Keynote Speech 2: New Opportunities for 21st Century Law Libraries

Moderator: He Xiaoyong, East China University of Political Science and Law
Speaker: S. Blair Kauffman, Yale University Law Library

Description:

The digital age creates an opportunity for law school libraries to radically change their collecting practices and focus more directly on supporting the expanding research needs of their users. These libraries are more interesting and lively than their print bound ancestors, command a workforce with a higher skill set and play a more vital role in the intellectual life of their institutions. The increased availability of, and shift in, user preferences for digitized legal information both expands the information reach of libraries and complicates the legal research process for users. It requires libraries to reallocate resources in alignment with the needs of their users. The key change is to reallocate personnel from print-based functions to allow libraries to expand services into new areas of need. This change enables libraries to better address issues ranging from licensing, tracking and making digital resources discoverable to developing new programs for teaching research skills, developing and preserving digital databases and repositories and otherwise supporting the research and scholarship programs of their institutions.

This presentation scans the evolving services being offered by 21st law libraries, focusing on programs and services developed within the past decade at major U.S. law libraries.

A. A Tale of Two New Libraries in China and the U.S. – Behind the Scene Stories

Speakers: Ning Han, Concordia University Law Library
          Duncan Alford, University of South Carolina Law Library

Description:

In this session, presenters will share with the audience how Concordia University George R. White Law Library and Peking University School of Transnational Law Library are being built from scratch, including physical space planning, collection development, subscription negotiation, system configuration, reference, and instructional services. Most librarians are familiar with the day to day functioning of a law library, but not many have been involved with
establishing the initial infrastructure required to run a law library. Presenters will share their experiences and visions as they move toward full ABA accreditation. Challenges will be discussed alongside opportunities.

B-1. Information Service to the Public: the Experience of a County Law Library in the U.S.

Moderator: Evelyn Ma, Yale University Law Library
Speaker: Frank Liu, Duquesne University Law Library

Description:

There are more than 300 county, county-court libraries in the United States that play an important role in providing legal information to the legal community of the jurisdiction it resides in: federal, state, and local judiciary as well as local bar including lawyers from sole practitioners to the largest law firms in the country, government officials at all levels, and the general public. County law libraries are administered under the county government, county courts, bar associations, or independent agencies. Funding for the libraries come from a variety of sources as well: county government, part of a court’s budget, filing fees, circulation fees, and additional fees from services provided like document delivery, sale of publications and used books, etc. Libraries attempt to provide both print materials and online services that are moving more towards electronic libraries. Law libraries need to address new and changing developments in both technical and public services. In my presentation I will discuss these various aspects of library administration, funding, and services provided and describe the private university/college-public law library partnership between Duquesne University and Allegheny County, Pennsylvania to manage the Allegheny County Law Library.

C. A Legal Information Professional’s Role in University Leadership

Moderator: Sergio Stone, Stanford Law Library
Speaker: Matt Cordon, Baylor University Law School

Description:

Law librarians and other legal information professionals often focus their attention on day-to-day management within the walls of the library as well as the many varieties of services offered to library patrons. This may leave little time for the professional to assume leadership responsibilities in other contexts, including positions within a law school or university. However,
a legal information professional may have a skill set that could be highly beneficial to the institution as a whole, and the professional can enhance his or her development as well as the reputation of the library by accepting leadership roles. Examples of such roles discussed in this lecture will include: positions on a university or faculty senate; positions on university committees; positions on law school committees; positions that involve collaborative efforts from different university departments. In addition, this lecture will address the significance of scholarship and teaching within the same context as the leadership positions.

