



# LLAM eNews

Quarterly News of the Law Library Association of Maryland



Fall 2014 Issue

## President's Message

Kate Martin, Director—Montgomery County Circuit Court Law Library

*"In all your life, only a few moments matter. Mostly you never get a good look at them except in hindsight, long after they've zipped past you: the moment when you decided whether to talk to that girl, slow down on that blind bend...I was lucky...I got to see one of mine face-to-face, and recognize it for what it was. I got to feel the riptide pull of my life spinning around me..."*

From: *Faithful Place*, by Tana French

Autumn has always felt like a time of change and new beginnings: new teachers, new places to go, bright skies and blazing colors. It's my favorite season.

Yet I've both embraced change and dreaded it. It can be empowering and scary at the same time. How about you? We can't fight or stop change, so we might as well enjoy the ride.

It's off to a new program year for LLAM!

James Durham, our VP and Program Chair, has organized a stimulating line-up of events. So far, we've learned about book repair and restoration, heard Gail Warren, Virginia State Law Librarian, speak on AALL and digital issues and explored CI essentials with AALL.

Next up is our holiday party and silent auction at the University of Baltimore law school on December 15<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-8:00 pm. With a gorgeous view of Baltimore, flowing spirits, a diverting silent auction and festive fare, this event promises to be a must-attend occasion to mingle with and toast Maryland law librarians.

January, February and March have programs on business organizations and taxation, MLA's Legislative Day and copyright issues in law libraries. In April, we're planning a volunteer opportunity with a Baltimore nonprofit to help repair old houses for needy citizens. Wear rugged clothes and bring a hammer....

The program year ends with our Spring Fling on Saturday, May 2, 2015, at the Homewood House Museum on the Johns Hopkins University Campus. They will be a private tour followed by a tea in the home's wine cellar. Watch for details in the spring.

I look forward to seeing you at these fascinating programs and hearing how change affects you.

*Kate Martin*

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Save the Date!  
 December 15, 2014  
 LLAM  
 Holiday Party & Silent Auction

5:30-8:00 p.m.  
 University of Baltimore School of Law (top floor)  
 Registration: \$25 per person  
 Details, including registration & parking instructions, coming soon!



## Boundless Rather Than Beyond Boundaries

### Recap of the AALL Annual Conference

By Catherine McGuire, Head of Reference and Outreach, Maryland State Law Library

The best start to a conference is a keynote speaker who pumps energy into the populace. The AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio in July 2014 certainly delivered that kick-off energy.

The meeting's theme, *Beyond Boundaries*, was attacked immediately by keynote speaker Andrew Keen as "pointless." Boundaries, he said, were individually temporary, and constantly replaced. We get beyond one only to have whole new ones to address. It is therefore not possible to get *beyond boundaries*. As an example, Keen noted that current boundaries for libraries include the physical fact of having to keep and store books. This boundary, he said, really no longer exists. The physical fact of books required keepers, organizers, and protectors, giving librarians a profession. With the growth of the digital age, the physical fact of books is no longer a boundary. The destruction of this particular boundary, he went on to say, meant the destruction of our profession. Keen reinforced his argument with examples:

- Google uses collective intelligence to replace physical libraries with digital libraries. Physical libraries are no longer needed, as information is accessible everywhere, not just in the four walls of a library building.
- Google users are both the user and the participant; every search makes Google more intelligent, more responsive. Librarians are no longer needed to negotiate the search.
- The Web 2.0 and blogging revolutions allow anyone to publish, at minimal cost, pushing information out broadly and widely, and negating the need for expensive and exclusive publishing entities, as well as any need for organized access points.

Librarians around the room were shocked. He had our attention, largely at this point because many violently disagreed with him. He was missing some of the big chunks of our profession - relegating us to "keepers of books", mad-Marion shelving robots, policing the stacks and grumbling Luddite mantras.

