

MichALL NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of the Michigan Association of Law Libraries



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MichALL collaborates with GODORT of Michigan to provide day-long program on RSS technology

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**



Government document awareness via Rich Site Summary (RSS) technology was the focus of a day-long program co-sponsored by MichALL and the Government Documents Roundtable of Michigan (GODORT-M) at the Wayne State University Law School's Partrich Auditorium, December 10, 2004.

There were 37 MichALL/GODORT-M registrants who attended the joint program which featured 5 presentations on RSS, blogging and other web-based technologies.

During the program, some of the attendees formally gathered for lunch at the Circa 1890 Saloon across from the Wayne State campus. After lunch, MichALL and GODORT-M held separate business meetings.

Michael Samson, MichALL President, kicked off the program with a presentation on Aggregation and Syndication

with RSS technology.

RSS is an XML meta language that allows aggregation (pull) and syndication (push) in real-time of new information from a web site whenever the site is updated. It is becoming a standard feature in browsers, blogs, web sites and, hopefully, advanced ILS. Michael provided an overview of this meta language and its impact on information in an online environment.

"More and more Internet content (web sites, news, blogs, wikis, etc.) have or are adding RSS technology to their 'virtual belt' of information dissemination and more and more Internet tools (client and web-based aggregators, e-mail clients, Internet browsers, etc.) are adding features for the discovery of this new type of information delivery," he

said.

During his presentation, Michael explained XML meta language and demonstrated how it works by introducing and demonstrating several RSS-based directories and search engines.

"At the end of this presentation, (I hope) librarians will have an understanding of RSS feeds and will be able to use the XML template for syndicating library information and various aggregators for monitoring RSS feeds," he said.

Michael also gave a presentation on 'NewsMaster'ing e-Government: Toolkit for Electronic Government Information Dissemination with RSS. He introduced and demonstrated several hands-on RSS tools: directories, search engines, client servers and aggregators for linking

President's letter

Dear MichALL Members,

At our annual meeting in May 2004 we heard a strong and loud demand for more and varied MichALL activities.

Since June 2004 the MichALL Executive Board (Barbara Bonge, Larissa Sullivant, Pat Parker, June VanWingen, Chris Bloodworth, Jeanne Stuart, and Anne Cottongim) met regularly and embarked on a very busy day of planning of educational and social activities for our members.

The year in review:

- In October 2004 the Executive Board had its first ever 'family retreat' at the Shanty Creek Resort & Club
- In November, MichALL members gathered for a delicious dinner at the Tuscan House in Dexter, where we also said good-bye to Linda and Om Smith, who both retired from their jobs as law librarians and from over 20 years of service for MichALL
- In December we had an educational program on RSS technology and its use for aggregation and syndication of government information; the program was co-sponsored by GODORT of Michigan and Westlaw and was attended by 37 MichALL and GODORT-M members.

The Executive Board worked hard on keeping active electronic communication with its members. Since January 2004 the MichALL web site has been offering distribution of all its news in real-time via RSS technology. The electronic newsletter now includes two new sections: a 'Law School Library News' and a 'Technology Corner'. Soon we hope to create news section covering firm, county and court libraries.

The Executive Board was also busy reviewing the MichALL Constitution and making several suggestions that will provide its members, we hope, with opportunities to work, communicate and decide on important association issues by taking advantage of the latest Internet technology (on-line surveys, blogging of current news and events). Soon you will vote on the proposed changes to several articles of the MichALL Constitution (watch your mailboxes for the ballots). These proposed changes will allow for votes by email, changes to the nomination schedule, and provision of a grant for the Vice President/President Elect to attend the Chapter Leadership Training at the AALL annual conferences.

The Executive Board is also in the process of putting the final touches on an interesting April 26, 2005 annual educational meeting that will be hosted by our Cooley colleagues in Grand Rapids.

Please take the time to read this issue as it will provide you with detailed information on some of the issues outlined in the last portion of this letter.

Michael

Michael Samson
MichALL President

Features

MichALL Board holds first-ever Fall retreat at Shanty Creek Resort

The MichALL Board held its first-ever Fall retreat, October 23, 2004 at the Shanty Creek Resort & Club in Bellaire, Michigan.

