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The *International Journal of Legal Information*, the official publication of the *International Association of Law Libraries*, is issued three times a year: Spring, Summer, Winter. It seeks to advance the exchange of legal information throughout the world. Under the direction of its international editorial board and advisors, the *IJLI* serves the global community of law librarians, legal scholars, and practitioners through the publication of original articles, conference papers, bibliographies, book reviews, documents concerning law and law-related information. The views expressed in such contributions are the responsibility of the individual authors and do not imply the endorsement of the *International Association of Law Libraries*.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

This is a particularly meaty issue of the International Journal of Legal Information. It contains seven substantial articles covering a lot of ground, including a major piece on legal education in the United States, South Africa's Constitutional Assembly database project, an interview with a major figure in international law, and a wide-ranging thought piece on digital libraries.

Leading this issue off is an important new study by **James Maxeiner**. Dr. Maxeiner is Associate Professor of Law and Associate Director, Center for International and Comparative Law, University of Baltimore School of Law. His piece compares two landmark studies of the case method of legal instruction. Mr. Maxeiner's article compares and contrasts a recent Carnegie Foundation Legal Education Report with its earlier counterpart, the Redlich Report. The Redlich Report was prepared in 1914 by Josef Redlich, an Austrian law professor. While the two reports are similar in a number of ways, Mr. Maxeiner teases out their differences, which inform us about the course that American legal education has taken in the last century.

David Gee is Deputy Librarian at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in the University of London. David is a friend and colleague I met at a previous IALL annual course. He brings IJLI readers up-to-date on copyright considerations in the United Kingdom. His article examines the UK's *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* of 1988, and assesses the impact of several key EU Directives and implementing UK Statutory Instruments on the working of this regime. He also discusses the implications of the new rights for owners of digital material, and analyzes current UK copyright hot topics.

Beth DiFelice has compiled a useful bibliography of articles and materials on the International Transitional Administration. Her focus is on East Timor, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Eastern Slavonia, and Kosovo. Scholars working on subjects related to the United Nations' presence in these jurisdictions will find Beth's bibliography a very useful resource.

The history of the South Africa Constitutional Database Assembly Project is the subject of an article written by **Julien Hofman**. Professor Hofman is a member of the Department of Commercial Law at the University of Cape Town. His interest in using information communication technology to spread information began in 1995 when he set up the Constitutional Assembly Database Project to put the proceedings of the Constitutional

Assembly onto the World Wide Web. More recently he set up, with others, a digital repository for research done in the Law Faculty. In 1995 the Constitutional Assembly Database Project (the Project) began publishing the proceedings of South Africa's Constitutional Assembly on the Internet. The Project completed its work in 1996, but the Database has been unavailable since a computer crash in 2000. Ms. DiFelice's paper urges a restoration of the Database. She also makes recommendations that will help avoid the mistakes made when the database was first brought online.

Here is something completely new. **Lesley Dingle** and **Daniel Bates** of the Cambridge University Law Library realized they had a real treasure in their midst. **Kurt Lipstein** was a longtime fixture at their university and in their law library. They convinced Professor Lipstein, an icon in the world of international law, to participate in four separate interviews. Lesley and Daniel recorded and transcribed the interviews, and the IJLI publishes them in this issue for your edification and enjoyment. In these wide-ranging discussions, Professor Lipstein recounts his participation in events at Cambridge University and its law library, as well as recalls key 20th century developments of international law and the notable scholars, jurists, and political figures that he encountered in his remarkable life. Lesley and Daniel showed great foresight in this endeavor, as Professor Lipstein passed away just a few months after completing the interviews. This article is therefore something of a biography or history, as well as a lasting tribute to Kurt Lipstein.

The final article in this issue of the IJLI was authored by **Claire Germain**. Claire is Edward Cornell Law Librarian & Professor of Law at Cornell Law School in Ithaca, N.Y. As immediate past president of the American Association of Law Libraries, as well as a long-time and active member of the law library profession, Claire Germaine is a name familiar to many in the law library profession. Claire's article is an overview of public policy issues surrounding digital libraries. She discusses the impact of globalization and the Internet on international and foreign law information, the free access to law movement and open access scholarship, and mass digitization projects. She examines some concerns for today's law librarian community, focusing on issues of digital preservation and long term access to born digital legal information and authentication of official digital legal information. Her article closes with a discussion of new roles for law librarians as evaluators of information quality, teachers of legal research methodology, and advocates in information policy. Her article will be of

interest to all law librarians and to those interested in the current developments of digital libraries.

