CALL 2013 Elections

Candidates for Vice President/President-Elect
   Janice Collins & Margaret Schilt

Candidates for Secretary
   Julie Swanson & Clare Willis

Candidates for Director
   Eugene Guidice & Jamie Sommer

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Dear CALL members,

As I write this, the snow is coming down in fluffy, heavy flakes and people in my library are considering the advisability of going home early. In spite of that, this is the Spring issue of the CALL Bulletin, and we are looking forward to the new beginnings that always accompany spring.

CALL elections are being held as this issue comes out. Pictures of the candidates and links to their biographical information are included in this issue. Those who are elected will follow the great leadership team CALL has been fortunate to have this year, and will be challenged to continue their excellent work, even as they pursue new initiatives.

Several of our members have written for this issue: Janice Collins tells us about Capital IQ and the value it brings to her work. Sara Baseggio reports on Ramsey Donnell’s presentation on deciphering Vendor Contracts. Lyonette Louis-Jacques takes us all aboard the Twitter train and demonstrates how useful a presence on Twitter can be for our work. And Kevin McClure and Keith Ann Stiverson team up to explain to us why UELMA – the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act – is so important to us as law librarians and ask us to take the time to write our legislators in Springfield and urge them to pass the law in Illinois.

The Meetings Committee contributes the results of the survey about the business meeting at Petterino’s, and, as always, we have a wonderful President’s column from JoAnn Hounshell, Executive Board Meeting summaries for December and January and announcements from AALL.

Enjoy! I hope that by the time you are reading this issue, the snow is melting and we are moving into spring for real.

Margaret Schilt and Kevin McClure, Co-Editors

The CALL Bulletin, the official publication of the Chicago Association of Law Libraries (CALL), is published four times a year and is provided to active members as a benefit of membership. CALL does not assume any responsibility for the statements advanced by the contributors to the CALL Bulletin, nor do the views expressed in the CALL Bulletin necessarily represent the views of CALL or its members.

Contributions to the CALL Bulletin are always welcome. Please be advised that contributions submitted for publication are subject to editorial review. The Bulletin editors have the discretion to decline to publish articles. Direct questions, articles, or other items of interest to the co-editors:

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Dear Colleagues,

I have come to the realization that there really is not a slow season for CALL. There is usually a business meeting, continuing education program or a committee meeting happening every month. Here are some of the interesting things that have been happening in CALL.

In December, the Government Relations Committee published Finding Illinois Law. There has been widespread interest in this publication. The praise and congratulations have been coming in from across AALL. The contributors to this publication have made a great contribution to CALL’s mission to encourage advocacy in our legal community. Special thanks goes to the Public Relations Committee, which has done a superior job of promoting Finding Illinois Law locally and nationally.

The Continuing Education Committee offered another excellent brown bag program, Public Speaking for Librarians, in January at Latham & Watkins. Phil Spratt of Toastmasters International facilitated the program and attendees learned tips and tricks to improve their public speaking skills. Members should be looking for announcements in the coming months on a brown bag program dealing with IT/Librarian relationships and on the CALL Institute program which will focus on resume building, job hunting techniques, and enhancing your interview skills.

The CALL election opened on February 14. As you know, stepping into a leadership role is not to be taken lightly. There is always more to the position than what is listed on the job description. We have an outstanding slate of candidates for the 2013/2014 CALL Board. Please join me in congratulating all of them on their nominations, and thanking them for their willingness to serve CALL. Information about the candidates can be found in this issue of the Bulletin. I hope that you will take the opportunity to vote.

A CALL Business Meeting was held on February 20 at Lawry’s. Professor Travis McDade, Curator of Rare Books at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, talked about his new book, Thieves of Book Row. Professor McDade told us the true story of the worst book theft in American history. The setting, Manhattan Book Row during the Depression-era, with a New York Public Library special investigator on the trail of a band of rare book thieves with ties to organized crime… Thieves of Book Row will be published in June.

The Grants and Awards Committee awarded the first grants for 2012/2013 to Charles Frey, Neal Gerber & Eisenberg, and Pam Cipkowski, Loyola University, to attend the AALL Management Institute held in March. Remember, grant money is available to attend the AALL annual meeting, or other programs. Please do not hesitate to apply for a CALL grant. It is as easy as filling out a grant application form.

