CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN
by
Susan Gilley, Oklahoma

The combination of information and inspiration provided by the Annual Meeting never fails to renew my enthusiasm for service. Each year I return to my library motivated to implement new ideas or different methods of dealing with long-standing "opportunities." Listening to knowledgeable speakers, brainstorming with my colleagues, examining products and services in the exhibits, putting a little distance between me and the constant barrage of information requests that constitute my usual working days make a real difference in the resultant quality of information delivery in Oklahoma. Extra (but essential) benefits are renewing ongoing friendships and making new ones and seeing the sights and enjoying the hospitality of the hosting state.

Regrettably, many of us are forced to miss this opportunity for continuing education; providentially, another opportunity for professional growth is now available. The second annual Professional Development Seminar will be held Nov. 29 - Dec. 1 in Columbus, Ohio. Begin now to make plans to attend. This seminar is filled with worthwhile educational experiences (and maybe just a little fun and relaxation in the evenings!). But the one essential ingredient for its success and for the maximum benefit to all of us is for as many of us as possible to attend. Each of us has much to offer, and we're even better in groups; come join us!

With all this emphasis on programmed opportunities for professional development, I must encourage you to respond to the request for programming ideas and speakers. The officers plan what they fervently hope will be useful and enjoyable meetings, but they cannot operate in a vacuum. Please contact Debby at NCSL or any of the officers to share your ideas. This can be done at any time during the year when the inspiration or need arises; developing seminar and Annual

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LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH LIBRARIANS STAFF SECTION
of the National Conference of State Legislatures
1560 Broadway, Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202
303/830-2200

Chairperson: Susan Gilley, Head, Legislative Reference Div., Oklahoma Department of Libraries
NCSL Staff: Deborah Bernau
Meeting programs is a continual one in our staff section. Your ideas are welcome and eagerly sought.

Our staff section amended the by-laws to change officers’ terms to December through November each year to coincide with those of most other NCSL staff sections. This year however Jay Baxa, who is awaiting the birth of her second child, resigned the chairmanship several months early, necessitating the immediate assumption of office by the newly elected 1990-91 officers -- Susan Gilley, Chair; Marcia Hoak, Chair-Elect; and Anne Adams, Secretary. To Jay, we offer our very best wishes for the future and our thanks for a job superbly done.

Jay was very instrumental in ensuring the success of the first Professional Development Seminar. She also participated in planning for the upcoming second annual seminar. The worthwhile content and smoothness of execution of the programs at Annual Meeting and the seminar in Denver and the upcoming Columbus meeting were due primarily to the hard work of two individuals -- Jay Baxa and Debby Bernau. Their planning and preparation allowed the rest of us to relax and enjoy the results. As incoming chair, I am challenged by Jay’s organizational and leadership skills.

This time is traditionally one of transition: looking back over the past year and ahead to another one. I would like to take time to recognize individuals and groups who made valuable contributions of time and effort to produce products or programs in which we can all take pride. Debby’s ongoing work for the staff section and her dedication to us cannot be too often noted. She functions as glue to hold us together. Her contributions are great and often overlooked or understated. Thanks, Debby, for everything.

Mina Waldis (once again) has done the work to provide an accurate and attractive directory of staff section members. Regional coordinators -- Ann Bancroft, Frances Enos, Hank Inicki, Brenda Larison, Val Richardson, Pat Sloan and Susan Sternberg -- have coordinated the gathering of news from every state for Newsline and kept us better informed about each other. Pat Sloan assisted with the automation survey. Jane Peterson and committee members made progress on the core list project. The enthusiasm of the periodicals indexing committee, teamed with Marilyn Guttromson’s able leadership, contributed to the usefulness of LEGISNET and faster access to selected periodical articles. Members who wrote reports of seminar or conference programs for Newsline, the nominating committee, participants on panels, attendees -- all of us have worked to make this an outstanding year. Thank you.

As we look ahead, I again challenge each of you to become or to remain involved with the LRL Staff Section. Share your ideas, serve when asked, volunteer. We need each other.

