



LLAM News

September 2011
Vol. 31 No. 1

Law Library Association of Maryland
A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

President's Message September 2011

*By Sara Witman
Research Librarian
Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander*

I think it's a safe bet that I'm not exaggerating when I say that LLAM has the greatest membership of any association ever. I know I don't have to prove it to you, but let me explain anyway.

First, our Board members, including the newly-appointed Tonya Baroudi who is just off a long stint as the fantastic chair of the Placement Committee, recently passed new policies for our website — specifically, a [Web Copyright Statement and Release](#) as well as [Rules and Conditions](#) for our listserv users. These policies are available on the LLAM website. Both are fairly basic and uncontroversial, but I encourage you to read them over — particularly the [listserv rules](#) — and give me any opinions or issues you may have about them.

Many thanks to Harvey Morrell for his help with the listserv and to our new webmaster Jenny Rensler. Jenny has cleaned up the site recently, changing some colors and redesigning the navigation bar. It looks fantastic, and we are lucky to have her!

I am particularly lucky to have a fantastic Vice President on board. Mary Jo Lazun has a lot of great programs already planned for us. She will be putting together informal morning "LLAM & Lattes" coffee talks, as well as more substantial educational programs, such as a program on the Appellate Process and one on Administrative Law.

Additionally, this is a Legal Research Institute (LRI) year and Mary Jo has some exciting and novel ideas for the March event. (Spoiler alert: Think "legal research best practices" + fun.) If you are interested in getting involved with the LRI planning committee (and you are), contact either me or Mary Jo and we'll hook you up.

Who could have missed our new Placement Committee chair Mary Rice? The year is just gearing up, and her regular emails have already kept us up-to-date with the law librarian market place this summer. Thank you, Mary!

I can't possibly mention everyone in one message and I'll definitely miss some of the super members, but while I'm on a roll, let me thank the tireless work of Membership Committee chair Pat Behles, the detail-oriented assistance of Treasurer Bijal Shah, and the delightful help of our Secretary Thea Warner. I can't wait for another year of the awesome LLAM eNews. (Kirstin Nelson, you rock!) And, of course, the Past President Susan Herrick continues to be a wonderful source of guidance and mentoring for me.

LLAM is made up of interesting and active members who care about the profession and each other. That is why I got involved and I why I'm genuinely excited about the coming year.

If you want to get more involved, but aren't sure how, send me an email at switman@gfrlaw.com.

What's New with LLAM Members?

1. [AALL Un-Run](#)
2. [Baby News](#)
3. [AALL Committee Membership](#)
4. [Maryland State Law Library Adds New Staff](#)
5. [Member Earns Paralegal Certificate](#)
6. [New Librarian at Thurgood Marshall Law Library](#)
7. [New Co-webmasters of the LLAM Website](#)

1. [2nd Annual Law Librarian "Un-Run"](#)

This year's AALL Un-Run (unsponsored fun run) was organized by fellow LLAM member John Cannan. Both runners and walkers enjoyed the route from the convention center to [Philadelphia Museum of Art](#). The run culminated with a run up the Art Museum steps...just like Rocky! Several LLAM members participated including Janet Camillo (and Larry), Jean Hessenauer and Joanne Colvin.

2. [Baby News](#)

Congratulation Sara Thomas

Sara Thomas welcomed Ashlynn Brooke Thomas on February 8, 2011. She weighed 7lbs 11oz and measured 21 inches.

3. [AALL Committee Appointment](#)

Kirstin Nelson has been appointed to the [AALL Recruitment to Law Librarianship Committee](#) for a 2 year term. The Recruitment Committee works to encourage qualified candidates to enter the profession of law librarianship. Efforts include outreach to library and law school career centers, publishing pamphlets, speaking at open houses and more.

4. [MSLL Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Maryland State Law Library](#) recently welcomed two new staff members. Pam Luby is the library's new part-time Research Librarian. Sara Marks is the Fiscal Services Coordinator and is taking over many of the duties handled by Bernice Bernstein.

5. [Lazun Earns Paralegal Certification](#)

Mary Jo Lazun completed her paralegal certification at Anne Arundel Community College. She will be teaching two continuing educational classes for attorneys and paralegals this fall.

6. [Hawkins Joins TMLL as Research Librarian](#)

Jason Hawkins started August 15 as Research Librarian at University of Maryland, [Thurgood Marshall Law Library](#). Jason was formerly at George Washington University Law School's Jacob Burns Law Library. We welcome Jason as a new LLAM member.

7. [New Co-webmasters of LLAM Website](#)

Jenny Rensler has joined Mary Jo Lazun as co-webmaster of the LLAM website this year, and she has added navigation links from the LLAM website to the LLAM newsletter pages for improved access to "LLAM-formation." Since earning her J.D. in the spring, this fall she is enjoying teaching 30 students in her first course of Advanced Legal Research at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. She survived Irene: a 30-foot tree in front of her Riva townhome fell, but fortunately did not damage any property during the hurricane. She and her husband Matt are preparing to move from downtown Baltimore to the Annapolis area this fall in order to be near their families and to ease his commute to work. Now that she will have a commute to work, she is looking forward to catching up on her "reading" with "books on CD" from the library!