In April, the ABA Tech Show returns to Chicago. CALL has negotiated a reduced rate for CALL members. Information about the conference, expo, and registration is available at: www.techshow.com. This is an informal arrangement between CALL and the ABA Law Practice Management section, so there is not a separate category for law librarians on the registration form. CALL members will need to register for the ABA Tech Show as a paralegal. Please be sure to take advantage of this reduced rate and remember, CALL grants are available. If you are interested in seeing the exhibits only, the expo pass is free.

I would like to remind CALL members that the Board has opened discussions on proposed changes to the Bylaws. Primarily, the proposed changes are considered housekeeping issues that include combining of the Nominations Committee and Elections Committee into a single committee. Each CALL member should have received an email in early March, which contained a copy of the Bylaws with the proposed changes and explanations. During the CALL Business Meeting on May 15, eligible members present will be asked to approve that the proposed changes be submitted to the entire membership for final decision by ballot. (See CALL Bylaws Article VIII, Sec-

continued on p. 5
CALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
By Julienne Grant, Loyola University Chicago School of Law Library
Jgrant6@luc.edu

Complete, up-to-date meeting minutes are available here: http://new.chicagolawlib.org/?page_id=619. Members who would like hard copies of any meeting minutes should contact Julienne Grant (Jgrant6@luc.edu, 312-915-8520), Secretary.

2012-2013 CALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
AALL Headquarters, 105 W. Adams St., Suite 3300 (enter on Clark St.)
December 11, 2012, 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: JoAnn Hounshell, Julia Jackson (via phone), Maribel Nash, Julienne Grant, Barry Herbert, Pam Cipkowski

Board Members Absent: Susan Retzer

Summary:
Treasurer’s Report (Section IV):
1. Harris Bank Balance as of November 30, 2012: $33,945.07
2. Net Income, November 2012: ($1,896.98)
3. Membership numbers as of November 30, 2012: 264 (11 new members, 253 renewals)

Significant Actions:
The Board will ask the Bylaws Committee to do a full review of the CALL Bylaws. The last full review of the Bylaws was conducted in 2004. This review will be completed before the full Board votes on the proposal to combine the Elections and Nominations Committees, which would require a Bylaws change. (VI. Old Business a.)

The Board decided that CALL does not need to purchase a portable projector at this time. (VII. New Business a.)

The Board approved the expenditure of $25.00 to join Lawry’s VIP Rewards Program. (VII. New Business b.)

2012-2013 CALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
AALL Headquarters, 105 W. Adams St., Suite 3300 (enter on Clark St.)
January 8, 2013, 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: JoAnn Hounshell, Julia Jackson (by phone), Maribel Nash, Julienne Grant, Barry Herbert, Pam Cipkowski, Susan Retzer

Board Members Absent: None

Summary:
Treasurer’s Report (Section IV):
1. Harris Bank Balance as of December 31, 2012: $28,834.59
2. Net Income, December 2012: ($190.50)
3. Membership numbers as of December 31, 2012: 266 (12 new members, 254 renewals)

Significant Actions:
The Board agreed to propose a number of amendments to the CALL Bylaws that will require approval by the membership per Bylaws, Article VIII. The changes will initially be proposed to the members attending the February Business Meeting, pending approval by AALL. (VI. Old Business, a.)

The Board decided to direct the Membership Committee to contact individuals who had not renewed their CALL memberships to remind them. (VII. New Business, b.)

Policy/Procedure: The term “immediate Past President” in the Bylaws refers to the individual who served as CALL President the previous year. This meaning should be applied consistently in practice and in all CALL documents. (VI. Old Business, a.)
CALL MEMBERS EXPRESS THEMSELVES

Results from the Meetings Committee Online Surveys

The Meetings Committee conducted online surveys after two events, the CALL Business Meeting on November 15, 2012 at Smith & Wollensky and the September 20, 2012 Business Meeting at Petterino’s. The Committee appreciates everyone who responded to the surveys as the information will be valuable to evaluate and improve future topics, speakers, and restaurant venues.

