You volunteers rock! During the past few months, I’ve had the great pleasure of working with many members and appointing them to the various committees. I am very thrilled by the level of enthusiasm expressed by our members willing to work on the committees. As you know, most work of an organization like SWALL is done through the committees. And strong committees powered by enthusiastic volunteers make a great organization. There are 18 committees and one webmaster in our organization. By now all the committees and the webmaster have been filled with approximately 56 volunteers (some members serve on multiple committees). While many of the committee members are veterans, there are quite a few new faces joining in. Here is an impressive fact to consider: the SWALL membership consists of 182 people (as of March 2012), and roughly 56 of the members serve on the committees. In other words, almost 1/3 of our members work on the committees! We can say proudly that we are a volunteer-based organization! For those of you who serve on the committees, either as veterans or freshmen, a heart-felt THANK YOU from me. Now that we have the committees staffers, it is time to roll up our sleeves and get down to work. Together we’ll make SWALL a stronger association.
Headnotes: News on Travel Grants from Grants Committee

W. David Gay, SWALL Grants Chair
Reference Librarian
Ross-Blakley Law Library
Arizona State University

News on Travel Grants for 2013

Considering SWALL in Phoenix in April or planning for Seattle next summer?

The SWALL Board authorized 3 grants of $350 for Phoenix for the SWALL Annual Meeting and 2 grants for $600 for SWALL members to attend the AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle!

To quote our President Robert Hu, “I hope that giving these grants will help promote attendance in our conference and build a stronger organization.”

Headnotes: SWALL Annual Meeting, Local Arrangements Committee

Elizabeth Schneider, Chair, Local Arrangements Committee
Retired

The 2013 SWALL Annual Meeting is still approximately six months in the future, but it is never too early to begin planning to attend. April temperatures in Phoenix are usually mild and dry with high temperatures ranging from the high 70’s to low 80’s. Southwest Airlines is now accepting reservations through April 12, 2013, so start watching for sales on fares. Most people should be able to take the first flight to Phoenix Thursday morning, April 4th, and arrive in time for the opening luncheon. The recently renovated Downtown Hyatt offers attractive and comfortable accommodations. In the evening, the revolving restaurant at the top of the hotel is a perfect place to gather at night and enjoy one of a variety of delicious desserts. Chocolate anyone?

Caren Luckie and the Program Committee have begun planning an outstanding series of programs. If you have suggestions for program topics, please don’t hesitate to contact her. Library tours are also being organized. On Friday night, attendees will be offered the opportunity to tour the Phoenix Art Museum and, from there, participate in the free First Friday Art Walk, a tour of 70 downtown art galleries and venues. For sports fans, the Phoenix Suns will be playing Friday night. US Airways Center is a short walk from the hotel.
Diane L. Roberts  
Collin County Law Librarian  
Curt B. Henderson Law Library

AALL Boston SWALL Registration Grant

Thank you to AALL and SWALL for the opportunity to attend the 105th Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Association of Law Libraries in Boston this past July. It was an enriching experience and I would like to share some of the highlights with members.

Boston is a wonderful city, and I really enjoyed walking through the public gardens and commons and exploring the independent bookstore, Trident Booksellers & Café. My attendance at the SWALL soiree at Legal Sea Foods led to a trip to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum with some newly made friends, and I was given a delightful tour of the Social Law Library in the John Adams Courthouse during the SCCLL-SIS Reception. The Director of External Affairs, Anne Peters, was even kind enough to mail me a brochure on this incredibly beautiful building. My last day in Boston was spent visiting the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, which is a lovely private collection near the Museum of Fine Arts.

