



FCIL Newsletter

Volume 15

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Number 2

FCIL SIS Strategic Planning: Update

Report submitted by Jean Davis, Tracy Thompson and Stefanie Weigmann

An exciting FCIL SIS strategic planning session occurred on Friday, October 27, 2000 at Fordham Law School. The participants were: Karen Corbett (Facilitative Consultant, Vadimus); Jean Davis (Chair); Victor Essien (African Law Interest Group Chair); Patricia Kasting; Marta Kiszely (CIS and Eastern European Law Interest Group Chair); Jack McNeill; Silke Sahl; Victoria Szymczak; Tracy Thompson (Secretary/Treasurer); Dan Wade; and Stefanie Weigmann (Strategic Planning Committee Chair). As members of the committee that drafted our Section's original *Strategic Planning* document¹, Mr. McNeill, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Wade and Ms. Weigmann worked to ensure continuity in the planning process. Meeting participants also discussed comments and draft goals provided by those who could not attend the planning session, such as two FCIL SIS Executive Committee members, Anne Burnett (Publications Committee Chair), Joan Liu (Asian Law Interest Group Chair) and Marilyn Raisch (Electronic Issues Interest Group Chair). The FCIL SIS Executive Committee thanks all members who have contributed to our ongoing strategic planning process.

The purposes of the October 27, 2000 meeting were:

- To develop six-eight goals based on the draft FCIL SIS Strategic Planning for Continuing Education and Professional Development (July 2, 1999) and based on additional ideas and goals subsequently identified by FCIL SIS officers, Committees, Interest Groups and Section members; and
- To begin discussing implementation schedules for these goals.

Actions to prepare for this meeting included: solicitation of draft goals from FCIL SIS officers, Committee Chairs and Interest Group Chairs; conferences between Ms. Davis and Ms. Corbett; review of the draft *Strategic Planning* document by the FCIL SIS Executive Committee and Ms. Corbett; and completion of a survey in which the Executive Committee outlined prior strategic planning activities and stated anticipated outcomes of the October meeting.

At the beginning of the October 27, 2000 meeting, participants reviewed **the Section's mission statement:**

The purpose of the FCIL SIS shall be to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative and international law and to provide continuing

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educational opportunities at various levels.

Ms. Thompson then gave a brief Treasurer's report, noting that the balance in the FCIL SIS treasury as of September 30, 2000 was \$5,576.07.

In an hour-long brainstorming session, participants identified 33 potential goals that could advance FCIL SIS objectives. Ms. Corbett encouraged participants to express ideas and suggestions in the format: "I wish to/for..." or "How to..." For example, Ms. Thompson stated: "I wish to increase active participation in the life and work of the FCIL SIS" and Ms. Szymczak stated: "I wish for a moderated procedure for librarians to meet in cyberspace to discuss particular jurisdictions and subjects." The 33 goals included all goals supplied by those who could not attend the October 27, 2000 meeting. Some goals overlapped. Ms. Corbett posted the 33 goals on a large board. Participants then had an opportunity to vote on the 33 ideas. Each participant selected the top eight goals that he or she would like the FCIL SIS to implement.

Participants ranked a goal based on the following criteria:

- Appeal of the goal;
- Feasibility of the goal; and
- Degree that the goal would help to further FCIL SIS objectives.

As a group, participants selected the following eight GOALS:

- Explore and promote ways to disseminate and to effectively use electronic information in the areas of foreign, comparative and international law.
- Develop foreign law research guides and teaching tools.
- Improve the FCIL SIS program and workshop development process.

- Increase active participation in the events and work of the FCIL SIS.
- Encourage FCIL SIS Committees and Interest Groups to sponsor speakers and to host other creative activities during the Section's meeting hours at the AALL Annual Meeting.
- Strengthen relationships with other organizations and groups, such as British and Irish Association of Law Librarians, Canadian Association of Law Libraries, Australian Library and Information Association, International Association of Law

FCIL Newsletter is published in October, February and May by the **Foreign, Comparative, and International Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries**. The main goal of this Section is "to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information on foreign, comparative, and international law, and to represent its members' interests and concerns within AALL."

FCIL Newsletter is sent free to members of the FCIL SIS. It is available for that "exchange of ideas and information."

The newsletter can be read on the Word Wide Web at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html>.

