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# Michigan Chapter American Association of Law Libraries

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

February 2007

Volume 25, Issue 2

Dear Members:

William Arthur Ward said, "Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." As I write my last column as MichALL President, I understand the full importance of his words. The Michigan Association of Law Libraries is an organization of talented and hard-working people. It has been an honor to serve as your MichALL President. I want to thank each and every one of you for the opportunity.



I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Executive Board (Lauren Collins, Patricia Parker, Anne Cottongim, Barbara Bonge, Korinna Kasara, Helen Levenson, and Michael Tillman-Davis) for their collective wisdom, energy and commitment to our organization.

At our February Executive Board meeting in Lansing, the Board regretfully accepted Lauren Collins's resignation from the position of Vice President/President Elect. Beginning in March 2007, Lauren will assume her new responsibilities as reference librarian at Duke University Law Library. We will miss Lauren's fresh insight and enthusiasm. Lauren has worked hard to promote our organization on the national stage. She has helped to "pioneer change" through her sponsorship of MichALL's first-ever Display Table at the AALL 2006 Annual Meeting in St. Louis. (She also helped organize our Annual Breakfast, another conference "first.") Before leaving Wayne State, Lauren put the final touches on preparations for MichALL's 2007 Spring Meeting, which will be held this year in the Spencer M. Partrich Law Auditorium, Wayne State University. This Annual Meeting promises to be a very informative, two-day affair geared towards both law and medical librarians, and I would like to encourage everyone to check out the program (available in this newsletter and on our website) and register for at least one day of the event.

Our Spring Elections are coming! Since Lauren has left MichALL, the Board has agreed to add the position of President to the ballot, along with the positions of VP/President Elect and Secretary. Please stay tuned for a President's message announcing the upcoming elections!

Again, thank you for a wonderful year! I hope to see all of you at our Annual Meeting in Detroit!

Larissa Sullivant  
MichALL President

February 22, 2007

**Editor's Note:**

Here is another edition of the MichALL newsletter.

It consists of pieces gathered from the membership, so if you have something you'd like to include, please don't hesitate to send it to me.

Enjoy!  
Kori Kasara

**How To Join The Membership:**

Join MichALL!

The Michigan Association of Law Libraries has a 100 year history of providing Michigan law librarians a sense of community and an opportunity to get involved. For more information on how to join, use the link below:

<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/michall/organization/join-michall.pdf>

Also, a brief reminder to make sure your 2006/2007 dues are paid and up-to-date. Renewal forms are available on the MichALL website.

**New Members:** MichALL has reached 89 members for this year. New members since the last newsletter:

Barbara Carmichael  
Senior Serials Technician  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

John Jones  
Acquisitions Assistant  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

Elise M. Keller  
Satellite Librarian  
Ralph M. Freeman Memorial Library  
Detroit

Michael Kukeilka  
Circulation Team Leader  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

Milton Lucas  
Technical Services Assistant  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

Linda Markham  
Serials Assistant  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

Kerri Otto  
Librarian  
Sommers, Schwartz, Silver &  
Schwartz, PC  
Southfield

Melissa Steward  
Serials Assistant  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

Michael W. Tillman-Davis  
Librarian I  
WSU Arthur Neef Law Library  
Detroit



And two members returning after a few years hiatus:

Randy Foreman  
Reference and Student  
Instructional Services Librarian  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

John C. Michaud  
Reference and Faculty  
Services Librarian  
Cooley Law School Library  
Lansing

And congratulations to Ruth Stevens who has left MichALL "student membership" and has joined the Cooley Law School Library staff in Grand Rapids as a Reference Librarian.

**MichALL Website Updates by RSS Feed:** <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/michall/rss/rss.htm>

## FEATURES - MichALL's Annual Spring Meeting

2007 Meeting Info: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/michall/meetings/2007annual>

### A Special Two-Day Program: Spencer M. Partrich Auditorium (Wayne State) May 10 & 11, 2007

#### Day 1: The Intersection of Medical & Legal Research

*The Intersection of Medical and Legal Issues*

Professor Albert J. Dib, Esq.

*Health Information Privacy*

Professor Lance Gable, JD, MPH

*Research on Medical and Legal Issues*

Ellen Marks (Shiffman Medical Library)

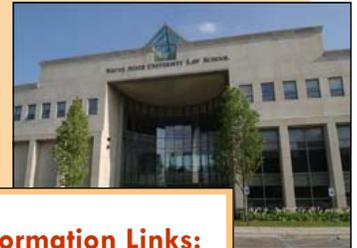
Michael Tillman-Davis (Arthur Neef Law Library)

Trainers (LexisNexis Academic and Westlaw)

#### Day 2: Proactive Librarianship

*Proactive Librarianship: Knowledge, Innovation  
and Leadership for Library Professionals*