Getting back to the conference: as a county law librarian, I assist a large number of pro se patrons and, as such, I focused my session attendance on access to justice programs which included:

**Access to Justice Committees and the Growing Importance of Law Librarian Involvement**

(Presenters: Steven Anderson, Maryland State Law Library; Rita R. Dermody, Public Law Library of King County; and, Dina E. Fein, Massachusetts Trial Court) Bottom line – law libraries play a critical role in the access to justice movement. It is no longer the exception to have self-representing litigants in the courts, and it is spurring an investigation by state commissions on ways to improve the system to handle the challenges. As many law librarians are on the front lines of dealing with issues such as lack of knowledge of legal procedures, legal terminology, and the law itself, their contributions to developing solutions are invaluable. So what is the point? Consider becoming a member of your state’s A2J committee. What needs to be done? Creating translation programs and official court forms that have simplified language – maybe Immediate Restraining Order as opposed to Ex Parte Temporary Restraining Order (what the what is that?). Who else needs to be involved? The courts, legal aid organizations, and bar associations all need to be in partnership. For those of you in Texas, you know first-hand what happens if there isn’t consortium. Best moment: It was wonderful to hear a judge (Dina Fein) speak about not letting the courts off the hook in providing access to justice, and also to hear her address the underlying
reasons people end up in the court system (financial crisis, mental illness, drug and alcohol addiction, etc.) by suggesting that the courthouse have an “information center” where people can be referred to the proper community resource for assistance.

_Turner v. Rogers_, Due Process, and the Pursuit of Court Access: Trumpeting the Law Library Connection

(Presenters: Russell Engler, New England Law and Richard Zorza, Self Represented Litigation Network) Sometimes, you just gotta love the Supremes – the U.S. Supreme Court that is. It is inspiring when the highest court in the land “calls for fundamental fairness and access to the courts in civil cases.” Since the landmark _Gideon_ case in 1963, criminal defendants charged with a serious offense are entitled to a court appointed attorney. This session took a look at what can be done for civil defendants given the _Turner_ case. Some of the suggestions provided (which are listed on the National Center for Access to Justice Fact Sheet) were to preserve rights to counsel in child support civil contempt cases; develop constitutional rights to counsel where the other side has counsel, is the government, or where the matter is complicated; advocate for effective “alternative procedural safeguards” (adequate notice of the importance of ability to pay, fair opportunity to present, and to dispute, relevant information and court findings); and pursue increased coordination between courts and legal aid programs to help ensure that litigants have access to the courts. As a pragmatist, I hope that the state legislature will catch up with the Supreme Court and enact a statute for compensation of counsel appointed to defend civil defendants. It seems unlikely that a judge would appoint counsel without the statutory authority to compensate the attorney. In the interim, the law library can assist patrons who need to know about the law and how to move their case forward in the system by directing them to the legal or social resources they need.

In addition to these two programs, I attended sessions on copyright law, creating online legal forms, conducting legislative history research, authoring papers, and assisting _pro se_ in federal court.

In deference to this year’s theme, I did learn, connect and grow through the 105th AALL conference in Boston.
Outside Counsel

AALL2go Pick of the Month

AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: What Makes a Librarian Worth a Million Bucks? Valuing Staff, Resources, and Services When Dollars Are Scarce.

At the 2012 AALL Annual Meeting, two law firm librarians gave a detailed presentation on how to prove the true value of law librarians. They demonstrated how hard data and soft skills can be used in a numbers-based evaluation that can be effectively used to show worth.

Using the framework of a value assurance cycle, the presenters showed how librarians can audit existing staff and services; align library goals; appraise operations by determining a quantifiable measurement of time, cost, and quality; and act on the gathered data by making changes in the library. In addition to showing the importance of hard data, librarians must also showcase their “soft skills” that are often excluded from libraries’ annual reports. The presenters emphasized the importance of including the librarian’s leadership qualities and emotional intelligence when illustrating the value of the library.

This session provides a detailed overview of how to implement quality-improvement projects to prove the value of librarians, resources, and services. All library managers who have been challenged to show the value of their libraries would benefit from watching this excellent program. This program is presented in streaming video with accompanying PowerPoint slides.

Find this and more than 100 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members on AALL2go!

Save the Date – AALL Law Library Management Online Course

November 1-December 14 AALL will offer a six-week online course designed to help you achieve higher management performance and advance your career potential. You will have an opportunity to connect and collaborate with peers. Topics will include effective law library management, communication effectiveness, negotiation and making the case for library value, and more. Registration is open.
I recently attended a gathering of the Austin Law Librarians in the downtown office of Graves Dougherty for a roundtable discussion on Twitter as a legal information resource and outreach tool. I thought I would share a few impressions from the meeting for others interested in this topic across the Southwest. Attendants represented a nice cross section of the profession, including firm, government, and academic law librarians. We even had one recent law school graduate among us, currently volunteering in Austin before starting at the University of Washington’s Information School this fall.

