for the better.

In all its forms, feng shui relies on the idea that *chi*, or life force, flows through and around material objects and land masses and that this invisible energy affects us.

Early forms of feng shui, in a more rural setting, employed the chi of land-forms and watercourses and suggested the best placement for the graves of ancestors and eventually, the homes of the living. In more modern and urban areas, the placement of buildings and the structure and arrangement of internal walls, windows, doors and furniture often form the basis for adjustments rather than land-forms or the compass directions.

To determine the significance of each area of a building, a “bagua” is used. The bagua is an eight-sided figure that is superimposed over a building. (See illustration) In Black Sect feng shui, one of the common versions of feng shui in the U.S., the bagua is oriented according to the main door of the house or room. Each of the eight “corners” of the bagua represents a different life area. Each floor of a house or building has a bagua and each room within also has a bagua.

In addition to the mystical significance of the orientation of a room or building, feng shui experts also analyze the contents of rooms. For example, clutter causes *chi* to stagnate and can lead to problems in the area of the person’s life where the clutter is found. Human psychology is also



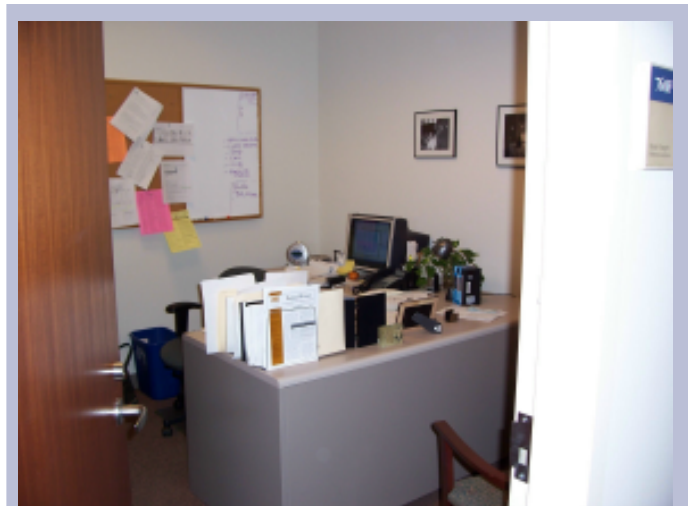
Bagua

important. For example, it is best to place a bed or desk in the corner of the room facing and opposite to the door so that the occupant cannot be surprised from behind. For the same reason, it is unwise to have an uncovered window behind the head of a bed or behind the desk chair in an office.

What does feng shui have to do with law libraries? Well, all of us have had less than optimal office spaces assigned to us or have felt uncomfortable or uneasy in certain rooms or spaces without really being able to articulate the reason. Feng shui is a system that allows us to analyze how we can optimize the spaces we occupy daily so that we can be comfortable and productive. We spend more time at work than doing almost anything else, including sleeping and spending time with loved ones. It is therefore imperative that the spaces we spend this time in nurture us rather than drain us.

In the next issue of the LLNE News, we will analyze the office of my co-editor Susan Vaughn (brave soul!) according to the principles of feng shui and then make some adjustments.

*Here are the “before pictures.” See if you can already suggest some changes based on the principals discussed above.*







## Dear Miss Nomer

Dear Miss Nomer:

*I enjoy reading your column, but what is one to do in today's working environment when one receives input like the attached rejection letter that was recently sent to me? I would welcome any advice that you could give me as I further my law library career at this stage of my life.*

*Ever grateful,*

*Emma Pane*

Dear Emma Pane:

Thank you for interviewing for the position of Reference Librarian in our law library. Although we were impressed by your credentials, we feel at this time that you are not quite what we are seeking.

