



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

### **President's Report 5 October 2012 to September 2013**

This is my third and final report to the membership as President of the International Association of Law Libraries covering the period October 2012 to September 2013 just before our conference in Barcelona.

The Board which held office during 2012-13 was constituted as follows, President: Petal Kinder of the High Court of Australia; Secretary: Barbara Garavaglia of the University of Michigan Law School, USA; Treasurer: Xinh Luu of the University of Virginia Law School, USA; First Vice President: Jeroen Vervliet of the Peace Palace Library, The Hague, Netherlands; Second Vice-President: Jennefer Aston, Ireland; Board members: Ruth Bird of the Bodleian Law Library, England; Ligita Gjortlere of Riga Graduate School of Law, Latvia; Janis Johnston, University of Illinois, Albert E. Jenner, Jr. Memorial Law Library, Illinois; Uma Narayan of the Bombay High Court, Mumbai, India; Pedro Padilla-Rosa of the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Bård Tuseth, University of Oslo Law Library, Oslo, Norway; Ivo Vogel, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany, and Immediate Past President, Jules Winterton of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, England.

Two ex officio members of the Board are: Mark Engsberg, MacMillan Law Library, Emory School of Law, Atlanta, Georgia, Editor of the *International Journal of Legal Information*; Marci Hoffman, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law Library, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Communications.

One of the long standing Board members, Anita Soboleva of JURIX (Jurists for Constitutional Rights and Freedoms), Russia, unfortunately had to resign during the year from the Board due to work commitments. We thank her for her service during her term on the Board.

The Board of Directors of IALL met on 29 September 2012 before the annual conference in Toronto and on the 5 October, immediately after the annual conference. Individual officers and members of the Board took the opportunity to meet on a number of occasions, in particular at the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in July 2013 and kept in contact

throughout the year to discuss issues concerning the Association. Uma Narayan, Board member, presented a paper at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress held in Singapore in August 2013 and took the opportunity to attend the IFLA Law Special Section meeting.

2012-13 was the year for a new Board to be formed. In October, 2012 I appointed as the Chair of the Nominations Committee, the Immediate Past President, Jules Winterton who appointed two further members to the Committee, Silke Sahl of Columbia University in New York, and Machteld Nijsten of the European University Institute in Florence. The Committee reported in February 2013. The Nominations Committee undertook the task within the strict timetable which they were given, consulting widely and giving serious thought to the whole process. The Secretary reported to the membership on the proposals of the Committee together with an explanation of the procedure for further nominations in March 2013. At the expiry of the prescribed period no further nominations had been received and no ballot was necessary. After appointment of a further three members as laid down by the Constitution, the Secretary announced the full composition of the Board in June 2013.

### 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Course on International Legal Information and Law

IALL's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Course on International Legal Information and Law, 'Canada: The Cultural Mosaic and International Law' took place from 30 September – 4 October 2012 in Toronto, Canada.

The conference was co-hosted by the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, Toronto, Canada. The conference received very strong support from both of these major Canadian Universities. The theme of the conference was *Canada: The Cultural Mosaic and International Law* and the topics reflected Canada's unique perspectives on international and domestic issues. Both Universities worked jointly to present a highly successful and outstanding programme. Sessions for the first two days were presented at the University of Toronto, Chestnut Conference Centre with the final day of sessions held at Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.

The Optional Day included two special programs on Foreign Investments and International Trade Law after which participants were given lunch and a tour of the Niagara College Winery. Following lunch those attending had the option of viewing the spectacular Niagara Falls or visiting the picturesque village of Niagara on the Lake.

Our gratitude and admiration expressed by many both formally and informally at the Conference itself go to the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, Osgoode

Hall Law School, York University and the Directors of both of the Law Libraries for their hospitality. Further equal expressions of gratitude and admiration go to the Local Planning Committee for their professionalism and unbounded enthusiasm: Yemisi Dina, Osgoode Hall Law School, Sooin Kim, University of Toronto, Susan Barker, University of Toronto, Connie Crosby, Crosby Group Consulting, Sharon Wang Osgoode Hall Law School, Daniel Perlin Osgoode Hall Law School and Janis Johnston, University of Illinois who was the member of the Board acting as Liaison.

### 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The 2012 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Toronto on Tuesday 2 October 2012 and included reports on the work of the Association, its Officers and Committees. IALL's scholarship recipients for 2012, Judit Gerencer from Curia's Library of Hungary (formerly called the Supreme Court Library), Gloria Orrego Hoyos, Biblioteca Max von Buch at Universidad de San Andres in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Joseph Semugabi, Law Development Centre Library in Kampala, Uganda were introduced to the members by the Chair of the Scholarships Committee, Barbara Garavaglia.

Ligita Gjortlere, Chair of the Website Award Committee, announced the winner of the 2012 award as the website of Juricaf, a free, searchable, francophone database of primarily Supreme Court decision from over 40 countries  
<<http://www.juricaf.org/#>>

### Annual Meeting – American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)

I represented the Association at the annual meeting in Seattle of the American Association of Law Libraries in July 2013 at the kind invitation of its President where I spoke briefly at the business meeting and hosted and spoke at the *International Attendees Joint Reception (AALL, IALL & FCIL-SIS)*. This year the reception had four major sponsors, Bloomberg Law/Bloomberg BNA, LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, and Wolters Kluwer Law & Business. Mark Engsborg assisted with the organisation on behalf of the Association.