C-1. Rural Community-Centered Information Services and Training: Experiences from Rural Libraries in Texas and the Pacific Islands

Moderator: Yvonne Chandler, Moderator, University of North Texas College of Information
Speakers: Yunfei Du, University of North Texas College of Information
Herman L. Totten, University of North Texas College of Information

Description:

Various challenges exist in rural library and information services today. According to the US Census 2010 data, eighty-four percent of land in the United States and the affiliated islands are rural with twenty percent of the total population living in rural areas. However, there is a shortage of professionally trained rural librarians. Traditionally, community outreach refers to equitable library services that are offered outside the walls of the library building. In recent years, community outreach means an activity that connecting, delivering, partnering, collaborating, teaming up, joining forces, fostering engagement outside of library entities. Most importantly, it involves a process of building trust and partnerships with those outside the library. One way of gaining more community support is for libraries to design and implement community outreach programs that partner with outside organizations such as court, county, and law school libraries.

Two professors from the University of North Texas, College of Information received funding from the Robert and Ruby Priddy Charitable Trust ($1.6 million dollars) and the IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century –Fund ($1 million) to train the next generation of librarians serving rural areas in Texas and the U. S. Affiliated Pacific Islands focusing on serving various populations in a community, rather than on the format of information sources. The presentation will analyze successful cases that were completed by participants from the rural library initiative project and address how technologies can be used to train librarians in practice. This program will potentially be helpful to build collaborations between Chinese and U.S. educational institutions.
D. Timing Is Everything: Information-Seeking Behavior of Lawyers

Moderator: Sergio Stone, Stanford Law Library
Speaker: Renate Chancellor, Catholic University of America School of Information

Description:

The acquisition of legal information is critical to how lawyers conduct their work. The use of information-seeking models as a theoretical lens to analyze user behavior has been exhausted in the scholarly literature. However, few studies examine the information seeking behavior of legal professionals. Furthermore, these models do not consider the demands of accessing legal information in a time-constrained environment. This presentation reports the results of a study on the information seeking behavioral patterns of lawyers. It further explores a model in development (Chancellor, 2011). Findings suggest that law practitioners have unique information seeking needs when searching for legal information. Results from this research will aid law librarians and information professionals in understanding how legal practitioners in the United States and globally access and obtain legal information.

E-1. Finding the Next Generation of Law Librarians

Moderator: James Heller, College of William and Mary Law Library
Speakers: Janis Johnston, University of Illinois Law Library
          Femi Cadmus, Cornell University Law Library

Description: This session will discuss the desirable qualifications and qualities of the next generation of law librarians in light of the new information technology developments and the evolving legal education in the U.S.

F. Innovative Law Library Service to the Faculty and Students

Moderator: Wei Luo, Washington University Law Library
Speaker: Adeen Postar, American University Law School Law Library

Description:

Library services to faculty and students at U.S. law schools are undergoing a profound change. No longer are law libraries passive partners in legal education and warehouses for books.
Innovative library services include embedding librarians in clinics and programs, support for empirical research, and “co-teaching” collaboration, where librarians pair with faculty to train students and research assistants in advanced research techniques. Other new services include research and collection support for law school offices, such as Career Services, Admissions and even Facilities. Besides conventional reference services for students, many libraries engage in asynchronous research assistance, including email and chat, as well as providing digital guides to help students and faculty do their own research on their own time. Collection and circulation services libraries have traditionally provided are being extended far beyond the book check out, to include the circulation of laptops, power cords, seat cushions and book rests – and even dogs as a stress reliever during finals. Collections are increasingly being driven by patron requests – and mostly in digital formats. This talk will explore the many new services law libraries are providing and show how these services are vital to assisting 21st century law faculty and law students.

G. Open Session for Networking
Moderators: Robert Hu, St. Mary’s University Law Library
Joan Liu, New York University Law Library

Description:

This is an informal session where attendees can meet face-to-face and discuss any issues and matters of common interests. This is a great opportunity for American and Chinese colleagues to meet each other and discuss projects for cooperation.

