FROM THE EDITOR

Sabrina A. Davis (sadavis@okcu.edu)
Reference Librarian and Law Library Professor
Oklahoma City University School of Law

MAALL Reading Club – “Bluebook Worms”

Attention all bookworms!!! I am thrilled to announce the introduction of the MAALL reading club, affectionately titled “Bluebook Worms,” which will allow the MAALL community to connect more frequently and have some fun while we’re at it!

Bluebook Worms will occur quarterly, in January, April, July, and October. There will be opportunity for live discussion (via Uber Conference and in-person meetings) and asynchronous discussion on the MAALL website forums, which will take place prior to and following the live discussion. We will be alternating between fiction and non-fiction, starting with fiction in January.

January 2017 Bluebook Worms—Nominations for the January fiction book/short story must be submitted by December 15 via Google Forms at https://goo.gl/forms/1NOiGMCIHo5CVjN43. MAALL members will be able to vote on the January reading from December 16-20, and the winning book/short story will be announced on December 21, 2016. Live discussion via Uber Conference will occur on Friday, January 13, at 11:30 a.m. CST, and the discussion forum on the MAALL website will be available January 11-18, 2016.

As a reminder, MAALL Markings is also looking for a new committee member to facilitate Bluebook Worms–let me know if you are interested! We will also consider dividing the job between two members. Feel free to contact me (sadavis@okcu.edu) if you have any questions. Let’s get reading!

New MAALL Markings Columns

Beginning with this issue of MAALL Markings, we are pleased to offer three new regularly-occurring columns, starting on page 2 of each issue. First, Lacy Rakestraw, Director of the Saint Louis County Law Library and Associate Editor of MAALL Markings, is contributing her thoughts on management in her column, “Managing the Circus: Tips for Juggling Staff Requests, Patron Issues, and Your Own Needs.” Second, keep abreast of the often overlooked yet extremely important field of technical services in “Technical Services Talk” by Emily Dust Nimsakont, Head of Cataloging & Resource Management at University of Nebraska College of Law. And third, follow the triumphs and challenges of new instructional librarian Rena K. Stoeber, Research & Instructional Services Librarian at Indiana University McKinney School of Law, in her column, “Dazed and Instructed.” Please join me in welcoming our new columnists!
MANAGING THE CIRCUS: TIPS FOR JUGGLING STAFF REQUESTS, PATRON ISSUES, AND YOUR OWN NEEDS

Lacy Rakestraw (lacy.rakestraw@courts.mo.gov)
Law Library Director
Saint Louis County Law Library

Confession time: I have a bad habit. Well, I have many bad habits, but only one is relevant to this article. You see, I am a “fixer.” I invite people to tell me their problems, and then I offer to help them fix the issue. Someone saying to me “I need to edit this document” turns in to me exclaiming “I can do that for you!” (If you’ll notice, I am the new Associate Editor for MAALL Markings. See what I mean?) Sometimes this quality works out just fine; I like copy editing after all. But other times, it can turn in to a problem. For example, I can find myself roped in to meeting friends flying in to the airport at 11:00 PM on a Tuesday, only for their flight to be two hours late. True story.

This bad habit can also turn into an issue for people like me in the work setting. As librarians, there is at least a little bit of the “fixer” in all of us. We are in a profession of helping, and providing assistance can sometimes lead to attempting to solve someone else’s problems, often at our own detriment.

So that you won’t end up at the airport at 1 AM picking up friends, I will share my favorite personal mantra with you, so you can use it in your own life when you find yourself in the “fixer” position one too many times. Repeat after me: “Not My Circus, Not My Monkeys.”

If this phrase sounds familiar to you, it’s because it isn’t anything new. In fact, it is an old Polish proverb, which is proof that our “fixer” habit has been around for a while. The proverb essentially is a warning, advising a person not to try to become the ringleader of every three-ring circus that comes to town. Instead, be in charge of your own circus by fixing your own problems first.

To stop yourself from chasing after those monkeys that definitely do not belong to you, stop and first ask yourself:

1. Does this issue personally involve me? If the answer is no,
2. What is the cost to me if I become involved: what will it take from me in terms of time, stress, possibly even money? And finally, ask,
3. What will happen if I don’t get involved?

Most of the time when you are chasing wild monkeys, you’ll be able to stop at the first question, after you realize that the issue isn’t any of your business, and that perhaps your motivations for becoming involved are not as selfless as you may have first thought. If you choose to get involved with the situation against better judgment, you then really have to self-evaluate for question two, and determine whether you have time and/or money to spare or whether the extra stress is worth the hassle. When answering the third question, it’s best to focus on reality instead of asking this question based on the worst possible outcomes. Yes, if you choose not to get involved when two coworkers are fighting, one could possibly karate chop off the other person’s arm and that might not have happened if you had gotten involved. But a karate chop is really describing a worst possible outcome in that situation (hopefully!). Instead, consider the realistic outcomes: it’s more likely that the two coworkers won’t speak to one another for a few days, and then find a way to get over it that doesn’t involve you at all.
The title of this column comes from my modern interpretation of the Polish proverb. I personally have my own circus with many monkeys that need my attention. For me, those monkeys include the annual budget that I prepare for a judicial committee, the computer lab printer that sometimes just stops working for seemingly no reason (we suspect a poltergeist), or any other issues that randomly pop up throughout the day. I make a serious attempt to learn how to handle my monkeys, and better my own management skills by reading as much leadership material and talking to as many other librarians as possible. My hope with this column is to regularly provide you with relevant management advice that I’ve learned either first hand from reading material produced by other supervisors, or gained from speaking with other managers (library and elsewhere). Even though we are all at different libraries, with diverse needs, and distinct patrons, there is much that we have in common. We are all ringleaders of our own circuses.

Expanding Circles
Images of the MAALL Annual Meeting 2016
Photos by Kathy Broad
Linked Data for Libraries: An Introduction

The world of library cataloging is in a time of upheaval. Our standards, and the ways we think about bibliographic data, are rapidly evolving. Linked Data, a method of publishing structured data on the World Wide Web, is at the forefront of this change. Encoding information about libraries’ collections using Linked Data technologies could have a profound effect on the way patrons interact with library catalogs.