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Deadline for next issue: April 16, 2001

Libraries, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and the Joint Study Institute planners.

- - Establish a procedure for librarians to discuss hot topics.
 - Create mentoring programs for new foreign, comparative and international law librarians.
- Ms. Corbett emphasized that *the manner* in which a group evaluates and develops ideas impacts on whether the group will translate ideas into action and whether the group will successfully resolve problems.

Ms. Corbett encouraged participants to examine each of the eight goals in terms of:

- Do we know how to accomplish this goal?
- What do we like about this goal?
- What are our concerns about this goal?
- How can we overcome these concerns?

After evaluating the eight goals for two hours, participants planned future actions:

- Obtain feedback on goals and their implementation from Strategic Planning Committee (Current stage)
- Integrate feedback and present revised goals and methods of implementation to FCIL SIS membership for comment and ranking (anticipated time frame for distributing a survey form to Section members: April 2001). Ranking goals will help to determine projects of greatest interest to Section members. The ranking process also will assist Section officers, Committees and Interest Groups in

ASIL Annual Meeting: "The Visible College of International Law"

Jill McC. Watson



FCIL members should find plenty to interest them at the American Society of International Law's 95th Annual Meeting, which will take place April 4-7, 2001 in Washington, DC.

This Annual Meeting will undertake an examination of the discipline of international law -- its historical evolution, current status and future status. Panelists and lecturers from practice, government and academic circles around the world will be looking back through history in panels such as "Two Millennia of International Law," and forward into the future in, for example, "The New Cyber Campus of the College of International Lawyers." "International Law in the 2000 Presidential Election and the 2001 Transition." and "Academic Publishers and International Law" are two of several panels that will examine how international law and lawyers are perceived by those outside the discipline.

Another plus of the meeting for librarians is the opportunity to peruse the latest materials and resources of major international law publishers. A list of exhibitors and the meeting program are now accessible on the ASIL website at www.asil.org with full descriptions of panels, lectures and other events, as well as detailed information on registration.

Following the success last year of the Electronic Resources Breakfast held at Tillar House headquarters, participants have urged ASIL to hold another special meeting for librarians and information professionals. A by-invitation lunch meeting entitled "**Fostering an International Legal Information Network: A Program for Librarians and Information Managers**" has been arranged from 12:30-2:00 on Thursday, April 5th. Like last year's event, (reported in detail by Jean Davis in the May 2000 FCIL Newsletter at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/>

fcilsis/143asil.html), the lunch will provide an opportunity to hear the latest developments on ASIL's electronic projects and products, as well as the activities of the many international and foreign law librarians who attend the ASIL meeting from around the country.

Please contact Jill Watson (jwatson@asil.org) at the ASIL Library if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting and wish to attend the lunch program.

Roznovschi & Popa Honored

Jeanne Rehbarg

NYU Law Library

In a twist on the usual research process, a foreign law source has found the librarians instead of the reverse. The Monitorul Oficial al Romaniei (Romanian Official Gazette) of December 19, 2000, reports that Mirela Roznovschi and Radu Popa of the NYU Law Library were honored by outgoing President of Romania Emil Constantinescu for exceptional contributions from abroad in the service of Romanian culture and democracy. Mirela has been named an Officer of the National Order for Faithful Service and Radu has been named an Officer of the National Order of Merit. Radu worked as an editor in Romania and has published novels, short stories, translations, and literary criticism. Mirela worked as a journalist in Romania and has published novels and political commentary. Radu's short story "Panic Syndrome" is scheduled for publication in the American journal *Exquisite Corpse*. His latest novel, *La Revolutia Romana (Of the Romanian Revolution)*, was just published in Romania. Mirela's latest novel, *Timpul celor alesi (The Time of the Chosen Ones)*, published in 1999 in Romania, is under consideration to be published in translation in France.



IFLA in Boston this August

The American Association of Law Libraries, along with four other national library associations in the United States, is sponsoring the General Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions this August 16 - 25 in Boston. The theme for the 2001 conference is "Libraries and Librarians: Making a Difference in the Information Age."

IFLA, headquartered in The Hague, has not held its conference in the United States since 1985. AALL headquarters mailed copies of the Final Announcement to FCIL SIS members in mid-January. As AALL members, we are entitled to the IFLA members discounted registration. For more information about the conference, see <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/>.



