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# Government Relations: Rolling Up Our Sleeves

Austin Martin Williams

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# Southeastern Law Librarian

Fall 2012

[www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall)

Volume 37 Issue 4

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## Presidential Ponderings

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### **SEAALL President**

**Edward T. Hart**

**Head of Technical Services – University of Florida, Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center**

**hart@law.ufl.edu**

Here it is the first week of December and outside my library it will be nearly 80 degrees today. Hard to ponder there are only three weeks to Christmas. While I appreciate Florida winters, this is the one time of year it should be truly cold.

Your chapter has been busy.

The Education Committee under Jack Bissett was able to act as sounding board for several AALL program proposals providing feedback to help improve those proposals.

Elizabeth Outler and the Scholarship Committee have diligently considered applications for the chapter's scholarships to support the education of future members of our profession. Announcement of those awards are in Elizabeth's report published in this newsletter.

Pamela Melton and her Program Committee have done an outstanding job soliciting and selecting programs for our next chapter meeting. Our collective thanks to the proposers and their presenters prepared to share their knowledge with us, their colleagues, and provide food for thought as we seek to understand how we serve our libraries' users and contribute to our parent institutions' mission.

My thanks to the Nominating Committee, Lauren Collins (chair), Marcia Burris, Scott Childs, Nichelle Perry, and Sally Wambold, for drafting a great slate of candidates for our 2013 election. My thanks to those who are running for office as well everyone who were nominated. Offering up your service to chapter is the lifeblood that keeps our association moving and reflects well the importance you place on chapter's well-being. I am especially thankful to Sally Wambold who will be retiring shortly from Richmond and who continued to serve the chapter until the very end!

Looking ahead for SEAALL, we are now less than five months away from our chapter meeting 18-20 April 2013 at the Marriott Courtyard in Decatur, Georgia. The Local Arrangements Committee continues with their planning including some wonderful networking opportunities that allows us to enjoy downtown Decatur. Registration details should be out shortly after the New Year.

For those who are not currently helping with a SEAALL project, your turn may soon come up when our President-Elect Pamela Melton makes her call for volunteers before the chapter meeting.

Happy Holidays!

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## Reader Feedback

If you have suggestions of articles or features you would like to see in the Southeastern Law Librarian please contact Brian Barnes, [bcbarnes@loyno.edu](mailto:bcbarnes@loyno.edu).

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## It Doesn't Just Pay the Rent: How Working Outside the Library Has Made Me a Better Librarian

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Jane Steele, J.D.

MSLS Candidate at the University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science

J.D., University of Richmond School of Law, 2009

[jwsteele@live.unc.edu](mailto:jwsteele@live.unc.edu)

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One benefit of being a student at a large university like the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is the multitude of professional and educational opportunities that extend beyond the walls of Manning Hall, where the School of Information and Library Science is located. While I have worked in the circulation and reference departments at UNC Law and Duke Law during my time as a student here, I have also had the opportunity to work elsewhere on campus in very different, very non-library positions. What I initially expected to be simply sources of income and tuition support in fact became invaluable opportunities to put what I was learning in the classroom into practice and to develop skills I would need to be a successful academic law librarian.

In addition to my library positions, I have had the opportunity to serve as a teaching assistant at UNC's Writing Center and as the coordinator for the Graduate School's Pre-Graduate Education Advising Program. Working at the Writing Center gave me not only valuable instructional experience, but it also allowed me to learn more about the way I write. Teaching writing at all levels improved both my academic writing as well as my written communication. Though writing was a topic of much focus in law school, the technical aspects of writing tend to take a backburner to library-specific professional skills in library school. Working in an environment where teaching writing was my one and only priority allowed me to continue to hone this important skill outside of the classroom. This position also required the ability to work with writers at all levels—from first year undergraduates to Ph.D. candidates and professors—which required that I be flexible, versatile, patient, and personable. I was also lucky to receive extensive training on language and communication styles of non-native English speakers, which has been extremely beneficial in the library setting. Working with these different populations and being able to identify and address the needs of each was excellent practice for serving patrons at the reference desk.