According to Wikipedia’s entry for Linked Data, the term “describes a method of publishing structured data so that it can be interlinked and become more useful.” This method involves publishing data on the web in such a manner that it can be read not just by humans, but also automatically by computers. When data is published in this structured manner, it is possible for data from a wide variety of sources to be linked together and queried simultaneously.

Put another way, the current web is a network of documents, and Linked Data will allow for a chain of data. While there are links on standard webpages, each webpage is treated by computers as a monolithic resource. Linked Data allows links to be made between much smaller pieces of information within webpages. One of the things that enables this web of data is encoded meaning. Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), the language of standard webpages, does not tell a computer anything about what the information on a webpage means, only how to display it. Through Resource Description Framework (RDF), Linked Data provides computers with information about what the text on a webpage means. The web of data is also made possible through links between entities, when the links are based on relationships. Through encoded meaning and explicit relationships, Linked Data makes the web into a giant database, allowing people to search across a variety of sources of information with very little effort.

One way in which Linked Data could change the search experience for library users is by providing links to resources outside a particular library’s collection in search results, such as digitized archival materials from other institutions relating to the person’s search topic. For example, in France, a project called OpenCat involved linking a public library’s catalog to data from the National Library of France. The results of this experiment have been described in a paper titled Customized OPACs on the Semantic Web: The OpenCat Prototype.

While the ability to link to outside resources from within the library catalog with very little effort is certainly an attractive benefit, Linked Data could also provide another result: the chance for library materials to show up in search engine results. This would enable patrons to be aware of library resources in their area without even accessing a library website or online catalog. The Denver Public Library has converted their MARC catalog data to a Linked Data format, and their catalog now provides an example of how Linked Data enables access to library catalogs through search engines. A Google search for “Molly Brown papers” retrieves as the first search result a direct link to the Denver Public Library catalog record for their archival collection of Molly Brown’s papers.
Even if resources outside of the library are taken out of the equation, Linked Data technologies could still have an effect on the way library users interact with their libraries’ catalogs. Currently, librarians struggle with providing access to all of their libraries’ resources, which are kept in many different silos according to how they are provided (library catalog, databases of electronic resources, digitized versions of archival collections, and many other possibilities). It is nearly impossible to provide a discovery tool that provides one-stop access to all of a library’s collections. If Linked Data were used as a method of providing structured data about all of these resources, it could become much easier to link them all together in a single search interface.

It is important to note that there is strong reason to believe that a Linked Data environment will become the norm for library data encoding. On October 31, 2011, the Library of Congress issued a statement titled *A Bibliographic Framework for a Digital Age*, which outlined the plan for transitioning away from Machine Readable Cataloging (MARC) as the encoding standard for library bibliographic data. Recognizing that a new encoding format is needed to replace the 40-year-old MARC standard, Library of Congress officials announced that “the new bibliographic framework project will be focused on…Linked Data principles and mechanisms.” BIBFRAME, as the Library of Congress has abbreviated their Bibliographic Framework project, is a Linked Data model designed to replace MARC as the encoding standard for libraries.

The first step in making linked library data happen involves people and organizations making their data available in Linked Data format. In the library world, there are currently a number of sources of this type of data. The *Library of Congress Linked Data Service*, the *Virtual International Authority File*, and the *RDA (Resource Description and Access) Vocabularies* are all examples of library data available in a Linked Data format.

After structured data is available, the true power of Linked Data becomes evident when data from multiple sources are linked together. One project that makes use of Linked Data to bring together resources from different organizations is *NINES*, which focuses on peer-reviewed scholarship about the nineteenth century. NINES brings together digital objects from 139 different sources, including the Library of Congress, Michigan State University, the New York Public Library, and the Digital Public Library of America. This project provides an example of what a Linked Data search interface looks like.

The technology used to encode library catalogs is currently in a state of flux, and MARC records will continue to be the mainstream standard for the time being. However, Linked Data solutions are on the horizon, and it is exciting to think about the possibilities they hold for the discovery of library resources. Future installments of this column will delve more deeply into the technology behind Linked Data and take a closer look at library projects that utilize Linked Data.

**NEW MEMBERS**

A warm welcome to the newest members of MAALL:

- Sue Benton, Head of Technical and Collection Services, University of South Dakota School of Law
- Tom Duggan, Librarian Relations Manager, Thomson Reuters
- Vanessa King, Assistant Law Librarian for Special Collections, Emory University School of Law
- Matthew Larsen, Reference Librarian, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law
- Mandy Lee, University of Nebraska College of Law
- Matthew Timko, Interlibrary Loan Coordinator, Loyola University Chicago School of Law
DAZED AND INSTRUCTED

Rena K. Stoeber (rstoeber@iupui.edu)
Research and Instructional Services Librarian
Indiana University McKinney School of Law

Having taught only one semester of legal research, plus a few additional training sessions, my first thought in sitting down
to write this column was—what could I possibly have to offer? However, as clergyman Thomas W. Higginson once said,
“Originality is simply a pair of fresh eyes,” and here I sit, bright-eyed and ready to share some ideas for inspiring innovative
instruction in the classroom.

If enthusiasm for instruction alone were enough to reach our students, our passion for research might easily translate
into a dynamic learning atmosphere; sadly, connecting with and educating law students is not that simple. It is clear that
pedagogical instruction must continue to evolve to reach today’s law students, whether effective instruction in law school
today requires adapting to the attitudes of the younger 20-somethings with a different learning skill set, or reflecting on
the increasingly emphasized need for creating practice-ready graduates.

To that end, the librarians at the Indiana University McKinney School of Law used this semester as an opportunity to
experiment with teaching techniques for our 1L legal research students. The class is required of all 1Ls, carries one credit,
and is spread over two semesters with seven weeks of instruction in each semester. Each section held approximately 15-20
students, and we met for 55 minutes per week. We approached each week of our seven-week “mini-mester” with a unique
variety of instructional strategies, including:

• a typical lecture lasting the entire length of the class;
• requiring students to listen to a pre-recorded lecture and devoting the entire in-class time to an informal and
interactive assignment;
• lecturing half of the class and flipping into an informal in-class exercise for the second half;
• providing students with flashcards and having them work in teams to master the material, with candy as an end-
of-class reward for students who could explain the answers to their peers;
• online learning only, designed around Labor Day week where some students could not have an in-person class;
• working together as one unified group to explore Boolean searching, followed by cold-calling on students to
explain why some decisions were made in the search string; and
• several mini lectures, interspersed with small in-class assignments.