**SUMMARY OF LRL STAFF SECTION PROGRAMS AT 1990 NCSL ANNUAL MEETING**

by

Susan McVey, Oklahoma; Nancy Moreno, Texas; Marcia Hoak, Oregon; Clare Cholik, South Dakota; Julie McCown, Tennessee; and Anne Adams, Alabama

**Monday, Aug. 6**

*Staff Section Business Meeting*

The following items were covered during this business meeting: Susan Gilley (OK) reported that the periodicals indexing project has been a great success so far; she thanked Marilyn Guttromson (ND) for taking the bull by the horns on this one. Earl Graybeal of the State Services Organization Library distributed a list of recent publications by Hall of the States organizations such as the National Governors’ Association and offered to provide the list regularly to staff section members. Debby Bernau gave the Nominating Committee report. Proposed amendments to the staff section by-laws were presented and discussed. Debby outlined the tentative agenda for the 1990 Professional Development Seminar, and Barbara Laughon (OH) invited all attendees to visit her new library facility. Some program ideas for the 1991 Annual Meeting were discussed; the officers are soliciting significant input from staff section members on program topics. Debby reported that she now has a personal membership in IFLA and will report on its activities in Newsline. Susan Gilley announced that 1992 is the twentieth anniversary of the LRL Staff Section and asked members to let her know of their suggestions for celebrating this event.
Workshop on Managing the Legislative Library, Part II
Budgeting and Marketing
Program I: "Legislative Libraries -- Budgeting for Results"

Speaker: Bob Keaton, Chief Budget Analyst, Louisiana Senate

Mr. Keaton outlined the logical steps to follow when preparing a budget request. He also offered suggestions as to what legislative librarians, in particular, can do to obtain their goals in the budgetary process. First of all, decide what you want. Do you want to receive everything for which you asked, or will you be satisfied with substantially less? It is also vital to know with whom you will be competing, and who will make the final decision.

In preparing the budget document, it is best to start early and finish early. Plus, the technological advances of recent years demand that your document be attractive. Use the budget request to "toot your own horn." Give the decisionmakers a better appreciation of all the work you do. This can often be accomplished with use of statistics, such as the number of requests you answer annually.

Never leave things to chance. Show that you have made the request after careful planning. Sing your request on the amount of money you gave the previous year leaves the impression that you did not do your homework.

Lastly, don't rely solely on the budget request document; make a personal appearance to clarify and reinforce the request. Discreet lobbying and marketing of the library is also useful, not only during the budget process but throughout the entire year. In addition, displaying outward signs of frugality tends to impress budget makers.

Workshop Program II: "Roundtable Discussion -- Marketing the Legislative Library"

Moderator: Susan Sternberg, Legislative Librarian, Office of Legislative Services, New Jersey

Panel members for this roundtable were Marcia Hoak (OR), Claire Marumoto (HI), and Susan Southworth (CT). The discussion focused on ways legislative librarians can market their libraries to their clientele, as well as marketing to management. A common concern to all was making known the services provided by the library without increasing the demand so much that the quality of those services is lessened. Members of the panel shared many of their own marketing ideas, from the common ones (such as distributing brochures and newsletters) to the uncommon ones (such as holding "Easter egg hunts in the stacks and keeping small collections of fiction). Other suggestions included picking up and delivering library materials to help people get to know you, surveying your users, preparing information packets on "hot" topics, developing a library logo, participating in events such as National Library Week, and holding frequent orientation sessions for new legislative staff.

Tuesday, Aug. 7
Tour of the Vanderbilt Television News Archive

Established in 1968 with the goal of documenting how television news broadcasts influence American society, the archive videotapes the evening news broadcasts of ABC, CBS, and NBC using a television satellite mounted on the roof of the building. The following day, a 700-900-word abstract of each broadcast is prepared, which cumulates in a 200-page volume each month. Later, each broadcast is indexed, providing access to the names of people, organizations, and places and to the topics mentioned in each program. The indexes and abstracts are published monthly, and are available in most university libraries and by subscription.

Patrons of the archive may view specific videotapes at the archive or borrow copies of the videotapes. The archive will also compile a tape on a specific topic for a patron, compiling segments from different broadcasts into one tape. A fee is charged for these copying and compiling services. Patrons include federal agencies, state legislators, law firms, academic researchers, students, and members of the general public. The network broadcasters themselves are sometimes patrons of the archive because it is five to ten years older than the broadcasters' own archives and provides excellent indexes and abstracts.