Google, we thought, may make more information more widely available, but, for now at least, large parts of the population are not skilled searchers. Librarians organize information, but also help people to access it, in whatever format it may appear in or is most convenient to the user. Search capability is still very human-based; tech-literacy is still fairly limited. Ability will rise, but as technology is constantly evolving, so people's ability to learn it must evolve as well. Librarians stay ahead of that curve, providing education and assistance so that users can access the information they

*To better understand keynote speaker Andrew Keen's thoughts on libraries and the digital age, read the interview article: "A Keen Eye on Technology", AALL Spectrum, pp. 6-7 (June 2014).*

- During the breakout discussions at the Deep Dive session, *Inventing the New Classroom*, Lucie Olejnikova (Pace University Law Library) described how she requires her students to write and post blog entries. She stipulates that they must not just regurgitate the information, but digest it, analyze it, and create tags for their posts. The tags force students to identify relevant search terms, which later helps them when they construct their own online searches. Without the added value of a librarian's teaching, their searches would be less efficient, less effective.
- Participants at the Café Talks session, *The Virtual Librarian: Providing Reference & Instruction at a Distance*, talked about the frustration of doing reference from a distance (email and chat, mainly). A common barrier to distance reference is an inability to conduct a substantive reference interview. The table discussed using a Wizard environment for incoming reference questions. Wizards could be configured to ask patrons specific questions that would help librarians respond without having to re-contact the patron, such as county of residence, court in which the action is taking place, and more.
- The *Cool Tools Café* provided an opportunity for librarians to learn about, explore and ask questions about new and upcoming online tools. Such tools included multiple screencasting options (Jing, Camtasia, ActivePresenter); [LII] Reference Desk; LibGuides 2.0; Scoop.it; vBulletin 5 Connect; TrialPad; Swivl; Google Hangouts, and discussions of speed reading software, legal research apps, audience response systems and more.



Members at the LLAM Dine Around on San Antonio's Riverwalk



### The Alamo

One example of San Antonio's rich history, making it a delightful venue for the conference.

Similarly, while the digital publishing revolution pushes more and more information out, the checks on information accuracy are less institutionalized. It behooves the information seeker to evaluate ever more strictly the source of information found on the Web. Librarians play a key role in the evaluation process. Weighing choices of databases, websites, and print. They ensure accurate and relevant resources are available and pushed to the information seeker. Librarians know that one should never mistake the abundance of information with the reliability of that information.

- At the *Cool Tools Café*, highlights included Scoop.it ([www.scoop.it](http://www.scoop.it)), a customizable digital newspaper that enables a librarian access web content, filter by topic, and republish with added commentary, creating a targeted digital newspaper. Scoop.it allows the librarian not just to tailor content, but to vet it first for reliability and relevancy, and attach comments or notes that help educate and inform the user.
- At the SCCLL Breakfast Meeting, the Hon. Nancy Rice (CO), recipient of the Law Library Advocate Award, introduced attendees to the Colorado Judiciary's Learning Center, managed by the Colorado Supreme Court Law Library. The Center provides on-site education opportunities for civics, as well as curriculum materials for classroom or independent study. All are sourced from the most reliable entity, the Judiciary itself.

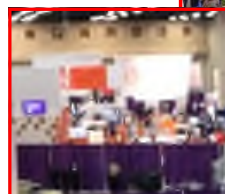
- At *Access to Justice: Crossing Borders Together, a Report of the Special Committee*, breakout table sessions produced a plethora of established, new and proposed methods for librarians to reach out to self-represented litigants, informing and educating them with accurate and essential information for the understanding of their situations. Examples included 1) Guam, where grant funds helped establish information kiosks with pre-loaded forms; 2) Utah, where interns from the local university help SRL library patrons type information into interactive forms; and 3) the Texas State Law Library, where efforts are being made to reach out to rural areas using remote access to databases, providing access to people who can't make the trip to Austin.

Just as the audience was hitting maximum snarly over Keen's message, he switched gears. Let's re-imagine that he said new boundaries bring new opportunities. He said the old profession was leveraged on an old system of privilege and scarcity. Only those privileged enough could access the scarce resource of information. As information becomes more available, this new abundance has its own scarcity; libraries as institutions, he said, won't survive. The challenge to the profession is to move beyond the institution, to become the new "superstars." The new age needs a human component, someone to take the lead through the new complexity of information, through privacy issues, access issues, the details and complications that are arising from the new structure.

Keen sees opportunities for librarians in several areas. The new Information Age will need curators, knowledgeable professionals who can build their practice around trust. Not all content will be free; librarians will be needed to negotiate between the free and fee-based. There are real opportunities for librarians in managing the machines of networked intelligence. Librarians of the future will be more than protectors of books, they will be protectors of information access, of privacy in a new open age.

