

NOCALL News

Northern California Association of Law Libraries
A chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

President's Message

Sarah Lin

In my last column as NOCALL President, I want to thank the Board , committee chairs & members, and the entire membership for their work and support of all of NOCALL's accomplishments in the last year. It's been a hard year for each of us, and it's been my honor to serve your collective best interests these last 12 months.

This column is short of necessity, as I am about to go on medical leave, but look forward to being well by the time you all read this column. I appreciate the new Board's enthusiasm and willingness to serve the organization. I'm looking forward to supporting their ideas and initiatives in the coming year!



Volume 41, Number 5
May-June 2021

In This Issue

President's Message	1
Headnotes from Holly.....	2
Legal Tech Recap	2
Professional Reading in Review ...	4

Headnotes from Holly

Holly Riccio

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY... In the legal tech space, there have been quite a few individuals that have been taking on titles like 'Head of Community Development' and 'Chief Community Officer,' which begs the question of what the importance and meaning of community is within our current work environment. In some ways, I feel less connected to some of my professional communities, not being able to see people at events or have those random hallway encounters, but in other ways, I feel more connected, as the pandemic and remote work created both regular and more spontaneous virtual community opportunities. As we gradually return to work, what will our communities look like? Will we eventually go back to the way things were, or will some of the virtual communities continue to thrive and bring meaning to our professional lives? My law librarian crystal ball is still fuzzy on this one, but I look forward to seeing how it all develops.

AND THE AWARD GOES TO... It is that time of year when many legal industry and professional associations are putting out calls for nominations for various awards and recognitions, and some—including AALL and NOCALL—have already announced this year's worthy recipients. Ever since the early days of my law librarianship career, I have loved reading about and hearing from our profession's award recipients—to learn from them, share in their joy and passion for the profession, and be inspired by their achievements. While this is something I still do to this day—and will

always do—I have also dipped my foot into the nominating pool, submitting some nominations to various organizations for deserving colleagues and peers. Whether the juries and committees reviewing the submissions bestow awards on my nominees or not, the act of nominating is a very gratifying and inspiring thing. I highly recommend and encourage it.

Legal Tech Recap

Kristie Chamorro, UC Berkeley Law Library

As I've expanded my go-to list of legal tech updates and blogs for this column, I'm amazed and inspired by how many resources are out there! I'm finding that the hardest part is narrowing down the list of what to include. If you spot a new tech tool or update that you would like to see covered, or if there is an area of legal tech that you would like to learn more about, please let me know!

ADOBE ACROBAT

The latest [Attorney at Work's Tech Tips](#) has a helpful overview of what's new in Adobe Acrobat DC taken from the [Adobe Acrobat for Legal Professionals](#) guide.

CASETEXT

Good news for CaseText! [Compose](#), the drafting tool CaseText launched in 2020, was awarded the [2021 AALL New Product Award](#).

NOCALL News

The NOCALL News is published five times a year by the Northern California Association of Law Libraries, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, and is a benefit of membership.

The Northern California Association of Law Libraries assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors to the association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Northern California Association of Law Libraries.

CaseText was also in legal tech news this month with [Parallel Search](#), a search tool that is a core component of Compose. Parallel Search was featured in the Dewey B Strategic post [What's New at Casetext? Parallel Search and "Do it Yourself Neural Networks."](#) Jean O'Grady explains how Parallel Search goes beyond keyword searches by leveraging "breakthrough technology called transformer-based neural nets." [Bob Ambrogi](#) also recently wrote about [WeSearch](#), a new CaseText product that allows users to utilize Parallel Search in their own document sets.

For those who would like to dive into the details of these new tools, the [Geek in Review Episode 114](#) features a discussion with CaseText's Chief Product Officer, Pablo Arrendondo.

FASTCASE

[Fastcase](#) and the law firm [Eversheds Sutherland](#) have released [Spoliation Scientist](#), a new tool they describe as a "first-of-its-kind legal data analytics tool that harnesses the power of artificial intelligence, text analytics, and interactive data visualizations to quickly and efficiently assess the risk of spoliation of evidence sanctions" in any state or federal court. Take a look at [Bob Ambrogi's May 19 post](#) for a summary of its features.

HEINONLINE

HeinOnline [announced](#) its "new intuitive one-box search." Instead of having to select the appropriate tab for a search (Full Text, Citation, Catalog, or Case Law), users can now search all Hein content from a single box with drop-down options. Check out HeinOnline's [short video](#) explaining how the new one-box search works.

LEXIS/WESTLAW/BLOOMBERG LAW

The April 19 CRIV blog post by Ashley Ahlbrand, [Prepare to Practice, New and Notable: The Ever-Growing Collection of Practice Ready Tools from Bloomberg Law, Lexis, and Westlaw](#) gives a terrific overview of practice-focused products from these platforms.