At present the archive has taped about 20,000 hours of network news broadcasts and an additional 5,000 hours of special news programs such as documentaries, presidential candidates' debates, and special congressional hearings. The archive is planning a major fundraising drive to finance the videotaping, indexing, and abstracting of CNN broadcasts and the PBS MacNeil-Lehrer Newshour.

Although the tour of this unique and interesting archive seemed all too brief, it was one of the highlights of the busy week at Nashville. Our thanks go to Julie McCown for arranging the tour and to Scarlett Graham, the archive director, for her warm welcome and stimulating presentation.
The tour was sponsored by Mead Data Central.

**Wednesday, Aug. 8**

**Staff section luncheon**

Speaker: Ronnie Pugh, Head of Reference, The Country Music Foundation Library, Nashville

Mr. Pugh gave an informative and entertaining presentation on the Country Music Foundation, including a brief history of the foundation and a description of the library collection, which includes films, tapes, and records. His examples of some of the amusing and unusual reference questions he has received over the years were a highlight of his presentation.

The luncheon was sponsored by West Publishing Company.

**Workshop on Managing the Legislative Library, Part II: The Impact of New Technologies on Library Staffing and Management**

Speaker: Jose-Marie Griffiths, Professor/Collaborating Scientist, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Library and Information Science

Dr. Griffiths described her talk as an introduction to the technological developments now being introduced into libraries. They include integrated library systems, bibliographic utilities for cataloging and reference, microcomputers, CD-ROM databases, and facsimile transmission.

The general trend is toward integrated, rather than stand-alone, systems, and the following modules or functions should be included in an integrated system: word processing, computation and statistics, flexible report generation, and database searching.

Regarding the effects of library automation, Dr. Griffiths pointed out that automation does not usually cause staff reductions. Rather it allows the library to cope with growth and increased demands without adding additional staff. Automation also results in a shift in the types and levels of staffing needed; usually more professional staff will be required. The recommended formula of 25% professional staff in a library jumps to 33% after automation.

Relationships with the library patrons will be affected as well. While staff are learning to operate the equipment, their focus is on the machinery rather than on patrons, and some alienation can occur.

Automation will also create new opportunities for service, such as creating in-house databases and providing special services for the visually impaired.

It is important to keep staff interested in the automation. Here are some suggestions for motivating and maintaining the interest of staff: hold user group meetings; involve staff in the challenge of defining needs and specifications for future developments; encourage staff to participate in vendor feedback.

**Friday, Aug. 10**

**Election of Staff Section 1990-91 Officers and Business Meeting**

Presiding: Susan Gilley, Vice-Chair

The first order of business was the adoption of the proposed amendments to the staff section by-laws.

Rozanne Barry of the Congressional Research Service reported that 14 libraries had been selected to participate in the pilot project to provide online access to the Library of Congress databases and that approval was pending for an extension of the project. (See update on this project on page 5 of this newsletter.)

The members approved a continuation of the pilot Manual of Model Procedures for Legislative Libraries project.

Sites for future professional development seminars were discussed. Portland, Oregon, and Boston, Massachusetts, were favored for the 1991 seminar; St. Paul, Minnesota, was suggested for the 1992 site.

Susan Gilley reported on the meeting of the NCSL Legislative Staff Coordinating Committee.

The slate of officers presented by the nominating committee was elected. They are: Chair: Susan Gilley (OK); Vice-Chair: Marcia Hoak (OR); and Secretary: Anne Adams (AL).

The scheduling of staff section business meetings at Annual Meeting was also discussed. A motion carried to consolidate the two short business meetings into one long meeting on an appropriate day.

The members voted unanimously to send an expression of appreciation to Irene Stone upon her retirement, commending her for her work and dedication to the staff section.

Julie McCown (TN) was complimented for the hospitality shown by the host state for the Nashville meeting. The officers and Debby were...
commended for their leadership during the past year.

SPECIAL THANKS

The officers and members of the staff section express special appreciation to the following sponsors of staff section activities at the 1990 Annual Meeting in Nashville:

Sunday reception:
The Michie Company
P.O. Box 7587
Charlottesville, VA 22906
(804) 972-7605/(800) 446-3410
(Philip LaMar, Director of Code Publishing)

Staff section dinner & Vanderbilt tour:
Mead Data Central
P.O. Box 933
Dayton, OH 45401
(513) 865-1816/(800) 227-9597
(Judith Russell, Market Manager-Government)

Wednesday luncheon:
West Publishing Company
P.O. Box 4525
St. Paul, MN 55164
(612) 228-2500
(Lawrence Culligan, Editor-in-Chief)

APPOINTMENTS TO NCSL ASSEMBLY ON THE LEGISLATURE COMMITTEES
by
Susan Gilley, Oklahoma

Several LRL members have expressed an interest in serving on AOL committees. Others may be interested in the appointment process. I have outlined below my understanding of that process.

