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Letter to Pedro Padilla-Rosa regarding SEAALL Annual Meeting, April 6, 2000

Catherine Lemann

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April 6, 2000

Mr. Pedro A. Padilla-Rosa
Foreign & International Law Librarian
University of Puerto Rico Law Library
Rio Piedras Campus
P.O. Box 23310, UPR Station
San Juan, PR 00936-3310

Dear Pedro,

I cannot thank you enough for your gracious hospitality and all of your efforts that made the 2000 Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of Law Librarians a resounding success. I am sure that it will be a meeting that everyone will remember as one of the best ever.

The Caribe Hilton was a gorgeous locale. It was amazing that when we went to register you felt as if you were outside with the view of the pool and the ocean. All of the Hilton staff I met were friendly and helpful. The two evening events were spectacular. El Jeronimo was a wonderful locale and the costumed guards were so impressive. The food was wonderful. The event sponsored by the Puerto Rico Tourist Company and the Rums of Puerto Rico was also terrific - great drinks, delicious food, and spirited entertainment.

I was extremely impressed by the amount of local support you solicited. I doubt that any other meeting has had as much support from local law firms. This should serve to inspire us in the future. All of the small donations added up to an important contribution to the success of the meeting..

You chose knowledgeable, articulate speakers for the Puerto Rico programs, which both received rave reviews and suggestions that we have more substantive programs in the future. Thank you for coordinating the speakers in addition to your other work.

Of course, your bilingual capability was a huge help making things happen for los norteamericanos. Everything more than lived up to what we here hoping for. I can't wait to return to see more of your beautiful island, eat more delicious food and meet more friendly people. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Catherine Lemann
President, SEAALL

Message from the President

If you weren't in Puerto Rico, you missed a wonderful meeting! Thanks again to Michael Whipple and Pedro Padilla for arranging a beautiful site and spectacular events. Everyone greatly appreciated all the hard work you, your staff, and local volunteers contributed to making the 2000 SEAALL annual meeting a memorable success. While it may seem difficult, I am sure that Herb Cihak, chair of the Program Committee and Rhea Ballard-Thrower, chair of Local Arrangements, and their committees are planning an equally interesting and entertaining meeting in Atlanta next year. Don't forget it's a joint meeting with our colleagues in SWALL.

Sue Burch arranged for a group photo of our members for the AALL time capsule. I hope some of us are around in 25 years when it is opened! Personally, I appreciated all the help and guidance that Steve Hinckley, Board members, and the membership generally gave me last year. I anticipate that I will need lots more assistance this year and hope you will be as accommodating.

Since my return from San Juan, I've been finishing my work as Program Committee chair. I am pleased to report that the evaluations were very positive. Again, I have to thank the members of the Program Committee, Kelly Browne, Amy Osborne, Mary Louise Corbett, Pedro Padilla, Martha Thomas and Edna Dixon for all their conscientious work. Thanks also to all the speakers. I enjoyed all the programs I went to and took home new ideas to think about.

The SEAALL Board now includes the two at-large members, Kathy Crosslin and Hope Breeze. As yet, their duties are undefined and still developing. I have asked them to coordinate with the committee chairs to provide a specified contact on the Board. We need to put these at-large people to work, so if you have any suggestions, please let me know.

The committees are in place and will begin their work. The rosters are in this newsletter. If you are surprised to see your name or surprised that it's not there, let me know.

I am looking forward to working for SEAALL for the next year. I keep meeting more of the members. This is a wonderful group of people and I agree that it's the best chapter in AALL!