Each class was followed by an out-of-class quiz that was graded and had to be completed without peer assistance.

When I asked my students how they felt about each class, I got answers running the gamut from “can’t wait to do it again,”
to “meh.” Students were particularly drawn to the flashcard exercise. Their feedback on it was consistently positive. I also
found that students offered thoughtful explanations of the answers when we reviewed them as a class, rather than simply
reciting the brief answer on the back of the cards. It was a refreshingly, interactive class. Student responses provided im-
portant feedback in considering how to structure classes for the spring semester with the same students.

In short, I don’t believe effective legal research instruction can be neatly pigeon-holed into the vague concept of flipping
the classroom. The nuances of how the classroom is flipped and the change in the dynamics of each class are undeniably
important. I challenge you to experiment with your own classroom, and see if you find the same informative reactions
that we saw this semester: students asking thought-provoking questions, cooperation between students to learn key con-
cepts, in-class energy, following up with thoughtful emails and office visits, and more.
CIRCLING BACK TO WHAT MATTERS MOST: IMPROVING LEGAL RESEARCH COURSE CONTENT BY WRITING MEANINGFUL ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

Heather Simmons

Law & Business Reference Librarian and Assistant Teaching Professor

University of Illinois College of Law

I have always wanted to learn to write high-quality multiple choice questions, but couldn’t figure out how. I read some articles on the topic, but I just wasn’t getting it.

Then I had an opportunity to work with the amazing team of people at Quimbee.com. My colleague, Michelle Hook Dewey, had contacted them to ask if they had a legal research module. To make a long story short, they invited her to create this course, and she asked me to help. We wrote 1500-word transcripts on a variety of introductory legal research topics, and the Quimbee team turned them into videos. Each video is accompanied by five multiple choice questions to test comprehension. We worked with an amazing editor whose detailed feedback improved all of our writing, in both the transcripts and the quizzes. At first we didn’t think that the Quimbee model of assessment would work for a skills class. But they encouraged us to try, and now we are both hooked. Here’s what we learned.

High-quality multiple choice questions are diabolically difficult to write, but they are a great way to assess student comprehension of course content. By applying their learning to a specific set of facts, the students must go beyond rote memorization to demonstrate more sophisticated analytical skills.

A quality multiple choice question contains the following elements:

• A detailed fact pattern
• At least four answer choices, with a single “best” answer being correct.

The prompt should ask for the “best” answer rather than the correct answer. Students can argue about what is correct, but the teacher has the final say on what is the best choice.

Sneaky teacher that I am, I sometimes write questions where all four answers are true statements, but only one is the best choice in the context of a given prompt.

My favorite format is a variation on the dreaded True/False question. In a normal True/False question, the student can guess the answer and still have a 50-50 chance of being right. I have nicknamed the new format “True/False on Steroids.”

Following a detailed fact pattern, and a prompt statement, the answer choices look like this:

A. Yes, because . . .
B. Yes, because . . .
C. No, because . . .
D. No, because . . .

Not only must the student select the correct answer (yes or no), but they also have to identify the correct reasoning. Where in a normal True/False question the student can guess, here the student really has to understand the content being tested in order to make their selection.
Answer options to avoid:

- Multiples (A and B; C and D)
- “None of the above”
- “All of the above”

Try working backwards:

- Decide what concepts you want to assess (Quimbee has this annoying rule that you can’t ask a question about something that wasn’t covered in the transcript—so writing the quiz questions improved our videos)
- Write the four answers
- Write the prompt (remember to conclude with “select the best answer”)
- Write a detailed fact pattern

Be sure to allow plenty of time, as it can take several days to work through this process. I sometimes wake up in the middle of the night with a great idea for a fact pattern, only after the questions have had time to percolate in the back of my mind.

I’ve included two example questions with answers below. If you want to see more examples of multiple choice questions formatted this way, watch the MAALL 2016 Annual Meeting video of this session, or take a look at Quimbee.com.

**Example 1**

**Fact Pattern:**

You majored in English as an undergraduate and were drawn to the law for the opportunities to use your writing skills in your career. Your 1L year is coming to an end, and you have landed a summer internship at a legal news and opinion publication known for writing about the law and legal profession with a fair amount of humor and snark. The publication is a small operation. You are excited because your supervisor has told you that you may have tasks ranging from helping to research articles, writing your own stories, and even working on legal matters faced by the publication.

For your first assignment, you have been tasked with researching a demand letter the publication just received to determine whether the letter writer contains any valid claims. The letter’s writer is incensed by an article recently published about him highlighting his public reprimand by the state ethics board for gross incompetence. The letter writer has threatened to sue the article’s author and the publication itself for libel and slander. Your supervisor laughs and says: “Slander, can you believe that?” You laugh even though you do not quite understand the joke. You have forgotten everything you learned about libel and slander.

**Prompt:**

You want to use an encyclopedia to help you understand the difference between libel and slander. There are many ways to access the part of a legal encyclopedia covering these terms. Select the best option.

**Answer Choices:**

A. Use a well-crafted search query with terms and connectors to find relevant encyclopedia entries online.
B. Use an index to locate specific keywords related to the topic.
C. Use a table of contents to see the outline of the topic, and then browse through the list until you find your issue.
D. Use an index to find terms to include in a well-crafted search query with terms and connectors.
E. Use a print encyclopedia, because it is the only version with finding tools like a table of contents and an index.

The correct answer is B.
Example 2
Fact Pattern:

For your client, a national construction company that builds houses in all 50 states, you are researching the Labor Department’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Safety and Health Regulations for Construction, in particular 29 CFR § 1926 and its subparts. You found this citation in a secondary source.

