ISSUE 253 – FALL 2019

Download the pdf edition: Issue 253– Fall 2019 (forthcoming)

From the Editors – by Emily Barney, Emily Byrne, and Matthew Timko
President’s Letter – by Jessica LeMar

Featured Articles

- 2019 AALL Grant Recipient Report – by Anne Hudson
- September Business Meeting with Jayne Reardon – by Philip Johnson
- Nominations to 2020-2021 CALL Executive Board – by Clare Willis
- Work Life Balance: What’s That – by Matt Timko

CALL Executive Board Minutes
provided by Philip Johnson

- August
- September
Welcome to this rather short, but very important Fall 2019 issue of the CALL Bulletin. Inside you will find the regular business information of CALL, including a recap of the September 2019 Business Meeting as well as the complete slate of candidates for the 2020 CALL Board.

Anne Hudson, recipient of a CALL grant, reviews the 2019 AALL meeting, and with it fond memories of summer. Additionally, Matt Timko provides musings on “maintaining” a work-life balance.

Fall is the perfect time to get cozy and comfortable with the CALL Bulletin, so enjoy!
Dear Colleagues,

It seems like just last week we were kicking off the new year with our first meeting at Wildfire, and here we are, already lacing up our boots and digging out our mittens to head out to Ditka’s for the November Business Meeting.

Winter is officially upon us. While many of us wish for the return of sunshine and warmth, winter can be a great time to dig into those projects we tend to put aside in the frantic summer and fall months’ influx of new students and new associates.

The quieter work months of winter are a perfect time to reflect on ways you can jumpstart some personal and professional goals for the upcoming year. Embrace the hours when the hallways and offices are empty this holiday season and use that time cross some items off your to-do list. Don’t worry – CALL is here to help! Our CALL committees have been busy for months planning programs and events.
Professional Development Resources

Perhaps you’d like to work on publishing an article or presenting at a conference in 2020? Our Continuing Education and Mentorship and Leadership committees are working on programming that will help you fine-tune your proposals, feel more confident in your public speaking skills, or workshop the material you’ve already got!

Want to brush up on particular research skill or share your amazing research skills with others? Please reach out to our committee chairs. They welcome your suggestions and participation. Speakers for presentations are always needed. And while this issue is fresh off the presses, writing for the Bulletin is a great way to dip your toes in the publication pool. (And doesn’t dipping your toes in any kind of pool seem lovely this time of year?)

Networking & Social Events

Maybe you’d like to network and make some new connections in the law library community? Placement and Recruitment has been busy on this front by organizing the CALL trivia team for the CARPLS “Are You Smarter than a Lawyer?” trivia night in October and attending the University of Illinois iSchool Career Fair.

If you find yourself with a free moment and thinking, “I’m missing out on all this librarian fun!,” then make plans to stop by the next CALL Happy Hour on January 30.

Mentoring & Community Service

Reach out to Mentorship and Leadership to find a mentor or be matched with a mentee. Or, come out to the Community Service Volunteer Day at The Greater Food Depository on December 7, from 1:00-3:45.

Connecting with Stakeholders

And finally, the quieter office hours might be a great time to reach out to a colleague at your organization to extend an invitation to be the next Stakeholder at our February Business meeting. As part of our Strategic Plan, CALL is actively engaging in ways we can reach out to the legal community outside of libraries to market the skills of our members, the value of our organization, and help find the next generation of CALL leaders.

To spread the good word our PR Committee has been busy posting and live tweeting (@CALLChicago) our meetings and events. The CALL Executive Board welcomes your ideas for stakeholders visits. Please email me or any Board member with your suggestions!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered and participated in CALL so far this year. I look forward to seeing our busy members, and hopefully some new faces, in 2020!
This summer, from July 13-16th I was able to attend the AALL annual meeting and conference in Washington, D.C. thanks to a CALL travel grant. The theme of this year’s conference was Capitalizing on our Strengths and I believe the programs offered this year lived up to that theme.

**Favorite Session**

My favorite event was the Opening General Session, a Keynote by Shon Hopwood, who stated that a law library saved his life. Currently a Professor of Law at Georgetown Law School, Shon discovered his interest in law while he was serving time in federal prison. This speech was a true testament to how providing access to information and resources can change lives.