Board members convened at Shanty Creek's Summit Village complex Saturday morning to exchange and discuss ideas, including weblogs for MichALL members to post news, updates and announcements, and new sections and features in upcoming MichALL Newsletter issues such as professional opportunities, advertisements, photographs, book

and product reviews, and MichALL Board candidate profiles.

"I think all of us were impressed with Shanty Creek and enjoyed our stay there. Personally, I really enjoyed being there and my husband and I look forward to another weekend stay sometime," said Barb Bonge, MichALL Treasurer."

Board members also reviewed, discussed and finalized plans for two Fall events in 2004: The Fall Membership

Dinner at Tuscan House in Dexter, Michigan, November 10 and the GODORT-M/MichALL Joint Program at the Wayne State University Law School, December 10.



MichALL hosts Fall Membership Dinner at Tuscan House in Dexter

MichALL held its Fall Membership Dinner, November 10, 2004 at the Tuscan House in historic downtown Dexter.

Approximately 22 members attended the event. They enjoyed a choice of three delicious entrees (sambuca chicken Florentine roulade, North Atlantic salmon and vegetarian stuffed yellow squash) and mouth-watering desserts (lemon curd with blueberries, chocolate tort and tiramisu).

"I think the service was excellent, the food was delicious, and we should consider this place for future dinners/reunions/etc," said Michael Samson,

MichALL President. Barb Bonge, MichALL Treasurer, said the Fall Membership Dinner was a success and that the Tuscan House provided a great atmosphere for this event.

During the event, Michael Samson, MichALL President, formally recognized Linda and Om Smith on the eve of their retirement. Linda Smith was Satellite Librarian at the Ralph M. Freeman Memorial Library for the U.S. Courts in Detroit. She officially retired as of November 24. Linda's husband, Om, a librarian at the Wayne County Sheriff's Department Law Library, also retired on November 24. In honor of their years of professional

service as librarians, Michael presented Linda and Om a digital gift clock and greeting card signed by all attendees.

Also during the event, Barb Bonge, MichALL Treasurer, announced a proposed change to the MichALL Constitution to allow for Email voting. She reminded members to evaluate the proposal and send feedback to the Board, which will possibly vote to pass or reject, December 10, during the business meeting portion of the MichALL/GODORT-M Meeting at the Wayne State Law School.

Linda Smith Honored on Eve of Retirement from the U.S. Courts Library

Approximately 50 people gathered at the Traffic Jam & Snug Restaurant in Detroit, November 1, 2004 to celebrate the retirement of Linda D. Smith, formerly Circuit Satellite Librarian at the Ralph M. Freeman Memorial Library for the U. S. Courts in Detroit.

Colleagues, friends and family attended the retirement party at the Traffic Jam to formally recognize and praise Linda for her professional accomplishments and 23 years of service

as a law librarian for the U.S. Courts. Many special guests were also present at this event including Bernard Friedman, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan; Senior Judge Damon Keith, U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals; Senior Judge Cornelia Kennedy, U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals; Judge Arthur J. Tarnow, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan; Georgia Clark, Director of the Wayne State Law Library and Linda's first boss; and Kathy Joyce Welker, Circuit Librarian,

U.S. Court of Appeals 6th Circuit Library and Linda's recent boss.

Linda Smith started her law librarian career at the U.S. Courts Library on November 2, 1981. During her tenure, she helped many Judges and law clerks with research that was included to craft notable judicial opinions. Linda retired from the U.S. Courts Library on November 24, 2004.

More Features

LexisNexis Throws Holiday Appreciation Luncheon for Area Law Librarians

“[The lunch] affords local librarians a break from their hectic schedules to enjoy some quality time with colleagues”

— Matt Wagner, LexisNexis Librarian Relations Consultant

LexisNexis hosted a holiday luncheon for law librarians, December 2, 2004 at Sweet Georgia Brown in downtown Detroit. Approximately 26 law librarians from academic, law firm and special libraries throughout metropolitan Detroit attended the event to network, socialize and dine on a feast of a luncheon that included entrees featuring beef, chicken, pork and lobster and various mouth-watering desserts.