### International Journal of Legal Information (IJLI)

A 3-year agreement between the Thomson–Reuters/West Group and the Association for the publication and distribution of the official journal of the Association, *International Journal of Legal Information (IJLI)* concluded at the end of July this year. As a result of the Board's examination of its options for publication and distribution of IJLI following the conclusion of the existing agreement a decision was made to sign a new contract with William S Hein &

Co, Inc. We would like to take the opportunity to sincerely thank the Thomson Reuters West Group for a decade long partnership and sponsorship in publishing and distributing the official journal of IALL, *IJLI*.

The *IJLI* has been selected by *The Informed Librarian Online* to be included in its monthly compilation which contains the most recent tables of contents from domestic and foreign library and information-related journals. The editor of *IJLI*, Mark Engsborg, is currently in early talks with ProQuest LLC concerning a licensing opportunity to reproduce the *IJLI* in the *ProQuest Library Science Database*.

### *IALL Website*

The successful move of the web site to a new server hosted at UC Berkeley School of Law Library in 2011 has now been followed by an even more successful launch of the IALL's newly re-designed website in May this year at <http://iall.org/>

I personally welcomed the change, as did many others, for its clarity, simplified structure and ease of use. The new website contains the 'welcome' message translated into foreign languages and now also includes the major addition of a blog, through which we aim to disseminate commentary and news not only concerning matters related to the IALL but also of research in the global arena.

Our grateful thanks to Michael Lindsey, Berkeley School of Law who, under the direction of Marci Hoffman, Chair of the Communications Committee, designed and implemented the new website. Michael has responded quickly to any requested amendments or additions to the website and both Marci's and Michael's patience and forbearance with all my suggestions and questions over the past three years have been greatly appreciated

Following on from the list of suggested additions formulated at the London Strategic Meeting held in April 2011 the Communications Committee produced three important electronic forms - an editable registration form for the Annual conference, an electronic form for payment of annual membership fees and an electronic form for submitting website nominations. All three forms were designed and implemented in time for the IALL annual conference in 2013. The first two forms in particular have greatly reduced and streamlined the process of registering and payment for the conference and renewal of membership not only for external users but also for the internal administration of the IALL.

In an effort to engage more widely with members and to attract new members from a broader global arena a decision was made to create a Facebook page at

last year's conference in Kuala Lumpur. Currently there are 210 subscribers, many of whom are existing members of IALL. The Facebook page has been used to promote matters such as the opening of registration for the IALL conference and the IALL Scholarships program both of which are simultaneously announced on the IALL website.

Assistance by IALL was given to an online survey undertaken in 2012 by David Gee, Deputy Librarian, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London. The aim of the survey was to gather and report on useful comparative data about research support services in the major law libraries around the world. In total 124 major law libraries completed the survey questionnaire and the resulting detailed report will be published in the IJLI. It is hoped that the comparative assessments and analysis (gathered from the activities, ambitions and concerns of law libraries in the real world) will provide a useful snapshot of current research support services, capture emerging trends and new service initiatives and encourage major law libraries to develop their services by providing helpful benchmarking and best practice information.

#### 2013 Conference – Barcelona, Spain

During the past year and all of this year preparations have been undertaken for the IALL's 32<sup>nd</sup> Course on International Legal Information and Law in Barcelona, Spain. The conference will be hosted by the University of Barcelona. The University has given exceptional support to the conference for which we are most grateful.

A great amount of effort and hard work has been undertaken by the members of the Local Planning Committee (LPC): Montse Morante, University of Barcelona Resource Center for Learning and Research, Law Library, Mònica Navarro Vice Dean, Research and International Relations University of Barcelona Faculty of Law, Maria Elena Lauroba, University of Barcelona Faculty of Law, Civil Law Department, Adelaida Ferrer, University of Barcelona Resource Center for Learning and Research, Law Library, Dolores Gutiérrez, University of Barcelona Resource Center for Learning and Research, Law Library, together with the Board Liaison, Pedro Padilla Rosa. No doubt this Course will be a highlight of the next report and a valuable educational experience.

#### Future Conferences

Following a visit by myself and the two Board Liaisons, Pedro Padilla Rosa and Mark Engsburg, planning is underway for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Course on International Legal Information and Law to be held in Buenos Aires in 2014. It will be hosted by the Universidad de San Andres, and will take place from Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and the Chair of the Local Planning

Committee is an IALL member and one of last year's Scholarship holders, Gloria Orrego Hoyos. This is the first time that IALL has held a Course in Latin America and it promises to be both an exciting and highly educative conference.

It is hoped that the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Course on International Legal Information and Law will be held in Berlin in 2015, hosted by the Berlin State Library-Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin. The Board Liaison for this conference will be Ivo Vogel.

Both of these conferences will present each of us with the opportunity for a new learning experience in historic and venerable settings.

I would like to conclude my report by saying it has truly been a great honour and privilege to serve as President of the IALL, and I sincerely thank all of the Board officers and members for the true spirit of friendship, cooperation, goodwill and hard work which they have shown during my term as President. There are two particular issues which I would invite the new Board to consider which I regard as necessary and useful reforms to the IALL Constitution. The first issue concerns the length of terms to be served by officers and members of the Board and the second requires the examination and appraisal of the present process for elections. I wish the incoming Board every success for the future term of office.

Thank you.

Petal Kinder, President, IALL  
Canberra, Australia, 15 August 2013