Correction to Minutes of 2000 Business Meeting

The minutes of the 2000 Business Meeting, as published in the October 2000 issue of the FCIL *Newsletter*, p. 4, are corrected as follows:

In the first column, under Announcements, under the second item listed, replace the final word of the first sentence ("board") with the word "association." Thus, the corrected sentence reads "The AALL executive board would like to add foreign members to the association."

Member News

The New Yorkers recently welcomed *Silke Sahl*, formerly of the Harvard Law School Library, to their ranks. Silke is the new International, Comparative and Foreign Law Librarian at the Arthur W. Diamond Law Library at Columbia University.

Stefanie Weigmann made the move from Boston University to her new position as the Reference Librarian for International, Foreign and Comparative Law at the Harvard Law School Library.

Attention FCIL SIS Members:

Please be sure to fill out the ballot on page 14 of this issue of the newsletter and return it to Tracy Thompson by the March 20 deadline. Only current members can vote, so check your member status at AALLNET (www.aallnet.org). Find profiles of our candidates on page 15.

The FCIL SIS received an extraordinary holiday gift from Section leader Ellen G. Schaffer and the AALL Executive Board – creation of the Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian’s Grant. The Schaffer Grant will provide financial assistance to ensure the presence and participation of foreign librarians at the AALL Annual Meeting. Ellen Schaffer has donated \$10,000 to establish this new grant and AALL will match this amount in Fiscal Year 2001. Schaffer Grant recipients will enrich AALL events by sharing global perspectives to the benefit of all participants.

Ellen Schaffer is a lively, caring mentor to many librarians. Currently, Ellen is Librarian to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg, Germany. She was our dynamic FCIL SIS Chair in 1987-88. She also was a member of the Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals Advisory Committee. Ellen taught us how to conduct GATT research at the 1993 AALL Institute Introduction to International Organizations and co-directed the 1996 AALL Institute Contemporary Practice of Public International Law. She is the editor of the Directory of Foreign Law Collections in Selected Law Libraries (co-editor, Thomas R. Bruce, 1991) and Contemporary Practice of Public International Law (co-

Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant Application

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Purpose: The purpose of the Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant ("Schaffer Grant") is to provide financial assistance to ensure the presence and participation of foreign librarians at the AALL Annual Meeting. Foreign attendees enrich AALL events by sharing global perspectives to the benefit of all participants. The inaugural Schaffer Grant will cover one foreign librarian's 1) AALL Annual Meeting registration costs and 2) a percentage of the foreign librarian's AALL Annual Meeting travel and per diem expenses. The amount available for travel and per diem expenses may vary, depending on the annual income generated by the Schaffer Grant fund.

Qualifications: An applicant must be a librarian who resides and works in a country other than the United States of America. If circumstances prevent use of the Schaffer Grant by a recipient, the grant will revert to the AALL FCIL SIS Grant Committee ("Grant Committee") for disposition at the discretion of the Grant Committee.

Deadline: The Chair of the Grant Committee must receive all applications by **April 16, 2001**. The Grant Committee will not consider late or incomplete applications.

Selection Criteria: The Grant Committee may give preference to:

- A foreign librarian who demonstrates financial need.
- A foreign librarian who has never attended an AALL Annual Meeting.

In future years, the Grant Committee will not consider applications from individuals who have received the Schaffer Grant during the preceding two years.

Notification: The Grant Committee will notify the Schaffer Grant recipient and other applicants of its award decision. The Grant Committee also may post a general announcement in AALL publications and listservs.

Responsibilities: The Schaffer Grant recipient will agree to help educate law librarians by completing one of the following activities: writing a brief article for the AALL FCIL SIS web site; or participating in an AALL FCIL SIS Interest Group or Committee meeting at the AALL Annual Meeting. The Schaffer Grant recipient can discuss appropriate methods of sharing knowledge with the Grant Committee.

Name:

Work Address and Telephone Number:

E-Mail Address:

(Application continues on next page)

Job Title/Position:

Check the statement below that applies to you:

_____ I have never attended an AALL Annual Meeting

_____ I have previously attended one or more AALL Annual Meetings. Year(s) _____

Will your employer pay any percentage of your registration and travel expenses for the AALL Annual Meeting?