You need to locate the official text in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and then update it to find out whether any of the subparts have changed since originally promulgated. You also need to check to see if there is any additional information required to provide a complete understanding of these regulations.

Prompt:
You notice that one of the subparts of particular interest to your client cites an American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard, which has been incorporated by reference as part of the regulation. Does this present a problem for you?

Answer Choices:
A. Yes, because it is a scientific standard that only an engineer will be able to understand.
B. Yes, because you are going to have to contact ASTM and purchase the standard.
C. No, because anything incorporated by reference will be printed in full in the appendix.
D. No, because the text of the regulation must be complete as published in the CFR. Information incorporated by reference merely provides a guideline for how a company might comply with the regulation.

The correct answer is B.

Everything’s OK!

MAALL Annual Meeting 2016
Photos by Cindy Bassett
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Susan M. Boland

Associate Director of Public & Research Services
University of Cincinnati College of Law

It’s been two months since the MAALL Annual Meeting, and I want to thank everyone for all of their hard work. We had great speakers and a wonderful setting. I can still picture the beautiful view from Vast. Some of our members have reviewed the educational programs in articles in this issue and I hope you will find them informative. As I write this column, we are busy putting the program materials up on the website so that those who were not able to attend (or those who could not clone themselves and attend two programs at the same time) will be able to further enrich their professional development. The program evaluations were overwhelmingly positive and while 2016 will be a hard act to follow, I am confident that our 2017 joint meeting in October with Chicago Association of Law Librarians (CALL), Michigan Association of Law Libraries (MichALL), Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin (LLAW), and Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL) will be even better! If you have further thoughts and suggestions for the next annual meeting or future annual meetings, please do not hesitate to contact me or Vice-President Therese Clarke Arado.

Among other things, we will be working hard to implement some of the great ideas that came out of the program “MAALL Moving Forward: MAALL’s Strategic Vision and Your Place in It.” Sabrina Davis and the editorial board of MAALL Markings have already started the excellent work by facilitating a MAALL reading club, called “Bluebook Worms.” We’ll experiment with quarterly synchronous and asynchronous discussion. If you have an idea for a book, please don’t hesitate to share!

The lifeblood of MAALL is its members and MAALL committees are the arteries that help us move forward. While engagement is a continuum, without committees our work can’t be accomplished. Thank you to everyone who volunteered your extremely valuable time and energy to serve! We can always use more committee members so please contact me if you have an interest in serving on a MAALL committee.

A MOMENT WITH MALLCO

Corie Dugas
Executive Director
Mid-America Law Library Consortium

Election of Officer

We are thrilled to announce that Heidi Kuehl, Director at Northern Illinois University’s Law Library, has been unanimously elected to serve as the Vice President for MALLCO for 2017-2018. After that, she will lead up the consortium as President from 2019-2020. The transition of officers will take place at the January MALLCO Board Meeting in San Francisco. Allen Moye, Director at DePaul College of Law’s Library, will be stepping into the role of President for the next two years.
MALLCO at the MAALL Annual Meeting

Once again, MALLCO hosted a pre-conference at the MAALL Annual Meeting. Our four interest groups held roundtables to discuss various topics of interest to their members. For those who were unable to attend, brief notes from the groups are available on the MALLCO website. If you would like to be added to an Interest Group discussion list so that you can participate in the ongoing topical conversation, please email cdugas@slu.edu with the name of the group or groups you would like to join.

I would like to thank the Chairs for all their work on planning and presenting: Needra Jackson (Acquisitions and Collection Development), Corrine Jacox (Institutional Repositories), Cindy Shearrer (Reference and Faculty Services), and LeAnn Noland (Resource Sharing). Our pre-conference wouldn’t have been successful without them.

We also hosted a Paper Workshop this year for the first time. We had three presentations that all went off without a hitch. Joe Custer presented his paper, “What Books are in Your Public Library?,” Lee Peoples showcased his paper, “Is the Internet Rotting Oklahoma Law?,” and D.R. Jones presented her paper, “Edicts of Government: Copyright in State Materials.” MALLCO plans to hold the paper workshops again next year in Milwaukee.

Upcoming Strategic Planning

As we enter into a new phase of leadership within MALLCO, we are once again thinking of strategic planning that will move the consortium forward. Allen Moye has compiled a list of questions to guide the planning for the next few years, but additional ideas and suggestions can be sent to Allen at amoye@depaul.edu or me at cdugas@slu.edu.

GOTTA CATCH ‘EM ALL: USING POKÉMON GO TO ENGAGE STUDENTS DURING 1L ORIENTATION

Angela Hackstadt
Serials & Acquisitions Librarian
University of Arkansas School of Law

On July 6, 2016, Niantic launched Pokémon GO, an augmented-reality game based on the Pokémon trading card game. This year, the Young Law Library at the University of Arkansas School of Law used this popular game to promote the law library to the incoming 1L class during the week of orientation, held August 15-19, 2016. The first twenty 1Ls who showed a picture of a captured Pokémon to a law librarian won a $5.00 gift card to Arsaga’s Espresso Cafe, a local coffee shop that operates a branch in the law library commons. Students were required to use MyLaw, our school-wide communication platform and course management system, and go to the reference desk to claim a prize.

Pokémon GO is an augmented-reality game in which players “catch” wild Pokémon. The game uses a smartphone’s GPS to track a player. The image on the screen displays a player’s location in a local map, which players use to track Pokémon. Once a Pokémon is located, the player attempts to catch it by “throwing” a Pokéball. The game’s camera function can be used to photograph a Pokémon wherever it is spotted. Players also

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use the maps to locate Pokéstops, where they can retrieve items that will help them throughout the game. These locations were determined by game developers and Pokéstops are often found at popular landmarks, churches, parks, or other points of interest. There are 86 Pokéstops on the University of Arkansas campus, including one right outside the law school at the Three Triangle Spires sculpture.

The contest was advertised on Facebook and Twitter. To ensure students used MyLaw, all social media advertising directed 1Ls to find contest details on MyLaw. An announcement targeted to the 1L class was posted in MyLaw to explain the rules of the game. All library staff were notified of the contest; however, staff were instructed not to give students contest details. Our goal was to encourage students to find information on MyLaw since it is the primary channel used by the law school to communicate with students. Library staff were allowed to assist students with accessing MyLaw if necessary.