Matt Wagner, LexisNexis Librarian Relations Consultant for Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio, said Lex-

isNexis offers this holiday luncheon annually to show appreciation for its librarian customers.

“The annual luncheon offers LexisNexis an opportunity to express our gratitude to area law librarians for partnering with us in delivering information services to the Detroit legal community. Additionally, I believe it also affords local librarians a break from their hectic schedules to enjoy some quality time with colleagues,” he said.

New Law librarians on board at Ave Maria and Cooley Law School Libraries

There are two new law librarians who recently started new positions at Michigan law libraries: Brian van Potelsberghe and Nathan Collins.

Brian is the Reference and Publications Librarian at the Brennan Law Library, Thomas M. Cooley School of Law. Brian has an MA in Information Resources and Library Sciences from the University of Arizona and a JD & MBA from Pace University in New York. He also has a B.S. in both International Studies and Economics/Finance from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. As Reference and Publications Librarian at Cooley, Brian’s primary responsibilities include: reference, creating brochures & web pages for the library, teaching various CALR classes, research for professors and creating research guides.

Nathan is Access Services & Reference Librarian at Ave Maria School of Law Library. He previously has worked in libraries at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in Denton, Nebraska. Nathan received his Bachelor

of Arts in Catholic Studies and Philosophy from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, and his Juris Doctor from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is scheduled to receive his Master of Arts in Library Science from the University of Missouri-Columbia in December, 2004. As Access Services & Reference Librarian at Ave Maria, Nathan manages the daily activities of the Circulation Desk and provides reference services to students and faculty.

Brian and Nathan are profiled in this issue of The MichALL Newsletter. Their comments to questions about their jobs and careers are listed below:

How long have you been in your present position?

Brian: I joined Thomas M. Cooley Law School at the end of June of this year.

Nathan: I have been in my current position since the beginning of October.

What do you find most challenging

about your position?

Brian: The most challenging aspect has been obtaining my sea legs as a greenhorn librarian in a new environment and teaching for the first time. Finding a teaching style that effectively conveys the information to students in a fun and thought provoking manner is both challenging and highly rewarding.

Nathan: Beginning any new position is always a little difficult because you enter into a new world in which you must quickly learn the customs and peculiarities of the new environment. Thankfully, I feel I am adapting well to Ave Maria and the awkward "new employee" feeling is subsiding.

What do you find most rewarding about your work?

Brian: I find the most rewarding aspect to be the encapsulation of the multifaceted dynamics that being a librarian has to offer: seeing a student whose eye's light up when the light bulb goes on, taking a novel approach to finding an item that has eluded a

Welcome New Librarians (con't from p.)

to finding an item that has eluded a student or a professor, the congeniality and ready assistance offered to me by my colleagues, designing a new publication or website, etc. The variety of my position allows me to never have a dull moment while hardly a day passes in which I don't learn something new.

Nathan: I love working with people, so this position is perfect for me. We have a great student body here at Ave Maria Law School and it has been wonderful helping people with their legal research. Additionally, working with such experienced and competent librarians has been an extraordinarily

valuable experience for me and I feel I have learned so much from them already.

Do you have any future career plans?

Brian: If a person is simply focused on only one path or obtaining a desired goal, they may never see a more promising trail along their way which may hold more satisfaction and have a more positive impact to those around them. I am more of the persuasion on focusing on the present, over which I have more control, rather than worrying directly about the future. With this in mind, my viewpoint is to continually learn and do

the best I can today which will invariably lead to a variety of opportunities in the future. Ultimately, I feel the question posed is self-centered. A more satisfying inclination would be to view my future goals in such a way which would have the effect of leaving a positive impact at Thomas M. Cooley and my profession. Then I know that I have achieved my "future career plans."

Nathan: I hope to continue working as a law librarian in order to further development my legal research expertise. I plan on devoting more time and energy to learning about international legal research.