There are at least three Austin law libraries tweeting:

- Tarlton Law Library: http://twitter.com/tarltonlawlib
- Texas Legislative Reference Library: http://twitter.com/TexasLRL
- Texas State Law Library: http://twitter.com/SSLTexas

First, there was stimulating discussion on the reasoning behind different workplaces’ decisions to tweet or not. Of the three libraries present that tweet, all started with the same general thinking that Twitter could be a good outreach tool without knowing exactly where tweeting might lead. Certain commonalities became apparent: starting off small, gaining a certain familiarity, and then tweeting more effortlessly. An observation was made that the number of followers for a law library seems to increase steadily as librarians get more comfortable with the medium. Who ends up following your library can be surprising in interesting ways.

Firm librarians expressed doubt about who their intended audience would be, and, if it was lawyers at their own firm, whether those lawyers would be receptive. They also expressed concerns about privacy, spam, unwanted followers, and whether a firm’s communications staff that already tweets on a firm’s behalf would forestall a law library from also tweeting, even if the content would be different. A private Twitter account, with approved invited followers, was suggested as a possible alternative for an internal firm audience. For her part, the recent law grad
recounted how, in her experience, law students do find what law firms tweet of interest as an easy way to get more familiar with an individual firm or lawyer’s work.

We also exchanged thoughts about Twitter as a “listening,” as opposed to “broadcast,” mechanism—a useful feature of Twitter regardless of whether a person or institution chooses to tweet. A person can set up a Twitter account and simply not tweet. Or it is also possible to follow tweets via RSS like a blog, whether in Microsoft Outlook or Google Reader. Besides following certain Twitter accounts to stay current on legal research tools and developments, one can also search Twitter directly by keyword or hashtag. For example, if unable to attend a conference like South by Southwest Interactive, you can still get a feel of what is going on by searching for event or session-specific hashtags.

We wrapped things up with a lively debate about how useful any medium like Twitter can be given the limits on humans’ abilities to multitask and the danger of driving yourself to distraction. Here’s to finding your own comfort level!
Briefing the Case: Constitution Day Outreach to Campus and Community

Julie Leuzinger  
Political Science Library Liaison  
Department Head  
Eagle Commons Library  
University of North Texas

Constitution Day Outreach to Campus and Community

The celebration of Constitution Day (or Citizenship Day) on September 17th each year began in 2005 as a mandate for all publically funded educational institutions to provide instructive activities that recognize the adoption of the United States Constitution in 1787 (U.S. Department of Education). There are many creative and engaging ways to commemorate the signing of our Constitution. At the University of North Texas Libraries we have our own traditions which will be shared here along with some other resources and ideas to get you started for your next Constitution Day celebrations at your institutions.

Denton is a Texas community of over 96,000 residents (Census 2010), with over 30,000 full time students attending the University of North Texas each semester (UNT Factbook). Our Government Documents Department has a long standing tradition of providing U.S. Pocket Constitutions (purchased from ConstitutionFacts.com) to our students and community year round, but on Constitution Day we get out on campus and into the community to get as many Pocket Constitutions in people’s hands as possible! On this day we not only provide Constitutions at our Government Documents Desk but also at many of our other library service desks. We pack up hundreds of Pocket Constitutions and take them to the building on campus that houses the History and Political Science Departments to pass them out in between classes and share information about the libraries. We also go into many classrooms on the rest of campus to share Constitutions with several of our other students. The UNT Libraries also get out into the community by staffing a table at a local book store to share educational materials, library information, as well as U.S. Constitutions to those that stop by the table. The UNT Government Documents Department purchases and passes out nearly 1,000 Constitutions each September.

In addition to these outreach activities, consider sharing with your students and faculty members some of the Constitution Day educational resources provided by the U.S. Courts website. This site includes a great PowerPoint on the U.S. Justice System as well as links to outside educational resources. The National Archives also offers several interactive resources including video, digitized documents, information on the signers of the Constitution, a self-paced workshop, and a Constitution Q & A. Other ideas include working with faculty to create exhibits and panel discussions to promote “civic literacy” (Carpenter), planning your library event at the same time and location as another major campus event and promoting the library’s Constitution Day activities to your faculty to
share with their students (Payne), as well as collaborating with other on-campus organizations to create a successful event (Xiong). Whatever you decide to do to celebrate Constitution Day at your library, do your best to share the historical importance of our nation’s founding principles and how these values are still important to the rule of law in our nation today and tomorrow!