As the coordinator for Pre-Graduate Advising, I have been able to use many of the skills I have learned in the classroom at SILS. My Management course prepared me to interview, hire, train, and supervise a staff of 20 graduate student advisors and maintain a program budget. Collection Development provided me with the skill and experience to evaluate resources and develop a brand new resource library (as well as determine which materials and subscriptions our office no longer needed to keep). My Reference course armed me with the all-important reference interview, which I use with undergraduates on a regular basis who are trying to decide whether or not to go to graduate school, what program to pursue, where to apply, etc. My Information Tools course familiarized me with computer programs and tools that help me maintain our program's website. My position also requires working closely with several deans at the Graduate School as well as professors and student leaders all over campus, designing and leading workshops targeted toward different audiences, representing my program and the Graduate School at fairs and other events, and extensive outreach and publicity activities. Additionally, skills that I honed working in law libraries have been helpful in creating unique resource guides for students. And, lest anyone claim otherwise, explaining to an anxious undergraduate that I cannot predict whether she will be accepted into the school of her choice, tell her exactly where to apply, or do program research for her is much like explaining to a pro se patron that I cannot give legal advice as a reference librarian. See also: anticipating and/or averting disaster; placating desperate souls; and practicing patience, serenity, and tolerance.

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I feel that library internships and field experience work are crucial to any library student's education, but I would encourage students to take the opportunity to explore alternative work and educational opportunities as well. The duties and projects that filled my time as an intern at UNC Law and Duke Law exposed me to much of what a career as an academic law librarian will be like, but much of my education came from other opportunities at UNC. In these non-library roles, I was able not only to practice skills and principles I learned in class, but also to develop other necessary professional skills. I genuinely believe that these experiences were as important to my professional development as my law library internships, and that they have helped me become more well-rounded and prepared for a career in academic law librarianship.

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## Government Relations: Rolling Up Our Sleeves

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**Austin M. Williams**  
Reference / Student Services Librarian  
Georgia State University College of Law Library  
austin@gsu.edu

I had the opportunity to attend the Government Relations Chapter Leadership Roundtable in Boston this past July and wanted to briefly share two of the topics addressed during the meeting. The bulk of the discussion centered on recent developments with regards to the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) and the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) Forecast Survey Questionnaire.

Much has already been written on UELMA, including a recent Southeastern Law Librarian newsletter article by Anne Burnett titled "UELMA: Coming Soon to a Legislature Near You." (Vol. 37, Iss. 2, P. 5). UELMA is a uniform law that provides "a technology-neutral, outcomes-based approach to ensuring that online state legal material deemed official will be preserved and will be permanently available to the public in unaltered form." (AALLNET, UELMA FAQs). The act requires that electronic materials designated as official must be: (1) capable of being authenticated, (2) preserved, and (3) permanently accessible to the public. (AALLNET, UELMA FAQs). As of September 2012, through the efforts of the AALL and regional Government Relations Committees, two states have passed UELMA into law: Colorado (HB 12-1209) and California (SB-1075, 2011-2012). Additionally, four other states currently have bills modeled after UELMA: Connecticut, Minnesota, Rhode Island, and Tennessee. Although everyone at the roundtable agreed that we had made great strides on this issue, our work is far from over.

Hopefully you are wondering what you can do to get UELMA passed in your state. As discussed at the roundtable, there are several ways that AALL members can get involved. The first thing you should do is contact the Government Relations Committee for your chapter. They can provide you with information on the Uniform Laws Commissioner for your state, as well as have a feel for the local politics. Some of you may be tentative about volunteering, but I hope to ease your reservations. Not everyone has to testify at a hearing or be out on the front lines "shaking hands." There are many other ways that you can get involved in this process. Whether you are making phone calls, writing letters, or sending emails, every little bit counts. Those who are geographically close can help by simply attending hearings and debates and reporting back on recent developments. Point being, it's never too late to volunteer in any capacity. For those who are looking to get more information on UELMA or learn how you can get involved, check out the Government Relations page on AALLNET. The UELMA Resources section includes background information on UELMA, current developments, sample letters in support of UELMA, and other useful materials.