MichALL Annual Meeting: Marketing Your Library

Do you want exciting yet practical ways to promote you and your Library?

Everyone knows *you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink*, but have you ever thought about making horses thirsty?

Michael Buschmohle will teach you the skills to promote yourself and your services resulting in not only making your audience thirsty but asking for more.....

Who is Michael Buschmohle? He is the President of Applause! Associates of Seattle. Known as the "Presenter's Presenter," he has conducted training sessions for Washington State Judges, the Seattle Public Library, AT&T, Ford, Key Bank, EPA, United Way, FAA, Immunex and many others. He's been invited to conduct speech and communications workshops in 37 states, Canada and Mexico over the past three dec-

ades and in 2003 he was a guest speaker at LexisNexis TRICALL. Anyone who hears him will not forget the experience or his advise.

Mark your calendars for **April 26** for the **MichALL** annual meeting in **Grand Rapids** and start thinking about making horses (or managing partners, deans, judges and others) thirsty. We promise a day well spent.

The MichALL 2005 Annual Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 26 at the new Thomas M. Cooley Law School Library and nearby Western Michigan University Graduate Center in downtown Grand Rapids.

The topic of this year's program will be communication -- something we do everyday -- a vital part of our work as Librarians, yet something that can be ever so difficult to do well. Our program will feature Michael Buschmohle, President of APPLAUSE! Associates. Known as the

"Presenter's Presenter", Michael Buschmohle helps people communicate wonderfully well with words, pictures, voice, and body. As a speech coach and speaker trainer he has videotaped and critiqued 15,000 presentations of people in federal and state government, business, sales, high tech, education, law enforcement, and the judicial system. His clients have appeared on Oprah, Good Morning America and the Today Show. He has written speeches for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in Washington State, as well as for politicians, CEOs, managers, and professional speakers.

You won't want to miss this year's meeting! Registration information can be found on page 8 and will be available on the MichALL Listserv within in the next week or two.

MichALL MINUTES

Michigan Association of Law Libraries

Executive Board Meeting

Saturday, October 23, 2004

Bellaire, MI

Held @ 8:00 AM, Shanty Creek Resort & Club

Present: Barb Bonge, Christopher Bloodworth, Anne Cottongim, Pat Parker, Michael Samson, and June Van Wingen

I. Call to Order

II. Treasurer and Membership Report - Barb Bonge

Our current balance is \$3,236.25. We have had bank service charges totaling up to \$0.00 and deposits for membership dues totaling \$60.00. Barb noted that there were names on the membership list that were not included on the listserv list. She will send these names and their email addresses to Michael so that he can update the listserv list.

III. Committees

Listserv and Website - Michael Samson: Michael proposed creating a web blog for MichALL members. This web blog will be an online, menu-based tool for members to post information such as news, updates and announcements. MichALL members will be able to create individual user accounts to access the web blog anytime.

Newsletter - Christopher Bloodworth

September/October 2004 issue received positive feedback from members and non-members alike. Thanks to all who contributed material to this issue, provided input, and assisted with the editing and format. I will issue formal thanks when I post submissions reminder for the November/December 2004 issue by first week of November.

Submissions deadline for November/December 2004 issue set for Weds., Dec. 1, 5:00PM; completion deadline and release date set for Friday, Dec. 3, 12NOON.

Proposed Publication Schedule: handed out copies to Board members; and proposed that the MichALL Newsletter return to being a regular quarterly publication. The Board agreed and confirmed issue dates and submission deadlines.

Format Ideas for Future Issues: handed out copies to Board members; and proposed including many of these ideas in future issues as necessary; ideas are based on past MichALL Newsletter issues, recent newsletters of other AALL chapters and SIS groups, and tips learned from the CONE Workshop during the 2004 Annual Meeting. The Board agreed that these ideas be implemented in producing upcoming newsletter issues.

Preview of GODORT-M in the November/December 2004 issue: an article will be drafted and posted in both the Michigan Bulletin (SLA) and MichALL Newsletter following the November/December 2004 issue.