By the end of the first day of orientation, three students had claimed gift cards. By the end of the week, a total of eight gift cards had been awarded. Some players who came to the reference desk to claim a gift card used the opportunity to ask a question about library services, such as printing. At least one student downloaded Pokémon GO specifically to participate in the contest. Low participation may be attributed to one or a combination of factors; for instance, students may not play Pokémon GO, did not think a $5.00 gift card was worth the effort, or were simply too busy during orientation activities.

The experience for the reference staff involved in the contest was positive. Few students and faculty were using the library during orientation week, so extra contest traffic at the reference desk was not burdensome. Reference librarians awarded gift cards to students during their regular reference shifts, so no extra time was required of them. Staff time spent on developing the contest included creating social media graphics, creating and posting the MyLaw announcement, posting to social media, notifying staff of the contest through the library discussion list, and assisting with awarding prizes as necessary; this came to approximately three hours total.

The response to the game, though low, was generally positive. While we did not give away all 20 gift cards, the contest was a successful adventure in marketing for the law library. The Pokémon-related posts to social media engaged a variety of our followers, even though the posts were directed to our 1L class. The uptick in social media engagement began early in the week, before 1Ls started following the law library’s social media channels. For the week of August 14–20, 2016, our Facebook and Twitter impressions were up significantly from orientation week the previous year. Five of the top seven Facebook posts and six of the top seven Tweets were contest-related. We had approximately 2,600 Twitter impressions during 1L Orientation alone. To put that in perspective, we had a total of approximately 3,200 impressions for the 28-day period that included orientation week. Using popular culture provided a fun way to introduce our incoming class to an important resource and to bring them into the library. It also proved successful in engaging a larger audience.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Want to share some exciting news from your library? Contact your State Member News Liaison and share the good news in the next issue of MAALL Markings.

MAALL Markings will be honoring deceased MAALL members on an ongoing basis. Please send obituary notices to maall.newsletter@gmail.com.
MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Therese A. Clarke Arado
Deputy Director
Northern Illinois University College of Law

First, I want to thank Jennifer Prilliman and all the members of the Local Arrangements Committee for a great conference in Oklahoma City. The setting was wonderful and I was thrilled to have the opportunity to see two beautiful libraries. I hope that next year we are able to live up to the high standards set by this year and previous years’ annual meetings.

Speaking of next year, we have an excellent opportunity for expanded professional development and networking. The 2017 MAALL meeting will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Milwaukee is a beautiful city on the shore of Lake Michigan. The meeting will be a joint meeting with several other chapters: Chicago Association of Law Librarians (CALL), Michigan Association of Law Libraries (MichALL), Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin (LLAW), and Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL). I will be working with all of these chapters to develop a wide range of programming that will hopefully appeal to the memberships of each group. In the near future, you will receive information on proposing programs and other conference-related materials.

I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead and hope to hear from many of you when the call for 2017 programming is announced.

May 2017 be a happy, healthy, and peaceful year for you all!

JO ANN HUMPHRIES TRAVEL GRANT REPORT

Ted Potter
Reference Librarian and Adjunct Lecturer in Law
University of Iowa College of Law

The MAALL Annual Meeting is one of my favorite events all year—not just as a professional, but as a person who enjoys people and learning. MAALL is an important community to me because our members come from many diverse backgrounds, cities/towns, law environments, professional experiences, and stages of careers. We have delightful commonalities and amazing differences, which allow us to easily make connections and to continually learn from one another.

This year’s theme, “Expanding Circles,” reminds me of the impact we each have on the world around us—like the pebble dropped in the pond, our presence ripples out from us to affect our colleagues, constituents, and communities. I had the privilege of working with Jenny Sutherland from the law firm of Polsinelli in Kansas City on a program that explored expanding MAALL’s circle to include other professionals; we asked AALL Vice President/President-Elect Greg Lambert to join us, so I got to expand my circle of colleagues, as well as help the audience expand their circles. We posed questions regarding how librarians’ duties intersect with information technology (IT) professionals, conflicts managers, records managers, and others in the legal enterprise, and what knowledge do we/they have to share? One of the answers was we need to get to know more about these other professionals before we can know our places of interconnection and divergence. With the release of AALL’s
new logo and tagline, perhaps the discussion of expanding circles will continue beyond the conference. In addition to presenting a session, I was fortunate to attend several programs that expanded my knowledge and might spark further discussions at my institution. Emily Dust Nimsakont’s presentation on Linked Data was fascinating and spoke to the closet cataloger in me (see my program review on page 18 of this issue). Susan Urban’s program on graphic design highlighted the many tools available for free or for a modest fee that can turn your humdrum handouts into eye-catching wonders. And I love a good discussion, so the “One Read Book Club” discussion of This Book Is Overdue!: How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All was a time of sharing our stories in the context of the author’s stories. Finally, I appreciated speaking with the vendors. There are some new and interesting tools available for students, such as Quimbee and LearnLeo, and new content and productivity tools from our friends at Hein, LexisNexis, Westlaw, Bloomberg BNA, Wolters Kluwer, Gale, West Academic, and Thomson Reuters.

As the MAALL Website Committee Chair, I was grateful to be able to attend the conference to announce the rollout of the new website design. The committee worked hard to pick a design that would meet our members’ needs as well as provide one central place for MAALL content.

For the privilege of being able to attend the 2016 MAALL Annual Meeting—to learn from my colleagues, to present a program, to engage an audience, to see what other law school libraries are doing, to represent my committee, to talk with old friends and new—I thank you for the Jo Ann Humphries Travel Grant.

LIZ GLANKLER TRAVEL GRANT REPORT

Sarah Kammer
Head of Public, Faculty, & Student Services
University of South Dakota School of Law

The leaves are falling, a chill is in the air, and pumpkin spice is ubiquitous . . . ‘tis Thanksgiving time! Every Thanksgiving, I make a list of things I am most thankful for over the past year. This year, on my list was being awarded the Liz Glankler Travel Grant to attend the MAALL Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City.

