Speaker to Librarians: Find Opportunities in Information Chaos

by Jason Giesler

From the Harvard Library Innovation Lab, delivered the AALL Keynote before a large audience on Sunday morning. Weinerberger’s presentation focused on libraries facilitating open platforms in which librarians and developers create new and novel apps utilizing library data. Open platforms are a welcome sight as we move further from traditional library systems and shatter the misconception that libraries are solely book repositories.

Weinberger began with philosophical overviews on “knowledge” and its recent changes, traditionally and contemporarily. Western viewpoints have long held that knowledge is inherently orderly and that it could therefore be broken down and organized in a hierarchical fashion. Weinberger pointed out that the Internet has created a serious challenge to this view, as it maintains vast amounts of unordered information with little regard for accuracy, connecting people and things that heretofore have never been connected. (Weinberger’s example involved a Herman Melville search that somehow lead to Al Gore.)

Open platforms, through library information systems, are part of the solution in providing networked and related information versus chaotic Internet data. Weinberger encouraged librarians to employ a great breadth of formal and new information (cataloging, circulation, patron data, web metadata, etc.) into an application.

Looking for Scholarship, Collaboration, and a Little Libation? Beer & Edits is for You

By Jordan Jefferson & Andrea Alexander

The AALL Annual Meeting is a time for education, networking, and camaraderie. Looking for a time and place to collaborate on an article at the Annual Meeting and thinking other librarians might be interested in the same opportunity, Andrea Alexander of Ohio Northern University’s Taggart Law Library and Jordan Jefferson of the Lillian Goldman Law Library at Yale Law School created Beer & Edits (other libations welcome).

Beer & Edits is designed to bring law librarians together in a casual setting to discuss ideas for scholarship, get and give feedback, and mingle with other people in the field. Beer & Edits provides an opportunity to find writing partners, meet others interested in similar topics, exchange work for editing, and brainstorm, all while enjoying a beverage!

Now in its second year, Beer & Edits has arrived in Seattle. This year’s event will be held today, July 15, at 5 p.m. at Fado Irish Pub (801 1st Ave., Seattle, WA 98104). Last year in Boston almost 60 law librarians from all types of institutions, departments, career levels, and job titles came together to meet and mingle in the spirit of scholarship, collaboration, and libation.

Due to space limitations at the venue, please RSVP at bit.ly/136Qqz0. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Alexander at a-alexander.3@onu.edu or Jordan Jefferson at jordan.a.jefferson@yale.edu. ■

Program Will Highlight the Japanese-American Internment

I consider it my duty to maintain the democratic standards for which this nation lives. Therefore, I must refuse this order for evacuation.” (Gordon Hirabayashi, May 13, 1942.)

In 1942, Gordon Hirabayashi was a student at the University of Washington in Seattle when President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066. The order authorized the military to institute curfews for people of Japanese ancestry and later their forced removal from the West Coast to internment camps further inside the United States.

Hirabayashi, an American citizen by birth, disobeyed the orders and was eventually time in jail.

The convictions of these men led to two of the most infamous cases in American legal history, when the United States Supreme Court upheld both the curfew and the internment orders as constitutional. Forty years after the end of WW2, two different legal teams would successfully challenge both of these convictions using the rarely invoked Coram Nobis writ of error, a legal writ available only to criminal defendants whose trials have been tainted by “fundamental error” or “manifest injustice.” The overturning of the convictions would finally bring justice, not just to two particular individuals, but also to the entire generation of Japanese-Americans.

Program D-6, Law Libraries and Advocacy: Using Special Collections to Tell the Story of the Japanese American Internment, will take a detailed look at this low point in American legal history and how determined advocates for civil rights eventually helped to right a historical wrong. It will also examine the.

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Chiefs Justice Barbara A. Madsen (right) of the Washington State Supreme Court welcomed librarians to Seattle. Justice Madsen championed library advocacy and services to the public. Dr. David Weinberger followed with the Keynote: Libraries as Platforms.

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Lib Fashion: Spotted at the Conference

by Stina McClintock

ib fashion features the stylings of conference goers both in style and inspiration.

Name: Kit Kreilick, Fordham University School of Law
Where are you from: New York
How would you describe your style: Combo Classical and New Age
What program are you most excited to see: Anything that encourages the future of law librarians
Who inspires you: Penny Hazelton

Placement Office

The AALL Placement Office is located in the Sheraton Seattle Hotel – Issaquah (3rd Floor)

Placement Office hours:
Monday, July 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Tuesday, July 16, 9-11 a.m.
Interview rooms are available: Monday, July 15, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.
Tuesday, July 16, 7 a.m.-noon
Interview rooms must be reserved in advance through the Placement Office.

Keynote

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programming interface (API). Librarians and developers can use the API to enhance library applications, allowing access to library collections in new and innovative ways.

