

# FCIL Newsletter

FOREIGN, COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION

## FCIL-SIS Ellen Schaffer Grant 2011: A Two-Way Experience

*Gloria Orrego Hoyos*

I had the honor of being the 2011 recipient of the FCIL Ellen Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians and to represent a Latin American country for the first time since the establishment of the Grant.

At the time of my application to the Grant in 2011, I had the opportunity to hear the presentation given by the 2010 winner, Ufuoma Lamikanra, which encouraged me to bring to the Conference the experience of a country geographically distant from Nigeria, with similar difficulties to access judicial information. In my professional experience assisting researchers and NGOs, I have been in contact with different legal systems around the world and it has resulted in an incredible fascination, as well as an interest and desire to learn, meet and make contact with them.

Since AALL is the largest professional organization for law librarians, attending the 2011 Conference gave me the privilege to learn about different legal systems at the multiple educational programs and workshops offered. The knowledge and experience I obtained in these programs

and workshops, enhanced the services and benefits for other librarians, students, teachers and all users of the Max von Buch Library at the Universidad de San Andrés.

Additionally, the exchange of experiences and informal talks with the different attendees, gave me infinite networking opportunities to promote the cooperative efforts of the Max von Buch Library and other libraries at the Universidad de San Andrés.

After the Conference, when I returned to Argentina, I conducted several workshops presenting the experience and knowledge gained, at first to my colleagues at the Max von Buch Library and then to the librarians of the Asociación de Bibliotecarios Jurídicos and the Consortia to which we belong.

My presentation at the conference, entitled "Never Again, Never Forget: The Role of Libraries and Archives in Reconstructing Memory of Argentina's Dirty War", sought to describe how libraries and archives became sources of law and information, contributing directly to the formation of democratic values, and ensuring the protection of all the evidence

(documentary, audiovisual and physical) that allowed and still allows the prosecution of those responsible for killings, abductions and enforced disappearances after the military dictatorship faced by Argentina between 1976 and 1983 (known as the Proceso de Reorganización Nacional or National Reorganization Process). Describing the role of librarianship in the construction of this new society and the importance of Argentina's libraries as a source of evidence to the enforcement of human rights led to the identification of librarians in my country as direct contributors to the formation of heritage values, memory, identity and knowledge, through the facilitation of access to documentation, reference guides and livelihood support to research this historical process.

This was the principal reason why I decided to speak about the particular role of the librarians and archivists in the vindication of human rights in Argentina after the return of democracy: to encourage all the colleagues and professionals in America and around the world to continue working from different areas, in order not to forget all the people and events that many have sought to erase from history.

Volume 26, Issue 2  
February 2012

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

ASIL Annual Meeting, "Confronting Complexity," March 28-31, 2012 in Washington, DC.

CALL/ACBD Annual General Meeting, "Towering Opportunities," May 6-9, 2012 in Toronto, Canada

BIALL Annual Conference, June 14-16, 2012 in Belfast, Ireland

AALL Annual Meeting, "Learn, Connect, Grow," July 21-24, 2012 in Boston, MA.

IFLA Annual Meeting, "Libraries Now! - Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering," August 11-17, 2012 in Helsinki, Finland

## The East Asian Law Department at the Univ. of Washington School of Law, Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library

*Neel Kant Agrawal*

Over the past fifty years, as Pacific Rim countries have continued to grow in power and influence, East Asian law has become increasingly prominent in legal education around the world. Law schools across the globe have established centers, study abroad programs, concentrations and advanced degrees in the field of East Asian law. Law libraries have responded to this growing interest by cultivating East Asian law collections. Situated in Seattle, a city shaped by the culture of the Pacific Rim, the East Asian Law Department (“EALD”) at the University of Washington Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library is well known for its wide-ranging collection of legal materials on China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan.

This brief look at EALD’s rich history highlights the circumstances that led to its development and reveals some lesser-known details in the process. Even prior to World War II, the UW Law Library made a concerted effort to focus on East Asian law. Arthur Beardsley, a noted past director of the UW Law Library from 1922 to 1944, developed a relationship with the Japan-America Society of the State of Washington. The Japan-America Society arranged for the initial gift to the library of Japanese books donated by Japan’s Ministry of Justice not long before the beginning of World War II. Ironically,

at the end of the War, the U.S. Office of Strategic Services borrowed many of these same books from the UW Law Library to use in their offices in Japan during the U.S. Occupation period (1945-1952). Even back then, the UW Law Library was highly regarded for its extensive East Asian law collection. Under the leadership of library namesake Marian Gould Gallagher, Director from 1944 to 1981, the collection continued to grow, receiving a critical

Asian law to an American law school environment, and fosters a spirit of mutual learning between the Asian students and the predominantly American faculty, staff and students in Seattle.

