

NEWSLINE

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH LIBRARIANS

Vol. XVII, No. 1

Spring 1993

CHAIR'S COLUMN

by

Jo Budler, Nebraska, Chairperson

Mark your calendars: this year's NCSL Annual Meeting is July 25-30. The schedule is full of interesting and relevant programs which include use of the Internet, ins and outs of copyright law, and a program on librarianship in Eastern Europe (with special guest speakers). In addition there will be plenty of time to attend concurrent sessions and pick up information and material on hot topics to bring home to our libraries.

And networking -- don't forget networking. Each librarian does things just slightly differently in his or her particular library and it's always fun to compare notes. I am always amazed at what I learn at our conferences from all of you -- especially the creative ways in which other librarians handle fiscal difficulties (translate; budget cuts) with a minimal loss to services.

Speaking of networking...the NCSL Bulletin Board Service is an excellent way to do so. It certainly saves wear and tear on the nerves by eliminating the game of phone tag. And as Marcia Hoak keeps reminding us, it's a great way to conduct a multi-state survey (even "50-state" if we all use it regularly). Just use the open forum, ask the question and sit back. If we are all using the BBS, the answers should start pouring in. Now that's networking!

I hope to see you in San Diego in July!

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LRL STAFF SECTION

1993 NCSL ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAMS

San Diego, California -- July 25 - 29, 1993

Preliminary agenda

** SUNDAY, JULY 25 **

(Times not yet announced)

Legisnet Training Session -- New Software

** MONDAY, JULY 26 **

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.

Staff Section Breakfast

(Sponsored by the Michie Company)

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH LIBRARIANS STAFF SECTION

of the National Conference of State Legislatures

1560 Broadway, Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202

303/830-2200

Chairperson: Jo Budler, Librarian, Legislative Library, Nebraska

NCSL Staff: Chris Pattarozzi

1:15 - 3:15 p.m.

Online Document Delivery System and Use of Internet by the California Research Bureau
Speaker: John Jewell,
Assistant Director for Information Services,
California Research Bureau

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Staff Section Business Meeting
Presiding: Jo Budler,
Coordinator of Library Services, Legislative
Reference Library, Nebraska

**** TUESDAY, JULY 27 ****

3:45 - 5:00 p.m.

Update on Copyright Issues
Speaker: Georgia Finnigan,
President, The Information Store
San Francisco, CA

7:00 p.m. Staff Section Dinner

**** WEDNESDAY, JULY 28 ****

12:15 - 1:45 p.m.

Staff Section Luncheon
Speaker: Mary Nell Bryant
Congressional Research Service

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Legislative Libraries and Research in the New
Democracies of Eastern Europe

(Visiting Librarians from Eastern Europe)

**** THURSDAY, JULY 29 ****

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.

Update and Refresher on the BBS system
Speaker: Doug Sacarto
Program Director, NCSL

**OTHER 1993 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAMS
OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO STAFF SECTION
MEMBERS**

Concurrent Sessions of special interest include:

"Science, Technology and State Government -- A
New Paradigm"

"Living with Tax Limitations"

"The Promises and Pitfalls of State Budget and
Process Reform"

"Federal Deficit Reduction and the States"

"After the ADA -- Implications for State
Legislatures"

"Privacy, Technology, and Public Policy"

"Building Community Out of Diversity"

"The North American Free Trade Agreement"

"Federalism and the Supreme Court"

"Innovative Applications of Technology in State
Legislatures"

LRL STAFF SECTION

**1993 ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SEMINAR**

"Connections"

Austin, Texas -- November 4-6, 1993

(Preliminary agenda)

Our annual professional development seminar provides us with a valuable opportunity to update our skills, examine innovations in information technology and management, and network with information specialists from other legislative libraries. This year's theme will stress connecting with other librarians, connecting with library users, and even connecting with the past via legislative histories.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Registration

8:30 - 10:00 Newspapers in
Legislative
Libraries

10:30 - 11:30 Newspaper
Scanning System

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:45 - 3:15 Connecting with
Library Users

3:30 - 5:00 Training by
Mead Data Central

6:30 Staff Section
Dinner (Dutch treat)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 to 10:00 Texas Innovative Network System (TINS)
- 10:30 - 11:30 Compiling Legislative Histories
- 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch
- 1:45 - Tour of LBJ School of Public Affairs

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 - 9:30 Business Meeting
- 9:30 - 11:00 Tour of Library and State Capitol

L Magazine Indexers "Cited"
/ Marilyn Guttromson, North Dakota

Yes, it is true that out there across the land dedicated legislative librarians continue to quietly enter select magazine citations into NCSL's LEGISNET database. Early in 1990 the Committee on Magazine Indexing selected a number of periodicals that cover major aspects of state government and began entering data around June of that year. The project has continued with hundreds of citations a year going into LEGISNET.