LaVentra Ellis Danquah, MLIS



#### Online Information Links:

- ◆ [2007 Meeting Home](#)
- ◆ [Registration Form](#)
- ◆ [Detailed Program Info](#)
- ◆ [Spring Meeting Flier](#)



### Registration Form: (Registration due by Friday, April 20th, 2007)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

One Day: \$ 18.00 + \$ 2.25 for parking (*optional*)      Which Day?   Thursday   Friday (*circle*)

Two Days: \$ 25.00 + \$ 5.00 for parking (*optional*)

Please make your check payable to "MichALL" and mail it along with this completed registration form to:

Barbara McDowell Bonge, Librarian

Michigan Hall of Justice

925 West Ottawa Street

PO Box 30022

Lansing, MI 48909

## FEATURES - News & Additions

### Michigan Online Legal Self-Help Center:

Ruth Stevens, Librarian

Thomas M. Cooley Law Library (Grand Rapids)

The Michigan Online Legal Self-Help Center, <http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/libraries/selfhelp.cfm>, is a sometimes-overlooked resource with high-quality legal reference materials. The site is sponsored by the State Bar of Michigan Committee on Libraries, Legal Research, and Legal Publications and is hosted by the State Bar of Michigan on its website. While the target audience for the website is the general public, the materials could also benefit newly admitted attorneys and experienced attorneys starting a research project in an unfamiliar area of law. For example, the page on Landlord Tenant law includes links to all of the major landlord tenant statutes as well as the Michigan SCAO approved forms for landlord tenant law. Other topics include Consumer Protection, Criminal Law, Elder Law, Family Law, and Wills and Trusts. The site also includes links to general resources such as, Finding a Lawyer, Finding a Law Library, Researching Michigan Law, and Michigan Law Websites.

The State Bar Committee on Libraries, Legal Research, and Legal Publications (which includes a number of MichALL members) encourages libraries, courts, non-profit agencies, and others to provide a direct link to the On Line Legal Help Center from their websites, so that more people can take advantage of this helpful resource. The Washtenaw County Circuit Court includes a link to the site on its page devoted to "Self Representation". The Grand Rapids Public Library includes the site under its "Legal Resources" links. Some libraries have also included the site on legal pathfinders.

The State Court Administrative Office is also developing a resource for basic information about Michigan law ➤

### Michigan Online Legal Self-Help Center(cont.)

and Michigan legal proceedings, the Michigan Courts Self-Help Center, <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/selfhelp/selfhelphome.htm>. This site provides especially comprehensive coverage of areas such as family law and criminal law, but does not yet cover all of the topics found on the Michigan OnLine Legal Self Help Center. Both the Michigan OnLine Legal Self Help center and the Michigan Courts Self-Help Center make legal information from reliable sources accessible to both the general public and the legal community. ■

### What's On Your Nightstand?

#### A New Feature of the MichALL Newsletter...

*Gone With The Wind* by Margaret Mitchell (1025 pages)

An ambitious pick by my book club, I've been plugging away at this title for 2 ½ months. For anyone who has seen the movie, the book is even more vivid—think of it as Technicolor for the mind's eye. Mitchell's description of the South, its characters and what it went through during Reconstruction is interesting and detailed. Add onto that Scarlett O'Hara's devious ways with seemingly not-so-sharp men, and you've got a veritable *Days of Our Lives* set in the 1860s. And, yet, despite her fickleness—the reader can't help but like Scarlett O'Hara and be empathetic with the choices she makes. Don't have time to read 1000+ pages? The film version with Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable is just as good. (Kori Kasara)

*The Power of One* by Bryce Courtenay (528 pages)

The cover describes it as "the classic novel of South Africa." It is the story of a young boy, Peekay, growing up in post-World War II South Africa. The main character is so appealing and the story so engaging that the book is enjoyable to read even though it deals very frankly with the brutality of the treatment of black South Africans and the hatred between South Africans of Dutch and English descent. This book has really stretched my mind, while still providing the satisfaction of a good story with many plot twists and turns. (Ruth Stevens) ■

## FEATURES - Law Library Updates (Academic Law Libraries)

### Wayne State University Law School, Arthur Neef Library

#### Georgia Clark, Director

Everyone has been very busy doing the work that we all love - working with faculty, students and the community. The support staff has been doing all the things that allow us to deliver service effectively. The student assistants have been shelving, filing and maintaining service at the circulation/information desk.

Georgia Clark has decided not to retire and has moved from her farm in Highland to downtown Detroit - a few blocks from the Renaissance Center, Detroit River and Greektown. She loves it and is rejuvenated for the next phase of life.

Lauren Collins, sadly for us at WSU and for MichALL, has accepted a position as Reference Librarian at the Duke University School of Law Library. She will be missed!

Anne Cottongim has been selected to attend the Michigan Library Association Leadership Academy from March 12-15.