As law libraries continue to change to meet the realities of the 21st century in terms of technology and budgets, Shon’s powerful message brought forward that our true abiding strength is in providing service to all those who need and want it.
Practical Tech Tips

Another session that I enjoyed was “Do More With Less: Workplace Efficiency Tools”, it, like the session I attended immediately after it “Cool Tools” was focused on technology tools to organize our very busy schedules. Trello seemed to be the tool that most of the presenters use and recommend but I am interested in following up on their mention of Outlook Tasks, it is a feature that I have not used but given my use of Outlook for their email and calendar it sounded like something worth pursuing on my return to the library.

Teaching Resources & Topics

I attended three more sessions on Monday, and my favorite was presented in part by one of our CALL Colleagues, “Hungry, Hungry Hypos: Designing Raw Materials for Problem-Based Instruction”. This session was timely for me as I teach Advanced Legal Research at DePaul and I have been using my Director, Allen Moye’s problems because I don’t feel creative enough but this session taught me some valuable lessons on finding problems in everyday places, like the news.

I also attended “Assessing Legal Research Competency: Bridging the Gap between Law School and Practice”, an area that I am interested in personally. And, I attended “Cards against Case Law! and Other Ways to Enhance Student Learning and Engagement”.

I wrote a brief summary (PDF) of my attendance at that session for ALL-SIS, it was an interactive game session to show instruction librarians how to effectively use games to teach legal research concepts, something that I find very interesting as I am always looking for ways to get my students to talk voluntarily in class.

Exhibit Hall & Poster Session

On Tuesday, I spent most of my time in the Exhibit Hall learning more about new products and resources and then presenting my Poster Session related to the stress of being in a middle management role in law libraries. We acknowledge the stress and anxiety surrounding being a law student and once graduated being a lawyer but those of us who serve them and manage change in law libraries at the same time are also under a great deal of stress.

While I enjoyed visiting with many CALL colleagues, I was particularly pleased with the reactions to my presentation by the Directors of the Memphis and Harvard law libraries who both thought that all law libraries should be considering this issue (of stress and anxiety at work) and ways to resolve it for their own staff and as a regional and national issue for law librarians.

It was the perfect end to a wonderful conference experience, where I not only learned a lot myself but was able to share at least a piece of my experience with others who found it valuable.
We held our September 2019 business meeting at Wildfire with Jayne Reardon, Executive Director of the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism.

Ms. Reardon shared concerns about changes in the legal profession, both for lawyers and access to legal services. She also discussed proposed rule updates for professional conduct around fee sharing and finding clients.
Seventy-one people registered for this meeting, which was sponsored by Law Bulletin Media and Deal Point Data.

Peter Mierzwia and Michael Bunting introduced Lawyerport, Law Bulletin Media’s new online platform that, in essence, puts everything it does in one place.

Tom Quinn and Adrian Easterbrook discussed their platform, Deal Point Data, which emphasizes person-focused (rather than AI- and big databased) transactional research.

Inviting Stakeholders

At this meeting, we also introduced an initiative to invite stakeholders from outside of law librarianship to our business meetings.

Our first such stakeholder was Mike Bologna, a reporter for Bloomberg. Mike has written for Bloomberg for 25 years. He currently covers tax news in Illinois and around the nation. He noted that this previous year’s state legislature was the most productive he has seen in the time he has covered it. Prior to this, he was based in New York and Nairobi.
Jayne Reardon is an advocate for professionalism in the legal profession. She works to promote civility among practitioners, inclusiveness in the profession, and increased service to the public.

Jayne specifically pointed to rules that cover the restriction of fee sharing with non-lawyers, restrictions on referral fees, and the unauthorized practice of law. In doing so, they spend less time on legal work, it decreases their reach.

Impact of Professional Conduct Rules

Her discussion focused on how legal innovation has come to implicate certain rules of professional conduct in limiting the efficiency of attorneys. She discussed how this impacts a variety of stakeholders, including librarians, the general public, and other professionals.

Law librarians are key to the development of young attorneys. @JayneRReardon knows this firsthand! @CALLChicago #CALLSeptMtg
All of these together lead to a system in which certain members of the public lose the opportunity to pursue legal matters. This is especially counter-intuitive when one looks at the legal practice and research tools that we now have access to.

**What is Legal Work?**

Over time, attorneys have come to spend more time, managing parts of the practice that aren't what have traditionally been thought of as legal work. When they spend less time on legal work, it decreases their reach.