The audience wondered, some audibly, how he could miss that librarians already occupy that role. One attendee stepped to the mike to voice what many were thinking, that Keen's equation leaves out the application of technique.

Certainly, those who listened left the room with energy, determination, and a sense of purpose. The new world has a place for information experts, not yet a formed place, but one of possibility, one in which we can exercise our special set of skills. And if Keen doesn't quite see it - we'll prove him wrong.



*The conference was held at the Henry B. Gonzales Conference Center in Downtown San Antonio on the Riverwalk.*

# Members News & Highlights

## *Congratulations and Best Of Luck for the year ahead to our 2014 Governing Board!*

**President: Kate Martin**

**Vice President: James Durham**

**Treasurer: Bijal Shah**

**Secretary: CJ Pipins II**

**Board Member: Mark Desierto**

**Board Member: Camilla Tubbs**

**Immediate Past President: Tonya Baroudi**

### LLAM Committee Members:

#### *Archives Committee*

*Katherine Baer*

*Julia Viets*

#### *Communications Committee*

*Sara Thomas*

*Rachel Englander*

#### *Government and Vendor Relations Committee*

*Joanie Bellistri*

*Mary Jo Lazun*

#### *Membership Committee*

*Pat Behles*

*Sara Witman*

#### *Placement Committee*

*Tonya Baroudi*

*Mary Rice*

#### *Programming Committee*

*James Durham*

#### *Technology Committee*

*Jenny Rensler*

*Joe Neumann*

**Joe Neumann** recently joined the library faculty at the Thurgood Marshall Law Library as an Electronic Legal Resources and Systems Librarian. He participates in the management and operation of, and statistical reporting for, electronic legal resources, as well as the evaluation and selection of new resources. He also represents the library within the University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions consortium on issues related to systems acquisition and policy. Prior to becoming a member of library staff, Joe worked for more than 5 years as a consulting archivist and records manager with History Associates Incorporated, the historical services firm in Rockville, Maryland, where he provided assessment, policy development, training and other services to federal, institutional, and private sector clients. He holds an MLS from the University of Maryland-College Park's iSchool and a BA in history from Brandeis University.

LLAM member **Stephanie Bowe** was recently promoted to Librarian II at Thurgood Marshall Law Library.

LLAM Secretary **CJ Pipins** has become the Chair of the Social Responsibilities SIS for the American Association of Law Libraries.

## NLADA Annual Conference - People's Law Library's Dave Pantzer on Panel Discussion about Access to Justice

### Clearly Explained: A team approach to developing legal information to educate and empower the whole community

Providing the public with accurate, understandable explanations of the law and its processes is among the most efficient ways to serve the legal needs the whole community. (Maybe that's why the LSC Grant Assurances require recipients to participate with a statewide website.) But what does this look like, and how can you do it with limited resources?

One of Maryland's innovative responses brings together a 4-part team: 1) clinical law students develop written explanations of legal topics that impact self-represented litigants; 2) a practicing "subject matter expert" from the legal services community or state government answers questions and reviews the work product for accuracy and scope; 3) a writing specialist teaches the students the skill of shaping their words for a public audience; and 4) a clinical professor manages the workflow.

Each member of the team gains significantly. Legal services attorneys influence the next generation of lawyers and fulfill their goals of providing the public with relevant information. The writing specialist helps the law schools to produce better writers. Students hone their skills on real-world assignments and network with top legal services attorneys, and the public gains a wealth of high-quality, understandable legal information.

This panel brings together Leigh Maddox, a clinical law professor from the University of Maryland Carey School of Law; Susan Francis, a foreclosure expert from the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service; and Dave Pantzer, a clear writing specialist from the Maryland People's Law Library. The panel is moderated by Amy Petkovsek, the Director of Advocacy for Training and Pro Bono from Maryland Legal Aid. The panel will present specific ideas and resources you can use in your own organization to work across boundaries and impact your own community.

Each member of this team has legal training, but each brings a unique experience and perspective to the table. Dave will introduce the clear writing resources and techniques he uses with law students. Leigh will bring insight on partnering with clinical law programs, professors, and law students. Susan will explain the benefits her organization has realized by partnering across boundaries, and how she's helped others. Amy will coordinate the conversation to show how Maryland's partnership model serves the larger vision of empowered human communities.