Events Calendar

September

LLAM and Latte

Tuesday, [September 27th](#) 7:45 AM @49 West in Annapolis

"LLAM and Latte" was inspired by the AALL Conference and the most recent issue of Law Library Journal. Let me explain...

At the AALL Annual Meeting I attended their new feature "Coffee Talks." These were informal early morning sessions where anybody who was interested in a topic could gather around a table and chat. Topics ranged from updating loose leaf services to teaching legal research online. I sat with about ten other librarians and for an hour we discussed the future of AALL and law librarianship. It was a provocative, thoughtful conversation and a highlight of the conference.

This inspired me to try something similar for LLAM. It may work, it may not, but why not see if other LLAM members wanted to set around a table and have serious conversation about our field. But what would be talk about? The most recent issue of Law Library Journal provided the answer, why not take an article and discuss it? Think of it like a law librarian book club but instead of discussing a book we would be discussing a Law Library Journal article. Thanks to Janet Sinder, the September 2011 issue has enough great articles to keep this going for a long time.

If you are a morning person and would like to have a latte (or the beverage of your choice) please join me for LLAM and Latte.

Tuesday 7:45am September 27th- [49 West](#) in Annapolis

October

Appellate Process and Legal Research

Wednesday [October 12](#), 10:00am @ the Maryland State Law Library's

Exactly what happens when an appeal is filed with the Court of Special Appeals? Find out from the experts. Leslie Gradet, Clerk of the Court of Special Appeals, Greg Hilton, Assistant Chief Deputy Clerk, and Jeff Ross, Staff attorney will demystify the administrative side of the appellate process. They will also discuss the key role of legal research in appellate brief writing.

Impact and Productivity Measurements in a Changing Research Environment: Potential Roles for Information Professionals

Thursday, [October 20th](#) 2011

6:00 – 8:30 pm.

The Inn at Brookeville Farms, Brookeville, MD

When Eugene Garfield envisioned the citation index in 1955, he wanted to improve information retrieval by showing relationships between articles based upon their citation and reference history. A potential side benefit of the index was to monitor the growth and structure of scientific knowledge. This benefit is now within our grasp due primarily to the work of large-scale indexes like Thomson-Reuter's Web of Science, Elsevier's Scopus, and the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) PubMed.

Information professionals are in an ideal position to develop a set of valuable services that define and defend the organization's value. To do this effectively, it requires an understanding of the scientific and business need of their organization, an agreement on the organization's preferred measures of success, a clear understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the various measures available, and a clear understanding of how the metrics are best applied.

Join James King, Information Architect at the NIH Library (and Past President of DC/SLA) and Ann Kushmerick, Manager of Research Evaluation and Bibliometric Data at Thomson Reuters as they explore the possibilities, tools, and metrics now available for this type of service.

Hosted by [Maryland Chapter](#) of the Special Libraries Association (SLA)

November

Career Workshop III - Information Professionals

When: [November, 5th](#) - Full Day, Development Program

Where: The Universities at Shady Grove, Building II, Rockville, MD

This full day workshop will provide info pros with key career advice from top experts in the field. Whether you are new to the field, in transition, or want to learn how to market yourself now that you are newly retired, this workshop is for you.

Hosted by [Maryland Chapter](#) of the Special Libraries Association (SLA)

[Getting more admin law questions? Get answers.](#)

Wednesday, [November 8th](#), 12:00pm @ University of Baltimore Student Center Room 301

Issues and questions involving administrative law seem to be occurring with great frequency. This fall, LLAM is fortunate to have [Arnold Rochvarg](#), University of Baltimore's School of Law administrative law expert, share his expertise with us. We are all deeply acquainted with his *Maryland Administrative Law*. (MICPEL 2d. ed. 2007) and soon we will also come to know his newest book, *Principles and Practice of Maryland Administrative Law* (Carolina Academic Press 2011).

See <http://bit.ly/pCnfFh> for details. During this lunchtime seminar Professor Rochvarg, will discuss the "in's and out's" of Maryland Administrative Law, recent changes to the law as highlighted in his new book.

[December](#)

[Save the Date: HOLIDAY PARTY](#)

When: [December 1](#)

Where: bb Bistro in West Annapolis

This year's holiday party will be at the eclectic bb bistro in West Annapolis. We will have the whole place to ourselves and Stacy and Clara will prepare a wonderful section of good eats. Beer and wine will be served.

bb bistro was as one of the first restaurants in Annapolis to receive the Environmental Stewardship Certification so we know their food is fresh; they don't even own a freezer. The cost per person should be under \$30, hopefully less.

As in past years, this is the date of Annapolis' Midnight Madness holiday shopping event.

LLAM crafters, now is the time to think about to think about potential contributions to the silent auction.

[bb bistro](#) is located at:

112 Annapolis St
Annapolis, MD 21401

Advocating for your Special Library

When: [December 1](#)

Where: National Agriculture Library, Adelphia, MD

Richard Huffine, Library Director at the U.S. Geological Survey and President of the District of Columbia Library Association, will be our featured speaker. This will be an action packed program! Richard Huffine will show us how we can advocate for our libraries and to be Future Ready! Tours of the NAL Special Collections will be provided and will feature Holiday related treasures.