---

If you want to see the @goclio reports: 2017: [clio.com/resources/legal…](http://clio.com/resources/legal…) and 2018: [clio.com/resources/legal…](http://clio.com/resources/legal…)

#CALLSeptMtg
Allowing increased collaboration with other professionals may allow attorneys to work with more people. This is especially true for solo practitioners, who are more likely to work with low-income clients, the people who could most benefit from legal technology innovation.
With a booming legal technology industry, access to legal services should be increasing, but that hasn’t proven to be the case. Various groups have taken this on as a cause, including the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System and the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers.

Historically, #A2J surveys of the U.S. have only focused on those with lower incomes. @IAALS and @InnoJustice are changing this with their new U.S. Justice Needs survey. bit.ly/2mhbVhF

Regulatory Reform
Some states, including California, Arizona, and Utah are at various stages of recommending and implementing regulatory changes to ease the burdens of providing legal services, and Illinois is looking at attorney-client matching services and is set to recommend to the Supreme Court to allow for-profit matching companies.

As legal work becomes increasingly unshackled from time and place, information professionals and other stakeholders could become more involved with attorneys and their decision-making processes. With these blurred lines, we need to make sure ethical regulations allow us to provide the kind of service we would anticipate from the advancement of legal technology.

What opportunities are there for law librarians? @Jayne-RReardon: #CALLSeptMtg
Q&A with the Speaker

Q: Large firms may be concerned about working with large accounting firms. If the rules are relaxed, what prevents accounting firms from taking over that work?
A: It’s not the accounting firms, but the attorneys who work there. The ethical rules should be in place to help people, and putting walls between firms is not a valid reason for blocking increase effectiveness.

Q: Have you thought about existential threat of machine learning for simple tasks? Providing access to moderate-income people would be good, but this could eliminate some bread-and-butter tasks of certain attorneys. What if we have Legal Zoom at a much higher level?
A: The real question is not whether people get legal services from machine or lawyers; it’s whether they get legal services at all. As for Legal Zoom, it still needs attorneys, especially to help scale to the level you suggest.

Q: Regarding access-to-justice and the over concentration of attorneys in urban areas, is anyone looking into loan forgiveness for public defenders in both urban and rural areas?
A: Some ABA committees have looked at this, but it hasn’t gone anywhere. It has also been looked at in the medical field, but I’m not sure if it has been successful.

Q: Why is it ethical for a service to charge a referral fee? If a doctor recommends an oncologist, he doesn’t get a fee.
A: It’s not about individual referrals so much as it is about matching platforms. Should be allowed to meet this reality.
Thank you to @CALLChicago for inviting me to speak at your #CALLSeptMtg! It was a pleasure to discuss the future of law librarians in the changing #legal landscape! #futurelaw
Nominations and Elections

Clare Willis noted that the call for nominations would be coming soon. She is happy to talk about potential candidates for vice president, treasurer, and director.

Continuing Education

Tom Keefe mentioned the webinar on Tuesday, September 17 about nailing your AMPC proposal. Presenters will be Shari Berkowitz Duff and Diana Kopang. More information is available in a September 12 post on the CALL website.

Community Service

Nan Norton announced that donations are to the Alliance for the Great Lakes. There will be a day of service on September 28, which will involve a beach cleanup at Montrose beach. The cleanup is scheduled for 9:00, and weather permitting there will be a 6:45 birdwatch.

Scott Burgh followed up on the amendment to House Bill 106. While records from the coroner’s office are currently $5 per page, the coroners came up with a recommendation for a flat fee of $15 for records 20 years or older. There will be a veto session later in the fall. When the time comes, Scott would like people to sign witness slips in support at the next Rules Committee hearing where it is discussed.

Mentorship & Leadership Development

Sally Holterhoff announced that the committee will maintain a list of publications and presentations. If you have anything you would like included, please send it to Lyo. Sally also noted that the mentoring form allows to note your interests, which may help the matching process.
Lastly, Sally mentioned the October 1 tour and lecture at the federal court library. This is a joint venture with Continuing Education and Government Relations. It will feature a talk from Gretchen Van Dam. More information is available in a September 18 post on the CALL website.

**Meetings**

Eugene Giudice announced the **Autumn Happy Hour** on October 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 at Taste 222 (222 N. Canal). Robert Martin will be there, so this will be a great opportunity to catch up with him.

**Grants**

Joe Mitzenmacher announced that they are accepting grant applications for 2019-2020. He noted that grants can be for any professional development opportunity, not just the AALL Annual Meeting. Further, travel needn’t be involved in the cost.