An interested individual should select the committee on which she/he desires to serve and express that interest to the legislative leaders of the state. Each state's leadership recommends candidates to NCSL for membership on AOL committees. NCSL is also responsible for coordinating geographic representation on each committee.

"W is the time to act. December of even numbered years is the time when each state recommends appointments to the various AOL committees. Although members of the committees represent their own states, our staff section also benefits from the visibility provided through our members' service on these committees. I encourage each of you to become as active as you can.

NEW NCSL VIDEOTAPE

"Better Education Through Informed Legislation, Part 1: An Overview" looks at three major education reform issues -- restructuring, parent enabling; and assessment and accountability. Part 2 will be released later this year, along with accompanying handbooks. Each legislative library will be receiving a copy of this videotape.

CONGRESS APPROVES PLAN TO OFFER STATE LIBRARIES ONLINE ACCESS TO LC

The Joint Committee on the Library on September 18 approved plans by the Library of Congress to expand direct online access to its databases. Fifty state library agencies and the District of Columbia Public Library will be eligible for direct access to the Library of Congress MUMS and SCORPIO systems, which feature bibliographic, congressional bill status, copyright, and referral information. Participants in the two-year pilot project will pay their own telecommunications costs and the annual charge of $3,000 per library.

This program expands upon the experience of the Library of Congress with an earlier pilot project that offered such access to 14 institutions across the United States. A survey by the American Library Association elicited enthusiastic response from participants, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington told the Congress. The California State Library, for example, reported that access to the LC databases was of vital assistance in locating information on disaster plans and recovery efforts after the massive earthquake last October.

THE MAINE LAW AND LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY
by
Lynn E. Randall, Maine

Maine legislators and staff can look to the Law and Legislative Reference Library for information,
reference, and research services. The library was created in 1971 from the former law department of the Maine State Library. Since then the Law and Legislative Reference Library has developed as a legislative agency. The library is now administered by the executive director of the Legislative Council.

The library combines functions and collections, which in many states are provided by two different libraries -- a state law library and a legislative reference bureau. A single collection and staff serve both of these functions. This and its location on the second floor of the State House enable the staff to provide a highly efficient and comprehensive service to the legislature.

The library collection includes the most complete collection of Maine legislative documents in the state. Maine is one of a small number of states that publishes a complete transcript of House and Senate debate; publication began in 1897 and continues today. Information about current bills is provided by the legislature’s powerful online bill status system. Background information (as well as biographical information on Maine legislators, attorneys, and other political figures) comes from the newspaper clipping files, which library staff assemble from 25 Maine newspapers. The collection also includes an extensive selection of documents published by other Maine government agencies.

The library maintains a collection of basic legal resources for the United States -- federal codes and statutes for all 50 states; court reporters from all federal and the highest state jurisdictions and selected digests and citators; legal periodicals; standard legal treatises; and reporting services. The library is also a selective depository of federal government documents. In addition, the staff actively try to acquire legislative studies and other reported research on topics of current interest to the legislature. The total collection numbers approximately 100,000 volumes.

All study reports, legal treatises, and many federal government documents are fully cataloged using OCLC and the LC and the SuDocs systems of classification. The card catalog has not yet been automated, but online searching of a wide variety of information sources outside the library is offered. The reference staff can access DIALOG, WESTLAW, LEGISNET, StateNet, and EPIC online, as well as the CD-ROM version of holdings of other libraries in the state.

In addition to serving legislators and staff, the library also provides frequent assistance to constituents. The state statutes specify that the library shall serve all state government agencies, the judiciary, attorneys, and the citizens of Maine. To meet this broad responsibility, the library has liberal circulation policies, a commitment to mailing books and copies to users unable to come to Augusta, and comprehensive reference services available in person and by phone and mail. The library has a friendly, helpful staff of 15. They are happy to provide assistance to legislative librarians in other states.