While we do find remarkable your having graduated Summa Cum Laude from Stanford University with a B.A. in Political Science, Yale Law School and Yale University with a J.D. and Masters in Public Health, MIT with a Ph.D. in Information Technologies, and Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science with a M.S.L.I.S. and M.A.T., we must inform you that we are seeking a candidate who has a broader educational experience. Since you completed post-doctoral work at Harvard University School of Business, and you masterfully completed a stint with Donald Trump on *The Apprentice*, we are certain that

Your fluency in several European and Asian languages is a credit to your dedication to learning. You are to be commended for your studies in and mastery of Cornish. And we marveled on hearing about your exploits in the Peace Corps and at the United Nations. However, since we have interests in additional areas of the world, we are searching for a candidate who has more versatility when it comes to foreign languages and nations.

We were somewhat taken aback by your raised eyebrows when we discussed our very generous salary offer of \$37,450 with expected two per cent annual raises and all other accompanying benefits including sleeping quarters during the frequent times that you would be expected to remain in the law library overnight working on intellectually rewarding rush projects.

Again, we thank you for considering our law library for your employment. At present, we do not have any part-time or volunteering openings available. However, we will keep your resume on file should a more suitable opportunity present itself.

Yours truly,

**JM**

The Honorable Judge Misean

Court of Last Resort

Dear Emma Pane:

*Have you considered getting another degree? Physical Therapy proves ever more popular these days. And at your age you could use the workout. Incidentally, we are forwarding your letter to our Social Security department for advice on that retirement question you raised. Good luck to you.*

*Miss Nomer*



## Photo Tours of Legal Libraries

### The Renovated Social Law Library

*Photos and text by John Pedini*

After decades of planning, years of preparation and months of moving, the Social Law Library now resides on the upper floors of the John Adams Courthouse in Pemberton Square, Boston, along with the Massachusetts Appeals Court and Supreme Judicial Court. Come take an electronic tour courtesy of the LLNE News.



Image 1

Image 1 - Though little has changed on the outside, the inside of the John Adams Courthouse has been completely restored to its original splendor. Newcomers will marvel, anyone who still remembers the old Suffolk County Court House will be amazed.

Image 2- The bronze statue of Rufus Choate stands watch over the newly renovated Great Hall. The marble floors, stairways and tiers of archetypal statues and barrel porticos rise up to a vaulted ceiling restored to turn-of-the-century grandeur.



Image 2



Image 3



Image 4

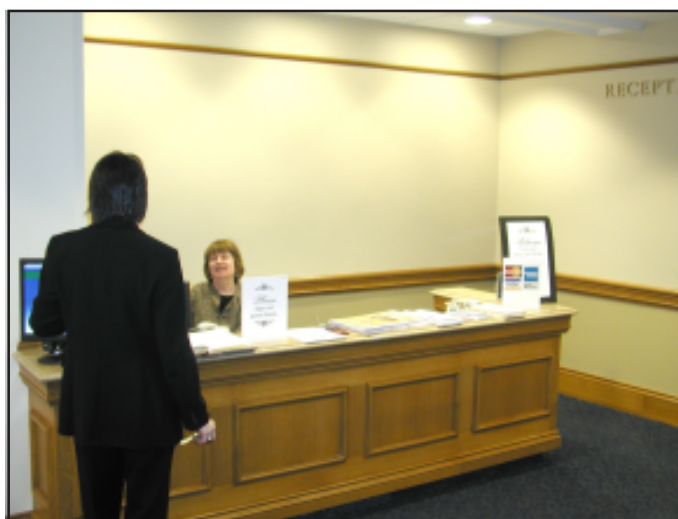


Image 5

Images 3, 4 and 5 - A bright lobby beckons the visitor to the large reception area; to the right is the circulation desk and to the left is Membership Services reception.



Image 6 - As one enters the fourth floor reading room, immediately to the left is the main reference desk.



Image 7 - The fourth floor main reading room features treatises, Massachusetts reserve material, reference material, study tables and carrels, and internet/database connections.





Image 8

Ascend the stairway to the fifth floor reading room.



Image 9



Image 10

Image 9, 10 - The fifth floor reading room features the state and federal collection, as well as more study areas.





Image 11



Image 12

Image 11, 12 - There are small conference rooms on the fifth floor and the Special Collections Room, on the fourth floor, for larger meetings.