**Take Home Message/Learning Objectives:** Participants will take away increased understanding of how to work with different parts of the legal community (law schools, law libraries, legal clinics, Legal Aid and legal services agencies, State Government, and a statewide public website) to create maximum impact for the public they serve.

Participants will receive a list of resources and an explanation of how to use those resources to make legal writing clear and accessible to a public audience.

Participants will learn about ways to meet their public education and information goals while conserving the precious resources of time, money, and energy.

Participants will learn about new and beneficial ways to connect with the next generation of lawyers.

### What is New or Significant about this Topic?:

In an environment where the demand for legal services far outstrips the resources available, we need to find new ways to work together to serve our community. This innovative approach develops linkages between traditional legal services organizations and other important communities, including law schools, legal clinics, and law libraries.

Law schools are famously facing their own challenges at the same time, and welcome even more opportunities to develop their students into artful writers. This model serves law schools and law students by giving them a chance to learn these skills early, and hone their skills in ways that benefit the whole community.

The National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA) Annual Conference will be held in Crystal City November 12-15, 2014

For more information on this particular program, please visit:

<https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?>

By Rachel Englander

# Can I Get A Definition?

## The dictionary collection at Georgetown University Law Library

According to the [project charter](#) “The primary intended audience is the Georgetown Law community, with secondary audiences of academic scholars worldwide, the American Bar and Judiciary, and government lawyers.” Some of the dictionaries are in Latin and would be unlikely to catch the attention of a novice researcher but there is likely to be a much larger audience for this resource than just the academic or governmental setting. Private law firm librarians, law students and individual attorneys might also use this resource for research. Specifically the [first two editions](#) of Black's law dictionary are likely to be used by the private sector when doing legal research on the changing definitions of words over time.

This digital initiative solves a number of issues for Georgetown and provides a very useful service to the global community as well as the local one. The initial charter cites two foundational issues that the project will address: 1) The need for and increased reliance in the legal system on historic dictionaries as “authoritative sources;” 2) The sharp rise in requests for historic legal dictionaries when fulfilling reference requests. Another likely reason, which is not mentioned in the charter, is the preservation of these old dictionaries. With full text high definition scans available to the public and scholars alike, there is no reason to handle, expose to sunlight or possibly damage these rare and precious books.

The scope of the project is quite large. As noted by the LOC's [Anna Guha](#) there are “plans to scan a total of 87 titles, comprising over 120 volumes. Chronologically, the completed collection will begin with Georgetown Law Library's 1481 [Jodocus Vocabularius](#)—held to be the first printed legal dictionary—and will run through 1891, the year of the first edition of [Black's Law Dictionary](#).” On the landing page for the collection the [library writes](#), “Although by no means yet complete, this resource is already supporting a wide range of research and scholarship involving the meaning of a word or phrase contemporaneous with a specific text, as well as the development of the meanings of words and phrases over time.” The scope

and age of the collection to be digitized has expanded as the project evolved and the collection now encompasses 1481-1916!

The [digital dictionary collection at Georgetown University Law Library](#) went online in early 2014 and is being updated as additional entries are digitized. Each dictionary has a catalogue record which also contains copyright information and a *static URL within the record*. Georgetown University law library staff are working on the project about 4 hours a week each, as there is time and seem to be making rapid progress.

This resource or collection is fairly easy to use but not always as easy as one would expect from a fully digital collection. A keyword search will bring up hits from the various titles but will not show you where the words are in that resource. Because the dictionaries are very large and were scanned at fairly high resolution, they have been broken into sections for ease of loading. Thus you cannot see the full book at one time but rather a section that you can then do another full text search in, via the embedded document viewer from Scribed. Thankfully, by virtue of being dictionaries, the entries are in alphabetical order and are fairly easy to scroll through once you have the right segment.

The digital dictionary collection at Georgetown University law library is a wonderful resource for many different user segments of the law field. Many of these titles are rare and increasingly important for judicial definitions. From a preservationist aspect alone, digitizing these titles increases access to important historical information without damaging that resource, which is a win for all involved. One hopes that other academic institutions will shortly follow Georgetown University's good example.