Resources


Briefing the Case: How the Cracchiolo Law Library Started a Pet Therapy Program

Cindy Hirsch
Law Library Fellow
Daniel F. Cracchiolo Law Library
The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law

How the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law
Cracchiolo Law Library Started a Pet Therapy Program

1. **Determine the policy for animals on campus.** Even if you think you know the policy, track down the formal written policy. Our basic policy was “no pets in campus buildings.” Finding the official Board of Regents and University policies for facility use helped establish an acceptable procedure for bringing pets on campus.

2. **Shelter or therapy pets?** Depending on the pets-on-campus policy, you may decide to bring in certified pet therapy teams or “borrow” puppies from the local shelter. Bringing in certified teams has some advantages; the animals and their handlers are trained and tested for therapeutic qualities. Some organizations provide insurance for their teams against possible injury. Volunteers are responsible for bringing supplies for “accidents.” Our visiting therapy pets handled groups of five to ten with no problem.

3. **Space planning** was our next consideration. Minimizing disruption to students and exposure to allergens played a key role to deciding to use a room (with a clear glass door for visibility).

4. **Research** We reviewed examples of other law school pet therapy programs, particularly Zief Law Library, and also Pet therapy at University of Minnesota Law School (YouTube), Yale Law School Dog Therapy, William Mitchell Law pet therapy, Tufts Oberlin UCSD.

5. **Contact** local chapters of animal or pet therapy organizations (or your shelter) to find appropriate pets available during the anticipated date(s). Solicit their input. Our local organization coordinated all the volunteers and suggested having two pet teams available during the scheduled time. Their rules established a two hour maximum per pet with breaks for potty time. Find a list of animal-assisted therapy groups at Dog Play. We found Gabriel’s Angels through the Delta Society.

Animal-assisted therapy organizations include:

- Delta Society
- Alpha Affiliates, Inc.
- The Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs, Inc.
- Land of Pure Gold
- Paws For Friendship, Inc.
- Therapy Dogs Incorporated
- The Foundation for Pet Provided Therapy, Inc. (AKA Love on a Leash)
6. **Promotion!** Students may be too busy around finals to read an announcement. Start promotion in advance of finals so they take notice. *Expect faculty and staff to be interested, too.*

7. **Scheduling**
   
a. Choose times between exams. We initially scheduled 11 am to 1 pm for two weeks. Second semester, we offered a lunchtime and an evening visit, but cut it down to one week.

   b. Sign up or drop in? Initially students signed up for 15-20 minute therapy times, three per hour, individually or in groups. Reminders were sent the day before the appointment. “No shows” were not a problem because students were permitted to drop-in. The therapy pets had no problems dealing with 5-10 person groups.

8. **Courtesies** Pet teams are volunteers; be kind. Provide or offer free parking. Handlers are required to bathe pets the day before and bear the expense of therapy certification and extra vaccinations. Try to minimize on-campus costs. Send a thank you note. We also thanked them on their Facebook page.

9. **Allergies** We found it very helpful to run HEPA air purifiers and keep a vacuum in the “therapy” room. One of the volunteers also brought in a lint roller.

10. **Media** Anticipate requests for media coverage and coordinate with the law school’s public relations staff, the therapy organization, and willing students. Take pictures!

    - Arizona Daily Star "Therapy-dog-takes-edge-off-law-exams"
    - Arizona Daily Wildcat "Law School Goes to the Dogs"
    - Wildcat multimedia Law College Puppies
Guide to Law and Film Resources

With film being used ever more frequently in law schools, academic librarians are playing an increasingly important role in providing support for law and film pursuits in teaching and scholarship. Since cinematic depictions of the legal system have influenced all of our perceptions of law and how the public views the legal profession, film can be used in a number of ways to enhance legal education, from movie screenings to discussions of film clips shown in the classroom.