To demonstrate the point, The Harvard Innovation Lab offers a ground-breaking app: StackLife. A serious twist on traditional OPACs, StackLife incorporates a surprising amount of nontraditional information, including how many times the book has been circulated or placed into the library shelf, showing the relative size of the book (based upon pages and other MARC data) and displaying it next to other books on the shelf. StackLife incorporates a surprising amount of nontraditional information, including how many times the book has been circulated or placed into course reserves. For better or worse, this information affects search results and top hits.

Weinberger recognized many of the challenges associated with the open platform movement, including concerns regarding “popular” results, user privacy, and limited software programming skills. Ending on a note of confidence, though, Weinberger promptly reminded us, “You’re Librarians, Dammit!” and any challenges should be viewed as opportunities.

Meet the AALL Executive Board Candidates

Get to know your fellow AALL members who are running for the AALL Executive Board this fall. The “Meet the Candidates” forum will be held Monday, July 15, from 9:10 a.m. in the AALL Member Services Booth in the Exhibit Hall. This is your chance to ask questions and find out each candidate’s vision for AALL before you vote in November. Successful candidates will begin their terms of office in July 2014.

Conference Updates

The TS-SIS Acquisitions and Serials Standing Committees and Roundtables Meeting has changed to the Sheraton-Ballard.

A limited number of tickets for Tuesday’s Association Luncheon remain available at the Registration Desk.
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Download the AALL 2013 Mobile App today to get the most out of your conference education. Remember key information from each program right in the app. Just select the program you are attending, and select “New Note” below the program description. When the conference is over, you’ll be able to export your notes to reference whenever you need them.

In between program sessions, why not have a little fun too? Click! is our new photo scavenger hunt game and is another great feature for legal professionals at major conferences. You can enter to reference whenever you need them.

Stay ahead of the curve and check out these online resources for further AALL coverage!

Daily Paper: tinyurl.com/iwindq4
Facebook: tinyurl.com/k3oxrza
Pinterest: pintrest.com/aallnet/seattle-2013
Twitter: twitter.com/aall2013

Blogs:
- Local Arrangements Committee Blog: lac2013.llops.org
- April Librarian: aprilbrarian.wordpress.com
- Ashley Ames Ahlbrand: lawlibrarianship.wordpress.com

Chat with AALL Editors

While you browse the Exhibit Hall in Seattle, take some time to meet the incoming Law Library Journal Editor James Duggan and AALL Spectrum Editorial Director Catherine Lemmer at the AALL Member Services Booth. Get to know the editors, discuss articles, or simply say hello. We want you to feel like a part of the AALL community.

Monday, July 15
Catherine Lemmer
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
WSCC Room 605/610

Tuesday, July 16
James Duggan and Catherine Lemmer
1:30-2:30 p.m.

Stay ahead of the curve and check out these online resources for further AALL coverage!

Daily Paper: tinyurl.com/iwindq4
Facebook: tinyurl.com/k3oxrza
Pinterest: pintrest.com/aallnet/seattle-2013
Twitter: twitter.com/aall2013

Blogs:
- Local Arrangements Committee Blog: lac2013.llops.org
- April Librarian: aprilbrarian.wordpress.com
- Ashley Ames Ahlbrand: lawlibrarianship.wordpress.com

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While we mourn the loss of Dwight Oppe...
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Stop by AALL Booth #710 to meet the Law360 team. You can pick up some fun summer gear and enter to win a $500 American Express® Gift Card.*

*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to registered attendees of the AALL 2013 Annual Conference only who are legal residents of the 50 United States and 18 years or older. Employees of Portfolio Media, Inc. and any of its affiliates, agents or subsidiaries are not eligible. Sweepstakes dates July 14-16, 2013. For complete rules, go to Law360 Booth #710 at the AALL Conference or visit www.law360.com/aallcontest. Void where prohibited. Other restrictions may apply. While supplies last.
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Law Librarianship in the Digital Age

The Global Challenges and Opportunities of Corporate Responsibility

As a law librarian, you understand the responsibility inherent in your role as a steward of information. By the same token, corporate responsibility is deeply-rooted in Thomson Reuters ability to perform as a global information technology organization. At Thomson Reuters, we focus on corporate responsibility because it’s the right thing to do, and because it’s good for business. For instance, our Legal business has a long-standing relationship with Books for Africa, a Minnesota-based charity that collects and ships library and educational books to African countries – more than 27 million texts since 1988. As these countries modernize and with the emergence of the rule of law, the rule of law is foundational for social, political and economic structures. So on-demand videos through the in-product Help Center. Your Relationship Manager may also coordinate customized training for you and your colleagues.

Law Librarians and Knowledge Management: Tips from West km

Law Librarianship in the Digital Age

“Law Librarianship in the Digital Age is the messiah of legal reference source. Such a resource serves as a rubric of tools and techniques for managing a law library in the ever-expanding digital environment. It is a comprehensive manual for training students on how to manage a law library. This resource encompasses the breadth and depth of law library management.” — Ralph Monaco, executive director, The New York Law Institute

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