LEX MACHINA

Bob Ambrogi's [April 20 post](#) was one of several tech blogs to cover Lex Machina's announcement that it has expanded its California state coverage to include Orange County Superior Court. In May, Lex Machina [announced](#) expanded Employment Practice coverage to include state law employment claims in federal court.

There was also some negative press for Lex Machina in April when [Jean O'Grady reported](#) in her *Dewey B Strategic 2020-21 Hits and Misses* survey that it is the product most likely to be cancelled by respondents.

MAP ENGINE

[Map Engine](#) is a new product that allows users to "quickly and easily turn multi-jurisdictional data into beautiful, sharable maps." In the [April 29 Geek In Review podcast](#), the founders explain how Map Engine allows firms to tell a story that is far more interactive than placing data in flat documents such as PDFs. Bob Ambrogi's [April 22 post](#) gives an overview of how Map Engine works.

WOLTERS KLUWER

[Wolters Kluwer Legal & Regulatory U.S.](#) announced the launch of a new version of [Corporate Counsel Profiler](#) powered by analytics. In her [May 13 post](#), Jean O'Grady reviews its new features, including the new interactive interface and filtering options. Bob Ambrogi also features the new version in his [May 13 LawSites post](#), explaining that "there is gold to be found in the biographies of corporate counsel."

ZOOM

Earlier this year, Zoom released its [live Transcription and Closed Captioning](#) feature for its Pro, Business, Education, and Enterprise accounts. Zoom will offer this accessibility feature to all free accounts in the fall (free account holders who require live transcription can request the feature now using [this form](#)). Mari Cheney's [recent AALL Legal Innovation & Technology SIS post](#) explains how to enable live transcription in your next Zoom meeting or webinar.

For a fascinating look at how Zoom and other “Virtual Justice” tech tools are impacting the justice system, take a look at The Atlantic’s April 13 article [Zoom Court Is Changing How Justice is Served](#).

THINGS TO YOU SHOULD CHECK OUT

In the May 17 Law Next podcast [How Law Schools Should Teach Tech](#), Bob Ambrogi interviews April Dawson, a former computer programmer and litigator who is now the Associate Dean of Technology and Innovation and Professor at North Carolina Central University School of Law. They discuss why it is critical for law schools to teach technology and explore ideas for designing and implementing tech instruction.

Jack Shepard’s April 28 post [Whiteboard Tools, and Why They Should Be a Part of the Legal Toolkit](#) explains why virtual whiteboards are an important, and fun, tech tool. He recommends [Miro](#) or [Mural](#) for getting started.

A [recent Big Think post about “tab overload”](#) reminded me how much I like using [Toby](#) to keep my browser tabs and bookmarks organized. A few other options that you may want to check out are [OneTab](#) and [Tabby](#).

Finally, David Whelan’s May 17 post, [The Legal E-Book Conundrum](#), explains why converting to an entirely e-book collection isn’t as simple as it sounds.

Professional Reading in Review

Elisabeth McKechnie and Kristin Brandt
U.C. Davis Law Library

“Stereotyping Ourselves: Gendered Language Use in Management and Instruction Library Job Advertisements” by Rayla E. Tokarz and Tati Mesfin, *Journal of Library Administration*, Vol. 61, No. 3, pages 301-311, 2021. Retrieved from <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/wjla20>

Librarianship is 60 percent female and yet most managers are male. Wording in a job application can influence who chooses to respond to it. Women exclude themselves from jobs that present candidate requirements as “traits” (feminine language), but not those where the requirement is described as a “behavior” (masculine language). Men apply for both job descriptions. Describing an 8 month study researching 465 job advertisements, the researchers found that management positions tended to use more masculine wording. The largest use of masculine themed words were for management positions versus instruction. This could easily be the result of reuse of outdated job descriptions with masculine language. For those on hiring committees writing job descriptions, the article provides lists of female and male gendered words

“Reference Is Not Dead: A Case Study of Patron Habits and Library Staffing Models” by Christina E. Holm and Sarah Kantor, *Libraries and the Academy*, Vol. 21, No. 2, 2021 pages 299-316. Retrieved from <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/787869/pdf>

Due to Covid, many libraries have had to rethink reference service because of building closures. But is chat reference really as good as in-person reference? What about librarian office visits only? Using two years of data, collected from a large public university, various modes of reference are compared. The authors compared three service points at a large public university library system between 2015 and 2017. They asked two questions: whether reference staffing predicts question rates and whether patrons’ behaviors are linked to desk visibility and staffing models. Conclusion: the least popular reference model is a staffed, out-of-sight reference room. During the

study period the 34 librarians answered questions via chat and in person. Overall most popular was the staffed reference desk with in-person service, followed by chat, then on-call services and last, an out-of-sight staff that students can't see. If librarians are staged in a back room, aggressive marketing is required to promote use of librarian services.