Hosted by [Maryland Chapter](#) of the Special Libraries Association (SLA)

AALL Announcements – September 2011

1. [Create a Positive Professional Image](#)
2. [AALL2go Pick of the Month](#)
3. [Mark Your Calendar: Professional Legal Management Week, October 3-7](#)
4. [2011 AALL Salary Survey Available this Fall](#)

1. [Create a Positive Professional Image](#)

Even though you have brilliant skills and produce fabulous results, outdated perceptions of and expectations for law librarians can interfere with your contributions to your institution. Join Dr. Laura Morgan Roberts, organizational consultant and professor of psychology, culture, and organization studies at Antioch University, for the September 22 AALL webinar, [You are the Profession: Creating a Positive Professional Image](#), at 11 a.m. CDT. Roberts will take a look at image management, credibility, and influence. She will discuss management tactics, techniques to move from the side-line to the center, and owning your professional identity. [Register by September 14.](#)

2. [AALL2go Pick of the Month](#)

AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: [Mary Ellen Bates Live: What Will the Information Profession Look Like in Ten Years?](#)

This program features [Mary Ellen Bates](#), principal and founder of Bates Information Services, a research and consulting company, and a frequent author and speaker on library and information topics. Bates raises many thought-provoking insights for our profession – some positive and others more sobering. She opines that the insight that librarians bring to research and their abilities to facilitate the use of information will help our profession to endure. Her predictions for 2021 include more online learning; less face-to-face interaction but more collaboration in virtual spaces; expectations of engagement by librarians/information professionals in their clients' work; the emergence of cloud computing and less reliance on silos of information; increased outsourcing and telecommuting in the workplace; escalation of information availability but fewer traditional sources of published information; and the continued emergence of digital libraries.

The key is to think differently about the role of libraries and information professionals in their organizations and to maximize our value. As resources continue to emerge and expand in content, librarians will be more vital as information creators, interpreters, and distillers.

This program is presented in streaming video, with accompanying PowerPoint slides, and is available via AALL2go.

This program, generously supported by an AALL grant, was held on March 8, 2011, in Atlanta and was jointly sponsored by the Atlanta Law Libraries Association (ALLA), the Metropolitan Atlanta Libraries Association (MALA), the Special Libraries Association of Alabama (SLA-AL), and the Special Libraries Association of Georgia (SLA-GA).

Find this and more than 80 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members on [AALL2go](#)!

3. [Mark Your Calendar: Professional Legal Management Week, October 3-7](#)

[Professional Legal Management Week \(PLMW\)](#) provides a forum for recognizing those in legal management for what they do and the roles they play in the success of their organizations. AALL is one of 11 associations co-sponsoring the event with the [Association of Legal Administrators \(ALA\)](#).

If you haven't reached out to other law firm professionals, PLMW is the perfect time to ask them to lunch or coffee. Get the conversation going and learn what's on their minds and how the library might help. As October gets closer, watch AALLNET for additional suggestions on how to celebrate the week.

(PLMW - <http://www.plmw.org/>; Links: ALA - <http://www.alanet.org/>; AALLNET - <http://www.aallnet.org>)

4. 2011 AALL Salary Survey Available this Fall

The AALL 2011 *Biennial Salary Survey and Organizational Characteristics* will be available to AALL members in mid-October.

This new edition is the only source for up-to-date information about salaries for law librarians and other law library employees who work in academic libraries; private firms and corporate libraries; and state, court, and county law libraries. The survey was carried out this summer in complete confidentiality by Association Research, Inc., a professional research firm in Rockville, Maryland, that works exclusively with nonprofit organizations.

Printed copies of the survey will be available for purchase and shipment in mid-October; \$110 for AALL members and \$175 for nonmembers (contact orders@aall.org). An online version of the survey results will be available to AALL members for free on the Members Only Section of AALLNET.

Featured Member – Kate Martin

San Diego native Kate Martin had a variety of jobs before finding her path in law librarianship, from rare book dealer, to - somewhat more unexpectedly - customs inspector at the Tijuana border and at LAX. When she started in customs, she was only the second female in a group of 180 officers, which presented some unique challenges. She recounts a number of colorful stories including the discovery of several brown paper shopping bags filled with human bones. It's easy to understand why Kate came to regard library work as "somewhat tamer than law enforcement."

Not that library jobs were that easy to come by. Kate attended library school at UCLA, and her graduation roughly coincided with California's passage of its Proposition 13. This cap on property taxes had an impact on many professions; Kate recalls that Los Angeles County fired thirty percent of its librarians during that era.

Although the job market was "even worse than it is now," Kate eventually landed an internship at the Smithsonian. She found the East Coast much friendlier to an aspiring librarian; she remembers seeing more librarian positions advertised in the Washington Post in one weekend than she had seen in three months in California.