This issue also contains, of course, its two regular features: Book Reviews, edited by **Thomas Mills**, and the International Calendar, edited by **Lyonette Louis-Jacques**. As you can see from this brief summary, there is a lot of good reading in this issue of the IJLI. Enjoy!

*Mark Engsberg, Editor
International Journal of Legal Information
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is an exciting time. As I write, International Association of Law Libraries (IALL) members are waiting for the latest news of the process to form the 2007/10 Board of the Association. Early in the year the Secretary announced the candidates proposed by the Nominations Committee and invited further candidates to come forward. The period for this part of the process has just expired. We shall soon learn the final list of candidates and discover if a ballot will be precipitated. Whoever stands and whoever is elected, we should thank all those who have been prepared to be considered. We should also thank the Nominations Committee. It is a demanding task to be tactful, encouraging and persuasive, while adhering to a tight deadline. It is also a challenge to provide recommendations for a balanced team drawn from many countries. We owe our gratitude to Lisbeth Rasmussen, Holger Knudsen and Blair Kauffman for their work for the future of the Association.

It is a great pleasure to announce the recent launch of the IALL's newly re-designed website at <http://www.iall.org/>. The new website was designed by Sasha Skenderija, under the direction of Claire Germain, Cornell University Law Library, and provides a clearer structure, simplified navigation and improved search functions. Petal Kinder, IALL Board member from the High Court of Australia, and the members of the Advisory Committee on Communications carried out a survey of member opinions on the former site and then successfully carried through this major improvement.

The International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) formed a Section of Law Libraries last year following representations by IALL and the American Association of Law Libraries. The first Chair of the Section is our own Immediate Past President, Holger Knudsen. Following the tradition of many years, there will be a session organized by IALL under the auspices of the new Section of Law Libraries, at the IFLA World Congress in Durban in August 2007. Amanda Barratt, IALL Board member from the University of Cape Town Law Library, has organized and will chair a panel session on "Open Access Law, Free Legal Information, Democracy, and Human Rights."

The IALL Annual Course in International Law Librarianship will take place this year from 1st to 5th December 2007 in Mumbai, India under the title, "Global Challenges and the Indian Legal System." I went to Mumbai earlier this year to inspect the arrangements and was both delighted and excited by the plans that have been made. I have met many of the speakers who include judges, senior advocates, a former government minister, and a

Vice-Chancellor of one of the city's universities. We are assured of a high quality program dealing with a range of international legal issues from outsourcing to the environment to international trade. Our hosts will also provide an introduction to aspects of the Indian legal system and its literature and libraries. Even the opening evening promises to be a wonderful event! There will be a traditional 'lighting of the lamp' ceremony, a cultural programme of Indian folk dances, and a buffet dinner. The inauguration of the conference will be presided over by the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court (it retains the name of Bombay). The conference pages on the IALL website have recently been updated with a wealth of information about the Annual Course; registration will already be under way by the time you read this.

Through its annual conference the Association will again be offering a unique insight into another legal culture which will be educational in the fullest sense but also an experience to be enjoyed among colleagues and friends. The Association aims to assist law librarians to learn and to share their expertise as globalization and the growing interrelationship of legal systems requires all of us to broaden our knowledge and our network of contacts.

The IALL Annual Course is the Association's main educational event but, wherever it is held, it is also a catalyst for change and improvement in the recognition of the role of law librarians and of legal information itself. The most exciting developments in recent years have been initiatives to create new national and regional law library associations. There have already been moves to create an Association of Indian Law Libraries and there are proposals for a certificate course in law librarianship at one of the universities in Mumbai. I am sure the Association will find ways to celebrate and support these initiatives at its conference later in the year.

Finally, I should remind you of the Association's two programmes of financial assistance. There are three IALL Professional Development Bursaries each year which provide financial assistance to law librarians who could not otherwise attend the IALL conference. There is also a new programme of Grants to law librarians undertaking a placement or internship at an overseas law library. Details can be found on the IALL website. Please do recommend them to your contacts around the world. Applicants do not need to be members of the Association already; non-members who are awarded a bursary or grant also receive a free starter membership to IALL. I

should mention that the Local Conference Organiser this year, Mrs. Uma Narayan, Chief Librarian of the Honourable Judges' Library of the High Court in Mumbai, was an IALL scholarship holder in 2004.

Jules Winterton