“Hein, U.S. News, and How to Increase Citations” by Rob Willey and Melanie Knapp (March 11, 2021). Available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3801190

Since U.S. News announced it was considering a scholarly impact ranking for law schools, there has been increased focus on citation metrics. In this study, the authors set out to find out what article characteristics impacted citation numbers and help legal authors increase citation counts. Among the findings: top-cited articles were significantly longer than bottom-cited articles, had shorter titles with no colons, and dealt with more popular topics. The authors discuss a number of potential negative impacts of the new ranking system and identify ways it may be abused. A surprising finding was that most articles, or about 82% of all articles published, received zero citations. The authors urge legal writers to follow the recommendations in this article so their ideas will be more widely read and create a stronger impact on legal scholarship.

“Plagiarism Pedagogy: Why Teaching Plagiarism Should be a Fundamental Part of Legal Education” by Megan Boyd and Brian L. Frye (April 5, 2021), *Washington University Law Review*, forthcoming. Available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3819847

This article starts with a provocative premise: “As a practicing lawyer, if you aren’t plagiarizing, you’re committing malpractice.” According to the authors, plagiarism is an essential lawyering skill. Lawyers borrow generously from previously filed briefs, lift language from contracts drafted by other lawyers, and use forms from books meant to be copied, to name just a few of the many types of plagiarism routinely practiced by lawyers. Rather than teach students the appropriate use of plagiarism in the profession, legal writing professors are required to enforce the plagiarism policies of their institutions,

which usually prohibit all plagiarism. The authors examine both ethical rules and plagiarism cases to help develop a plagiarism pedagogy that is designed to better prepare students for the real world of law practice. This article should be required reading for anyone involved in teaching legal writing.

2020-2021 NOCALL Officers and Committees

OFFICE	NAME	EMAIL
President	Sarah Lin, RStudio	president@nocall.org
VP/President Elect	Delia Montesinos, Ropes & Gray LLP	vicepresident@nocall.org
Secretary	Hilary Hardcastle, UC Hastings School of Law	secretary@nocall.org
Treasurer	Jean Willis, Sacramento County Law Library	treasurer@nocall.org
Past President	Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong, California Courts of Appeal, 6th Dist.	pastpresident@nocall.org
Member at Large	Kristin Brandt, UC Davis School of Law	memberatlarge@nocall.org
Member at Large	Chuck Marcus, UC Hastings School of Law	memberatlarge@nocall.org
COMMITTEE CLUSTERS		
ADMINISTRATION – Coordinator: Jean Willis		
AALL Liaison	Holly Riccio, California Judicial Center Library	aallliaison@nocall.org
Archives	Stanford Law Library – SEEKING A NEW CHAIR	archives@nocall.org
Audit and Budget	Shannon Burchard, University of San Francisco School of Law	auditandbudget@nocall.org
Constitution & Bylaws	Jen Fell, Sacramento Public Law Library	constitutionbylaws@nocall.org
Nominations	April Eudy, Latham & Watkins	nominations@nocall.org
COMMUNICATION – Coordinator: Delia Montesinos		
Newsletter	Mary Pinar Johnson, Sacramento County Public Law Library	newsletter@nocall.org
Web Admin	Eli Edwards, Santa Clara University School of Law	webmaster@nocall.org
Wiki	Alyssa Thurston, UC Davis School of Law	wiki@nocall.org
Technology	David Holt, UC Davis School of Law	technology@nocall.org
Listserv Admin	Ramona Collins, UC Berkeley School of Law	listservadmin@nocall.org
EDUCATION – Coordinator: Chuck Marcus		
Education	Stephanie Chavez, UC Davis School of Law	education@nocall.org
Networking	Maribel Nash, DLA Piper	networking@nocall.org
Spring Institute	Delia Montesinos, Ropes & Gray LLP	springinstitute@nocall.org
MEMBERSHIP – Coordinator: Kristin Brandt		
Academic Relations	Kristina Chamorro, UC Berkeley School of Law	academicrelations@nocall.org
Membership	Jessica Brasch, California Judicial Center Library	membership@nocall.org
Placement	Robyn M. Moltzen, Sacramento County Public Law Library Judy Heier, Farella, Braun + Martel LLP	placement@nocall.org
OUTREACH – Coordinator: Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong		
Government Relations	Judy Janes, UC Davis School of Law	govrelations@nocall.org
Access to Justice	Michael Ginsborg, California Dept. of Justice	access@nocall.org
Community Service	Seeking a new chair	community@nocall.org
Public Relations	Courtney Nguyen, San Francisco Law Library	publicrelations@nocall.org
RECOGNITION – Coordinator: Hilary Hardcastle		
Awards	Jocelyn Stilwell-Tong, California Courts of Appeal, 6th Dist.	awards@nocall.org
Grants	Cathy Hardy, Co-Chair, Fenwick & West Sherry Takacs, Co-Chair, Skadden Arps, et al. LLP	grants@nocall.org
Memorials	Leslie Hesdorfer, Hanson Bridgett Jane Metz, Nixon Peabody LLP	memorials@nocall.org