At present, there is one vacancy on this committee to take Mina Waldie's place indexing Government Finance Review. It's fun, its easy -- contact Marilyn Guttromson in North Dakota for details. Following are the members of the Committee and the periodicals they index:

- Ann Bancroft (NM) Governing
- Jo Budler (NE) Ways and Means
- Marilyn Cathcart (MN) Journal of Legislation and State Policy Reports
- Beth Furbush (MT) and
anne Greer (MD) City and State

- Marilyn Guttromson (ND) ABA Journal and ABA State Legislative Report
- Anne Rottmann (MO) Emerging Issues, Intergovernmental Perspective and State and Local Government Review
- Debbie Tavenner (OH) Journal of State Government

SURVEY OF LEGISLATIVE LIBRARIES

Cathy Martin has done some preliminary work drafting a survey of legislative library staffing patterns, funding, and organizational structure. She would like to hear from anyone with an interest in this topic, so jot your ideas or suggestions on a scrap of paper and forward to Cathy at the Legislative Library, Legislative Office Bldg., 300 No. Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27603. Or better yet, send her a message on our bulletin board system (BBS)!

WHO HAS EXPERIENCE COMPILING LEGISLATIVE HISTORIES?

By Brenda Olds, Texas Legislative Reference Library

The Texas Legislative Reference Library would like LRL Staff Section to consider publishing a guide on how to compile legislative histories. This publication would complement Mary Fisher's Guide to State Legislative and Administrative Materials (AALL Series, No. 15).

The guide would take the reader step by step noting what materials to use, in what order, from whom available, and in what format (tape, transcript). For peripheral materials, the guide would state whether they are accepted by the courts, and what the proper citation form is. Some states have already prepared a guide (Texas, Minnesota, Hawaii and New York....) that could be incorporated or used as examples.

There seems to be a growing need for this information but we'd like to hear from other librarians to determine the interest level and "person power" available to write the guide. There is still time for a quick survey before our program on legislative histories in November.

LEGISNET Software Update

As many LEGISNET users know, NCSL has selected new software for LEGISNET. The new software was selected for its state-of-the-art retrieval capabilities and easy to use format. Computer Power Group of CP International, Inc. developed the new software, called STATUS/IQ. The company is expected to deliver STATUS/IQ to NCSL for LEGISNET installation in the next few weeks. LEGISNET staff began training on STATUS/IQ in April using a scaled-down personal computer version of the software. The mainframe version of the "new LEGISNET" is expected to be online this summer and should be available for training sessions at NCSL Annual Meeting in San Diego.

NEWS FROM THE STATES

Submitted by Regional Coordinators and Members of the Staff Section

CALIFORNIA -- Marguerite Beveridge, librarian at the Office of the Legislative Counsel, was badly injured in an automobile accident. She has regularly and cheerfully provided news for NEWSLINE. Virginia Castro is filling in for Marguerite until she returns to the Legislative Counsel. Good wishes to Marguerite for a painless and speedy recovery!

KENTUCKY -- The legislative library has been testing software packages for use in cataloging and hopes to investigate online card catalogs next. This will be available on a LAN.

MISSOURI -- INTERNET has recently been installed in their legislative library and the staff is very enthusiastic about its use.

NEBRASKA -- The legislature just passed a stronger version of their stalking law.

NEW MEXICO -- Ann Bancroft, librarian at the Legislative Council Service, reports that since the close of the '93 session March 20th she has been organizing bills, memorials and veto messages, as well as extrapolating voting records from the Senate and House journals for publication and binding. New Mexico's legislative interim committee meetings will begin in June.