**Photo Gallery**
I, like many professionals, have at certain times been swept up in the concept of work-life balance. Unfortunately, this is such an anomalous state of being, that I’ve struggled to determine whether such a thing exists.

Early on, I believed that this meant there should be an even “balance” – therefore you work as much as you live your life. I found that while I was not technically “at work” there was still a lot of work to be done: cleaning, organizing, grocery shopping, etc. This tipped the balance decidedly in the favor of work.

I readjusted my perceptions to consider whether I needed to spend a certain amount of time on “life” and put work aside. While this worked in theory, there were times when doing this led to a buildup in work that I had ignored to “live my life.” Over time I started to realize that maybe there wasn’t as clear of a distinction between life and work as I was led to believe.
Focusing on Life

This last October, my wife and I recently welcomed our third child, and first daughter (attached is a picture... you’re welcome). It has been quite busy at home, and I have been basking in the glow of a new baby. I am thankfully able to take advantage of a five-week parental leave which means I will be out of the library through the holidays and into the new year.

By the standard definition, I will be “off work” and focusing solely on “life” to spend time with my family. I have two other sons (five and three) and taking care of all of these kids, on top of the household is an entire other type of work in itself, giving little time for “myself”: seriously, all I want is a nap!

You may have noticed that I’ve been using quotation marks copiously, because I hope my point has been made that there is no clear distinction between life and work: life is work, anyone who says otherwise is selling something.

What I’ve come to understand is that when there is talk about achieving a work-life balance, this almost always start from the assumption that work is a life drain, and you must replenish by focusing on your life over work. I certainly have had times when work has left me drained and I just need to go home to spend time with my family.
Valuing Our Work

But by and large, I love my work, and I am thankful every day that I have been given the opportunity to work in law librarianship. The work is hard, and sometimes it is emotionally draining. But ever since I began my career I’ve found it very easy to focus on my family, in addition to focusing on my work, without drawing a hard line between the two.

This speaks volumes about my two Chicagoland employers, both CALL libraries, but I think it is generally true of the profession, and something that is a huge selling point for law students and library students looking to have a rewarding career and a meaningful family life.

As I embark on my “vacation” to my other job, I am cognizant of the fact that while I am very excited to enjoy the holidays with my family, I will miss that other part of my life during the coming weeks, which makes me very lucky to have found a career that I enjoy so much. Because no matter how you define it, the only way to achieve work life balance is to ensure that you are performing both roles.
The Nominations and Elections Committee is proud to announce your slate of candidates for the next executive board election. Candidates’ backgrounds and personal statements will be posted in the members’ only area of the CALL website in the next two months.

Slate of Candidates for 2020-2021 Executive Board Election and Notice of Availability of Petition

Vice-President/President-Elect
- Annie Mentkowski
- Jamie Sommer

Treasurer
- Janice Collins
- Tom Keefe
Director

- Mandy Lee
- Sarah Sherman

Nomination Rules

Please note, in accordance with the CALL Bylaws Article IX, Section 3 (page 3 of PDF), members may petition the CALL Secretary to add nominees to the ballot. Additional nominations may be entered by written petition of at least ten members of the Association.

These nominations, accompanied by written acceptances of the candidates, shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association not later than January 1st.
August 13, 2019 9:00 a.m.

**Board Members Present:** Jessie LeMar, Lindsey Carpino, Joe Mitzenmacher, Julie Swanson, Jessie Bowman, Megan Butman, and Philip Johnson

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Significant Actions:** None

**Guests:** None

**Treasurer's Report (Section IV):**
1. Harris Bank Balance as of August 13, 2019: $13,858.93
2. Net income as of August 13, 2019: ($289.34)
3. Membership numbers to date – 195 (3 new). There are many outstanding renewal

September 10, 2019 9:00 a.m.

**Board Members Present:** Jessie LeMar, Lindsey Carpino (phone), Joe Mitzenmacher, Julie Swanson, Jessie Bowman, Megan Butman, and Philip Johnson

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Significant Actions:** None

**Guests:** Meetings co-chairs Eugene Giudice and Carrie Port (phone), and Membership chair Todd Ito (phone)

**Treasurer's Report (Section IV):**
1. Harris Bank Balance as of September 9, 2019: $14,288.20
2. Net income as of September 9, 2019: $429.27
3. Membership numbers to date – 210. Renewals continue to come in.