H-1. From Legal Education to Legal Solutions: Preparing for Global Legal Practice

Speakers: Joan Howland, University of Minnesota Law Library
Chang Wang, Thomson Reuters
Wan Meng, Beijing Foreign Studies University Law School

Description:

Over the past several decades, legal education has experienced dramatic changes in substantive law curriculums, practical skills training programs, and the scholarly agendas of students and faculty. Simultaneously, the challenges and opportunities for legal education, domestically and globally, have evolved significantly due to technological innovations, increased
competition, and developments in legal practice. The development of the law in all jurisdictions lags behind economic globalization. This reality impacts the ability of law schools to effectively prepare students to meet the needs of increasingly globalized legal practices. Throughout the world, legal educators are strategizing about how to develop curriculums and teaching methodologies that will train the next generation lawyers to skillfully and astutely deal with legal issues - locally, regionally, and globally.

This presentation will compare and contrast the current landscapes of legal education in the United States and China, as well as offer a discussion of the expanding role legal information providers are playing in the delivery of services and content to faculty, students, and the legal profession generally. The presentation will focus on curricular innovations, especially in regard to skills training, and how these innovations are redefining legal education in a global environment.

J. Institutional Repository

Moderator: David Mao, Law Library of Congress

Speaker: Lauren Seney, College of William & Mary Law Library

Description:

Institutional Repositories are becoming increasingly popular worldwide, with more than 35 American law schools implementing them. The William & Mary Law School Scholarship Repository, running on BePress’ Digital Commons platform, began in 2010 to promote and preserve the intellectual output of the William & Mary Law School in an open access environment. Collections of the school’s law reviews and faculty scholarship were created and quickly populated, but the library did not stop there. The digital archive’s collections now include newspapers, reports, brochures, photos, and videos that bring the history of the law school to anyone’s fingertips. These documents are being accessed worldwide with regularity: less than two years after the first article was added to the repository, the Scholarship Repository at William & Mary became the first at an American law school to break 1,000,000 downloads. With more than 7,000 items, the global impact of the repository continues to expand as close to 90% of the countries in the world have visited the site.


Moderator: Kara Phillips, Seattle University Law Library
Speakers: Wei Luo, Washington University Law School, St. Louis 罗伟，圣路易斯－华盛顿大学法学院

Yu Liying, Tsinghua University Law School

Description:

In the United States, the government is very open about not only its legislative and executive information but also judicial information. The right of public access to the information of the executive branch of the US federal government is guaranteed by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) while the same right to access judicial information derives from two independent sources: common law and the First Amendment. Public access to judicial information helps safeguard the integrity, quality, and respect in this country's judicial system, and permits the public to keep a watchful eye on the workings of the court system. The judicial information in which people are most interested are judicial records filed in courts, including opinions, orders, petitions, answers, subpoenas, motion, briefs, discovery materials, verdict forms, jury instructions, etc. Since the United States is a common law country, court opinions have been well organized and published by the federal or state governments as well as legal publishers such as West and LexisNexis. In 1988, PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records) was established for the United States federal court documents. It allows litigation parties to file court documents with PACER and litigation parties and public users to obtain case and docket information. Today, most of the state courts also have the similar online system. China may learn from the American experience to establish its own similar online system to facilitate court document filing, research, and retrieval.

在美国不仅立法和行政部门而且司法部门的信息都是相当公开的。行政部门的信息公开是由《信息自由法》为保障的，而公众对司法信息的知情权则是源于普通法和《宪法第一修正案》。公众对司法信息的知情权有助于保证美国法院系统的廉正、高质量、尊严，以及保障公众对法院系统运作的监督作用。公众最有兴趣的司法信息主要是提交到法院诉讼的档案资料，主要有：裁判文书、命令、申请、回复、传票、议案、诉状和答辩状、调查材料、判决书、给陪审团的指令、通知、等。美国是一个判例法的国家，所以裁判文书都一直经联邦或州政府还有法律出版社如西方公司和律商联公司很好地编辑出版。1988年，美国联邦法院系统建立了“法院电子档案公众准入系统”。该系统让诉讼当事人通过该系统在线向法院提交各种电子版的法律文书和材料，以及让当事人和公众检索有关案件的基本信息。今天美国多数州法院系统也建立了类似的网络电子系统。中国可以学习美国在方面的经验并建立自己一套合乎中国国情的“法院电子档案报备和公众准入的系统”，来推动司法公正和尊严。
L. A Revolution in Progress--RDA, Law Cataloging, Linked Data, and the Semantic Web

