The LLMC-Digital Newsletter

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Annual LLMC Members Meeting
As most readers know, LLMC is owned and run by a fixed group of Charter Members, comprised of the 246 intrepid and far-sighted libraries that launched the digital project over five years ago when they became the founding subscribers to LLMC-Digital.1

The Consortium functions as follows. Day-to-day operations are conducted by paid fulltime staff, which is supervised by a part-time volunteer Board of Directors elected by the Charter Members. In turn, the Directors seek advice as needed from an 18-member Advisory Council, also elected by the Charter Members. This latter consultative body has been used on several occasions when unexpected issues arose between the annual meetings. The Members meet once a year, always in conjunction with the annual convention of AALL. At these annual meetings Members select colleagues to fill vacant seats on the two governing bodies, receive reports from the staff on the project’s progress, provide input on issues major and minor, and decide any policy questions submitted by the Board of Directors.

The 34rd annual LLMC Members Meeting will be conducted during the AALL convention being held this year in Denver, Colorado, from 5:30-6:30PM, on Monday, July 13, 2010, in Convention Center Room CCC-109. All Charter Member libraries are invited to have a representative in attendance. Voting entitlement packets will be available at the door of the meeting room for Charter Member Library representatives. Voting rights on balloted questions are reserved to LLMC-Digital Charter Members, but other subscribers and any interested colleagues are most welcome to attend the meeting and provide input for the discussions.

As always, the main official business of our annual meeting will be to elect Directors and Councilors to fill open slots on our governing bodies, the Board of Directors and Advisory Council. The list of current incumbents in both bodies appears below. The final year of each person’s term is listed after the name.2

Board of Directors Elections
The terms of two current directors, Richard Amelung and Julia Wentz, expire this year. Our first order of business will be to elect

1 New readers can view the list of Charter Members by going to www.llmc.com and clicking successively on the tabs “About LLMC” & “Charter Community.” They will see that our membership includes all kinds of libraries, although it is decidedly weighted toward the academic side, including over 90% of all U.S. law school libraries and 80% of the Canadian. This list also provides the voting entitlements for each Charter Member.

2 Current LLMC governing structure:

Board of Directors:
Richard Amelung, Asso.Dir., St. Louis U.L.L. (10)
Darin Fox, Dir., U. Oklahoma L.L. (11)
Kathleen Richman, LLMC Exec. Dir. (ex officio)
Regina Smith, Dir. Jenkins Memorial L.L. (11)
Julia Wentz, Dir. Loyola Chicago L.L. (10)
Judith Wright, Dir., U. Chicago L.L. (13)

Advisory Council:
Glen-Peter Ahlers, Dir. Barry U. L.L. (11)
Steve Anderson, Dir., Maryland St. L.L. (12)
John Barden, Dir. Maine St. Law L. (11)
Joel Fishman, Asst. Dir. Duquesne U. L.L. (10)
Judith Gaskell, Dir. U.S.Sup.Ct.L. (11)
Yolande Goldberg, Sen.Cat.Policy Spec., LC (10)
Janice Johnston, Dir., U. Illinois L.L. (12)
Marcia Koslov, Dir. Los Angeles L.L. (10)
Ralph Monaco, Hd. Libn., N.Y. Law Inst. L.L. (12)
Margaret Leary, Dir. U.Mich. L.L. (10)
Marie Newman, Dir. Pace U. L.L. (11)
Scott Pagel, Dir., George Washington U. L.L. (12)
Jeanne Price, Dir., U. Nevada-Las Vegas L.L. (10)
Ann Rae, Dir. (Ret.), U. Toronto L.L. (10)
Carol Roehrenbeck, Dir. Rutgers-N. U. L.L. (11)
Sally Wise, Dir., U. Miami L.L. (12)
replacements. Following tradition and to ensure the availability of candidates able and willing to serve, the incumbent Board has recruited and will nominate candidates for these open positions. Nominations from the floor are also in order, but nominators should be prepared to assure the Chair that their nominees are both able and willing to serve. The Board nominees for the two four-year slots falling vacant this year are: Marcia Koslov, Director of the Los Angeles Law Library, and, for a second full term, Richard Amelung, Acting Director of the Saint Louis University Law Library.3

Advisory Council Elections
This year there will be six open slots due to the expiration of the terms of our colleagues Joel Fishman, Yolande Goldberg, Marcia Koslov, Margaret Leary, Jeanne Price, and Ann Rae. Nominations for these positions will be made from the floor. Once again, nominators should be prepared to assure the Chair that their nominees are both able and willing to serve. Any librarian at present or formerly in service at a subscribing library is eligible to serve.

Global Resources Law Steering Committee
As was detailed in last month’s issue of this newsletter, LLMC has embarked on a partnership with the Center for Research Libraries, a pioneer and respected colleague in the library consortium movement. We expect this partnership to operate on a number of mutually beneficial fronts. To aid in fashioning this developing partnership, and to help integrate partnership activities into their ongoing programs, the two organizations have established a joint Global Resources Law Steering Committee (GRLSC). This committee will focus on issues common to both consortia, and help to shape practical options cooperation for decisions by their respective boards. The formal “charge” for that committee is appended as an exhibit to this issue of the Newsletter.

As called for in the GRLSC Charge, three committee members each have been appointed by LLMC and CRL. The following colleagues from both CRL and LLMC institutions have been appointed to the initial membership of the committee. In order to allow for a phased replenishment of the committee in future, the initial members have been appointed to staggered terms.