IV. Old Business

The Board finalized plans for *The Fall 2004 Membership Dinner* at Tuscan House in Dexter, Michigan. The confirmed date and time of this event is Wednesday, November 10 @ 5:00PM. Thus far, Barb has only received 4 paid registrations. Michael will post an announcement of the event and reminder to register by deadline on the MichALL listserv.

Review of proposed changes to bylaws of the MichALL Constitution: The Board reviewed and discussed proposed changes to the bylaws of the constitution, the establishment of a travel grant for the Vice-President/President-Elect to support leadership training and the creation of electronic ballots to allow for email voting. At the Fall 2004 Membership Dinner, the Board will present these proposed changes for discussion and distribute paper ballots to attendees to vote on these changes.

V. New Business & Announcements

Retirement Party for Linda Smith, Traffic Jam & Snug, Detroit, MI, Monday, Nov. 1, 2004: Michael will post email to invite Linda and her husband to the Fall 2004 Membership Dinner. If Linda confirms that she and her husband will attend, then MichALL will formally recognize her during the dinner. Chris will explore the possibility of ordering a trophy or plaque made in honor of Linda. Nancy Whitmer, a recently retired librarian from the State Law Library of Michigan, was also invited as a guest to be recognized at the dinner but will not be able to attend.

Meeting Minutes *(continued)*

GODORT-M/MichALL Joint Program:

The Board confirmed Friday, Dec. 10 as the date of the program. The program will be open to both MichALL members and non-members to draw, on average, 40 or more in attendance.

Michael will arrange the travel and accommodations for Sabrina Pacifici, the keynote speaker/presenter of the program.

The Board discussed the possibility of bringing in Anne Sanders, Government Documents Librarian at the Library of Michigan, as keynote speaker/presenter during the afternoon portion of the program. Michael said he is also willing to give a presentation in the afternoon on updates of GPO initiatives.

The Board also discussed the possibility of MichALL joint sponsorship with Lexis and/or Westlaw for the program luncheon. Michael will contact both Lexis and Westlaw representatives to see, in addition to providing support and sponsorship, if they are willing to conduct a demo of products and/or features related to government documents or RSS technology. Michael recommended Katherine Lowry, a Westlaw rep from Chicago, as a possible speaker/presenter for a demo of Find & Print, KeyWest Newslink and IntraClip.

The Board concluded that program registration will be made payable to GODORT-M.

The 2005 MichALL Annual Spring Meeting: the Board discussed ideas for planning, location and program themes. Pat offered the Steelcase Library in Grand Rapids as a possible location. Michael raised electronic initiatives and services connecting Michigan libraries as a possible theme and Louise Bugg of the Michigan Library Consortium as a possible keynote speaker/presenter.

Next Meeting: The Fall 2004 Membership Dinner @ Tuscan House, Dexter, MI, Weds., Nov. 10, 2004

Treasurer's Report

As of Dec 9, 2004, MichALL has \$3696.53 in its treasury. The Oct 21, 2004 Treasurer's report stated assets of \$3236.25. Expenditures after Oct 21 were:

Chef Ray's Catering	\$ 437.94
MICHAEL SAMSON: REIMBURSEMENT FOR GIFT AND CARD FOR LINDA & OMIA SMITH'S RE- TIREMENTS	\$ 26.47
Bank Service Charges (Oct - Dec)	\$ 6.73
Total of expenditures	\$ 481.14

Deposits and receipts after Oct 21 were:

Deposits and receipts after Oct 21 were:

Fall dinner receipts	\$ 525.00
04/05 Membership dues	\$ 315.00
Shanty Creek deposit refund	\$ 101.42
Total of deposits	\$ 941.42
Present balance in treasury	\$ 3696.53

***You Can Lead a Horse to Water...But Can You Make Him Thirsty?
How to Make Them Come Back for More.
2005 MichALL Annual Meeting***

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2005

Place: Thomas M. Cooley Law School Grand Rapids/Western Michigan Univ. Campus.
WMU Graduate Center, 200 Ionia Ave. 4th Floor.

Time: 9:00-9:30 Registration

Program: *Michael Buschmohle, President of Applause! Associates of Seattle.*

9:00-11:30 Work Talk: Communicating effectively at work.

