

## CAFLL-WESTPAC Joint Conference Honolulu October 8-10 2015 Report

Co-hosted by CAFLL and WESTPAC (American Association of Law Libraries Western Pacific Chapter), the fourth biennial CAFLL conference was held in sunny Honolulu, Hawaii, October 8-11, 2015. The meeting was sponsored jointly by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL), and East China University of Politics and Law (ECUPL), which coordinated participation of the Chinese attendees. The conference featured the theme “Challenges, Competencies, and Opportunities”.

More than 100 law school deans, faculty, librarians, and information professionals from the United States, Canada, and China attended the conference. Eighteen Chinese participants came from institutions including the East China University of Politics and Law, Southwest University of Political Science and Law, Northwest University of Politics and Law, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, National Library of China, Peking University, Tsinghua University, Renmin University, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Zhejiang University, and Zhongshan University.

Participants began to arrive at Honolulu on October 7<sup>th</sup> 2015 at the Sheraton Princess Kaiulani Hotel. The meeting was held on the eleventh floor of the hotel with a wrap-around balcony overlooking the Waikiki Beach.

The conference kicked off with speeches by CAFLL-US Co-Chairs Joan Howland (U. Minnesota) and Bob Hu (St. Mary U.), Bonnie Geldmocher (U. Utah, 2014-2015 chair of WESTPAC), Keith Ann Stiverson (U. Chicago-Kent, current President of AALL), and Vicki Szymczak (U. Hawaii, chair of local planning committee). Vice President of East China University of Political Science, Dr. Lin Yanping, delivered the first keynote speech entitled "Evolution of the Law Library in China: International Vision and Practice". Dr. Lin reviewed the history of the formation of CAFLL, the development of the profession of law librarianship in China, and related the experiences of Chinese libraries transitioning to digital media from the traditional print information environment.

The first program of the conference featured Jennifer Gross and Nancy Rappaport (UNLV) who discussed the history, current problems and future directions of legal education in the United States. This was followed by speaker Dennis Kim-Prieto (Rutgers U.), who analyzed [the principles and standards of legal research competency](#) adopted by the AALL. Mr. Kim-Prieto presented concrete examples of strategies and methods to incorporate those standards and principles into the law school curriculum. For more details please see [here](#). Professor Wan Meng, Dean of Beijing Foreign Studies University Law School, spoke on incorporating technology into legal education.

The last program of the first day featured Dr. Jolande Goldberg (Library of Congress), who explained the classification scheme she developed for classifying materials of the Kingdom of Hawai'i (to 1900) and how the scheme facilitated content discovery in the digital collection of indigenous peoples at the Library of Congress. This was followed by Dr. He Xiaoyong's (ECUPL) talk entitled “A Study on Legal Construction of China Free Trade Zone and Library's Innovative Service”.

A highlight of the first day was the opening reception. Attendees and their guests were bused a short distance from the conference hotel to [Café Julia](#), named after the well-known local woman architect, who designed the public use building constructed in the 1920's.

The second day of the conference began with the second keynote speech by Professor Craig Howes (U. of Hawaii at Manoa). He gave a moving account of racial tension and injustices that have occurred in the history of the Hawaiian Islands, with special reference to the Massie-Kahahawai Case (1931-1932), when five young men, two Native Hawaiians, two Japanese, and one Chinese-Hawaiian, were wrongfully accused of raping the wife of an American Naval officer.

The second day's programs commenced with Vicki Trotta (Arizona State U.) who gave a timely [analysis](#) of the issues and challenges of developing our library collections in the electronic age. Tracy Thompson (NELLCO) introduced PALMPrint (Preserving America's Legal Materials in Print), a collaborative effort between NELLCO and Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA) in creating a centralized, jointly-owned, single-copy repository of print legal materials. The Chinese perspective was provided by Chen Zhihong (Peking U.). Professor Chen reported on the development of the law libraries in China as well as their efforts to organize professionally, beginning in 1979. She invited participants to engage in opportunities for further exchange between legal information professionals of the two countries.

Georgia Briscoe, Jane Thompson and Karen Selden (U. Colorado) provided their thoughts and strategies on how to optimize the incorporation of relevant information for users of our online library catalogs from meta- and bibliographic data using vendor-supplied records from aggregate sources that are replete with a great amount of duplications. Next up, Michael Chiorazzi (U. Arizona) talked about the need for professional development and avenues of providing continuing education for law librarians in the workplace. Lu Ming (Renmin University) spoke on the demand-drive service innovations introduced in her library. See [here](#) for additional details.

Lee Peoples (Oklahoma City U.) described innovative ways toward library design and space reconfigurations to create collaborative working/learning space as well as 'collision' points for students and faculty to physically meet, connect and collaborate at an institution. Tsinghua University Law School Librarian Yu Liying and Han Ning (Concordia U.) reported on their study "A Comparative Study of Legal Instruction Education in China and the United States", in which they surveyed the delivery format, curriculum, credits offered, and assessment of legal research instruction in the two countries. See [here](#) for additional details.

The last day of the conference opened with two short programs on the legal aspects of doing trade with China. Barbara Swatt-Engstrom (Seattle U.) discussed a recent research project she conducted to comprehensively document bilateral treaties acceded to by China and African countries and shared efficient research strategies and tips. Additional details can be found [here](#). Attorney Russell Leu (Sheppard Mullin LLC) spoke on his experience working with businesses in China and the nuanced differences between business cultures of China and the US. Last but not least, Jaye Barlous and Stephanie Midkiff (U. Oregon), and Victoria Szymczak and Roberta Woods (U. Hawaii), shared their

libraries' experience and best practices in hiring, training, and staffing student assistants at the reference desk.

Many thanks to the hospitality of Vicki Szymczak of the University of Hawaii and her staff, who also provided post- conference library tours to the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Lastly, it was decided at the Joint US-China CAFLL executive board meeting held on October 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 that the fifth CAFLL biennial meeting will be held in Hangzhou, China, in May 2017. A report in Chinese submitted by Ms. Chen Zhihong (Peking U.) can be found [here](#) and a photo gallery of the conference can be found [here](#).