I am incredibly grateful to have been able to attend the 2016 MAALL Annual Meeting. I strongly encourage all members to pursue the opportunities provided by the Annual Meeting, either by attending in-person or taking advantage of the program recordings available on the MAALL website. The Annual Meeting is always an incredible event and this year was no exception. Since I’m in a list-making mood already, my column wants to be a “Top Ten List” of Annual Meeting highlights, moments, experiences, and lessons learned. So here goes!

10. An awesome road trip! I spent my car ride from South Dakota to Oklahoma listening to the MAALL One Read Book Club title, This Book is Overdue by Marilyn Johnson. It was funny, thought-provoking, and inspiring, and made the hours in the car whiz by. The book club discussion at the meeting was great, too!

9. I also got to “read” another book without having to do any actual reading! Resa Kerns’ session on Gretchen Rubin’s Better Than Before: Mastering the Habits of Our Everyday Lives summarized all the important points, and I’m already employing new strategies to make “getting stuff done” a habit at work and at home.

8. I learned new things about myself. I attended Corie Dugas’ interactive session on “Personal and Professional Branding.” It made me really reflect on what makes me unique as a professional. I also learned it was tough for me to self-analyze and even tougher to share what I found. But, here before all of MAALL, I’ll say that my unique brand is about “team
building" and “writing”! You got me to share in the end, Corie!

7. Being reinvigorated in my job. I attended the panel discussion on “LibGuides Best Practices,” which re-opened my eyes to all the amazing and cool things LibGuides can do. I’m tackling updating and re-organizing guides with a new sense of purpose and excitement.

6. Learning new tools. I attended Susan Urban’s session on “Graphic Design on a Shoestring Budget” as well as the Cool Tools session, and I collected all sorts of great tools, apps, and websites to pack up in my “virtual suitcase” to take back home with me.

5. Participating in the future direction of MAALL. The “MAALL Strategic Vision” session on Saturday morning presented a unique opportunity to talk with other members about ways we can all help shape the future of MAALL. We brainstormed with Oklahoma-level storm intensity!

4. Being inspired by new spaces. I enjoyed seeing how both the OCU and OU Law Libraries had transformed their spaces, integrating new technology and functional furnishings. My phone’s camera is full of inspiration photos and ideas!

3. Connecting with fellow MAALL members. One of the most rewarding parts of the Annual Meeting is making new connections, having great conversations, and learning from one another. I especially hope all new MAALL members and first-time attendees came away with that wonderful feeling, too!

2. Being awe-inspired about the future of law libraries and legal technology. From virtual reality, to wearable tech, to tools such as CARA, I’m giddy with anticipation about where innovation will lead us in our profession.

1. Gratitude for a brief pause in ordinary life to shift my perspective. The reception at Vast, perching us high above the city below, was a perfect event to symbolize that special opportunity that the Annual Meeting provides to take a step away from our day-to-day work and gain a bird’s eye view of what we do.

Of course, there are countless people to thank that make all of these wonderful experiences possible – the Annual Meeting Program Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee, the Grants Committee, the Executive Board, the presenters, the vendors, the support of our leadership in AALL, and many, many others. Thank you to all!
Program Review: “If You Build It, They Will Come: Librarians Working Collaboratively with Legal Technology Vendors”

Cindy Bassett
Electronic Services Librarian
University of Missouri School of Law

Presenters:
• Jesse Bowman, Electronic Research, Technology, and Instructional Services Librarian, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law
• Emily Janoski-Haehlen, Associate Dean for Law Library Services & Associate Professor of Law, Valparaiso University Law School (unable to attend)

Working with a legal technology vendor can open up a new world for an academic user. Jesse kicked off the program by polling the audience (polling tool: menti.com) to determine who had collaborated with a vendor before and which vendors. Roughly one-third of the audience had previously worked with a vendor. Vendors named included LexisNexis, Bloomberg Law, Westlaw, Clio, kCura, Quimbee, and ProQuest.

Why collaborate? Collaborating with vendors can help us as we create Legal Research and Legal Technology Courses, which brings the technology to student and attorney fingertips. Working with vendors adds value to our relationships with faculty and attorneys as well as providing us an opportunity to share our knowledge about the technology with them.

How do we learn about legal technology vendors and their products? Jesse recommends a variety of avenues including attending tech-related conferences and looking for tech publications, websites, blogs, and company directories. Some conferences named included: ABA Techshow, MacTrack Legal Conference, Clio Cloud Computing Conference, LegalTech, and ILTACON. It was noted that the ABA Techshow will have an academic track this year with a discounted cost for academics. Publications to pay attention to included LegalTech News, Law Technology Today, MIT Technology Review, Ars Technica, and articles (and ads) in ABA Journal, AALL Spectrum, and local bar journals.

Before getting started talking to vendors, there are some questions you want to think about asking them with an eye to making their resources available to your patrons. Is there a contract? Is it free? How many users can you assign? Do you get perpetual or limited license? Does the company provide hands-on training or e-training? Can you get guest speakers, or will they provide you with sample assignments? Answering these questions will give you a better idea of whether it is really feasible to collaborate with the vendor.

The following vendor information is based on the personal experiences of the presenters:

**Clio**: Cloud-based law practice management software. Clio is free for students and requires no contract; librarian can be an administrator; Clio provides sample assignments, live in-class webinars, and an instructor’s handbook.

**DocMoto**: Document automation company for Macs only. Provides one-on-one training for instructors and live webinars for students.
**kCura Relativity**: eDiscovery. Sent a guest speaker to Jesse’s class, a former litigator who discussed the product and his practice; free access with signed license agreement.

**Firm Central** (Westlaw): Law practice management software. Demo by Westlaw rep; no exercises and no access for students.

**Forensicon**: Computer forensics company. This vendor will guest lecture and demo on data security. Recovered deleted docs from student’s phone in class for a big wow factor!

Working with vendors is a win/win for all involved. Vendors get their products in front of their future users, students learn about technology that they may use for practice, and librarians look as smart as they are.