Speakers: George Prager, New York University Law School Library
          Xiaojing Hu, East China Normal University

Description:

This is a very exciting and momentous time with regard to developments in the organization and management of information that has been formerly available only in library catalogs. A new cataloging code RDA--Resource Description & Access, was implemented by the Library of Congress on March 31, 2013. This is a revolutionary new code—a new way of organizing information, designed for the digital era, and much more international in outlook than AACR2. RDA is intended to transform cataloging metadata from static discrete records kept in library catalogs into linked data that will be accessible on the Semantic Web. Most libraries in the United States will be switching to the new code, if they have not already, in the next few months, national and many other libraries in Great Britain, Canada, Australia, and Germany, and New Zealand will also be implementing the new code. Interest has also been great in China: The National Library of China, the Library Society of China, and the Chinese Expert Group on Cataloging have been discussing the potential for implementing RDA in China.

M. Library Services in the Environment of Digitization and Globalization of Legal Information: Challenges and Opportunities

Moderator: Victoria Szymczak, University of Hawaii Law Library
Speaker: Xiaomeng Zhang, University of Michigan Law Library

Description:

Looking back on the last two decades, two of the most significant milestones in the world legal history are the digitization of legal information movement and the globalization of legal services. Both have shown mixed effects on the legal information field. On the one hand, both increase the availability and accessibility of legal information to users through a wide variety of channels and platforms. On the other, the increases of legal information needs and, ironically at the same time, the information overload influenced by both create new challenges and barriers for users to seek and use legal information effectively and efficiently.

This presentation focuses on how these two phenomena create opportunities as well as challenges for academic law librarians in the United States on providing reference services and
building law collections from an academic legal reference and collection development librarian’s perspective. More specifically, the presentation will cover certain new trends related to law library services such as the emerging new patron/consumer needs of information services and products, the more and more diverse reference services in terms of patron base, perception, and content and format, as well as new selection tools and considerations in the collection development area. The presentation will conclude with a few suggestions on how librarians can be better prepared to respond to those trends and challenges proactively.

M-1. Cultural Property — What Is It and Why Is It Important?
Moderator: Joan Liu, New York University Law Library
Speaker: Filippa Anzalone, Boston College Law School
Description:

Cultural property, or the more expansive term of cultural heritage, gives us a picture of a culture’s way of life at a particular time on the earth. Cultural property adds to the historical record of cultures that are sometimes under threat or gone. This session will begin with an examination of why cultural property—the (usually) tangible expression of a culture—is immeasurably valuable and essential for understanding and identity reasons. We will look at some famous examples of tangible cultural property such as: “masterpieces” and art works; archaeological artifacts and sites; sacred places and buildings; and museums, libraries, and archival collections. We will examine the various concepts of ownership of cultural property: does it belong to a particular nation or state; or does cultural property transcend borders and belong to mankind in general? We will look at the importance of preservation of cultural property. And, finally, we will discuss some of the legal frameworks that have developed for cultural property protection.

N-1. Copyright in Libraries: 21st Century Challenges and Opportunities
Moderator: Robert Hu, St. Mary’s University Law Library
Speaker: James Heller, College of William & Mary Law Library
Description:

More information is available today than ever before, but the questions are “can you get it?” and “if you get it, what can you do with it?” Professor Heller will explain U.S. copyright law and how users’ rights are being challenged in the digital world, including copyright-
protected materials, owner and user rights (including fair use and special exemptions for libraries), public performances, and using copyright-protected works for distance education. He also will discuss the 2012 Georgia State electronic coursepack decision, the HathiTrust/Google Books cases, licensing restrictions, and international copyright actions that affect librarians and other users of copyrighted works.