Michael Tillman-Davis attended the Federal Depository Library Program Fall 2006 Depository Library Conference and Council Meeting in Washington, D.C. from October 22-25. He learned about initiatives being taken in the government documents community and networked with fellow documents librarians. His article "First Person - My Time on Rikers Island" will be published in the February issue of the LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Michael Samson has been selected to attend the 2007 AALL Leadership Institute on March 5-9. He has ➤

### Wayne State University Law School (cont.)

been immersed in the development and delivery of the WSU Law Library Onfolio based legal resources collection made up of captured bibliographic records from the online catalog, organized by access method (IP, proxy, password) as well as OPML files (RSS feeds captured from the online catalog, licensed legal electronic resources, or generated by Westlaw Watch clips, Internet persistent searches and web scraping tools). These are then created, updated and customized for law faculty use. One of the Law Library's goals is to move most if not all of the Law School faculty to real-time awareness services via RSS technology. ■

### University of Michigan Law Library

#### Margaret Leary, Director and Librarian

We have a new Faculty Services Librarian, Jocelyn Kennedy. Jocelyn has her M.L.L. from the University of Washington program, before she became a librarian did a judicial clerkship and worked in a congressional office, both excellent background. Her responsibilities here include both doing, and supervising the work of others who do, faculty research and document delivery. More information about our faculty services program is on our website:

<http://www.law.umich.edu/library>.

The vacancy Jocelyn filled was created when Aimee Mangan resigned to return to school, to study canon law. Aimee is, however, still here, teaching both "Researching transnational law" and a section in the first year Legal Practice Program, so we still see her.

We are working on reclassing our entire collection, all 25 miles of shelving, into the Library of Congress system. The records are with a vendor now, who is assigning class numbers and will provide updated records along with labels. We hope to complete the project in about two more years, including reshuffling all the books. This will be a huge improvement, and our general plan is to then put our ➤

## FEATURES - Law Library Updates (Academic Law Libraries)

### University of Michigan Law Library (cont.)

books through the Google process, and perhaps then move the least-used to remote storage, from which they will be readily findable via a Google search, and readily retrievable with the LC numbers on them.

We're about to begin a process to revamp our web-page, and are continually adding more electronic resources, research guides, and other material to the page and to our catalog. We're in the process of implementing Serials Solutions to help with serial control, and are about to choose an article linking service. We're still using Innovative Interfaces, although our University Library switched a couple of years ago from a Notis-based system to ExLibris. ■

### GRALL News (cont.)

other MichALL members. We visited a new location for our November meeting at Spectrum Health's Amberg Health Sciences Library hosted by Diane Hummell, Librarian. She joined us for a healthy lunch in one of Spectrum's dining facilities and discussed the holdings and collection focus of the medical library along with an update on the impact of the upcoming medical school coming to Grand Rapids in the "Medical Mile". We were then treated to a full tour of the Amberg Library viewing the collections and learning about the history of the hospital and library. We ended 2006 with our annual New Year's Eve lunch at a local restaurant for our December meeting. ■

## FEATURES - Law Library Updates (Law Firms, Associations, Postings)

### GRALL News

#### Kate McCarthy, GRALL Vice-President

The Grand Rapids Association of Law Libraries continues to grow after welcoming two new members at our September meeting held at the U.S. Attorneys' Office. Our membership now stands at fifteen members with the addition of Liz Arenas from Smith Haughey Rice and Roegge and Ruth Stevens from GR-WMU Thomas M. Cooley Law School Library. We met in October at Varnum Riddering Schmidt & Howlett and discussed the various online tax libraries currently available. Nine of our members (over half of our membership) had quite an adventure making their way to the MichALL fall dinner in Ann Arbor and enjoyed seeing ➤

### LISTSERV Information

michall@aallnet.org is the official discussion list of the Michigan Association of Law Libraries (MichALL). All those interested in law libraries may join the list for discussion of topics directly of interest to this group. MichALL listserv is hosted by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). Below you will find information on how to set and configure your initial profile. You will only have to do this once.

- 1) First, visit <http://share.aallnet.org/read/>
- 2) Enter your email address (twice if asked). Click OK.
- 3) Next you will be brought to the 'Essentials' tab. BE SURE TO CLICK "SAVE CHANGES" or your name will not be saved.
- 4) Click the 'Advanced' tab.
- 5) Enter the password of your choice. BE SURE TO CLICK "SAVE CHANGES" or your password will not be saved.
- 6) You're done!