The business meeting at Smith & Wollensky was overwhelmingly received as “very satisfactory” for the received value of the price of the meal, as comments included the food was “excellent” and “best food ever.” For the question concerning the rating of the venue’s service, the rating of the 42 responders was almost equal for “very satisfactory” and “satisfactory,” but some concerns were reported. Some attendees felt it took too long to be served because the orders were taken at the table. They suggested that orders should be taken when registering for the meeting. In reply to this suggestion, both restaurants absolutely refused to have the meals preordered. They both said their kitchens operate better when the orders come directly from the table. They said that they serve thousands of meals a year and this is how they operate. The response was overwhelmingly in favor of returning to Smith & Wollensky for future meetings.

The speaker, Catherine Sanders Reach, Director of Law Practice Management & Technology at the Chicago Bar Association, was rated by the majority as equally “very satisfactory” or “satisfactory.” Responders mentioned that since she had so many excellent websites and applications that a handout or a link would have been beneficial. A link to her presentation is now available on the CALL website. One person commented, “talk about information overload – she sure had it.” A few commented that there was no Q&A and some people had problems seeing due to pillars in the room. Overall, the event was rated as “very satisfactory” by the majority.

Only half of the 38 people who responded to the online survey for the September 20th CALL Business Meeting at Petterino’s found the received value of the price of the meal “satisfactory.” The remaining responders rated it as “unsatisfactory.” Furthermore, half of the responders found Petterino’s service “unsatisfactory.” Only 20 who responded rated it as “satisfactory.” The complaints about the venue’s services included the following: service was very slow, the vegetarian and salad meals were poor quality especially for the cost, the meals were mixed up at some tables, no coffee was served, and dessert should have been at each table instead of the dessert table where the line was too crowded. Many people felt that the slow food service caused the speaker to be rushed. As a note, the Co-Chairs of the Meetings Committee complained to Petterino’s after the event. The Co-Chairs have noted in the Meetings Cookbook to go back to Family Style at Petterino’s if the venue is used again. Three-fourths of the responders would like to return to Petterino’s while one-fourth would not like to return.

The presentation and topic of the speaker, Robert Warden, Executive Director of the Center on Wrongful Convictions at Northwestern University’s Bluhm Law Clinic, was unanimously voted as satisfactory. Everyone found the topic interesting and informative, the speaker knowledgeable, and the presentation both “terrific” and “fascinating.” One person suggested bringing him back for “part 2.” There was no Q&A, probably due to the speaker being rushed. The majority of the survey responders reported overall satisfaction with the event. The quality of the speaker and his presentation made the business meeting worthwhile even with the poor food service.

Meetings Committee

President’s Letter cont. from p. 3

If there are any questions or concerns about these changes, please do not hesitate contacting Frank Drake, chair of the Bylaws Committee at yonkedrake@att.net. I would like to close this column by thanking all committee chairs and members, Bulletin editors, Margaret Schilt and Kevin McClure, and the Executive Board for all the time and energy that they have invested in CALL. Each has made a valuable contribution to the improvement of our chapter. Thank you for volunteering!

JoAnn Hounshell
CALL President, 2012/2013
CALL Election Candidates and Information

The election will run from Thursday, February 14, 2013 to midnight on Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

Each CALL member who is eligible to vote in the upcoming election will receive an email containing his or her login information.

All Active, Retired, and Student members are eligible to vote. The cut-off date for eligible membership for this election is February 21, 2013.

Candidate biographies are on the official Online Election Website and also on the CALL website, in the Elections section, under “2013-2014 Slate of Candidates”.

2013/14 Executive Board Candidates for
Vice President/President Elect

Janice Collins,  
SNR Denton

Margaret Schilt,  
University of Chicago D’Angelo Law Library

Link to Candidate Bio & Statement  
Link to Candidate Bio & Statement

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CALL Election Candidates and Information cont. from p. 6

2013/14 Executive Board Candidates for

Secretary

Julie Swanson,  
Perkins Coie

Clare Willis,  
Chicago-Kent College of Law – IIT

2013/14 Executive Board Candidates for

Director

Eugene Guidice,  
Latham & Watkins

Jamie Sommer,  
John Marshall Law School Library

Link to Candidate Bio & Statement  
Link to Candidate Bio & Statement

Link to Candidate Bio & Statement  
Link to Candidate Bio & Statement
Everyone’s tweeting! This month, the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS) became the most recent AALL entity to come aboard. It joins several other AALL SISes, committees, chapters, and caucuses. Our own CALL chapter has been on Twitter since 2010. And some of our CALLeagues are regular Twitterers. If you haven’t tested the Twitter waters yet, you can create an account and check it out. Twitter is useful for following news sources, blogs, and key websites, tracking headline and breaking news, and also crowdsourcing.