The Law and Legislative Reference Library provides information spanning the entire life of a law -- from the time a legislator first has an idea, to drafting the bill, to study and discussion in the legislature, to promulgation of administrative rules, to litigation in the courts.

1989-90 STAFF SECTION REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Ann Bancroft (New Mexico)
Contact for:
Arizona
California
Colorado

Pat Sloan (Nebraska)
Contact for:
Arkansas
Kansas
Kentucky
Missouri

Valerie Richardson (Louisiana)
Contact for:
Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana

Frances Enos (Hawaii)
Contact for:
Alaska
Hawaii
Idaho
Montana

Nevada
New Mexico
Utah
Nebraska
Oklahoma
Texas
Mississippi
South Carolina
Tennessee
Oregon
Washington
Wyoming
Susan Sternberg (New Jersey)
Contact for:
- Delaware
- Maryland
- New Jersey
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Virginia
- West Virginia

Hank Ilnicki (New York)
Contact for:
- Connecticut
- Maine
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire
- New York
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- Vermont

Brenda Larison (Illinois)
Contact for:
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- North Dakota
- South Dakota
- Wisconsin

NCSL HAS MOVED!
If you have not already done so, please make a note now of NCSL's new address and telephone numbers.

1560 Broadway, Suite 700
Denver, CO 80202-5140
303/830-2200
Fax: 303/863-8003
LEGISNET: 303/863-8023

NEWS FROM THE STATES
Submitted by Regional Coordinators and Members of the Staff Section

Colorado
Delores Lanier assumed responsibility for the resolution process at the CSG Western Legislative Conference meeting in September in Anchorage, Alaska.

Kentucky
Peggy King reports that her library has joined OCLC as an associate member with the state law library. She will use OCLC for cataloging.

Nebraska
The legislative library is now a contributing member of OCLC, adding original cataloging. The library will be moving in November, along with the Legislative Research Division, to another space within the capitol building.

Nevada
Nan Bowers, Head Librarian with the Legislative Counsel Bureau, reports that they have completed their move into better and much larger facilities while the legislative building is undergoing renovation. The bureau's data processing section is transferring the library's holdings to the mainframe that also houses Nevada laws and the bill tracking system. This transfer eventually will allow remote access to the library holdings. The library recently acquired the Nevada union catalog on CD-ROM.

North Carolina
The Legislative Services Office now provides a phone line that offers an audio version of press releases from the legislature.

Rhode Island
To improve participation in the 1990 elections, state library staff joined in the Secretary of State's program to increase voter registration. They volunteered to register new voters on Saturdays at supermarkets and shopping centers throughout the state.

RECENT HALL OF THE STATES PUBLICATIONS


NEXT ISSUE OF NEWSLINE

The deadline for submission of information for the January 1991 issue of Newsline is December 20, 1990. Please send information on developments in your library, legislature, or state to Debby Bernau at NCSL, or to your regional coordinator by that date.

Thanks to the many staff section members who submitted information for this issue.

CHANGES TO THE 1990 LRL DIRECTORY

Delaware
Change: (302)736- to: (302)739-

Louisiana
Add: Sharon Eaton, Information Specialist
     Suzie Carroll, Information Specialist

Maryland
Add: Esther Bishop, Legislative Librarian

Oklahoma
Change: Telefax to: (405)521-2753

Virginia
Change: Jay Baxa to:
        Grace Holmes

UPCOMING NCSL CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

November 8-10 Assembly on the Legislature
               Chicago, Illinois

November 29-December 1 LRL Staff Section Annual Professional Development Seminar
                         Columbus, Ohio

November 30 Oil Spills and Coastal Protection
                Santa Monica, California

December 6-8 Labor Issues Conference
               Miami, Florida

December 11 Insolvent Financial Institutions
              Washington, D.C.
December 11-12  NCSL Executive Committee  
                Washington, D.C.  

December 12   Task Force on State-Tribal Relations  
              Washington, D.C.  

December 12-14 State-Federal Assembly  
               Washington, D.C.  

1991  
January 3-5 New Leaders Symposium  
      Denver, Colorado  

January 3-5 Fiscal Chairs Seminar  
      Denver, Colorado  

February 28-March 2 Developmental Disabilities  
               Chicago, Illinois  

March 8-9 NCSL Executive Committee  
             San Francisco, California  

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