Many law school libraries already have a wealth of law and film resources that faculty and even librarians may not be aware of. From DVD collections to books and journal databases, libraries are well-positioned to provide critical material for both film discussions and scholarly efforts. Although law and film has developed into a recognized academic field only in the last couple of decades, it can be a challenge to know which materials are the best match for a particular purpose. This narrative bibliography discusses some of the major law and film resources and how to most effectively navigate them.

Whether looking for materials in support of a movie screening or a faculty member’s scholarship, or preparing a bibliography, even a basic Internet search can provide valuable information about individual films or specific themes. Official movie sites, along with popular sites like Wikipedia and the Internet Movie Database (IMDb), may provide enough background information and thematic summaries to make informed decisions about film screening choices. To formulate thought-provoking discussion questions, however, it will likely be necessary to seek out the in-depth analysis found in scholarly articles and books.

Scholarly Articles

Although most of us have access to subscription periodical indexes, Google Scholar is one of the fastest ways to find a broad spectrum of journal articles. Due to the interdisciplinary trend of law and film scholarship, even articles without a law focus can have a great deal of relevance and may spark some of the more interesting discussions about a film. For ongoing research needs, the Google Scholar Alerts feature is an easy way to stay up-to-date on new law and film articles. Because of the vast number of articles indexed in Google, it may help to limit alerts to specific films, directors, or topics.
Journals occasionally offer special law and film issues. Some cover a variety of law and film topics, such as the one produced by the Journal of Law and Society, while others offer a collection of articles about a single film, such as the 12 Angry Men Symposium issue of The Chicago-Kent Law Review.

Books

For finding suitable films for screenings, the best starting point is Reel Justice: The Courtroom Goes to the Movies (2006), which is the most comprehensive reference book in this area. The book is divided by area of law (family law, military justice, the death penalty) and broader concepts (justice, corruption, prejudice). Its rating of trial scenes and listing of films by title, rating, and legal concept (depositions, fruit of the poisonous tree) make it especially helpful for sparking screening ideas. For formulating discussion questions, it offers analysis of major legal films and shorter discussions of lesser-known, quasi-legal, and even poorly-received films. Analysis includes answers to real-life legal questions and discussion of cultural messages embedded in the films.

Another good starting point is Screening Justice--The Cinema of Law: Significant Films of Law, Order and Social Justice (2006). Despite its analytical focus on law and justice, this collection of scholarly essays includes brief mentions of almost any movie featuring a lawyer, from serious fare (The Accused) to family comedies (The Shaggy D.A.). A film festival section that suggests a number of possible double features makes this book instrumental for selecting films to screen. With each essay focusing primarily on one film discussed in a particular context, this book can also help generate a good set of discussion questions. Of special interest to those of us in the southwest is the inclusion of former CU Law Dean David Getches’ essay “A Wealth of Water Law, Not a Drop of Justice: The Milagro Beanfield War and Chinatown.”

Perhaps the most practical-minded book in this area is Movie Therapy for Law Students (2009). Marketed as a study aid for the bar exam, each film entry includes exam tips ranging from examples, memorization techniques, and general advice on taking the bar. The inclusion of statutory law, case law, and court rules covering ethics, evidence, and civil and criminal procedure, also makes this book a valuable companion for the use of film clips in class. Films are discussed in the context of one or more areas of law, including the usual first year subjects, as well as evidence, ethics, family law, business law, employment law, and intellectual property.

Most other law and film books have a more academic focus. While sometimes harder to search quickly for screening ideas, the more scholarly works can be valuable for both supporting law and film scholarship and formulating in-depth discussion questions. They also tend to take a much broader view of what constitutes a legal film, making them particularly useful for law schools moving towards the use of more non-law movies. The Celluloid Courtroom: A History of Legal Cinema (2005) defines the universe of legal films as including any movie that makes some sort of commentary on the civil or criminal legal system. In keeping with this definition, the several dozen
movies discussed here cover a wide range of film types, including traditional legal movies (*Anatomy of a Murder*), quasi-legal movies (*Body Heat*), and non-law movies (*Mrs. Doubtfire*). The book is organized into sections covering four groups of players in the legal process (client, judge, jury, and lawyer) and focuses on the theme of how the portrayal of each group has changed over the course of cinematic history.