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In addition to UELMA, Sarah Holterhoff discussed the recent FDLP Forecast Survey Questionnaire, which was due on June 30, 2012. Susan chairs the AALL Federal Depository Library Program Task Force. As part of its duties, the task force works to raise awareness about FDLP, highlight advantages of libraries participating in the FDLP, and identify and pass along library concerns to the Government Print Office (GPO). The FDLP survey sought information on preservation plans, education needs, and economic and demographic factors that affect libraries and depository collections, as well as the relative value of initiatives conducted by the depository administration team at the GPO. As with UELMA, you can keep up with developments surrounding the FDLP and the GPO via the Government Relations page on AALLNET.

As you can see, the national and regional Government Relations Committees were hard at work over the past year. I encourage anyone who is looking to get involved with a chapter to consider volunteering in some way for a Government Relations Committee. The work these committees are doing is poised to have a significant impact on law libraries in the digital age.

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## **Libraries in Democracies and Human Rights:**

The Possible Role of Egyptian Libraries in the Country's Current Political Discourse

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**Mohamed Berray**

**Fulbright Scholar and an ILEAD Fellow**

**Department of Library and Information Science at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro**  
**maberray@uncg.edu**

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For many years before the 2011 Egyptian revolution, life in Egypt was characterized by fear and the infringement of the rights of Egyptians to freedoms of speech, democracy and human rights. Perpetual years of repressive and dictatorial regimes had also ingrained a legacy of self-imposed censorship that deluded Egyptians of their rights and intellectual freedoms. The free flow of information was restricted. The citizens of the birthplace of civilization remained ignorant and ill-informed.

In January 2011, Egyptians rediscovered their voices in an all-powerful, almighty uprising with unmatched potency against the Egyptian police and the regime of former president Hosni Mubarak. After three decades of unchallenged power, the Mubarak regime was brought down by only seventeen days of shouting and prolific rock throwing.

Many sections of society, including Facebook, Twitter, and especially the now largely unpopular Muslim Brotherhood (Freedom and Justice Party) were accredited with the success of the revolution. In fact, that same year, an Egyptian father named his newborn daughter "Facebook Jamal Ibrahim" in recognition of the role of social media in the uprising. As much as this might sound cynical, it underlines the appreciation of information, and the importance of that information in democratic processes. This article will underscore the importance of information, and information institutions such as libraries, to human rights and democratic discourses in a developing country such as Egypt.

In his groundbreaking article, "The Constitutional Right to Know", David Mitchell Ivester<sup>1</sup> said "the triumph of our democracy is grounded in the free flow of information upon which individuals make reasoned judgments". Certainly, the extent to which citizens of a nation state can access information (including information about their national government) has significant impact on fundamental democratic values of that state.

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Libraries can engage in this process by first changing their views of library “patrons” who are in effect democratic citizens with the legitimate need for information about the rights and privileges due them by the state. Not only do libraries help patrons, they also help the state by empowering its citizens through information to exercise the rights and duties due of citizens to the state. Voter education, for example, immediately comes to mind, especially in Egypt where voter turnout was at an all-time low of 15% during the Mubarak regime.<sup>2</sup> Libraries can therefore bridge the information divide that exists in developing societies. And since the success of a democratic nation partly depends on an educated and informed population, it is fair to say that libraries assist in creating democratic nations. According to Rachel More, “libraries build communities, nourish creativity, preserve culture, provide access to information, and safeguard intellectual freedoms thus keeping democracy healthy.”<sup>3</sup>

The system of governance in Egypt is clearly not perfect, but it is the best available option at the time since it is based on collective decision making through individual choice. But for choice to be meaningful it must be informed. And Egyptians thus hold the dual right to be informed, and the right to express their views. The role of information in such societies cannot be downplayed. Although Egyptians are slowly getting there, the changes needed to attain full democratic values are still unfolding at a very slow pace. The Egyptian government should however note that, and according to James Madison, “a popular government without information or means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or tragedy; or perhaps both.”<sup>4</sup> The Egyptian government should therefore start treating libraries as partners, and in return, libraries and librarians should lobby the government through the Egyptian Library Association to ensure that every community / governorate has a library or an information resource center. These libraries and/or information centers should be capable of providing community spaces for their members to learn and enquire matters of public interest. This provision of civic information enables citizenry participation in the democratic process and strengthens democracy as a whole. There is no secret that the extent to which a government values knowledge and truth is a reflection of the number of libraries in the country. Of course, in a country like Egypt where culture, religion, and politics are all intertwined, a commitment to freedom of access to information will put libraries and librarians in direct opposition with restrictive measures. These restrictive measures ranging from censorship to restrictions on intellectual freedom should be curtailed, and Egyptian libraries should refuse to remove materials from their shelf on political or religious grounds. Instead libraries should be encouraged to build balanced collections for the needs of all social and demographic groups. The Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom<sup>5</sup> imposes a professional commitment to intellectual freedom as a core responsibility on libraries.