Kate subsequently worked in a number of law firm library positions, including doing interlibrary loan at Morgan Lewis and loose-leaf filing at Hughes Hubbard & Reed. She also worked at the LC's Congressional Research Service. She eventually rose to the position of National Director for Libraries for McKenna Long & Aldridge, a position she held for 10 years. After the demanding atmosphere of law firm librarianship, Kate was ready for a change of pace, and in early 2011 accepted the position of Director of the Montgomery County Circuit Court Law Library.

Kate has found the change "invigorating." She loves the increased freedom and personal interactions that characterize her new position. She has enjoyed working with a more diverse group of library patrons, and expresses great admiration for the collection and for the stewardship of her predecessor librarians at Montgomery County. Among the initiatives Kate has instituted are a branding initiative for the Library, a recurring column in the Montgomery County Bar Bulletin, and Coffee Break events at the Library on Fridays for all courthouse staff and attorneys. She looks forward to continuing the outreach activities that the Library has already been pursuing. Active in both AALL and LLSDC, Kate developed the idea for the very well received Private Law Libraries Summit this past July in Philadelphia, and envisions developing a similar summit for court librarians.

Kate enjoys playing Scrabble, reading, and adding to the "embarrassingly large" collection of teapots that she has built over the past 20 years and that is displayed around her Montgomery County home. Acquired during her various travels, Kate's 450 teapots include a 19th century Limoges teapot, several Chinese Yi Xi teapots, and many animal shaped teapots including four Noah's Ark themed pots. No doubt her experience as a customs inspector has made her an expert at bringing teapots back from everywhere that she has visited! She has offered to host a "teapot tour" as a LLAM program.

Kate describes herself as "still passionate" about law libraries after 32 years in the field. We're very pleased to welcome Kate to LLAM!

Committee Report: Membership

By Pat Behles

Gov. Docs. & Reference Librarian

University of Baltimore Law Library

LLAM has a newly designed membership form this year. It includes a question requesting permission to use photographic images. The need to include this arose out of the use of photographs in newsletters, communications and the website. Thanks for working with us and filling it out this year.

Almost everyone has renewed or joined this year! It looks as if our numbers will be around 85 which is consistent with the last few years. We have some new members, about 10 since last January. Look for profiles in upcoming newsletter editions. And several of our newly retired members have opted to keep in touch by taking advantage of our retired member category.

Several of you indicated a willingness to volunteer. Someone will be contacting you early in the fall to put you to work! With the prospect of our Legal Research Institute in the spring, there is a need.

The directory will be updated and an e-mail will be sent to the membership list with the password when it is complete.

FEATURED ARTICLES

LLAM Dine Around in Philadelphia

Nineteen LLAM members and guests gathered at Maggianos Little Italy in Philadelphia for our annual Dine Around. The fact that many LLAM members were able to attend AALL this year, and the proximity of the restaurant to the convention center, may have contributed to our excellent turnout. Maggiano's is a jumping joint. Served family style, the food was abundant, and the company was naturally the best! A good time was had by all.

LLAM's 2011 Annual Meeting Grant Recipient Reports on AALL in Philadelphia

By Thea C. Warner

Librarian

Niles, Barton & Wilmer

As the recipient of the AALL/LLAM Grant, I was able to attend the entire AALL Annual Conference and Meeting in Philadelphia this summer. I found this to be a wonderful opportunity. My adventure began with the train ride from Baltimore to Philadelphia on Friday, July 22nd; Amtrak trains were delayed throughout the northeast corridor due to the extreme heat. Luckily, I arrived in time to attend part of the PLL-SIS welcome reception that evening at the Union League Club of Philadelphia. I attended the PLL Change as Action Summit on Saturday and have written a separate article about the experience. The Summit was followed by the Exhibit Hall Ribbon Cutting/Opening Reception. Attendees had the opportunity to sample some local fare (including soft pretzels, Philly cheesesteak and Tastycake products) and there was ample time to visit exhibitors and to network with colleagues.

Conference programming began Sunday morning with the Opening General Session/Keynote Speaker. Dahlia Lithwick, a senior editor at *Slate*, gave a very engaging and informative talk on the Supreme Court and current free speech issues. Following the opening session, I made a last minute decision to attend the Animal Law Caucus Presentation at noon (I had somehow forgotten to sign up for the PLL-SIS luncheon when I registered for AALL and it was full by the time I realized this). Dr. James A. Serpell gave a very interesting talk entitled "The Development of Human Attitudes Toward Animals and Animal-Assisted Therapeutic Interventions."

Sunday afternoon was filled with interesting programs. I selected "Delaware: The First State for Corporation Law" for the first session and followed this with "Electronic Resources Management (ERM) Systems Showcase." Both proved to be good choices as much of the information the speakers presented was new to me. I closed out the day at the BNA reception which included a very nice dinner, a great view of the downtown, and many opportunities to meet new people and to network.