And, you can create different Twitter accounts. My @LyoLouisJacques account is for tweeting about the D’Angelo Law Library’s services, new blog posts, research guides, and events. I also tweet about Law School and University of Chicago events, and all things Chicago-related. I also follow our students and faculty on Twitter. It’s fun to engage with them that way. On another account, I tweet about and follow folks concerned with foreign, comparative, and international law, new and emerging technologies, and librarianship. And I have a Twitter account where I live tweet sports and whatever I’m watching on TV…J So there are different ways you can use Twitter, and manage the information there.

For a head start, here are lists of law librarians on Twitter, followed by my short list of AALL entities and CALL members on Twitter. Note that some law librarians tweet rarely and some tweet very frequently. Try to follow folks who post fairly regularly to get a feel for how Twitter works. Folks with locks next to their names have their Twitter accounts set to private so they need to okay your requests to follow them.

Law Librarian Legal Birds (Justia)
http://legalbirds.justia.com/birds/librarians/all/cc/list

Law Librarians on Twitter (Mark Rosch)
https://twitter.com/markrosch/law-librarians

Law Libraries and Librarians on Twitter (AALL CS-SIS)
http://aallcssis.pbworks.com/w/page/1189463/Law%20Libraries%20and%20Librarians%20on%20Twitter

Law Librarians Twibe (Tom Boone)
http://www.twibes.com/group/lawlibrarians

Lawyers (and Law Librarians) on Twitter

AALLTweets
https://twitter.com/LyoLouisJacques/aalltweets

continued on p. 9
AALL Aboard Twitter cont. from p. 8

CALLTweets
https://twitter.com/LyoLouisJacques/calltweets
The CALL Relations with Information Vendors and Continuing Education Committees presented a Brown Bag Lunch at John Marshall Law School on October 10, 2012. As Associate Director for Access & Organization at the John Marshall Law School, Ramsey Donnell has reviewed countless contracts, protecting the school’s and library’s interests. In an interesting and informative one hour session, Mr. Donnell shared some of his insights with librarians from CALL.

When negotiating contracts with vendors you must first consider how your library will use the service or product. Don’t agree to anything you can’t (or won’t) adhere to; and make sure that you get what you need from the vendor to allow your patrons to effectively use the resource in question.

While you should read the entire contract carefully, sections such as Authorized Users (how many people can use it, and who are they), Access (IP authentication or signing in with passwords), Limitations on Use (academic, commercial, administrative), Confidentiality, and Term and Termination merit close examination.

**Authorized Users**
Some contracts restrict the number or class of people who can use it. For example, the contract may say only students and faculty can use a database - but if you also want guests of the library and alumni to have access, you must ask the vendor to include them in the contract. Or, if a contract only provides access to 4 users, that may not be enough for a law firm with hundreds of attorneys (not to mention librarians and other staff); you need to evaluate whether you need to ask for more users to be included.

**Access**
Does your library prefer IP Authenticated access to online resources, or do you like having users set up usernames and passwords? If IP access, consider whether your users will also need remote access to the resource. If so, see that the contract includes language allows for access via your secure network.

While many libraries prefer IP authentication, it isn’t always available. If the vendor insists on usernames and passwords, you need to consider how those lists will be kept current, and who will be responsible for them. If that task sounds too onerous, think twice before signing anything that binds you to it.

**Limitations on Use**
While many contracts will limit how you use their product, be sure that it reflects how your library needs to use it. If the contract says academic and scholarly research only, can you abide by that? If it restricts use to administrative tasks or management, can you be sure your users won’t use it for other purposes? Will you need to provide for interlibrary loan of materials, or scholarly sharing?

In addition, it is important that the contract not be more restrictive than the “fair use” standard. Insert a phrase stating that the agreement doesn’t restrict use of the product more than the doctrines of Fair Use or Fair Dealing.

**Confidentiality**
As librarians (and perhaps especially law librarians), we value confidentiality. While vendors understand that, and may agree to keep certain information confidential, the burden shouldn’t be on your organization to delineate each piece of information that is considered confidential. When defining “confidential information” in your contract, include a phrase such as, “information which a reasonable person would conclude is intended by its owner to be considered confidential.”