Since democracy in the developing world is now defined within the contexts of legal norms, library schools, especially ALA accredited library programs, should train library students (especially foreign librarians) on the use of government documents and legal resources. As emphasized by Gloria Grant Roberson, there is clearly a failure within current curriculum designs to meet student needs for legal research within a general context rather than solely as a specific course of study designed for students aspiring to be law librarians.<sup>6</sup> Legal research should instead be viewed as an “intellectual invitation to professional and personal growth.”<sup>7</sup>

I have no doubts that Egyptians will uphold and protect the true values of democracy, and that Egyptian librarians will play a significant part in achieving this goal. I wish to thank the SEAALL Scholarship Committee for awarding me the 2012 Scholarship and contributing to my overall academic experience in the United States.

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1. David Mitchell Ivester, “The Constitutional Right to Know,” *Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly*, 4 (Winter 1977), p. 109.

2. Voter turnout during the 2012 Presidential election was 62% of registered voters – higher than turnout during the 2012 US Presidential elections.

3. Rachel More. “Librarians as Agents of Democracy”. Paper presented at the Library and Information Association of South Africa Conference, 2004.

4. Letter from James Madison to W.T. Barry, August 4, 1822, in *Writings of James Madison*, G. Hurst ed., 1910. P. 130

*Berray Article - From Previous Page*

5. The Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom, International Federation of Library Association, 2002.

6. Gloria Grant Roberson, Legal Research and the Democratic Process, *The Reference Librarian*, No. 40 (1993) pp. 63-71. The Haworth Press, Inc.

7. *Ibid.*

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*Mohamed Berray is former Head of the Law Library at the American University in Cairo. He is currently a Fulbright Scholar and an ILEAD (International Librarians Enhancing Access and Development) Fellow at the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. Mohamed is a recipient of the 2012 Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries Student Scholarship.*

**Have an idea to share?**

**Need publications to help with achieving  
promotion or tenure?**

**Want to promote a project you have done at  
your library?**

**Become an author in the Southeastern  
Law Librarian !!!**

Contact Brian Barnes, [bcbarnes@loyno.edu](mailto:bcbarnes@loyno.edu).



# SEAALL Library Profile

## Duncan School of Law at Lincoln Memorial University

Information by Katherine Marsh, Layout by Brian Barnes



Built in 1848, the Duncan School of Law's building has a long and rich history. Originally the Tennessee School for the Deaf, the facility later functioned as a Civil War hospital for the Confederate Army (1861-1863) and the Union Army (1863-1865). In the 1920s, the building became the Knoxville City Hall. Since that time, it has also served as the headquarters of the Tennessee Valley Authority. In 2008, Lincoln Memorial University took over a long-term lease from TVA on the building for use as a law school campus.

As a law school, the building is charmingly old, but our students and faculty find the law library refresh-

ingly modern. For instance, the Duncan School of Law Library has access to over one million e-books and e-journals; nearly 90% of the collection is electronic/digital. Our law library has no reference desk and circulation of materials is implemented via a self-check-out kiosk in the law school lobby. When the law school was founded in 2009, the idea was to create a "library without walls." This concept translates into two key cornerstones: 1) The collection is available online to our students and faculty at any time, from anywhere; and 2) The library follows the concept of "embedded librarianship" whereby instead of placing all librarians' offices in one designated "library" space, librarian offices are integrated throughout the building. The floor plan of the law school's third floor is included as an example. Library space, study space, classrooms, faculty offices, and librarian offices are intermixed to maximize communication between different groups. It is next to impossible for the faculty at the Duncan School of Law to sequester themselves from students or from librarians. While the librarian on each hallway is generally a liaison to the faculty on the same hallway, there are no restrictions on whom the faculty can ask for research or library help. To this end, all librarians are cross-trained in different areas to maximize the efficiency of our services. We have found this model to be highly effective.