NORTH DAKOTA -- Marilyn Guttromson, Research Librarian for the legislative library,

reports the loss of North Dakota's House Desk Reporter to the Federated States of Micronesia! Barb Middaugh will leave for a position as Journ Clerk for the Congress of this Pacific Island comp. located east of the Philippines and north of New Guinea. It was with the help of the legislative library that Barb learned the Micronesian Congress consists of 14 members and the population there totals about 100,000. (We suspect she will have no trouble adjusting to the weather.)

TEXAS -- Texas recently passed a stalking bill, SB 25. The Legislative Reference Library's imaging project is progressing well and they are in the process of installing CD-ROM and putting legislative bill files for the last two sessions on CD. Sally Reynolds reports renovation of the library's space in the Capitol building is progressing slowly. They anticipate moving back into the Capitol in February of 1994. Meanwhile, they are excitedly planning for the staff section's professional development seminar in November and, in true Texas style, are encouraging everyone to come.

REVIEW WHAT'S NEW

Have you recently noticed a book, article, or reference work that might be of interest to other legislative librarians? If so, please enter the citation in the Questionnaire section of the NCSL BBS, or forward the citation to Chris Pattarozzi at NCSL for inclusion in the next issue of NEWSLINE.

NCSL PUBLICATIONS

Copies of all NCSL publications listed below are available from the Book Order Department unless otherwise noted.

BOOKS

State Fiscal Update: February 1993 (LFP)

The HIV/Aids Fact Finder

What Legislators Need to Know About Traumatic Brain Injuries

Directory of Legislative Leaders

America's Newcomers: A State And Local Policymaker's Guide to Immigration and Immigrant Policy

STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Monitored Retrievable Storage of Spent Fuel: 1992 Update (Vol. 18, No. 1 January 1993)

Legislative Requirements Under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (Vol. 18, No. 2 March 1993)

Mentally Disordered Juvenile Offenders (Vol. 18, No. 3 March 1993)

Private Sector Participation in Public Transit Systems (Vol. 18, No. 4 March 1993)

State Early Retirement Programs in FY 1992 and FY 1993 (Vol. 18, No. 5 March 1993)

Do State Balanced Budgets Really Happen (Vol. 18, No. 6 April 1993)

1993 STAFF SECTION REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Following is a list of the librarians and researchers who have generously agreed to contact the legislative libraries in their regions for news and ideas to share in NEWSLINE. We would like to hear something from every state at least once a year if possible. Your coordinator will call by June 15 for the next issue of NEWSLINE, but don't hesitate to call your coordinator sooner if you have some news!

Possible examples include: legislation affecting the library, relocations or renovations, surveys under way or completed, addition of new tools or resources, marketing efforts and results, new policy statements or changes to policy, library management tips and techniques, any new technology in use by the legislature, staff changes, special sessions, use of CARL, INTERNET, etc., relevant news from local SLA or ALA chapters, or special projects. Also, new hardware or software in the library, awards received, and major budget actions.

Ann Bancroft (New Mexico) 505/986-4610

Contact for:

Arizona
California
Colorado
Nevada
New Mexico
Utah

Sally Reynolds (Texas) 512/463-1252

Contact for:

Arkansas
Kansas
Kentucky
Missouri
Nebraska
Oklahoma
Texas

Marilyn Kitchell (Louisiana) 504/342-2432

Contact for:

Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
South Carolina
Tennessee
Virgin Islands

Dale Brandt (Alaska) (907) 465-3991

Contact for:

Alaska
Hawaii
Idaho
Montana
Oregon
Washington
Wyoming

Susan Sternberg (New Jersey) 609/984-4321

Contact for:

Delaware
Maryland
New Jersey
North Carolina
Ohio
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia

Hank Ilnicki (New York) 518/474-5126

Contact for:

Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New York
Puerto Rico
Rhode Island
Vermont

Clare Cholik (South Dakota) 605/773-4576

Contact for:

Illinois

Indiana

Iowa

Michigan

Minnesota

North Dakota

South Dakota

Wisconsin

NEXT ISSUE OF NEWSLINE

The deadline for the Summer 1993 edition of Newsline is **June 15, 1993**. Send news about your library or significant legislative events in your state to your regional coordinator or Chris Pattarozzi at NCSL, Denver.

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

Newsline is published four times a year by the Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section of NCSL. Newsline is edited by Chris Pattarozzi (NCSL Denver).