_____ NO

_____ YES (if YES, please describe below the percentage and types of expenses that your employer will pay)

Check the statement below that applies to you:

If I do not receive a grant: (Check one)

_____ I will be unable to attend the AALL Annual Meeting.

_____ I may not be able to attend the AALL Annual Meeting.

_____ I will attend the AALL Annual Meeting.

Are you a member of AALL or any other library organization(s)?

Ellen Schaffer Foreign Librarian's Grant Application

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In a few paragraphs, please describe why you are a strong candidate for the Schaffer Grant. Please include all factors that the Grant Committee should consider in reviewing your application.

(Application continues on next page)

If I receive the Schaffer Grant and am unable to attend the AALL Annual Meeting, I shall return the money to the Chair of the AALL FCIL SIS Grant Committee. If I receive the Schaffer Grant, I will help to educate law librarians

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: *FCIL NEWSLETTER* FORMAT

The FCIL SIS Executive Committee and Publications Committee Chair Anne Burnett seek FCIL SIS members' views regarding possible future publication of the FCIL Newsletter solely in electronic format. Please 1) complete the survey form below and 2) either mail the form to Anne Burnett or provide an e-mail reply to Anne Burnett. In the near future, Ms. Burnett will report on the survey results.

FCIL Newsletter printing and mailing costs require half of the total annual dues revenue available to our Section. Annual FCIL Newsletter printing and mailing costs are approximately \$1,200.¹ During 2000-2001, the amount available from our 380 Section members' dues will be \$2,280. (AALL provides FCIL SIS with \$6 of the \$12 annual dues paid by each FCIL SIS member.) As of September 30, 2000, the total balance in the FCIL SIS treasury was \$5,553.44.

Beginning with the October 2000 issue, the FCIL Newsletter appears in PDF format at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/fcilsis.html>. This web site also contains past FCIL Newsletter issues from October 1994 to the present [in HTML].

As FCIL SIS Committees and Interest Groups offer more programs during SIS meeting hours at the AALL Annual Meeting, our Section likely will incur additional expenses. AALL funds the costs of AMPC-approved programs but Special Interest Sections must pay the costs of SIS programs and functions held during SIS meeting hours. A tabletop microphone in a conference hotel costs approximately \$26. A computer data display package costs roughly \$650. Also, there are service and labor charges for equipment setup in conference hotels. One possible way to provide additional funds for our Section's educational and social activities is to publish the FCIL Newsletter solely in electronic format.

Note: The FCIL Newsletter's format does not affect the FCIL SIS Secretary/Treasurer's mailing of

ballots for the election of FCIL SIS officers. Currently, the FCIL SIS Bylaws require the mailing of ballots to Section members.

¹ *FCIL Newsletter* costs for Volume 13 (comprising the 10/98, 2/99 and 5/99 issues): postage: \$697.17; printing: \$502.27; total: **\$1199.44**. *FCIL Newsletter* costs for Volume 14 (comprising the 10/99, 2/00 and 5/00 issues): postage: \$685.64; printing: \$475.28; total: **\$1160.92**.

Please complete the survey on the next page of this newsletter. Your input is crucial!

Statement of Current Editor

I support the proposal to save mailing and printing costs by distributing the newsletter *primarily* in electronic format, but it will continue to be necessary to print a few copies to take to the AALL annual meeting for PR purposes in the Activities Area (especially for CONELL). We would also need to mail hard copies to the few members who will have difficulty accessing the newsletter online and to recipients designated by AALL requirements (see <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/publications.asp>). One suggestion for making the electronic copy accessible to more members is to provide both PDF and HTML versions. Thus, the editor would prepare a print copy *and* two electronic versions, but the money and time spent printing, labeling and mailing would be significantly reduced.

An alternate plan is to accept advertising as a means of offsetting printing and mailing costs. A recent survey posted to the Council of Newsletter Editors listserv indicated that several SISs either already do or are considering accepting advertising. Our newsletter has a focused readership, which should appeal to certain advertisers. This would require the editor to solicit ads and handle ad copy while the Secretary/Treasurer would take on the added tasks of invoicing and collecting payments.