**PROGRAM REVIEW: “EXPLORING THE EXPANDING CIRCLE OF THE LEGAL INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS”**

*Heather Buckwalter*

*Serials/Acquisitions Librarian*

*Creighton University School of Law*

Presenters:
- Ted Potter, Reference Librarian & Adjunct Lecturer in Law, University of Iowa College of Law
- Jenny Sutherland, Research Librarian, Polsinelli, PC
- Greg Lambert, Chief Knowledge Services Officer, Jackson Walker, LLP

This program encouraged attendees to discuss the evolution of duties and responsibilities of professionals in legal information fields and to use AALL’s recent rebranding initiative as a catalyst for that discussion. Greg Lambert spoke for a few minutes not only about how his role as a librarian and information professional has changed over the years, but also a little bit about AALL’s rebranding initiative. The attendees were broken up into small groups and given a set of questions to discuss.

These are some of the questions posed to the groups:
- What benefits might there be to our membership to include other legal information professionals? E.g., what do librarians have to offer members of the Association of Legal Administrators?
- Should we consider expanding our definition of active member?
- What do we cherish about being in our profession? What tasks do we have in common with others in the legal enterprise?
- What synergies do we have together? How can we integrate programming to provide cross-over and profession-specific educational sessions?
- How do you feel about the new tagline “AALL: Your Legal Knowledge Network”? Is it inviting to other legal knowledge professionals?

These questions definitely made people go hmmm! After the small group discussions, attendees reported on the different groups’ findings. There seemed to be a consensus that there would be a benefit to making contact with other associations like the Association of Legal Administrators and having an exchange on how both groups could learn from each other. There was some discussion of possibly doing some cross-training or presenting a program to show other associations how we can be of service. There seemed to be an interest in retaining our identity as “librarians” yet broadening that identity...
to include other information professionals. Most attendees seemed to like the new tagline that AALL is using. It seems a little more inclusive of all knowledge professionals.

The program facilitated a good conversation among colleagues to make us think about why AALL wanted to rebrand the association. Perhaps, there is a way for AALL to retain its identity as an association for law librarians and still broaden its reach to include other legal information professionals. My degree is a Masters in Information and Library Science and my alma mater has changed the name of its graduate school to School of Information where students can specialize in many areas, including Library and Information Science. We are Information Professionals and Librarians, and we need to expand our circle to include other legal professionals.

**PROGRAM REVIEW: “LINKED DATA FOR LAW LIBRARIANS: AN INTRODUCTION”**

Ted Potter

*Reference Librarian and Adjunct Lecturer in Law*

*University of Iowa College of Law*

Presenter:
- Emily Dust Nimsakont, Head of Cataloging & Resource Management, University of Nebraska College of Law

The program description for the Linked Data session at the MAALL Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City stated: “The world of library cataloging is in a time of upheaval. Our standards, and the ways we think about bibliographic data, are rapidly evolving. Linked Data, a method of publishing structured data on the World Wide Web, is at the forefront of this change. You may be wondering, what is Linked Data? What could it mean for our libraries in general and law libraries in particular? How do we create Linked Data, and how can it help our library users discover our resources? This session will answer those questions and more.”

It’s been a long time since I walked out of a professional development session with my primary emotion being befuddlement. This emotion had nothing to do with Emily’s excellent presentation on Linked Data, and everything to do with the changing nature of technology and information retrieval. For the novice (me), the tools we use to describe books, articles, authors, and objects is moving from a relatively flat dimension (MARC) to a multi-layered dimension through the concept of Resource Description Framework (RDF) that enhances and enriches the results that may be retrieved by a user. In some ways, the transition to Linked Data is akin to the transition from the online catalog to the discovery platform—the former being limited to bibliographic data describing an item, while the latter provides for the indexing of content and objects in addition to bibliographic description. But Linked Data does more, according to Ms. Nimsakont—it makes the Internet an enhanced discovery platform.

How does it work? I don’t know—I’m still befuddled, but I like the idea that documents, sculptures, paintings, music, dance, exhibits, and lots of other stuff can be described in RDF to allow one to retrieve results that combine these elements and more. To extrapolate from Emily’s talk, if I were to search Michelangelo in the RDF environment, the results that could be retrieved would range from items he wrote, to items about him; from sketches, drawings, paintings, sculpture, and other items of his creation, to where they are located, to books written about them, to copies made by others, to exhibits and museums holding them, to current showings of the items, to materials used to create them, to the types and brands of tools used . . . and the list could go on. It’s a little mind-blowing to consider the possibilities, but consider that when we search Lexis Advance or Westlaw, we can retrieve tens of thousands of results with relatively sophisticated searches, simply because the data bits are all available to the algorithm. Going forward, the right search
Why should law librarians care? The Linked Data environment would make the law, in all of its forms, more accessible to every person. Whereas presently Google is a good tool for finding items that have been crawled and that have specific data and metadata elements, the Linked Data search engine of the future could retrieve an exponentially greater and richer set of results, if those items are infused with Linked Data elements through RDF.

If you’re as befuddled as I still am, there’s hope. Emily’s talk was recorded and will be available on the MAALL website. In addition, she is starting a new column in MAALL Markings on technical services, and I understand she is working on an article regarding Linked Data. [Editor’s Note: See page 4 of this issue for Emily’s column.] I’m fascinated, if befuddled, by the possibilities of Linked Data, so I’ll be following the discussions. I hope you will, too.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Hear ye, hear ye! Announcing the return of the MAALL Markings “Write Here, Right Now!” article contest, with a $50 prize! Last year’s inaugural winner was Catherine “Deane” Deane of Vanderbilt University Law School, for her the second part of her article, “Talking About Race in the Law Library,” published in the December 2015 issue. Deane received a $50 Amazon gift card. The contest runs from December-September, so get those idea wheels turning!

2. AALL is now accepting nominations for the Emerging Leader Award. This award recognizes newer members who have made significant contributions to the profession and have demonstrated the potential for leadership and continuing excellence. Selection criteria includes:
   • The nominee must be a member in good standing of AALL
   • The nominee must be in his/her first 10 years of law library experience
   • The nominee must not have previously received an Emerging Leader Award
   • The nominee must have made a significant contribution to the Association and/or the profession.
   • The nominee must have shown outstanding promise for continuing service and leadership. Specific examples of his/her continuing activities must be provided.

Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged. The nomination deadline is February 1. Since letters of recommendation can take some time to gather and holidays are approaching, we ask that you begin the process as soon as possible in order to meet the deadline. More details on the award, including a link to the Nomination Form, can be found here: Emerging Leader Award.

3. The AALL Government Relations Awards Committee (GRC) is seeking nominations for the 2017 Public Access to Government Information Award (PAGI Award) and the Robert L. Oakley Advocacy Award. AALL offers these two prestigious and meaningful advocacy awards to individuals and groups who either contribute to promoting greater public access to government information (PAGI) or substantially further policy efforts of AALL (Oakley). The GRC needs your help in identifying deserving nominees. Information on the award criteria, nomination process, and past recipients is available at the respective links above. If you would like to nominate an individual or group for one or both awards, please send your nominations to the chair of the Government Relations Committee, Rich Leiter, by the deadline of February 1, 2017.
University of Arkansas-Little Rock (UALR) Bowen School of Law
Professors Kathryn C. Fitzhugh, Melissa Serfass, Jeff B. Woodmansee, and Jessie Wallace Burchfield are the joint winners of the UALR Bowen School of Law Charles W. Goldner Teaching Award. The award is in recognition of three subject-specific advanced legal research courses they developed and taught beginning in Fall 2015.

Northern Illinois University College of Law
Clanitra Stewart Nejdl and her husband Bryan welcomed Miles Stewart Nejdl on May 3, 2016. What a cutie!

Southern Illinois University School of Law
Nolan Wright, Reference Librarian, was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2016.

University of Kansas (KU) School of Law
The 1Ls once again celebrated the end of library research classes with the annual Barber Emerson Bluebook Relays. It was loud and fun and very competitive as usual. Take a look at the winning team! Besides the crazy-costumed Relay teams we also had trick-or-treaters from Hilltop, the campus daycare/preschool. The costumed wee-ones were so cute and we love having them visit each year.
Washburn University School of Law
Barbara Ginzburg is the new webmaster for AALL’s Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section (OBS-SIS). Barbara will also chair the OBS-SIS Web Advisory Committee for 2016-2017.

Littler Mendelson P.C.
The Littler Library continues to grow with the addition of Amy Rowland, our newest invaluable team member, who started on September 26, 2016. Amy came to Littler with a background in commercial insurance and experience in academic and public libraries. She is new to working in a law library and is loving every minute of it!

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
On October 3, 2016, Karen E. Kalnins began her position as Research Services Librarian and CALR Coordinator for the Eighth Circuit Library, based in St. Louis. Karen received her J.D. from St. Louis University School of Law and a Master’s in Library Science from the University of Missouri—Columbia. Most recently, Karen was a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Republic of Georgia. Prior to that, Karen was the Memphis, Tennessee, Satellite Librarian for the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Library.

University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC)
On Friday November 4, 2016, Thomson Reuters and their partner, Evolve Law, sponsored the first ever Legal Innovation Challenge. UMKC students beat out Duke University School of Law, Suffolk University Law School, Brooklyn Law School, and Legal RnD at Michigan State University College of Law for a $5,000 grand prize. Way to go!

Washington University School of Law
The beautiful Janite Lee Reading Room at Washington University Law Library was the location for the Sunday, October 9, 2016, live broadcast of CBS’s Face the Nation television program. The circulation area was transformed into a TV studio packed with numerous monitors, telecommunications equipment, and large cabling. The reading room was completely reconfigured to accommodate different sets and scenes. When telecasted, it was quite stunning. Bob Schaeffer, Norah O’Donnell, Peggy Noonan, Major Garrett (chief White House correspondent), John Dickerson, show hosts, and other media greats were on the show as well as in the law school. The broadcast was a spectacular success; so spectacular that CBS aired portions of The CBS This Morning News Show from the reading room on Monday, October 10.
Creighton University School of Law
Corinne Jacox, Catalog/Reference Librarian at the Creighton University Law Library, was part of a panel at the 2016 Nebraska Library Association Annual Conference in October for a session titled, “A New Day in the Life of a Special Librarian.” The other two speakers on the panel were Kathie Fennell, Research Services Manager at the Kutak Rock Library, and the librarian from the Omaha Correctional Center. On October 30th, Corinne also spoke to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society about the Delaney Tokyo Papers collection that was donated to the library by Creighton School of Law alum Thomas Ronald Delaney. [Editor’s Note: See page 4 of the June 2016 issue of MAALL Markings for more information on this collection.]

University of Nebraska College of Law
In August, Mandy Lee joined the University of Nebraska’s Schmid Law Library as an Assistant Professor of Law and Reference Librarian.

University of South Dakota School of Law (USD)
The University of South Dakota Law Library recently welcomed new staff. Daniel Burniston left the library in September, to become the Library Director at the Vermillion, South Dakota Public Library. We congratulate Daniel on his new position! Sue Benton joined us in November as our new Head of Technical and Collection Services. Sue comes to us from the USD main library’s technical services department with over 30 years of experience. While Sue’s appointment is temporary, she will help the law library oversee an integrated library system (ILS) transition from Ex Libris’ Aleph to Ex Libris’ Alma/Primo, which will occur over the next one to two years. All South Dakota Board of Regents institutions will be migrating to the new system.

Marquette University Law School
## LINKS TO AALL CHAPTERS & SIS PUBLICATIONS

The lists below were originally compiled by Lindsey Carpino for the *CALL Bulletin* and are reprinted with permission. The original post is available at [http://bulletin.chicagolawlib.org/2016/05/aall-chapter-sis-publications](http://bulletin.chicagolawlib.org/2016/05/aall-chapter-sis-publications).

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MAALL Markings Information

MAALL Markings is published four times a year by the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, and is a benefit of membership. The purpose of MAALL Markings is to publish news of the Chapter, selected news of AALL and other professional associations, MAALL members, as well as to solicit and publish articles to add to the body of literature in the profession of law librarianship. All articles are copyrighted and any republication or use of any portion of the content for any purpose must have written permission from the author/s.

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