# ON THE RADAR

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE LIBRARY WORLD?

*By James Durham Deputy Director — Maryland State Law*

*The following announcements have been summarized from postings on discussion lists and webpages of various library-related organizations. What looks appealing?*

- **“Welcome to Your New Computer Hard Drive Floating in the Cloud!”** will be presented on Saturday, November 1, from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville. The event is sponsored by the Maryland Chapter of the Special Libraries Association. Cost is \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members; and \$10 for students. More information is available at <http://maryland.sla.org>. Send questions to Rene Stein at [therenestein@hotmail.com](mailto:therenestein@hotmail.com).
- A webinar entitled **“Privacy in the Law Library – What You Don’t Know CAN Hurt You”** will be held on Thursday, November 6, at 11:00 a.m. (Central Time). Cost is \$30 for AALL members; \$60 for non-members; and \$150 for a site registration fee. Additional information and online registration are available at <http://www.aallnet.org>.
- **“Hire Right the First Time: Best Practices for Building the Team You Need”** will be held on Thursday, November 13, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Howard County Public Library – Miller Branch. The program is sponsored by the Maryland Library Association – Library Leadership Division. Cost is \$40 for members; \$60 for non-members; and \$34 for students. More information is available at <http://www.mdlib.org>.
- **“New Identities: Adapting the Academic Library”** will be held on Friday, November 14, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. at the UMBC – Albin O. Kuhn Library. The program is co-sponsored by ACRL-MD (Association of College and Research Libraries – Maryland) and MILEX (Maryland Information Literacy Exchange). Cost is \$50 for MLA and MILEX members; \$75 for non-members; and \$34 for students. More information is available at <http://www.mdlib.org>.
- **A U.S. Supreme Court Library Tour**, sponsored by the Private Law Libraries – Special Interest Section of the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C., will be held on Tuesday, November 18, at 12:30 p.m. The tour is limited to 20 persons. For more information, contact Angela Jaffree at [angela.jaffree@wilmerhale.com](mailto:angela.jaffree@wilmerhale.com) or at (202)247-4112.
- **A webinar entitled “Designing Engaging Assignments for Your Course”** will be held on Wednesday, November 19, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Central Time). Cost is \$30 for AALL members; \$60 for non-members; and \$150 for site registration. Additional information is available at <http://www.aallnet.org>.
- **“Bridging the Spectrum: The Seventh Annual Symposium on Scholarship and Practice”** will be held on Friday, February 20, at the Pryzbyla Student Center of the Catholic University of America. The event will be sponsored by the Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C.





If you have suggestions for newsletter content, email us at  
**LLAMnewsMD@gmail.com**

If you are interested in becoming a member, email Pat Behles at **pbehles@ubalt.edu**

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LLAM is now on **LinkedIn!** Contact us for more information!



**We're on the web!**

**LLAMOnline.org**

## ***LLAM Programs & Events***

### ***SCHEDULED FOR 2014-2015***

- **Monday, December 15th from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.:** ***LLAM's Holiday Party & Silent Auction*** will be held at the University of Baltimore School of Law. Registration information will be announced soon.
- **Thursday, January 22, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.:** ***LLAM Brownbag Lunch Lecture*** at the University of Baltimore School of Law. Professor Fred B. Brown will speak on business organizations and taxation.
- **February, 2015 (Date and time TBD):** ***MLA Legislative Day*** A tentative lecture at Anne Arundel County Public Law Library will cover the topic of U.S. government documents.
- **March, 2015 (Date and Time TBD)** ***LLAM Brownbag Lunch Lecture*** at Venable, LLC in Baltimore. Steve Anderson will speak on copyright issues in law libraries.
- **Saturday, April 25, 2015, All Day:** ***LLAM Service Project*** with “Rebuilding Together Baltimore” Contact [Sara Thomas](#) for more information on participating.
- **Saturday, May 2, 2015:** ***LLAM Spring Fling*** will be held at the Homewood House Museum on the Johns Hopkins University Campus in Baltimore. A private tour for members will held at 1:00 p.m., followed by a tea in the home's wine cellar at 2:00 p.m. Registration information will be announced closer to the date in the Spring.



**STEVE ANDERSON**

*AALL Then-President and LLAM member, Steve Anderson, prepares for one of the daily raffles at the annual conference.*