You can post to the MichALL forum (listserv) using the AALL graphical user interface at:

<http://share.aallnet.org/read/?forum=michall>

or by email to [michall@aallnet.org](mailto:michall@aallnet.org)

## MichALL BOARD MINUTES (Feb '07)

**Anne Cottongim, Secretary**

February 7th, 2007 (9:00am - 11:00am in Lansing)

Attending: President Larissa Sullivant,  
VP President Elect Lauren Collins,  
Secretary Anne Cottongim,  
Treasurer Barb Bonge,  
Member at Large Kori Kasara,  
Member at Large Helen Levenson,  
Volunteer at Large Michael Tillman-Davis

Absent with notice Past President Pat Parker

Larissa read an email from Pat Parker indicating that she is ill. The Board decided to send her flowers next month to wish her well and to thank her for her three years of service with MichALL.

Lauren Collins, VP President-Elect announced that she has accepted employment at Duke University and will be leaving Wayne State University in Detroit on February 20, 2007.

The elections cycle has just begun for next year so it was agreed to add the position of President to the ballot along with VP/President Elect and Secretary. The board requested that Barb Bonge, Larissa Sullivant, and Kori Kasara serve as this year's nominating committee. The nominating committee will present a slate of candidates to the President to post to the members with time for additional candidates to be nominated pursuant to the constitution. The Secretary will email the ballots to members on March 12, 2007 with a return date of March 26.

Barb Bonge presented the Treasurer's Report and it was accepted without change.

The Board agreed that since there is expected to be very

low MichALL turnout at AALL in New Orleans that the organization would forego having a table or breakfast this year but that it would be considered again next year.

The Board approved continuing the payment for services rendered by the Webmaster.

Lauren Collins updated the board on her progress in planning the 2 day Spring Meeting to be held on May 10-11, 2007 at Wayne State University in Detroit. MichALL has received a donation from Lexis and are expecting donations from Westlaw and Lexis Nexis Academic soon. The speakers have been confirmed and Lauren will send them official packets of materials next week. She will also send via email registration forms that will list Anne Cottongim as the contact for returning the forms and registration fee on February 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>. The forms and fee will be due to Anne by April 20 so that Anne can cancel the rooms being held by the hotel if no one is going to use them by the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Kori volunteered to place the registration form in the upcoming newsletter in order to ensure that all MichALL members get a copy.

The next board meeting will be via conference call on April 25, 2007 at 9:30 am. ■



## TREASURER'S REPORT

Barbara Bonge, Treasurer



**As of February 6, 2007, MichALL has \$8023.25 in its treasury. The August 11, 2006 Treasurer's report stated assets of \$5836.46.**

Expenditures after the August 11 treasurer's report were:

State of Michigan for annual nonprofit corporation filing fee	\$20.00
Gandy Dancer for fall dinner	\$1986.66
Korinna Kasara for expenses associated with rental of van for Grand Rapids members at fall dinner	\$186.81
AALL for invoice #11541 for sign for MichALL breakfast at St. Louis annual meeting	\$27.55
Barbara Bonge reimbursement for lunches for Board members at August 11 meeting	\$47.44
Printing of new check supply	\$54.75
Total of expenditures	\$2323.21

Deposits and receipts after the August 11 treasurer's report were:

2006-2007 dues	\$660.00
Cowboy Software (Jim Mooradian) for 30th anniversary dinner in fall	\$500.00
Gale (Otis Fosta) for 30th anniversary dinner in fall	\$750.00
Walters Kluwer for 30th anniversary dinner in fall	\$1000.00
Thomson West for 30th anniversary dinner in fall	\$1000.00
LexisNexis for spring meeting 2007	\$600.00
Total of deposits and receipts	\$4510.00

## MICHALL OFFICERS AND HOW TO CONTACT THEM:

The MichALL officers are always available to hear your ideas for annual meetings and additional programming. Have a good idea for a social or educational get together? Send it on! Email addresses for all officers are listed below.

President: Larissa Sullivant,  
[lsullivant@avemarialaw.edu](mailto:lsullivant@avemarialaw.edu)

Past-President: Patricia Parker,  
[pparker@gvsu.edu](mailto:pparker@gvsu.edu)

Vice-President: Lauren Collins,  
[Collins@law.duke.edu](mailto:Collins@law.duke.edu)

Secretary: Anne Cottongim,  
[al7470@wayne.edu](mailto:al7470@wayne.edu)

Treasurer: Barbara McDowell Bonge,  
[bbonge@courts.mi.us](mailto:bbonge@courts.mi.us)

Member at Large: Kori Kasara,  
[kasarak@cooley.edu](mailto:kasarak@cooley.edu)

Member at Large: Helen Levenson,  
[levensoh@cooley.edu](mailto:levensoh@cooley.edu)





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## MichALL Newsletter

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The MichALL Newsletter is the official publication of the Michigan Association of Law Libraries. Please send contributions, comments, news, announcements or advertising inquiries to:

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e-mail: [kasarak@cooley.edu](mailto:kasarak@cooley.edu)

Check out our official MichALL website at:  
<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/michall/>

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