Representing CRL:
- Bobby (Barbara) Snow, Head Of Circulation Services, Univ. of Michigan Law Lib., 1 yr.
- Frank Conaway, Social Sciences Bibliographer, Regenstein Library, Univ. of Chicago, 2- yrs.
- Jackie Druery, Head, Learning and Research Services, Stauffer Library, Queen’s Univ., Ontario, 3- yrs.
- Staff Liaison: Bernie Reilly, Pres., CRL

Representing LLMC:
- Judith Gaskell, Librarian of the Court, Supreme Court of the United States, 1- yr.
- Judith Wright, Asso. Dean for Library & Information Services, Univ. of Chicago D’Angelo Law, 2- yrs.
- Anne Matthewman, in transit between heading the Metropolitan Toronto Lawyers’ Assn. Library and serving as Dir. of Dalhousie Univ. Law Library, Halifax, N.S., 3- yrs.
- Staff Liaison: Jerry Dupont, Asso. Dir. for Content Development, LLMC

On the part of all of us at LLMC, we want to congratulate our LLMC appointees and thank...
them for taking on the important responsibility of helping to guide the initial evolution of this promising partnership. We also welcome the CRL appointees and look forward to working with them as we all mutually expand our sense of the possible.

Update on Haiti Legal Patrimony Project
Two months have gone by since we first publicized the LLMC’s Haiti Legal patrimony Project. We are happy to report that progress since then has been substantial. As of this date, some 461 unique titles have been identified, and, of that total, some 116 titles (25%) have been scanned and are beginning to appear online. The scanning progress is somewhat more substantial than the mere title count would indicate, since we have already made major progress on scanning the primary session laws and court reports runs, which contain many more volumes per title than is the case with most of the other titles.

As indicated in the initial announcement, the bulk of the planned collection will result from merging the collections of Columbia University Law Library and the Law Library of Congress. Most of the initial scanning was done at the Library of Congress. Now, during the summer, most of Columbia Law Library’s collection is being shipped to the LLMC plant in Kaneohe, Hawaii for scanning. The projection is that by the end of summer we will have passed the 75% point for scanned titles. Meanwhile, we are methodically checking through the online catalogs of our Public Sponsor libraries to locate unique titles not held at either Columbia-Law or LC-Law. To date over 20 such titles have been located.

To enable interested parties to keep informed on an on-going basis of the progress of this important project, LLMC has established a temporary corner on its main corporate website LLMC-Central <www.llmc.com>. A master Excel spreadsheet covering all project developments appears under the “Haiti Project” tab in the home page menu line. This spreadsheet lists the scanning progress of all identified Haiti titles. It is being updated on a weekly or bi-weekly basis as significant developments occur. Various bits of summary information can be found in the deep left corner of the spreadsheet. We welcome your interest and encourage all libraries to scan the list and volunteer any unique items they may hold that do not appear there. Thanks much.

Why Are Some Online Titles Incomplete?
A recurring question that comes our way, particularly from catalogers, is some version of “Why are some of LLMC’s online titles incomplete?” We’ve answered this before, but, since it’s important that everybody understand what we are up to and how we function, let’s recycle a recent answer by the chief of our Saint Louis Law School Library based cataloging operations, Richard Amelung, to the latest iteration of this question:

Please inform the library that the bibliographic records, as all bibliographic records do, describe the “ideal” publication. This is, if you owned the entire run of the Encyc. Brit., it would contain x number of volumes. But, perhaps one of the volumes is missing. In this case, sometimes not all the volumes of a particular title are available immediately. This may be due to many different factors.

First, perhaps the library that donated the volumes didn’t own them all and LLMC is still waiting for other libraries to step forward with “fill in volumes”. This situation can be checked by consulting the LLMC-Central website <http://llmc.com/> to determine which volumes of a particular title are available online.

The second case, which is perhaps more common, is that some of the volumes were scanned out of order. This could mean that the images for separate volumes were forwarded to our technical partners in Minnesota in a different delivery stream. Since our hosting vendor must cut off ingest operations on a particular month on a particular day, sometimes parts of one title get "left behind" to go live in a following month.

The last situation is when the images of a particular volume fail some step in the quality control process. In that case, the images are rescanned and will get inserted into the title at a later date. In some cases the
defect is in the paper copy being scanned, requiring that LLMC find an alternate source for the missing or defective page. That, of course, will also contribute to a delay in mounting that particular volume online.

Please note that, as an example of case 1 above, we are currently waiting on two volumes to complete the English Reports, Full Reprint set. Those volumes have been secured and are now being scanned at Saint Louis University's scanning center. We would, however, be loathe to have held back the other 176 volumes for months merely because we were still trying to locate scanable copy for these two gap volumes. We think that this general policy is particularly apt for our literature, where so many of the titles are seriously multi-volume.

Finding a Use for Coverless Books
A regular reader has long been focused on the fact that most of the books that LLMC stores in its salt mines dark-archive facility in Kansas lack covers. Instead, we only retain the shrinkwrapped paper blocks. It bothered her that if, sometime in the future, LLMC no longer has a use for these materials, they will just go to waste. As she once lamented: “They won’t even be useful as wallpaper for lawyers’ offices!”

Now, however, comes the good news that she has discovered a long-range solution. Apparently there is a new star in the constellation of interior design. Naked castaway tomes are finding new respectability, life and purpose as “Antique Coverless Book Bundles - Liberated from their covers, stitched and bound with jute twine, the foxed and faded pages of old books become objêts d'art. - Rich with texture and intrigue - Each bundle is unique - Set them on a table - Use them as antiquarian accents amid your library tomes - Or stack them beneath a console - Sizes vary - Dimensions (approx.): 8"L x 5"W x 4-1/2"D, price each $29.00.” Interested librarians who would like to pursue this potential revenue generating concept further should tap this URL: <http://www.restorationhardware.com/rh/catalog/product/product.jsp?productId=prod1671515&navCount=0>