SURVEY FORM

Please reply to the FCIL SIS Publications Committee Chair:

Anne Burnett
Reference/Foreign & International Law Librarian
University of Georgia Law Library
Athens, Georgia 30602
or
aburnett@arches.uga.edu

Name of FCIL SIS Member: _____

Please check one:

_____ I would support the publication of the FCIL Newsletter solely in electronic format.

_____ I would not support the publication of the FCIL Newsletter solely in electronic format because:

(Examples: “because I do not have Internet access”; “because I know that FCIL SIS member X does not have Internet access”)

Additional Comments:

The Sino-American Conference on “Insurance and Financial Services: China after WTO” was held in Beijing from October 15-17, 2000 and was cosponsored by the Insurance Law Center at the

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES
Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Special Interest Section

TO: Members of the FCIL-SIS
FROM: Tracy Thompson, Secretary/Treasurer
DATE: February 1, 2001
RE: Annual Election of Officers

Below is the official ballot for the election of FCIL-SIS officers. In odd-numbered years, the offices of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer are both up for election. Please feel free to vote for a write-in candidate of your choice—after verifying that individual's willingness to serve.

Mark your ballot and place it in a plain envelope, seal it and mail it to me in a cover envelope. **Your name must appear on the outer envelope for the ballot to be valid. Do not write anything on the outside of the inner envelope.**

Please return your ballot by March 20, 2001.

Foreign, Comparative, and International Law Special Interest Section

Official Ballot 2001

The Nominations Committee, consisting of Maria Smolka-Day (chair), Silke Sahl and Milagros Rush, has nominated the following candidates:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect:

[] Ken Rudolf

Kenneth Rudolf is Head of Reference and Lecturer in Legal Research at the Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School. He began his library career at Yale in 1990 as a reference librarian in the Foreign and International Collection and later became a supervisor in that department before taking his current position in 1997. He has been a member of the FCIL SIS since 1990 and has served as newsletter editor (1993-1997), newsletter layout editor (1991-1993), and coordinator of the Electronic Issues Group (1995, 1998). He was an instructor at two of the “Training the Next Generation” Institutes (Cambridge 1993 on European Union electronic research, Seattle 1994 on private international law bibliography), and since 1998 he has been literature editor for the Yearbook of International Environmental Law. He lectures on treaty research and European Union research in legal research courses at Yale Law School. Last summer he was co-chair of the Joint Study Institute 2000 in New Haven sponsored by AALL, BIALL, CALL, and ALLG. He holds a J.D., an M.Lib., and a Ph.D. (in historical musicology) from the University of Washington.

Mirela Roznovschi is the Reference Librarian for International and Foreign Law at the New York University Law Library. She earned her M.A. degree from the University of Bucharest, Romania, and her M.L.S. degree from Pratt University, New York. She also has a Certificate on Internet Technologies from New York University. She teaches foreign, comparative, and international law research at NYU Law

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count number.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

A BIG HIT from last year is back by popular demand! Over 20,000 notepads were sent out to approximately 525 locations around the United States, Canada, and Australia, setting another new record! Colorful notepads designed with Teach-In committee assistance and produced by LEXIS-NEXIS, can help you promote your 2001 Teach-In activities. These notepads can be used by library staff or given away to patrons as an incentive to participate in your library events. Email or fax requests to Melissa Engler, Marketing Manager, Librarian Relations Group, LEXIS-NEXIS, at melissa.engler@lexis-nexis.com or 937-865-1585. Be sure to indicate your name, address, and the minimum quantity you need. If deemed necessary, a limit will be imposed in order to accommodate as many requests as possible.

Orders for training kits or promotional materials should be placed by March 3, 2001, so you will receive them in time for your National Library Week events.

Now is the time to make the commitment that your library will conduct some sort of event involving legal research during National Library Week 2001. With the vast amount of materials available to you, it's easy to plan an educational event. If you need more ideas, descriptions of Teach-In kits from previous years can be found on the RIPS-SIS web page at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/>. Past years' kits can be obtained through AALL Headquarters. Contact: AALL, 312-939-4764.

Questions or comments about the 2001 Legal Research Teach-In should be directed to the coordinators for the event, Gail Partin, Associate Law Librarian, Dickinson School of Law, Penn State University, 717-240-5294, gap6@psu.edu; or Karen Brunner, Library Manager, Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti, 973-538-0800, kbrunner@riker.com.

FCIL *Newsletter*
c/o Anne Burnett
University of Georgia Law Library
Athens GA 30602

TO: