

September 14, 2011

Computer Forensics

With Dustin Sachs

11:45 a.m.

South Texas College of
Law Library

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HALL Newsletter

VOLUME 28, NUMBER 4

JULY - AUGUST 2011

From the President

Welcome to HALL 2011-2012. I hope everyone had a great summer and is ready for the autumn to start (or summer II - after all, we are in hot and humid Houston).

I am thrilled about the plans and programs we are getting ready to roll out, and I am convinced that you will find them educating, forward-thinking and fun. Patti has a number of wonderful programs planned and she will announce them in this newsletter.

Furthermore, Natalie and I are getting ready to introduce an addition to our HALL website. With the help of our webmaster, Richard, we will roll out a section with information about commercial arbitration. If you would be interested in helping us develop content, please contact either Natalie or me.

Last but not least, I would like to express my thanks to all those who either agreed to stay on as committee chairs or volunteered for the first time. For those who are interested in becoming more involved, please feel free to contact me. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as president of HALL for the next year, and I look forward to working with the board and HALL members to make this a successful year!

-Saskia



HALL President
Saskia Mehlhorn

HALL Vice-President
Patti Curtis

Continuing Education

30 years ago HALL became a chapter of AALL! I couldn't find a picture of me 30 years ago, so I went really old school. This is my kindergarten picture.

It's back to school time, but I don't think summer is going to end. I have to admit planning the meetings and seminars seemed daunting, but working with Lauren Schroeder and Chris Dykes has made the process a lot of fun. Thank you both so much!

This is what we have lined up so far:

September 14, 2011: *Big Brother Wants You: Emerging Technology in Computer Forensics*
October 12, 2011: *Half-Day Seminar - Deep in the Heart of Texas*
November 9, 2011: *Update on the Harris County Law Library*
December 14, 2011: *HALLiday Luncheon*

Thanks to Heather Waltman for suggesting our September speaker, Dustin Sachs, a computer forensics specialist. His presentation should be informative and a little scary.

-Patti



HALL Treasurer's Report

HALL Treasurer's Report (Unaudited) August 10, 2011

Balance forward			
08/10/11			\$13,200.76
	Income	Expenses	
Dues			
2011-2012	\$1,287.50		
Newsletter			
Luncheons/ Receptions/ Seminars			
Scholarships/Grants			
Administrative			
Total	\$1,287.50		
Balance 08/10/11			\$14,488.23

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AALL 2012

105th Annual Meeting & Conference
Boston, MA | July 21-24

The HALL Newsletter, published 6 times a year by the HALL Publications Committee, is the official publication of the Houston Area Law Librarians. The purpose is to communicate information to its members. Send contributions, comments, news items, or advertising queries to Mary Ann Wacker, Editor, maryann.wacker@bgllp.com.

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Membership dues for HALL are \$25/year. For membership information, please contact Jeannie Mazzone at jmazzone@stcl.edu or 713-646-2908.

Membership form is available here: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/dues.pdf>

HALL Board Meeting Minutes for August

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
HALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Aug. 4, 2011
Andrews & Kurth

Meeting called to order at 12:20 p.m.

In attendance: Riva Laughlin, Patti Curtis, Genel Moran (by phone), Saskia Mehlhorn (by phone), Natalie Lira (by phone)

Minutes: to be approved at the next meeting

Treasurer's Report: transfer was smooth. Will pay Secretary of State fees for 2010 and 2011.

Old Business: none

New Business:
Aug. - AALL recap
Sept. - Computer forensics
Oct. - half day seminar (still working on it) Texas!!
Nov. - HALL turns 30 or diversity
Dec. - party
Jan. - community service
Feb. - AALL visit
Mar. - full day - to Bush Library in College Station
Apr. - HALL turns 30 or diversity
May - business meeting

Renew web subscription for stand alone site for two more years because AALL can't support what we do yet. Hope that AALL can support next time at renewal.

New committee chairs:
Bylaws – Tracy Timmons
Nominations – Kristina Lambright
Website – Richard Guajardo

Meeting adjourned: 12:40 p.m.

-Submitted by Riva Laughlin

The Executive Librarian
Legal and Tax Library Filing and Maintenance Service
www.TheExecutiveLibrarian.com

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HALL Member Spotlight: Saskia Mehlhorn

German-born Saskia Mehlhorn has fully embraced the Texas lifestyle – she loves cattle. Saskia volunteers at the Fort Bend County Fair just to be around them. Her 18 year old son Kejan is a real cowboy and raises livestock and participates in team roping!

Little did Saskia realize this was her future when she and her husband Andreas learned Schlumberger was moving them from their native Germany to a magical-sounding place called “Sugar Land.” Their “temporary” assignment turned into a life lived in a new country.

Saskia hails from Braunschweig in the northern part of Germany where her family has been for hundreds of years. She and her younger brother Bjoern enjoyed a happy childhood. Her engineer father was the head of Research and Development at The Fraunhofer Gesellschaft and her mother was an outgoing woman who was ahead of her time – she founded a shelter for abused women and was very involved in her community.

Saskia moved to Hamburg to attend university. In Germany it’s a 5-7 year program to earn a law degree, then another two to become a barrister to represent people in court. After law school, Saskia worked at a large firm, until the call came to move to the United States for two years. The firm said they would hold her place until she returned. However, the assignment lasted longer than expected so Saskia found a position at Schlumberger as well. She worked in the Quality, Health, Safety, and Environment (QHSE) department as a visiting attorney making sure Schlumberger was in compliance with all of the hazardous waste rules worldwide. Andreas was then transferred to Asker, Norway. Saskia was able to work there too, assisting with getting expatriates settled.

In 2001 Saskia and Andreas headed back to Sugar Land. This time she worked for a tax consulting firm helping people file correct expatriation and repatriation forms. Saskia then went to work for a non-profit organization that offered legal assistance to German speakers who have problems at home with property issues, taxes, or other legal matters.

After this, Saskia decided it was time to get an “American” law degree so she went back to school to the University of Houston for her LLM. One of Saskia’s friends from church, Monika Miura, asked Saskia if she ever considered law librarianship. Saskia had not, but decided it was the perfect career for her! So she began working for Monika and filling in temporarily when librarians were away. Her first “real” job was at Fulbright and Jaworski. Saskia worked as the Visiting Foreign and International Law Librarian at the University of Houston for two years, but recently returned to Fulbright.

Saskia and Andreas have two sons, Kejan and Cedric. Cedric is in 7th grade and likes swimming, video games, and science fiction books – cows not so much. Kejan is starting this year at Blinn College with plans to eventually attend Texas A&M University.

Andreas is a motorcycle rider and often goes on Saturday road trips with a group from work. Saskia is happy to stay home and knit, scrapbook, bake homemade bread, and hang out with family pets Ollie and Dora (dogs) and Jesse the cat. When she is not doing these things look for her volunteering at the Fort Bend Women’s Shelter or the Fort Bend County Fair with her beloved cattle!



HALL August Minutes

HALL Business Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2011

Minutes Subject to Correction and Approval

The meeting was called to order by HALL President Saskia Mehlhorn at 12:01 p.m.

Treasurer's report – approved

Old business – none

New business – Saskia Mehlhorn discussed HALL's goals for the coming year including developing an arbitration portal on the HALL website.

Committee reports:

Archives – no report

By-Laws – Tracy Timmons will take a look at the by-laws and make sure that everything is in order.

Continuing education – Patti Curtis reported on the upcoming continuing education programs including a trip to the Presidential library in College Station and a presentation by a computer forensics specialist in September.

Community service – no report

Government relations – new government relations chair needed.

Library school liaison – no report

Membership – Jeannie Mazzone reminded everyone to send renewal forms to HALL Treasurer Genel Moran.

Publications – Mary Ann Wacker wasn't able to attend so Barbara Szalkowski reminded everyone that the deadline for the next issue of the HALL newsletter is August 24, 2011.

Nominations – Saskia Mehlhorn thanked Caren Luckie for the marvelous work she had done and introduced Kristina Lambright as the new chair.

Placement – no report

Scholarships – no report

Vendor Relations – no report

Website – no report

The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

-Submitted by Saskia Mehlhorn

Fun and Adventures at AALL Conference in Philadelphia

Whenever I attend an AALL conference I keep the first page of my notepad free for “buzzwords”. As I listen to speakers, roam the exhibit hall, and eavesdrop on coffee klatches, I jot down the new jargon for the year. Often within a day or two a trend will appear and the same few buzzwords or phrases will keep popping up. Remember the year when everything was about “knowledge management?” Or the year that “outsourcing” was the topic brought up constantly?

This year was no exception. We were really big on clouds this year, lots and lots of clouds. Personally, I would like to hunt down the person who came up with that term and make him suffer. It’s vague, gives no clue to what it really is, and is tough to make sound serious and professional when speaking to people outside the technology world. You know those people? Just your Dean, or Managing Partner, or Judge whom you are trying to convince that sending you to the annual meeting was money well spent.

Try telling them that you learned all about clouds and maybe we should consider putting our some of our data, processes, servers, programs, etc., in the clouds. Tell them how it will be more efficient, more reliable, and more secure. Let us know how that goes. Trust me, they can’t get beyond the word “cloud.” It’s just not one of those confidence inspiring words.

Don’t get me wrong, I think cloud computing is the future and a good thing. I just wish they had come up with a better name for it. But enough of my personal linguistic rantings.

So there was a lot of talk about the advantages of putting your library systems, or at least some of your systems or services, “in the clouds” along with the best practices for taking those things “to the cloud.” (“Best practices” was another popular buzzword this year, which basically involves talking to other librarians and seeing how they did something. Programs beginning with “Best Practices for xxxx” sound much more substantive than those called “Recommendations and Advice for xxxx.”)

So in considering a cloud based library, you will have to evaluate who will provide your “cloud service” and the “cloud platform” and “cloud architecture” those services are built on. You will also have to determine the “cloud clients” you will need to access your “cloud processes” and “cloud data.” And because we are librarians and all about cooperation, there was some talk of “cloud sharing.” I also heard someone mention “cloud solutions,” which I guess you’ll need if your clouds are having problems.

This brings us to another popular word this year. In the eternal spirit of librarianship, we were very “open,” as in “open data,” “open computing,” “open source,” “open standards” and “open code” which all leads to “OSS” which for those of us in the know means “open source software.” This next term I heard only once, but it was in the same discussion with a lot of “open” talk and I just loved the mental image, and that was about having “vanity free” servers. Whew, conceited servers have been such a problem for so many of us.

Don’t get me wrong, I had a great time at AALL. I learned a lot and came back inspired and refreshed, but sometimes we really have to laugh at ourselves. The material was just too good not to use.

-Mary Lippold



*From left: HALL Travel Grant recipient and August speaker Tracy Timmons; HALL President Saskia Mehlhorn; August Meeting Speaker Mary Lippold
(Photo courtesy of Patti Curtis)*

Fun and Adventures at AALL Conference in Philadelphia, continued

I would like to first say "Thank You" to HALL Scholarship Committee and Executive Board for allowing me the opportunity to attend the annual meeting.

The pre-conference workshop that I attended was *Researching and Understanding European Law*, held July 23 from 12:30-5 p.m. The presenters for the workshop were: Saskia Mehlhorn, Jennifer Allison, Ly-onette Louis-Jacques Roxana Popsecu, and Alison A. Shea.

My experience with international law mainly deals with countries in North and South America. This was a great opportunity for me to get an intensive introduction to European Law. The topics covered were: European Union-Energy and Environmental Law, Religious Freedom in the EU, European Union Law, and the difference between European Union and European Council. The major topics I found helpful were: Why the European Union?, How does the EU work?, and The Euro. If you are a novice like me, a resource that I viewed more than once is the video *Legal Research for the 21st Century: Advanced Research Foreign and International Law*, by Robert Berring and Marci Hoffman. The second half the workshop dealt with documents - what is this type of document, why would I want to consult it, who is responsible for creating/producing it, where can I find a copy of it, how can I go about locating it?

The second workshop that really struck a chord near and dear to my heart is: *Questioning the Paper Chase: Why Should Law Librarians Obtain a Law Degree?* Panel included Kumar Jayasuriya of Georgetown Law Library and Robert Nissenbaum of Fordham Law Library.

For many years, the requirement that a law librarian possess a law degree was almost exclusively seen in job postings for academic positions, usually at a supervisory level. However, this requirement is now often associated with even entry-level jobs in all types of law libraries. This program posits two fundamental questions: Do we need law degrees to do our job, and is a law degree a sound financial and professional investment for a law librarian today? A panel of librarians provided differing viewpoints in answering these and other questions regarding the place of the JD in the profession.

The discussion was based around the argument that given the cost of obtaining a JD in 2011 and assuming you already have a MLS and working in the legal profession, is the cost of the degree worth the financial gain. I have wrestled with this decision since graduating from library school. My decision was based on not the financial reward later in my career, but can I afford to take out more student loans to pursue another degree and how would that debt load affect my future. I obtained my certification in Medical Librarianship, building on my bachelor's degree, but I have worked eight years in an academic law library. Is my work experience enough, or do I need a JD degree? An alternative degree offered by the panel is a Master of Legal Study. The degree currently is offered at many respected universities, such as Arizona State University, Stanford, University of Pittsburgh, and many more.

You might ask what is a Masters of Legal Study? A Master in Legal Study degree is reserved for professionals who wish to study law without becoming attorneys. Topics covered are often similar to the topics covered by a first year JD candidate, and may include constitutional law, civil procedure, and contracts. While JD programs typically last three years, many Masters in Legal Studies programs last just one. The real question is will this degree be a help or hindrance to those who wish to become library directors. I have found another alternative that is free, but currently being offered only to journalists. The Civil Justice Program at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles offers a Journalist Law School fellowship (JLS). The fellowship condenses three years of law school into a long weekend filled with courses taught by Loyola Law faculty, practicing attorneys, and jurists. I don't know of a fellowship for librarians, but this would be great.

-Tracy Timmons

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.

Salary Survey link: <http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Publications/salary-survey>



The 2011-2012 AALL Executive Board, including our own Greg Lambert!

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.

Webinar registration link: <http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1002764>

Why Don't I Get Easy Questions Anymore?: The Changing Nature of Reference and Patron Services

This one-hour MP3 recording features **Kay Samuels** as the moderator and **Joan Shear** and **Jeanette Bosschart** as speakers. During the program the speakers discuss how they receive fewer easy reference questions than in the past but that the questions they get are of a different nature. Reference questions can cross practice areas, deal with complex procedural issues, or include foreign law. Reference questions are also harder because researchers ask more "raw, undigested" questions. These are questions the researcher has not thought out and therefore cannot provide structure or context for. Both also note that there are some new "easy" reference questions, which have to do with patrons doing research using online sources, such as "Why can't I find this law review in Westlaw or Lexis?" when the patron is in a case law database. Easy user questions are now more about the limitations of online database content.

Both speakers also acknowledge that patrons' expectations have changed. Researchers expect results quickly, in full-text, and in electronic format. If the research involves foreign law there is also an expectation that the information will be in English. Finally, both note that researchers do not have any expectations regarding quality or authority of the results they find.

The discussion ends with a look at how technology has taken researchers out of the library and the challenges both speakers' libraries face in trying to reach the patrons who need them. Both commented on the technological challenges of the reference interview, challenges when the interaction is not face-to-face and certain cues that were evident now have to be extracted through an online interaction. The program ends with members of the audience providing comments or asking questions of the speakers.

<http://www.softconference.com/aall/sessionDetail.asp?SID=175513>



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).

Program link: <http://www.softconference.com/aall/sessionDetail.asp?SID=262236>

Reading at Rice

Hello! I've not attended a HALL meeting in the past year, but try to keep in touch with several members. We've had a quiet summer in the Business Information Center at Jones Graduate School at Rice. The students have returned, and now the reading room is full much of the day.

I've started writing a brief monthly article for our faculty/staff newsletter, and thought I would share part of this month's column. Hope you find it interesting.

Have you heard about the Rice Common Reading? The Common Reading program is in its 6th year. The incoming freshman class is assigned a book to read over the summer. This book forms the basis for group discussions and activities during O-Week and throughout the fall semester.

This year's title is *The Honor Code: How Moral Revolutions Happen* by **Kwame Anthony Appiah**.

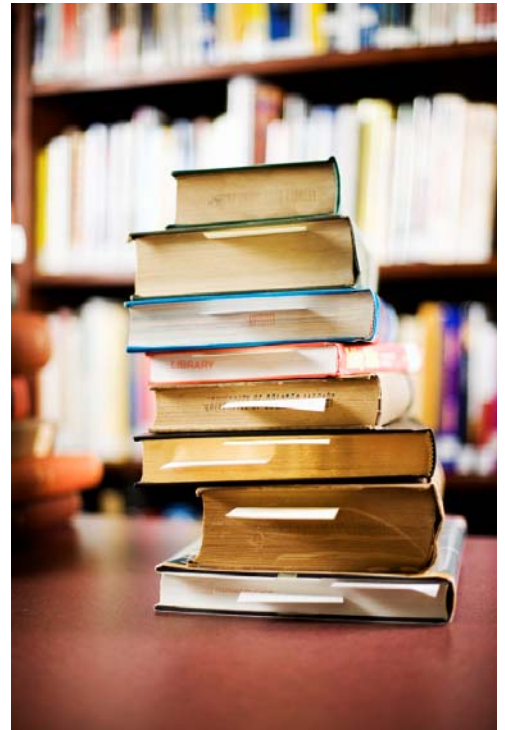
Previous Common Reading titles include:

- *Work Hard, Be Nice: How Two Inspired Teachers Created the Most Promising Schools in America*, by Jay Mathews
- *The House at Sugar Beach: In Search of a Lost African Childhood* by Helene Cooper
- *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time* by Greg Mortenson and David Relin
- *Field Notes from a Catastrophe: Man, Nature, and Climate Change* by Elizabeth Kolbert

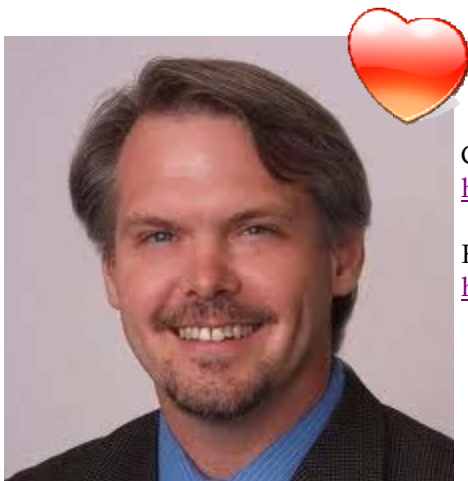
If you would like to know more, see

<http://students.rice.edu/students/CommonReading.asp>.

I just finished reading *The Weed That Strings the Hangman's Bag* by Alan Bradley, and have started *Foxy Roxy* by Nancy Martin. I am also working on the Common Reading mentioned above. Please share what you're reading and I'll pass it on to Mary Ann for the next newsletter. Inquiring minds want to know!



Cheers,
Elise McCutchen
emccutch@rice.edu



More Greg Lambert News!

Greg was named to the Fastcase 50 :

<http://www.fastcase.com/fastcase50-winners/>

King & Spalding is assisting the Harris County Law Library in its move:

http://www.kslaw.com/News-and-Insights/NewsDetail?us_nsc_id=5003

Fort Bend County Law Library: A New Location, A New Look

The Fort Bend County Law Library has a new facility to call home. At the beginning of July, the Law Library moved into the brand new Fort Bend County Justice Center along with the county's courts, district attorney, and district clerk. The new space has the added convenience of being located in the same building as many of the county's judicial offices and a new floor plan that includes more open study tables and computing space than the old location. The Law Library also gives patrons access to two conference rooms – one that is available for one-hour sessions on a first-come, first-served basis, and another that may be reserved.

Even with so many changes, the convenience of the collection has remained the same. The Law Library maintains Texas primary materials and federal statutes as well as a variety of practice sets and form books. Resources such as Dorsaneo's Texas Litigation Guide, Texas Practice Guide, and Texas Jurisprudence receive regular use. Additionally, sources specific to family law, criminal law, and other practice areas concerning matters adjudicated in the Justice Center are maintained for use by practitioners and the public. For legal research that is not addressed by the print collection, the Law Library provides access to Westlaw, free of charge, on three of its six computer terminals. To assist with both the print and electronic collections, a law librarian and a library assistant are close by at the reference desk. Patrons will also find free and fee-based services that hint at the Law Library's place in the Fort Bend County Public Library system. All patrons may use computers to access the Internet and common software, such as Microsoft Office programs and Corel WordPerfect, without charge. Upon opening a web browser, patrons will find the Public Library's homepage, which provides access to a catalog and calendar of events. A scanner is also provided for public use free of charge. For a fee, patrons may print and copy documents as well as send and receive faxes.

The Law Library is a great public service for anyone in need of legal resources. With the growth of Fort Bend County and its court system in recent years, you or another legal professional you know will likely make the trip down I-59 South to Richmond in the near future. If so, the Law Library is a convenient place to do legal research or prepare for court in Fort Bend County.

*-Joseph Lawson
MLIS student at UNT &
Law Library Assistant at
Fort Bend County Law Library*



*The new Fort Bend County Law Library
(Photo courtesy of Joseph Lawson)*

Revised ILL Procedures at South Texas College of Law Library

In order to provide better ILL service, we are implementing changes in our work flow. We hope to increase efficiency, accuracy, and response time in the handling of your requests.

As many of you already know, we are now offering HALL members access to our automated ILL service, HALL ILLiad. We have already contacted several of you to provide information about the service along with the personalized logon information needed to access the system. If you have not been contacted and you would like to receive a username and password for your firm, please email me, and I will send the information right away. To learn more about the system, please see the HALL ILLiad FAQ page here:

<http://illiad.stcl.edu/illiad/lending/LendingFAQ.html>

If you have any questions at any time about ILLiad, the availability of an item, or the status of your request, please feel free to call (713-646-1792) or email (hwaltman@stcl.edu) me directly.

We plan to rely on ILLiad as our primary means of handling requests, but we will still monitor our dedicated ILL email account (stclill@stcl.edu) throughout the day. If you do send email to this account, please feel free to copy me on your message. This will help me to better manage our service and ensure that your need is being addressed. We are making a concerted effort to improve our response time to voice mail as well, but if your phone call is not returned promptly, please contact me directly at 713-646-1792.

As a matter of policy, we ask that you allow 24 hours for the processing of your requests, but in most cases we should be able to provide what you need in a matter of hours. Regretfully, I'm aware that this has not always been the case, but we are striving to improve our service from this point forward.

Being an academic library, we collect and retain sources that many of you may not otherwise have access to. In the spirit of librarianship and collegiality, we are happy to share these materials and we take pride in our ability to do so. Contributing to the legal community is an important goal of the college in general and the library in particular. To me personally, it's important that you all consider South Texas a reliable information partner. So again, if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback regarding our service, please don't hesitate to contact me at hwaltman@stcl.edu or 713-646-1792.

(Please note -- Our normal service hours are Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm. Typically, I'm also available during those hours, except on Thursdays when my work day does not begin until 1:00pm.)

-Heather Waltman



Houston Area Law Librarians

P.O. Box 61648
Houston TX 77208

- Ideas
- Sharing
- Education
- Cooperation
- Resources
- Networking

Houston Area Law Librarians is a chapter of the American Association of Law Librarians.

Our monthly meetings are held at the South Texas College of Law. We present a half-day seminar in the Fall and a full-day seminar in the Spring on legal topics.

There are close to 200 members of HALL. We are librarians in firms, law schools, and courts as well as vendors and Library School students.



HALL Officers and Committees

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By-Laws:

Tracy Timmons

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Patti Curtis

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Placement:

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Government Relations:

Library School Liaison:

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Community Service:

Catherine Whitney

Vendor Relations:

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