Monday was another full day that included programs, meetings, and time at the exhibit hall. I began the day with a PLL-SIS Program, "Through the Looking Glass: Harnessing Technology in Today's Law Firm Library." This session provided a very helpful overview of current technology. I attended several additional programs on Monday, including "Can the FCC Regulate the Internet?" and "To Recover or Not to Recover: Trends, Solutions and Alternatives for Taming Online Research Costs." At the conclusion of the programming portion of the day, I attended, for the first time, the PLL-SIS One-Person Law Libraries Group Meeting. I was pleased to have the opportunity to become involved with this group. The evening festivities were hosted by Westlaw at the Reading Terminal Market, which is closed to the public in the

evenings. Many of the merchants kept their stands open so attendees were able to sample a variety of cuisines.

Tuesday, July 26th was the final day of the conference and included programs, more opportunities to meet with vendors, and the Exhibit Hall Reception. I wrote an article for *PLL Perspectives* on one of the programs I attended Tuesday morning - "Getting to Yes for Your Library: Negotiating Vendor Contracts in Your Favor." This session was sponsored by the Private Law Libraries SIS and the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors. My trip home was less eventful than the one to Philadelphia, although the MARC train did break down in the tunnel shortly after leaving Penn Station. Luckily, it was not too long before the train was repaired and we were on our way! All in all, attending the entire AALL Annual Conference was an excellent experience for me, and the AALL/LLAM grant made this possible.

AALL Program Review: The New Generation of Legal Research Databases: Eighteen Months Later

*By Mary Jo Lazun
Head of Electronic Services
Maryland State Law Library*

When this program was accepted for the Annual Meeting, the panel was hoping to present a comparison of WestlawNext and Lexis Advance. Since Lexis Advance has not been released, the panel presented the results of a survey of law librarians about WestlawNext with commentary from the panelists.

- More law firms than law school libraries are using WestlawNext. Very few corporate, government, or courts libraries are using WestlawNext.
- Most firms did see increased costs in using WestlawNext, but some saw a price decrease. Overall the pricing model seems simpler to understand.
- WestlawNext searchers liked:
 - Ease of use
 - Federated search
 - Folder and folder sharing
 - Faceted and aggregated results that show new materialLibrarians liked that searchers saw not only primary sources but valuable secondary sources.

- WestlawNext searchers disliked:
 - Oversimplification of research
 - Lack of precision
 - Unclear, inconsistent search algorithm
 - Exclusion of some Westlaw materials
 - Difficulty knowing what content is (and is not) included
 - Difficulty constructing Boolean searches
 - Difficulty constructing narrow issue searches
 - Unavailability of field searching
 - Tendency to get too many search results

A podcast of the presentation and handouts are available to AALL members at:

www.softconference.com/aall/sessionDetail.asp?SID=250810

Program Coordinator:

Caren Biberman, Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP

Moderator:

Victoria J. Szymczak, Brooklyn Law School Library

Participants:

Lisa A. Spar, Hofstra University Law School Library

Jean P. O'Grady, DLA Piper

Denise A. Pagh, Kronick, Moskowitz, Tiedemann & Girard

AALL Program Review: Copyright Hell: Sites to Get You Out of the Inferno

By Katherine Baer

Maryland Collections & Reference Librarian

Maryland State Law Library

There was one session at AALL that gave some real nuts & bolts information on copyright called "Copyright Hell: Sites to Get You Out of the Inferno." This talk was delivered by George Pike, Director of the Barco Law Library at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and Steven Melmut, Informational Technology Services Librarian at the University of North Carolina School of Law. They gave a nice

introduction to copyright and then went into the finer points of fair use, researching copyright, and licensing.

Here are a few of the sites they recommended:

The Basics

US Copyright Office: www.copyright.gov

Copyright Laws: www.copyrightlaws.com

Fair Use

Stanford Copyright & Fair Use Center: fairuse.stanford.edu

Electronic Frontier Foundation: www.eff.org

Columbia University Copyright Advisory Office: copyright.columbia.edu/copyright

Research

Stanford Copyright Renewal Database: collections.stanford.edu/copyrightrenewals

US Copyright Office Online Records Search: www.copyright.gov/records

Licensing

Creative Commons: www.creativecommons.org

Copyright Clearance Center: www.copyright.com

Copyright Tutorials

Copyright Information Center: www.copyright.cornell.edu

AALL Program Review: "Can the FCC Regulate the Internet?"

By Sara Witman

Research Librarian

Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander

Just about every AALL conference veteran will give you the same advice: wear comfortable shoes and go to at least one session that has nothing to do with your job.

This year, I finally followed the latter half of that recommendation, and I wish I had listened to it earlier; the program I took a gamble on was the most interesting and informative one I attended this year.

The Monday morning session, "Can the FCC Regulate the Internet?," featured two panelists: Dan Brenner, a partner at Hogan Lovells US LLP and adjunct professor at Georgetown Law School, and Markham Erickson, a founding partner at Holch & Erickson LLP and lead counsel to the Open Internet Coalition. Brenner and Erickson described the current legal situation of "network neutrality" in the United States. In essence, "network neutrality" would prevent Internet service providers or the government from restricting content or access to consumers. The speakers offered different viewpoints on how the issue may be (and possibly should be) resolved. Ryan Harrington, a reference librarian at Yale Law School, introduced the speakers, provided a background on the issues, and asked some first-class questions.