The Duncan School of Law Library also offers outreach to students in the form of classes and training sessions. All of our librarians teach full-semester courses, including Legal Research, Legal Writing, Academic Support classes, and various electives. In order to make sure our services to students and faculty are meaningful, our library, like many others, makes an effort to solicit feedback from our users without overwhelming them with "survey fatigue." We base future library services and collection development decisions on responses received. In this way, we can offer a "just in time" model of reference and

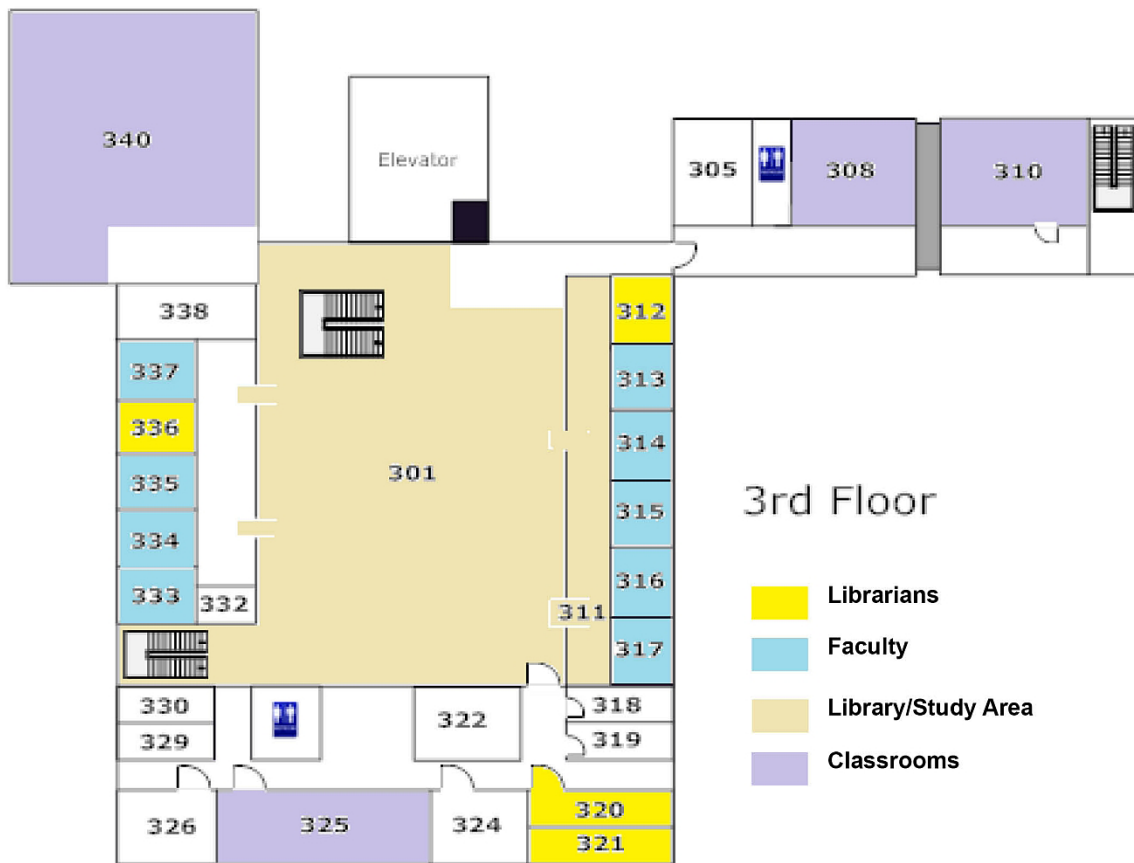


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*Library Profile - From Previous Page*

research service, rather than a “just in case” model where items purchased may sit forever unused on a dusty shelf.