Participants in the LL.M. program write an analysis comparing aspects of the legal systems of their own countries with (usually) that of the United States. In the process, Asian and American students gain a valuable reciprocal learning experience and conduct cutting-edge research on topics of critical importance within the Pacific Rim and beyond. The legacy of the work of these students over the years is the library’s comprehensive collection of their LL.M. theses, which are also available in the series “Hein’s Legal Theses and Dissertations.” The law library’s collection of East Asian materials has required constant expansion and updating to support the law school’s robust commitment to East Asian comparative legal research.



In 2010, the UW Gallagher Law Library commemorated its resource exchange agreement with the Korean Supreme Court by signing a Memorandum of Understanding at the UW Law School Dean’s Suite. Pictured above (from left to right) are: Jonathan Eddy, Director of the Asian Law Center; Penny Hazelton, Director of the Gallagher Law Library; Yong-Sung (Jonathan) Kang, Assistant Professor of Law; and Delegates from the Korean Supreme Court.

boost in the early 1960s.

The seeds for EALD, known until 1995 as the Comparative Law Department, were planted in 1962 when the law school hired Japanese law scholar Dan Fenno Henderson, who established the Asian Law Program. That program, known now as the Asian Law Center, introduces East Asian legal professionals and others with an interest in East

In 1963, both the Asian Law Program and the Comparative Law Department were established through a substantial grant from the Ford Foundation. The first Comparative Law Librarian, Takika (Susie) Lee, who served until 1988, performed a range of library duties, including cataloging, reference services and materials selection. The Comparative Law Department built up its East

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## ***East Asian Law Department, cont. from page 3***

Asian legal periodicals collection by exchanging materials such as the *Washington Law Review*, and later the *Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal*, for periodicals from the Japanese Ministry of Justice and other sources in Japan and East Asia. This tradition of building the collection through exchanges, when materials cannot be obtained through purchase, continues today.

From 1989 to 2008, Bill McCloy served as the Assistant Librarian for East Asian Law and Head of the Comparative Law Department/EALD. His depth of experience and knowledge of East Asian languages, including Chinese and Korean, proved to be a very fortunate combination of skills, as he was instrumental in bringing the East Asian legal collection into the digital age. In 1988, the law school and the Asian Law Center expanded their area of interest from mostly Japan to include China by hiring full-time Chinese law scholar Don Clarke. Bill's hiring facilitated that transition, due to his wealth of experience in the area of East Asian studies and law library services. Also during this time, the law school began cultivating its interest in the Korean legal system, and Bill was well-prepared to build the library's Korean legal collection.

Beginning in 2007, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea designated the UW Law School's Gallagher Law Library as an "Overseas Contact Library," one of a privileged few in the world. Under the leadership of Yong-Sung (Jonathan) Kang, Assistant Professor of Law; Penny Hazelton, Associate Dean for Library and Computing Services; Bill McCloy; and Rob Britt, current Coordinator of East Asian Library Services, EALD has received yearly gifts from the Korean Supreme Court. The initial gift consisted of 137 volumes of up-to-date books and journals on the Korean legal system – both in English and Korean – focused especially on the judicial branch and the decisions of the Supreme Court. Many of these materials are the only copies in the

world outside of Korea. A selection of them is prominently and proudly displayed in the law library.

Currently, EALD is coordinated by Rob Britt, who joined the department in 1987. Rob, a fluent Japanese speaker, is responsible for selecting East Asian law-related materials and cataloging all materials in East Asian languages. In his reference role, he assists faculty, students and others with East Asian print and online resources and is available to provide in-depth research assistance for faculty. The EALD office is adjacent to the Law Library's Technical Services Department and depends on its very strong relationship with T.S. and the entire library staff for its continued vitality. It also maintains an ongoing relationship with the UW East Asia Library, working cooperatively with them to maintain East Asia-related materials and online services that benefit researchers at UW, campus-wide. The main purpose of EALD is to support the research activities of the Asian Law Center faculty, students in the Asian Law LL.M. program, Ph.D. stu-

dents in the Asian & Comparative Law program and J.D. students.

The future of EALD is closely tied to the continued prominence of East Asian law at the University of Washington School of Law. As research in the field becomes increasingly critical, EALD will be uniquely positioned to advance critical discourse and foster long-lasting relationships between key legal scholars in the U.S. and East Asia. The rich history of EALD is a clear illustration of how law libraries have adapted to the globalization of the law and legal education.

*The author would like to express his gratitude to Rob Britt and Bill McCloy for their invaluable assistance in providing historical information and proofreading this article.*

**Do you have a unique collection you'd like to highlight for our readers? Let us know!**



In 2010, at the UW Law School Dean's Suite, Delegates from the Korean Supreme Court are joined by Professor Kang of the UW Law School (middle) and Kellye Testy, Dean of the UW Law School (right).