Basically, if I understand this correctly, the FCC got involved with the management of Comcast a few years ago. Comcast was discriminating against customers who were using BitTorrent, a service that uses a great deal of bandwidth. In April 2010, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals found in favor of Comcast, and specifically that there was no statutory authority for the FCC to deal with "network management" on the Internet (see *Comcast Corp. v. F.C.C.*, 600 F.3d 642).

Then, in December of last year, the FCC issued network neutrality rules. These rules cover three areas: the first states that a company must be transparent; the second prohibits blocking websites and applications such as Skype; the third prohibits discrimination.

The problem? The FCC rules are based on the same statutory authority that the D.C. Circuit said was insufficient. The rules have still not been published in the *Federal Register*; once they are, the lawsuits are coming right behind them, given the D.C. Circuit ruling.

Both speakers noted that, interestingly, Comcast had resolved its violation before the FCC decided to "take out the sledgehammer and iron maiden," as Brenner eloquently put it, and pursue its case.

The speakers took very different stances on the FCC/network neutrality situation. Erickson works for Internet companies that provide content and want as little restriction as possible from consumers to that content. Brenner, on the other hand, thought that, in general, the FCC rules were a "solution in need of a problem," since only two complaints have been filed on network neutrality and recent studies have shown that customers have been getting advertised Internet speeds. That said,

Brenner stated that he does think that the general idea of network neutrality is important and that a company such as Comcast should not be blocking content based on what that content is or says.

The rules do not prohibit usage-based pricing. Erickson, who has represented Netflix, said that Netflix has worried publicly about this since they believe that usage-based pricing can be used against them in an anti-competitive way. For example, Comcast might charge more for heavy Internet users to ensure that customers won't substitute Netflix for Comcast content.

Legislation could solve some problems surrounding network neutrality. However, Brenner points out that he doesn't think "this Congress could pass an intelligent Internet law." "It's just not happening," he said. "When you do get something, it's about ordering the Commission to lower the sound of TV commercials. That's what they're able to pass." Erickson agreed, "It's really become so dysfunctional." The House has already voted to use the Congressional Review Act to overturn the net neutrality rules.

So where will this issue go next? Apparently, no one really knows. Since the rules haven't been published, they can't be challenged in court yet. Will the D.C. Circuit's opinion be overturned, or will the case be tried in a different jurisdiction creating a split that would be decided by the Supreme Court? Is this a completely unregulated field? How much authority does the FCC have over Internet service providers?

Thanks to this fascinating program, I will be paying much closer attention to these questions and how they are answered in the coming months and years.

AALL Program Review: Advocacy at AALL 2011

By Joan Bellistri

Anne Arundel County Public Law Library

There were a number of opportunities for learning about AALL's Advocacy efforts at the meeting and conference held in Philadelphia this summer. There was a half day training on Saturday, "Legislative Advocacy Training 2011: Turning Challenges into Opportunities," two programs, "[AALL Public Policy Update: Shining the Spotlight on Advocacy](#)" and "[Authentication: The Evolution Continues](#)," and the Chapter Leadership Roundtable on Government Relations. I was able to attend all but the

Authentication program that was scheduled during the same time slot as the program I was moderating. (I do plan to take advantage of [AALL2go](#) for this program later.)

The advocacy and public policy programs concerned issues of significance to AALL and law librarians and provided strategies for advocating for these issues. We were able to meet Julie Strandlie, the new Director of Government Relations, who with Emily Feldman, Advocacy Communications Assistant, began the Saturday morning advocacy training with advocacy strategies. Emily and Julie are AALL's lobbyists who advocate for us in Washington, D.C. However, members are needed to aid in their advocacy efforts as the opinions of constituents are of more significance to our representatives at the state and federal levels of government. When we personally contact our representatives, we can make more of an impression than a lobbyist. Ways of contacting our representatives should include in-person visits, the number one way to get your message heard, individual phone calls, letters and e-mail. It is always helpful to know the staff of the representative and it was suggested that we poll our chapter members to see who might have such contacts. It is important that it be determined who knows whom before a crisis. It would be good to know which members reside in which legislative districts so that they can be easily called upon when needed.

The rest of the training dealt with the issues for which we are encouraged to advocate and updates on legal information policy and programs. Legal information issues were further detailed at the Monday morning program. Federal level issues mentioned include [GPO, FDLP and the Library and Law Library of Congress funding](#), [section 215 of the Patriot Act](#), [Net Neutrality](#), [copyright](#), and PACER. Other issues such as the [Uniform Electronic Legal Information Act](#) must be dealt with on the local or state level while some issues such as [citation format](#) and the work of the [AALL Working Groups](#) on the national inventory could be considered national issues to be tackled at both the federal and local level. I will report on just some of the issues and topics covered at the programs I attended. I encourage members to become acquainted with [AALL's Advocacy pages](#) for more detailed information on these and other issues of importance to law librarians.

As a part of the advocacy training, Larry Meyer, Director of the Law Library for San Bernardino County in California, reported on the PACER pilot project in which his library is participating. This program is designed to educate the public on the use of and access to PACER. San Bernardino has created [training guides](#) describing PACER and providing instructions on creating a PACER account. Leslie Street, of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law Library, talked about the creation of [PACER training and resource guides](#) that provide information on setting up PACER accounts, performing simple searches and a description of PACER and its scope.