The Duncan School of Law will graduate its first class in the spring of 2013, and we hope to offer our alumni services that will allow them to continue using our resources. To view our current library resources, please visit <http://library.lmunet.edu/lawlib>.



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# SEAALL Student Scholarship Awards

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The SEAALL Student Scholarships are designed to encourage library school students to pursue a career in law librarianship. The Scholarship Committee awards grants to the student or students whom the Scholarship Committee determines has indicated a genuine interest in the profession of law librarianship and is likely to pursue a career in law librarianship. Award recipients will also be given a one year membership to SEAALL. We had a very successful round of applications for the SEAALL Student Scholarship this year. The committee received 15 applications from very accomplished and deserving students, and we made eight awards, listed below. The committee is proud to support these fine students in their efforts to become law librarians, and we look forward to welcoming them as members of SEAALL.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Library School</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Brett Currier	University of North Carolina	\$750
Shannan Hicks	Louisiana State University	\$750
Avery Le	Florida State University	\$1,500
Amy Lipford	Florida State University	\$1,500
Jacqueline Menzel	Florida State University	\$1,500
Rafael Mojica Lopez	University of Puerto Rico	\$750
Nicholas Pleasant	University of Alabama	\$1,500
Janeen Williams	University of North Carolina	\$750

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## SEAALL Student Scholarship Awards Applications

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The Scholarship Committee encourages SEAALL members to apply for the scholarships and grants listed below that will help defray the cost of attending conferences or pursuing other professional development opportunities. Visit the SEAALL website for application materials.

**Lucile Elliott Scholarship.** Provides financial aid for any purpose reasonably designed to improve one's career in law librarianship. The amount of the award will vary depending on the proposed activity. Application deadline: February 6, 2013.

**Kathryn P. Mattox Memorial Scholarship.** This scholarship is intended to defray the cost of attendance at the AALL or SEAALL annual meetings. Application deadline: February 6, 2013.

**AALL Annual Meeting Registration Grant.** This grant was created to provide funding for a law librarian who needs financial assistance to attend the AALL Annual Meeting. The award will be the cost of a full registration to the AALL Annual Meeting. Application deadline: February 22, 2013.

**CONNELL Grant.** This grant was created to provide funds for CONELL registration and one night's hotel stay for a newer law librarian who will attend the AALL Annual Meeting but needs financial assistance to attend CONELL. Application deadline: February 22, 2013.

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# SEAALL Committees 2012 - 2013

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## **Archivist**

Sarah Mauldin

## **Articles & Bylaws**

Carol Watson, Chair - Immediate Past President (2013)

Edward Hart - President (2014)

Pamela Melton – Vice-President/President-Elect (2015)

## **Community Service**

Rebekah Maxwell, Chair (2013)

Ian Bourgoine (2014)

Robert Brammer (2014)

Maureen Cahill (2014)

Shawn Friend (2014)

Penny Calhoun Gibson (2013)

Karen E. Kalnins (2013)

Julie Luppino (2013)

Patricia Morgan (2014)

Frosty Owen (2014)

Ellen Richardson (2014)

## **Education & Publications**

Julie Griffith - Handbook Editor

Jack Bissett, Chair (2013)

Sharon Bradley (2013)

Adrienne DeWitt (2014)

Benjamin Keele (2013)

Pamela Lucken (2014)

Etheldra Scoggin (2014)

Thomas 'TJ' Striepe (2014)

## **Government Relations**

Leslie Street (2013) Chair NC

Christina Ashoo (2014) MS

Elizabeth Bradsher (2014) AL

Terrye Conroy (2014) SC

Patricia Dickerson (2013) NC

Fred Dingley (2013) VA

James Kelly (2014) TN

Katrina 'Katie' Miller (2014) FL

Karen Nuckolls (2014) KY

Austin Williams (2013) GA

Beth Williams (2014) LA

MD rep TBA

WV rep TBA

*Continued on next page*

**Handbook Editor**

Julie Griffith

**Local Arrangements - Decatur, GA 2013**

Sarah Mauldin, Chair  
Terrance Marion, Vice Chair  
Jim Braden  
Pam Deemer  
Richelle Reid  
Thomas Sneed  
Kimberly Snoddy-Geroge  
Rebecca Velez