Image 13 - Mike Saporito and Document Delivery is at one end of the fourth floor.



Image 14 - The new microforms area.

# DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS AND CHAIRS 2004/2005

## OFFICERS

### President

Raquel Ortiz  
Head of Reference Services  
Boston University Pappas Law Library  
765 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215  
(617) 353-8855  
fax (617) 353-5995  
rmortiz@bu.edu

### Vice President/President Elect

Michelle Pearse  
Bibliographer for Anglo-American Law  
Harvard Law School Library  
Langdell Hall 111  
1545 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 496-2102  
fax (617) 496-4409  
mpearse@law.harvard.edu

### Treasurer

Juliana Hayden  
Satellite Librarian  
U.S. Court of Appeals Library  
Warren B. Rudman U.S. Courthouse  
55 Pleasant Street, Room 422  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 226-7396  
fax (603) 226-7398  
juliana\_hayden@ca1.uscourts.gov

### Secretary

Kathleen Fletcher  
Technical Services Librarian  
New Hampshire Law Library  
Supreme Court Building  
One Noble Drive  
Concord, NH 03301-6160  
(603) 271-3777

### Past President

Susan Sullivan  
Boston College Law Library  
885 Centre Street  
Newton Centre, MA 02159-1161  
(617) 552-4407  
fax (617) 552-2889  
sullivsu@bc.edu

### Educational Director

Sue Zago  
Associate Director  
Northeastern University School of Law  
Library  
400 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 373-3331  
fax (617) 373-8705  
s.drisko@neu.edu

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Communications and Public Relations

Diane D'Angelo  
Reference Librarian  
Suffolk University Law Library  
120 Tremont Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 573-8608  
fax: (617) 723-3164

### Newsletter Subcommittee

John Pedini  
Director of Media Services  
Social Law Library  
1200 Court House  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 523-0018 x337  
fax (617) 523-2458  
jpedini@socialaw.com

Sharon Persons  
Head of Reader Services  
Northeastern University School  
of Law Library  
400 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02115  
(617) 373-3883  
fax (617) 373-8705  
s.persons@neu.edu

Susan Vaughn  
Legal Reference Librarian  
Moakley Law Library  
Suffolk University School of Law  
120 Tremont Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
(617) 573-8177  
svaughn@suffolk.edu

### Internet Subcommittee

Raquel Ortiz  
Head of Reference Services  
Boston University Pappas  
Law Library  
765 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215  
(617) 353-8855  
fax (617) 353-5995  
rmortiz@bu.edu

### Government Relations

Edward Hart  
Acquisitions / Government  
Documents Librarian  
New England School of Law Library  
154 Stuart Street  
Boston, MA 02116  
(617) 422-7293  
fax (617) 422-7303  
ehart@nesl.edu

### Introduction to Legal Research Course

Christine Swan  
State Law Librarian  
New Hampshire State Law Library  
Supreme Court Bldg. W  
One Noble Drive  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 271-3777  
fax (603) 271-2168  
CHSwan@compuserve.com

### Membership Development

Cathy Breen  
Law Librarian  
United States Attorney's Office  
United States Courthouse  
1 Courthouse Way, Suite 9200  
Boston, MA 02210  
(617) 748-3321  
Catherine.Breen@usdoj.gov

### Scholarships

Margaret Cianfarini  
Serials Librarian  
Harvard Law School Library  
Langdell Hall  
1545 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 495-3172  
fax (617) 496-4409  
cianfari@law.harvard.edu

### Service

Patricia Newcombe  
Associate Director  
Western New England College  
School of Law Library  
1215 Wilbraham Road  
Springfield, MA 01119-2693  
(413) 782-1616  
fax (413) 782-1745  
pnewcombe@law.wnec.edu

Barbara West  
Associate Dean of Library  
and Information Resources  
Western New England College  
School of Law Library  
1215 Wilbraham Road  
Springfield, MA 01119-2693  
(413) 782-1201  
fax (413) 782-1745  
bwest@law.wnec.edu