After our AALL Working Group worked so hard on our [Inventory of Maryland Legal Materials](#) it was good to hear what the results of this project might be. Tim Coggins, 2010 Chair of DALIC, reported on some of the findings so far. There has been no change in the number of authenticated legal materials since the 2009-2010 report found on the [Digital Authentication page](#) of AALL's Advocacy pages. (I should mention that DALIC or the Digital Access to Legal Information Committee is the new name for ELIAC or the Electronic Legal Information Access & Citation Committee.) More online publications have been designated as official since that 2009 report. It was found that 25 states now have a copyright on their digital material. There are some states that have made provisions for preservation and permanent public access. The inventory shows a trend to charging for access to online versions. Other trends found more states making the digital version the official version and restrictions on commercial use and use affecting privacy. Emily Carr, the Federal Inventory Coordinator, reported on the Federal Inventory that is modeled after the state inventory. The data collected from the inventories will be used to update AALL reports on authentication and permanent public access. The data will be shared with the Law Library of Congress as they build law.gov. It must be noted that the inventory is an ongoing project and volunteers will be needed to check links and update the spreadsheets periodically.

The national inventory will provide important background information as members seek to have their states pass the new [Uniform Electronic Legal Information Act](#). Keith Ann Stiverson, AALL Observer to the NCCUSL Drafting Committee on the UELMA, briefed the group on the status of the Act. UELMA had been approved by the Commission as of July, 12, 2011. This approved version will be subject to style changes and the addition of new, revised comments. The Act provides a framework for authentication, preservation and permanent public access for online legal material. The final version is expected soon and then the NCCUSL Enactment Committee will begin to act in all states. I will be sure to notify LLAM members when the Act is introduced in Maryland. Links to the Act and supporting information can be found on the [Digital Authentication page](#) of AALL's Advocacy pages.

Although it was late in the day, LLAM was well represented by President, Sara Witman, and Vice President/President Elect, Mary Jo Lazun and me at the Chapter Leadership Roundtable: Government Relations. The Roundtable provided a venue for new chapter leadership to become acquainted with AALL policy and strategies for local advocacy and to share advocacy ideas. Participation in the roundtable, the training and the programs should provide me with a good base on which to begin a new year as Government Relations Chair. I look forward to LLAM's continued support in advocating for legal information issues.

AALL Program Review: PLL Change as Action Summit

By Thea C. Warner

Librarian

Niles, Barton & Wilmer

Since I found the Private Law Library Change as Opportunity Summit, held last year in Denver, to be such a great learning experience, I decided to attend the PLL Change as Action Summit on July 23rd in Philadelphia. The Change as Action Summit was the culmination of a two-year initiative by the Private Law Libraries SIS. I found the programs at this year's Summit to be replete with valuable information and ideas.

The Change as Action Summit began with a reception at the Union League Club of Philadelphia. Although Amtrak trains to Philadelphia and other points along the Eastern Corridor were delayed due to the extreme heat, I arrived in time to attend part of the reception. There was still time to network with colleagues and to sample some local fare, including soft pretzels, Philly cheesesteak, and a variety of pizzas.

The Summit continued on Saturday with two morning speakers. The first speaker was James Jones, Senior Vice President at Hildebrandt Baker Robbins, the world's largest provider of management consulting services to law firms and corporate law departments, who gave a very informative talk on understanding law firm trends. Esther Dyson, the founder and chairman of Edventure and considered one of the most influential voices in the Internet industry, provided her insight on technology changes in business and libraries.

The morning speakers were followed by break-out sessions that provided attendees with the opportunity to discuss the series of Law Firm Management webinar programs held throughout the past year. There was time to attend two of the five sessions and I selected "Technology and the Law Firm Library" (Greg Lambert and Scott Preston, moderators) and "Moving Beyond the Library Walls to Support Strategic Knowledge Management" (Steve Lastres and Julie Bozzell, moderators). All the moderators were very knowledgeable about these constantly changing aspects of law firm library management.

Greg Castanias, Partner, Jones Day, spoke at the PLL Summit luncheon. His talk, entitled "How Librarians Add Value to Their Law Firms", probably elicited the most

intense reaction of any program at the Summit. The full text of his talk can be found on the On Firmer Ground

blog:<http://firmerground.wordpress.com/2011/08/03/how-librarians-add-value-to-their-law-firms-advice-from-greg-castanias-jones-day-library-partner/>. At least two out of the three individuals behind Three Geeks and a Law Blog followed with a lively and interesting talk on "Trends, Tempests and Teapots." Although some of the posts admittedly sort of go over my head, their blog is sure to help law librarians keep up with legal technology:<http://www.geeklawblog.com/>.

The afternoon programming consisted of three concurrent tracks focused on administration, reference/research and technology/tech services. I found it difficult to select only three of the total of nine sessions offered. I ended up attending two of the technology/tech services programs - David Curle on transformations in the legal publishing industry and Joelle Coachman on integrating new technology into your library. I also attended one of the reference/research programs - Gary Price on finding and evaluating web-based resources. I found these programs all to be very interesting and informative.