**Membership**

Ryan Valentin, Chair (2013)  
Melanie Creech (2014) firm  
Pam Deemer (2013)  
Nancy Dulniak (2014)  
Robb Farmer (2014)  
Suzanne Graham (2013)  
Kate McLeod (2013)  
Ryan Saltz (2013)

**Public Relations**

Kevin Baggett, Chair (2013)  
Anne Burnett (2014)  
Heather Casey (2014)  
Masako Patrum (2013)  
Lauren Seney (2013)  
Collen Martinez Skinner (2014)  
Brian Barnes, Newsletter Editor (ex officio)  
Webmaster TBA (ex officio)

**Nominating**

Lauren Collins, Chair (2013)  
Sally Wambold (2013)  
Marcia Burris (2013)  
Scott Childs (2013)  
Nichelle Perry (2013)

**Placement**

Deborah Schander, Chair (2013)  
Scott Croft (2014)  
Suzanne Corriell (2013)  
Michelle Cosby (2013)  
Katherine Marsh (2014)  
Beau Steenken (2014)  
Lisa Watson (2013)

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**Program**

Pamela Melton, Chair (2013)  
Torai Doshi (2013) firm  
Elizabeth Farrell (2013)  
Sally Irvin (2013)  
Francis Norton (2013)  
Phebe Poydras (2013)  
Sara Sampson (2013)  
Jenny Wondracek (2013) (Institute Coordinator)

**Scholarship**

Elizabeth Outler, Chair (2013)  
Donna Bausch (2013)  
Lance Burke (2013)  
Katie Crandall (2014)  
Ismael Gullon (2014)  
Kelly Leong (2014)  
Charles A. Pippins II (2014)  
Louis Rosen (2014)  
Linda Tesar (2013)

**Service to SEAALL**

Georgia Chadwick, Chair (2013)  
Carol Watson (2013)  
Pam Deemer (2014)

**Task Force: Post-COSELL Options**

Wendy Moore, Chair  
James Donovan  
Trina Holloway  
Kate Irwin-Smiler  
Alan Keely

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# SEAALL Placement Opportunities

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Law Librarian

**Faulkner University**

Montgomery, AL

Contact: Robb Farmer ([rfarmer@faulkner.edu](mailto:rfarmer@faulkner.edu))

Deadline: (not specified)

[http://www.faulkner.edu/SharedMedia/\\_aboutFaulkner/LawLibrarian121030.pdf](http://www.faulkner.edu/SharedMedia/_aboutFaulkner/LawLibrarian121030.pdf)

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Associate Dean for the Law Library and ITS

**Charlotte School of Law**

Charlotte, NC

Contact: (not specified)

Deadline: (not specified)

[http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/documents/employment/2012\\_Charlotte\\_Associate\\_Dean.pdf](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/documents/employment/2012_Charlotte_Associate_Dean.pdf)

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Evening Weekend Reference Librarian

**Elon University**

Greensboro, NC

Contact: (not specified)

Deadline: Application review began Nov. 5

[http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/documents/employment/2012\\_Elon\\_Evening\\_Weekend\\_Reference.pdf](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/documents/employment/2012_Elon_Evening_Weekend_Reference.pdf)

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Reference/Access Services Librarian

**Elon University**

Greensboro, NC

Contact: (not specified)

Deadline: Application review began Nov. 5

[http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/documents/employment/2012\\_Elon\\_Access\\_Services.pdf](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/documents/employment/2012_Elon_Access_Services.pdf)

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# Announcement

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## **AALL's Technical Services SIS Awards Committee Seeking Nominations for the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship**

Since 1992, the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions in Technical Services Law Librarianship has been presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries to an individual or group in recognition of achievement in a particular area of technical services, for service to the Association, or for outstanding contributions to the professional literature. The accomplishments of the 21 recipients of the Chapman Award shown at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/awards/chapman/> are varied, but clearly demonstrate quality leadership, active participation in the section's committees, numerous program presentations and publications relevant to technical services librarians.

