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# Online Bibliographic Services

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archives discussions and education will be a growing topic of interest with the section.

¶3 One of the key goals of LHRB in 2004–05 was to improve the newsletter. As columnists and editors, Mark Podvia, Patricia Turpening, Morris Cohen, Karen Beck, Michelle Pope, and Sarah Yates have done a great job of meeting this goal. For the first time ever, the newsletter, now a digital publication had four issues. Volume 11, number 2 included an important article by James Larrabee, “Cataloging Rare Books: What and Why,” which justifies the intricacies of careful rare book cataloging.

¶4 To further improve the newsletter, LHRB-SIS is beginning the process of creating a legal history essay contest for law and library school students. Approved by the section at the 2004 Annual Meeting, the essay contest will give students a venue for publishing as well as add interesting content for readers of the section’s newsletter.

¶5 A second project began to take shape during 2004–05. In collaboration with the AALL Centennial Celebration Committee and the Audio Visual/Micrographics SIS, LHRB began the process of gathering volunteers to do video oral history interviews of AALL members for the celebration at the 2006 Annual Meeting in St. Louis.

¶6 LHRB sponsored two programs at the 2004 Annual Meeting in Boston. Laura Bedard, Michael Chiorazzi, and Karen Beck presented a panel discussion titled “Creating and Maintaining Legal History Collections: Collection Development and Analysis Issues for Law Librarians.” At the LHRB Roundtable, Morris Cohen examined the relationship between Joseph Story and Francis Lieber, the editor of the *Encyclopedia Americana*.

¶7 The officers for 2005–06 will be Laura Ray, Chair; Karen Beck, Vice Chair/Chair Elect; and Katherine Topulos, Secretary/Treasurer.

Robert Mead, Chair

### *Online Bibliographic Services*

¶1 The Online Bibliographic Services SIS had an unusual yet productive year in 2004–05. The section was lead by Georgia Briscoe, Chair; Richard Jost, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Kevin Butterfield, Past Chair; Michael Maben, Secretary/Treasurer; and Andrea Rabbia and Caitlin Robinson, Members-at-Large. Shannon Burchard maintained the OBS Web site, and Karen Selden started her first year as MARBI representative.

¶2 Committee chairs were Richard Jost, Education; Corinne Jacox, Local Systems; Mary Jane Kelsey, Nominations; Darcy Jones, OCLC; Virginia Bryant, RLIN; and Eloise Vondruska, Research Grant. Chris Long coordinated the Research Roundtable, and Andrea Rabbia organized the OBS table at the AALL Annual Meeting exhibit hall in San Antonio.

¶3 The annual membership survey was produced and compiled by Richard Jost via the OBS Web site. Richard also revised the section bylaws, which were

approved by AALL headquarters and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting. The changes will allow future elections to be conducted online, reducing expenses of the section. Another cost-saving item was the change in format of the joint OBS and TS-SIS publication, *Technical Services Law Librarian*, from print to electronic format. These changes were critical in a year when the section had a negative balance in the treasury for the full year. Next year, with the changes set in motion this year, the problem should be remedied and the section again will be able to fund grants, programs, refreshments, etc.

¶4 OBS sponsored four programs at the 2005 Annual Meeting: “Roy Tennant on the Top Trends in Library Automation”; “Nabbing vs. Sharing: Z39.50 and the Ethics of Directly Importing MARC Records”; “The ABCs of TOCs: Enhancing Your OPAC with Tables of Contents”; and “Federated Searching and OpenURL.” The section was also responsible for plenary speaker Roy Tennant. Additional activities offering value to OBS members in San Antonio included the Local Systems, RLIN, and OCLC committee meetings; the MARBI Report; and the TS/OBS/RIPS/CS-SIS Joint Reception.

¶5 Two committees were established in spring 2005. The OBS Strategic Plan Committee, cochaired by Ellen McGrath and Kevin Butterfield, will update the OBS Strategic Plan. The OBS Centennial Committee, chaired by Caitlin Robinson, will plan OBS activities to help celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of AALL.

¶6 Michael Maben conducted the 2005–06 OBS election with paper ballots and the mail service for the last time. The newly elected OBS Executive Board members for 2005–06 are Susan Goldner, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect; Kathy Faust, Secretary/Treasurer; and Stephanie Schmitt, Member-at-Large.

Georgia Briscoe, Chair

### *Private Law Libraries*

¶1 This was a very productive year for the Private Law Libraries SIS. Our unofficial theme was “reaching out,” and we implemented that in a number of ways. We reached out to other SISs by establishing good relationships with the Foreign, Comparative and International Law SIS, promoting its very useful workshop on our discussion list and publishing an article about foreign law resources in *PLL Perspectives*. Several members of the Academic Law Libraries SIS queried PLL-SIS members through surveys about what should be taught in legal research courses that would be most beneficial to first-year associates. PLL-SIS also had a discussion about “trading places,” with a goal of letting academic librarians see life in the “real world” for law students. Although unable to work through various practical roadblocks, this is still an intriguing and viable project which perhaps can be implemented one firm and law school at a time.

¶2 Linda Defendeifer, PLL-SIS’s liaison to the Special Libraries Association, worked with Judy Harris, SLA’s Legal Division head, to develop a project that has attracted lots of interest: a discussion regarding a guide to negotiating contracts