**Indemnification**
The vendor may want you to indemnify them against claims of third parties resulting from the use of their product. Mr. Donnell advises you to avoid doing this! However, he says you should ask the vendor to indemnify you against intellectual property infringement.

Continued on p. 11
They control the licensing of content, therefore they should be held responsible for any issues that arise from that licensing.

**Service Level Agreements**
You may need to formally establish the level of service in your contract. In a Service Level Agreement (SLA) you can agree to how much “downtime” is allowable, how that is measured, and how you’re compensated for excessive downtime. You should consider how heavily will your organization will rely on this service or product; if it is unavailable for some reason, will it merely be an inconvenience or would it seriously affect your work? If the latter, you may need to put in a Service Level Agreement that includes a remedy for lack of service – an SLA “with teeth.”

**Term and Termination**
Pay attention to how the contract is renewed, and the conditions under which it can be terminated. Evergreen contracts renew automatically if you don’t cancel within a certain time period – sometimes as long as 90 days before the end of the contract. If you’re sure you want to renew the service that may be fine, but if there is any doubt about renewing you might find that the deadline has passed before you know it. If you can’t get rid of this clause entirely, attempt to decrease the amount of notice you have to give. And be certain to set up a reminder to review the service well before the deadline.

Many contracts allow Termination for Breach – the vendor can end service if you fail to adhere to the contacts terms. If you do breach the contract, you want to be given a time period in which to remedy your use. Ask that it allow for a “cure.”

Convenience termination allows a vendor to end the contract for no reason. If you are going to rely heavily on this product or service, avoid allowing this.

**Appendices** are just as important as the text of the contract. Read them carefully!

**Get it in Writing!**
Never rely on the verbal assurances of a vendor representative.

By remaining aware of your needs and goals, you should be able to avoid agreeing to anything that isn’t in your institution’s best interest.
Standard & Poor’s Capital IQ is the place I start my company research for medium to large companies. The service provides one stop shopping for company information--financial, news, biographical information, and corporate trees. The database contains information on more than 66,000 public companies, 2,300,000 private companies, 19,000 private equity firms, 690,000 transactions and 2,000,000 professionals worldwide. This data can be quickly accessed in preformatted reports: The Tearsheet, a basic overview, and the CIQ Report which provides more in-depth data. Another option is the Report Builder which allows users to design their own reports.

Once a company has been selected, a landing page appears with a bold headline naming each section. Down the left side of the page are headings such as Company Summary, People, Financial/Valuation and Transactions. These sections are further broken down with links to individual portions. For example, below Transactions is M&A/Private Placements, Public Offerings, Takeover Defenses and Transaction Advisors. Once a section is selected in-depth research can be performed.

To mine the information contained in the database, the service features a powerful screening search. Screens can be done for transactions, companies, people, and industries, just to name a few. This tool allows users to develop highly targeted lists based on criteria such as industry, headquarters location, revenues, company type or geography. Once the screen search has finished, the results can be formatted by deleting or rearranging the columns. Examples of screenings we have done at SNR Denton include public Canadian pension plans investing in United States companies, hedge funds located in Kansas, and large companies in Miami.

The ability to customize research, reports, the screening data, and the depth of information available on companies in one location are product’s greatest strengths. The weaknesses of the product are the duplicative news articles in the reports and the lack of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) reports. For example, if a company releases an earnings report, every single article is very current but is only about that earnings report. The inability to select the articles which go into a report is frustrating. Before giving a CIQ report to a requestor, I often remove the news section and supplement my research with an ABI-Inform, LexisNexis or other news database. Competitors such as Global Data and OneSource offer SWOT reports, so consider these products if the SWOT reports are vital to your research collection. Capital IQ is a valuable research tool at SNR Denton and I encourage you to explore it.