Factors considered in selecting the recipients of the Award include such accomplishments as the publishing, presenting, or sharing of innovative techniques, research, analysis or commentary; or development of software, hardware, or other mechanisms that significantly enhance access to law library materials and collections. These contributions may be applied in the functional areas of processing, preservation, or technical services administration. Contributions may also consist of service to Technical Services SIS as a whole.

Members of AALL may submit the names of persons for consideration to the chair of the TS-SIS Awards Committee. Nominations must include the candidate's full name, title and current firm, company or institution name and address; or, if retired, name and last previous place of work and home address. Letters of nomination must be signed by a person other than the individual(s) being nominated. Each nomination should include a complete list of projects, programs, and/or publications of the candidate and a description of the candidate's work with respect to improvements in bibliographic control or access to legal materials and services. All documentation must be submitted in typed form.

The application deadline is February 1, 2013. For further information see the Chapman Award section of the Technical Services SIS handbook at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/handbook/related/chapmanaward.htm> or contact the TS-SIS Awards Committee Chair Calmer Chattoo at [cchattoo@law.miami.edu](mailto:cchattoo@law.miami.edu). All materials in support of a nomination should be sent to Calmer Chattoo, University of Miami School of Law Library, 1311 Miller Drive, P.O. Box 248087, Coral Gables, FL 33146-2300 by February 1, 2013.



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# Losing Weight

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As the holiday season arrives, there is one thing I always dread, the post-Christmas diet. If you are anything like me diets generally go out the window the week of Thanksgiving and stay abandoned until after the big man magically comes down the chimney. This is a time that is filled with office Christmas parties, family Christmas parties, cookies from grandma, and fudge from Aunt Clara. However, when it is all over, when the kids have shredded the wrapping paper and played more with the boxes than the expensive items that were in them, reality comes back and all too often we have to lose those Christmas pounds.

The correlation for this editorial is the weight loss requirements that many (if not all) law libraries are experiencing now. The legal profession and law schools were booming in the 90's and early 2000's. Budgets were flush, enrollments were up, and firms hired all sorts of associates who had no clue how to conduct research; in a sense, it was Christmas for law schools and law librarians. Now, as the calendar turns we have to go on a diet for no fault of our own. Firms seemed to be the first to trim back, then academics slowly followed as the students and their sweet morsels of tuition dollars figured out the job market for them 3 years later was not so grand. So just like we push away from the table January 1st and think about joining that fitness club, calling our Advocare rep, or subjecting ourselves to Tony Horton's P90x madness, our work life must also trim up. So what are the great tips for doing this in libraries? Could they possibly be similar to diets? You betcha!

First, come up with a plan of how to save your library. An effective plan starts with doing some research. What works for you and your library? Is online an acceptable alternative? Do students still read emails or visit your library Facebook page? Do faculty members research the same things they did 5 years ago? Easy Peezy.

Second, find some support. Who better to support you than other people who are facing the same thing issues?. Weight Watchers = SEAALL? Maybe it's not that far of a reach. If Weight Watchers online can work for overeaters like me, then surely SEAALL list-servs and committee work can do the same even from remote locations.

Third, start small and gain momentum. How do we trim back when facing seemingly impossible odds? By starting small. Cutting \$100,000 from a budget is CRAZY, but if you start with a \$600 treatise here and another \$400 there it adds up. Start small, gain momentum, and don't get discouraged.

Fourth, think about what you can add to your diet, not what you have to take away. This is crucial for law libraries (and diets) as we move forward. Can't afford those Halsburys at \$800 a volume? Don't think of it as losing your beloved ice cream. Think of it as gaining a whole new world of frozen yogurts. Some of these new things, maybe Justis, can be a replacement for what we have loved in the past. And then maybe they come with these added benefits as well.

Finally, consider if you are really hungry for "that." All too often we eat because we are "supposed" to eat. Well ... not so fast librarians. Just because we've always bought Consumer Credit Guide doesn't mean we even offer a class that uses it this year. Are we hungry for *all* our titles, for *all* our expenses?

For almost everyone reading this editorial, it is time to lose some weight, in the vocational sense. We know the tricks, we know the tips, let's make it happen.

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# Submission Guidelines

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Submissions are preferred to be sent electronically in MS Word format.

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