Once again, I found the PLL Summit to be well worth the investment and I would highly recommend any future PLL-SIS programs of a similar nature.

AALL Program Review: SCCLL Program: Value of a Public Law Library

By Janet Camillo

VALUE OF A PUBLIC LAW LIBRARY: How County Law Librarians in Pennsylvania Collaborated with Courts to Provide Services to Self-Represented Litigants

Two Pennsylvania law librarians, Eleanor Gerlott from Lancaster County Law Library, and Melanie Solon from Berks County Law Library, described how they and other county law librarians collaborated with the courts to provide services for pro se litigants in their counties. Eleanor established a separate self-help center in her courthouse, while Melanie handled *pro se* questions by handing out informational packets and forms. They described the process they went through and gave hints on what worked well for them. They also pointed out some sticking points and problems that they encountered.

Both Eleanor and Melanie found public use in their libraries increasing and were asked the same questions repeatedly. In response, both worked with their chief judges to establish a task force of interested parties to deal with the problem of *pro ses* in the courts. Collaborating with all interested parties and having court backing was absolutely essential. Fortunately both librarians had the support of their chief judges, as well as court administrators and clerks, which brought other judges on board and made for smooth referrals and practical help in the form of space and furniture. They involved the local bar members to help develop appropriate and accurate forms and answer concerns about loss of business. Other important partners included the public defender, district attorneys, domestic relations offices, legal services, and public librarians.

Both librarians faced similar objections and issues. Skeptical judges had to be won over with the help of the chief judge. Attorneys who thought they would lose business found that once unrepresented litigants were educated, the court process was smoother and took less time. In fact, educated patrons sometimes hired attorneys once they saw how complicated their cases actually were. Melanie found she had to deal with some noise and child care issues in her library. Both librarians had to develop clear notices about unauthorized practice after finding that patrons occasionally asked attorneys or librarians for help filling out forms.

The speakers emphasized the importance of marketing, including developing a good web site to insure a successful project, and the necessity of keeping good statistics. They both continue to review the information that they provide to patrons and to add more forms as issues and questions come up. In the future, forms for non-English speakers still need to be developed.

Joan Bellistri moderated this SCCLL sponsored program, which was well attended. The speakers were informative, and their emphasis on collaboration, careful statistics, and marketing was valuable for all types of librarians.

AALL Program Review: Peeping Thomas: A Little Look at a Big System

By Pat Behles

Gov. Docs. & Reference Librarian

University of Baltimore Law Library

This program on Thomas was organized and presented by staff of the Law Library of Congress, including speakers Tammie Nelson and Andrew Weber.

Thomas, an online portal for legislative information, was launched at the direction of Congress to make federal legislative information freely available to the public. Full-text coverage begins with the 101st Congress (1989-90) and bill summaries from 1973 and congressional reports from 1995. Roll call votes, House Floor This Week, House Now, calendars, Congressional Record, treaties, presidential nominations and daily digests are all features. Searching for legislation across one or multiple congresses is also possible.

Among the new updated features covered in the program were: top 5 bills, contact information, feedback options, inclusion of years with the session numbers (Yea!), more search and browse options, better headers and navigation, and links to equivalents in the states (if they exist).

The speakers also addressed what is planned for the future, including direct links to congressional legislators and legislation and archives of congressional websites.

There will be a new system in 2014 for which suggestions are being sought. The backfile will eventually become part of the *Century of Lawmaking*. (Both are maintained by the Library of Congress). The Library of Congress is working with GPO to digitize the permanent edition of the Congressional Record. To facilitate the archiving of committee websites, clerks have been directed to standardize formats.

The presenters will be updating information as it becomes available about the plans.

Research Tip

Having trouble keeping on top of the proliferation of legal content available for iPad, Android, Blackberry and other mobile devices? Check out Mobile Apps for Law (<http://www.informedlibrarian.com/MobileAppsforLaw>), a subscription-based, online database maintained by the helpful staff of Informed Librarian.

Mobile Apps for Law, updated frequently, currently contains annotated listings of over 700 mobile-friendly publications, including price information and links to the relevant publisher website. Subscribers can filter searches by device and subject, and the website offers a handy tool for locating recent releases.

Requesting Submissions for LLAM eNews

The LLAM Newsletter Committee welcomes submissions from LLAM members on a variety of engaging topics, including but not limited to legal research tips, member news, and local events. Submit your contribution by December 1 for inclusion in the December 2011 issue!

LLAM News is a quarterly publication of the Law Library Association of Maryland, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. LLAM members are the most important part of this newsletter. The articles appearing herein are by us and for us. We encourage all members to submit articles to LLAM News. The editor will be glad to assist with the process of bringing your ideas to print. Send articles, letters to the editor, news updates, advertising inquiries, photographs, comments, and suggestions to the Newsletter Committee, preferably via [email](mailto:llamnewsmd@gmail.com).

Technology & Communications Committee Chair:

Kirstin Nelson

llamnewsmd@gmail.com

410-796-1932