Website Guidelines, CALL Committees, and Discussion Forum Policies

Pursuant to the recommendations of the CALL Bulletin Special Committee, the Website Guidelines, the list of current members of CALL Committees and the Discussion Forum Policies will no longer be published in the Bulletin. They are published on the CALL website:

Website Guidelines: http://new.chicagolawlib.org/?page_id=128
CALL Committees: http://new.chicagolawlib.org/?page_id=103
Discussion Forum Policies: http://new.chicagolawlib.org/?page_id=143
APPLICATIONS SOUGHT FOR $5,000 IN RESEARCH GRANTS TO BE AWARDED THIS SPRING FROM THE AALL RESEARCH FUND: AN ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED BY LEXISNEXIS®

The AALL Research and Publications Committee is accepting applications through Monday, April 1, 2013 for research grants totaling up to $5,000 from the AALL Research Fund: An Endowment Established by LexisNexis.

The committee will award one or more grants to library professionals who wish to conduct research that supports the research/scholarly agenda of the profession of librarianship. Established with a generous endowment from LexisNexis in July 2000, the annual grants fund large or small research projects that create, disseminate, or use legal and law-related information. Projects may range from the historical (indexes, legislative histories, bibliographies, biographies, or directories) to the theoretical (trends in cataloging, publishing, or new service models in libraries) to the practical (implementation models for collection, personnel, or infrastructure management).

The AALL Research Agenda offers suggestions for possible research projects that cover a wide segment of professional interest, including the profession of law librarianship, law library patrons, law library services, legal research and bibliography, legal information resources, and law library facilities. However, projects are not limited to those described in the agenda, and the committee will consider all applications and research projects.

To apply for the grants, all applicants must provide résumés and statements of their qualifications for carrying out their projects. The applications should demonstrate experience with research projects and an understanding of the dissemination and use of legal and law-related information. Priority will be given to individual AALL members or AALL members working in partnership with other information professionals. The grant application and complete guidelines are available at: http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Member-Resources/grants/research-grants/AALL-Research-Fund.html.

The submission deadline for applications is Monday, April 1, 2013. Grants will be awarded and announced in May 2013.

For more information, consult the AALL Research and Publications Committee website or contact a member of the committee.

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WHAT IS UELMA, AND WHY SHOULD WE CARE?
A CONVERSATION WITH KEITH ANN STIVERSON
By Kevin McClure, IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law
kmclure@kentlaw.iit.edu

After winning adoption last year in Colorado and California, the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) has been introduced in Illinois and eight other states in the early weeks of 2013. Keith Ann Stiverson, Director of the Library at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, served as AALL’s observer on the Uniform Law Commission’s UELMA drafting committee and has had a hand in UELMA’s progress ever since the 2007 AALL summit on authentication that inspired the act. I chatted with her to find out why she’s excited about UELMA’s introduction in Illinois.

You’ve been working on something called UELMA. What is it, and why should a law librarian care?

We should all care, because state governments aren’t doing enough to ensure that the legal materials they’re putting up on the Internet are trustworthy and secure. Like legal research generally, the publication of official, primary source material is moving from print to online. UELMA tells states that if they want to put it online and call it official, then they need to do three things.

First, they need to authenticate it. That means that when you view a document online, you get a seal or some other certification that says it’s the genuine article: then you’ll know it hasn’t been tampered with, it’s accurate, and it’s the authoritative and unaltered version. That’s assurance that you need and that you’re really entitled to if you’re going to court, or citing something in an article or paper.

Second, they need to preserve it. We’ve found again and again that states don’t have preservation standards or policies in place for the legal materials they publish online. Preservation means several things. It means having backups in place so that material is secure from a natural disaster or some other failure, and it means the material needs to be in a usable format, so states will need to have it ready to migrate to new formats from time to time. And one very important piece of the preservation puzzle for legal materials is version control, which means that as materials are amended or superseded, we need to preserve the older versions, because so often, legal research isn’t about finding what the law says now, it’s about finding what the law said at a certain point in the past.

The third requirement is that states need to ensure permanent public access to the material. You can think of this as the open government provision of UELMA. In a democracy, citizens deserve and require access to the documents of our government, and legal material is central to that. UELMA doesn’t prescribe one specific way to do that; it gives states the leeway to set their own requirements, so long as they provide public access that is reasonable and permanent.

But I can look at a statute or a state code online and tell whether it’s on a state government website. Isn’t that authentic enough?

It might be good enough for most purposes, most of the time. But what we in AALL have been emphasizing for years is that when it comes to primary legal resources, any form of publication that leaves their authority open to doubt is a failure. We surveyed all fifty states and found all sorts of troubling practices—states where it was hard to tell whether the online version was official or not, states where it appeared that the online wasn’t “as official” as the print, just about everything you can imagine except what we need, which is the same level of certainty online that we’ve had with print. These are the laws we live by. Being “good enough most of the time” doesn’t cut it.