One of the earlier works in the field, *Legal Reelism: Movies as Legal Texts* (1996), features quasi-legal films focusing on broad concepts of crime, justice, and culture (*The Godfather Trilogy, Thelma and Louise*). *Law’s Moving Image* (2004) covers the most diverse and surprising range of films, including Hollywood classics (*Rebel Without a Cause, The Searchers, Star Wars*) and modern comedies (*Muriel’s Wedding, Toy Story, Bend it Like Beckham*). The essays here look at the multidisciplinary nature of law and film, with an emphasis on historical, cultural, and national aspects. The book offers a stronger focus on law than most with its inclusion of a case list, making it suitable for both faculty writing and classroom discussion.

Three other books are most noteworthy for their potential value to law and film scholars, though they may have some practical application as well. *Film and the Law: The Cinema of Justice, 2d ed.* (2010) takes an ideological approach in discussing why law and film is important in legal education and makes a case for the value of using film clips in the classroom. Along with a chapter on teaching law and film, it offers one of the more extensive law and film bibliographies. Organized by genre, group, or theme rather than by film, the book can be helpful for formulating discussion questions. *Law on the Screen* (2005) also discusses why law and film is important and argues that scholarship in this area should focus more on how image and narrative interact. *Law in Film: Resonance and Representation* (1999) focuses on the narrative aspects of both law and cinema and explains how law and film grew out of the field of law and literature. Though one of the more scholarly books, it discusses an interesting mix of non-law films (*Blue Velvet, Flashdance, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*).

There are numerous books on specialty topics within law and film, most easily found in the bibliographies of other law and film books. One of the most notable is *Framed: Women in Law and Film* (2006). The focus is on feminist jurisprudence in a criminal law context, but the in-depth analysis of ten films covers a broad enough range of legal topics to make it a good source of thought-provoking discussion questions.

*Television Law*

Books and articles on television law represent a sizeable percentage of law and film scholarship. Although the ongoing format of TV shows makes them less likely to be screened in full, they may well be used as the source of classroom discussion.
Encyclopedia of Television Law Shows: Factual and Fictional Series About Judges, Lawyers and the Courtroom, 1948-2008 (2009) is a comprehensive source of basic information about all law-related shows, including comedies, dramas, and reality court shows. Lawyers in Your Living Room! Law on Television (2009) also has some encyclopedic elements, including an essay on history of law on television. It is mostly comprised of essays on individual shows, including non-law sitcoms (Green Acres, The Simpsons, Seinfeld). Prime Time Law: Fictional Television as Legal Narrative (1998) offers essays on both traditional legal shows (L.A. Law, Law & Order) and other TV genres (science fiction, sitcoms, soap operas, westerns). Law and Justice as Seen on TV (2003) is the most scholarly of this group, with essays on special topics such as "Cameras, Court TV, and the Rise of the Criminal Trial as Major Media Event," and "Television and the Demonization of Youth."

Popular Culture and Law

Although covering a broader range of media than just film, materials on popular culture and the law can provide a good framework for narrower film discussions. One of the more entertaining works in this area, When Law Goes Pop: The Vanishing Line between Law and Popular Culture (2000), presents a critique of the intermingling of law and popular culture. Due to its analysis of actual legal cases, it is a good source of ideas for classroom discussion. It covers an impressive range of films and TV shows, including classic movies (The Wizard of Oz), legal documentaries (The Thin Blue Line), and TV doctor shows (Marcus Welby, M.D.). David Lynch aficionados will appreciate the discussions of Lost Highway and Twin Peaks.

The key classroom text in this area is Law and Popular Culture: Text, Notes, and Questions, 2d ed. (2012), which includes two business law articles by University of Colorado Law School Professor Peter Huang. Although the text covers a variety of media--film, radio, television, and novels--each chapter begins with a list of five Hollywood films relevant to the subject matter. A videography of clips and trailers for these films is available.

One of the best online starting points for researching law and lawyers in popular culture is the University of Texas Tarlton Law Library’s Law in Popular Culture Collection website. The Journal of Popular Culture is a highly regarded, and entertaining, source for discovering films and television shows that are currently trending in the academic world.

A complete bibliography of the resources discussed here is available on the Law in the Reel World blog.
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