So we have a uniform law, but it’s only an actual law in a couple of places?

Right. We worked with the Uniform Law Commission to draft language that was flexible enough to be workable anywhere. Last year, we took UELMA to a few key states where we thought we had the best chance to get it passed, to create some momentum, and we were thrilled when Colorado and California became the first two states to enact it. This year, UELMA has already been introduced in nine more states, and we are even more thrilled that Illinois is one of them!
After six years of work on what has become the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA), we have the opportunity to make UELMA the law in Illinois. SB 1941 was introduced in mid-February and was recently referred to the Senate’s Committee on the Judiciary. At press time, a hearing was scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, March 12, and AALL’s Government Relations Office was making arrangements for expert testimony at the hearing.

An Action Alert was sent on March 7 asking CALL members to phone their senators who are members of the Judiciary Committee and show support for the bill. When the bill is out of Judiciary, we will send another alert to CALL members and ask for letters to their senators urging passage of the bill. Things are moving quickly, and it’s difficult to tell at this point exactly what will happen, when the bill will be introduced in the House, etc. We will keep you informed as things develop.

I attended meetings of both the Illinois Library Association (ILA) Public Policy Committee and their Executive Board some time ago to ask their support for UELMA, and it was a pleasure to find the ILA members I met are very supportive of our campaign for authentication, preservation, and permanent public access to primary legal materials. Their lobbyist is prepared to show ILA’s support for UELMA next week.

We are fortunate to have bipartisan support: Sen. John G. Mulroe (D-10) and Sen. Pamela J. Altoff (R-32) are the co-sponsors of the bill. If you live in either of their districts, please thank them for sponsoring UELMA.

To check the status of the fight to make UELMA the law in all the states, see the 2013 UELMA Bill Tracking Chart on the AALL Government Relations Committee’s UELMA Resources page, http://www.aallnet.org/Documents/Government-Relations/UELMA. As of March 7, UELMA is the law in Colorado and California, and has been introduced in eight other states, including Illinois.

### ABA TECHSHOW ANNOUNCEMENT

By JoAnn Hounshell, IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, CALL President jhounshell@kentlaw.iit.edu

CALL has negotiated a reduced rate for law librarians to attend the 2013 ABA TECHSHOW. This year’s show is being held at the Chicago Hilton, April 4-6. Information about the conference, expo, and registration is available at: www.techshow.com. This is an informal arrangement between CALL and the ABA Law Practice Management section, so there is not a separate category for law librarians on the registration form. **CALL members will need to register for the ABA TechShow as a paralegal.** Please be sure to take advantage of this reduced rate. If you are interested in seeing the exhibits only, the expo pass is free.
AALL2go Pick of the Month

AALL’s Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: Glass Half Full? Explore Techniques for Putting Optimism to Work as a Management Tool in Difficult Times.

Law librarians have been dealing with some difficult times at work, in the profession, and on the homefront for the past several years. These economic times have prompted us to have more management discussions than ever before. This presentation by Gail Warren and Jean Holcomb helps prepare the library director/manager to deal with pessimistic focus. The program helps identify three elements of the “explanatory style” after completing a model assessment tool. Learn some techniques for challenging pessimistic thinking and building a positive operating framework. You will discover strategies for strengthening your personal resilience and decision-making skills, leading to a happier and more productive life in the office and at home.

Find this and more than 80 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members at AALL2go!

CALL Meeting Schedule 2012-2013

Business Meetings

- September 20, 2012 (Thurs.)
- November 15, 2012 (Thurs.)
- February 20, 2013 (Wed.)
- May 15, 2013 (Wed.)

Details will be posted as they become available. Dates subject to change.

Executive Board Meetings

- August 14, 2012 (Tues.)
- September 11, 2012 (Tues.)
- October 9, 2012 (Tues.)
- November 13, 2012 (Tues.)
- December 11, 2012 (Tues.)
- January 8, 2013 (Tues.)
- February 12, 2013 (Tues.)
- March 12, 2013 (Tues.)
- April 9, 2013 (Tues.)
- May 14, 2013 (Tues.)