11:30-1:00 Lunch and MichALL Business Meeting

1:00-3:30 Presentation Skills

3:30 Library Tour

Directions: **From the East:** I-96 West toward Grand Rapids. After you pass the Lowell exit (Exit 52), take the new M-6 South Beltline exit towards Holland. Follow M-6, and just after the Kalamazoo St. exit, get in the right lane -- this becomes the exit for US 131 (Exit 8). Take US 131 North toward Grand Rapids, and exit at the Downtown exit (Exit 84 B). When you get off the exit, do not go straight to the light -- keep to the right and that will put you on Cherry Street East (yield sign). After yielding, merge right onto Cherry and go 1/2 block to Ionia (4-way stop sign). Turn left onto Ionia and go 1/2 block and turn left into Area 5 parking. The WMU/Cooley building is on the SE corner of Ionia and Cherry.

Parking: Parking is available in the Area 5 Lot, which is on Ionia Street across from the WMU Graduate Center. Parking is included in your registration fee. Tell the attendant that you are attending a Cooley event.

REGISTRATION FORM (*Due April 8, 2005*)

Please Note: Seating is limited to 60 people. Registration forms must be accompanied by your payment in order to reserve your place. Thank you!

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Phone: E-mail: Do you want a vegetarian lunch? Yes No

Member: \$20 Non-member: \$30

Please mail registration form and check (payable to MichALL) **by Friday, April 8, 2005** to:

Kori Kasara kasarak@cooley.edu
 Thomas M. Cooley Law School Library 616-301-6850 ext. 6940
 111 Commerce SW www.cooley.edu
 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

MichALL/GODORT Collaboration (from p. 1)

RSS feeds from the Internet to a portal or blog.

Michael said there are several tools librarians can use to create and build files of RSS feeds such as Mozilla Firefox RSS Channel Editor, Microsoft Front Page and Feed for ALL.

Katherine Lowry, Librarian Relations Manager for Westlaw, followed Michael with her presentation on RSS feeds to the Congressional Record and Federal Register via West's IntraClip

service. IntraClip is a powerful awareness service alerting Westlaw subscribers to important legal developments. Since Summer 2004, IntraClip has been offering RSS feeds from all Westlaw databases. She said that "it is a one-stop shop that consolidates all information sources into one portal."

During her presentation, Katherine outlined some of the features and advantages of IntraClip such as the delivery of instant results to a user's web browser, ability to choose a variety of sources to download

as RSS feeds, and integration of web-based information into a portal or blog.

Following the MichALL and GODORT-M meetings, Ann Marie Sanders, Head of Government Documents at the Library of Michigan, provided updates from the Fall 2004 Regional Depository Libraries Meeting.

During her presentation, Ann

MichALL OFFICERS 2004-2005

President: [Michael Samson](#)

Past-President: [Jeanne Stuart](#)

Vice-President: [Patricia Parker](#)

Secretary: [Christopher Bloodworth](#) (2003-05)

Treasurer: [Barbara McDowell Bonge](#) (2002-05)

Member at Large: [June VanWingen](#) (2003-05)

Member at Large: [Larissa Sullivant](#) (2002-05)

Volunteer at Large: [Anne Cottongim](#)

Nominations for MichALL Officers 2005-06

Vice President/President-Elect: Larissa Sullivant

Treasurer: Jim Mooradian

Secretary: Anne Cottongim

Member-at-Large: Lauren Collins

MichALL committees are composed of a liaison from the Executive Board, the chairperson, and individuals who have designated their interest in committee activity on the annual membership renewal form. If you are interested in getting involved in one of the committees, please contact the designated chairperson.

All positions are two-year terms with the vice-president becoming president during the second year. For more detailed information on duties and responsibilities of officers, check out the MichALL Nominations web page at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/michall/nominations/index-nominations.htm>.

LAW LIBRARY UPDATES

Academic News



Ave Maria School of Law Library Report

Mitch Counts, Library Director

Robert Linz is leaving Ave Maria, probably sometime in June. He begins his new duties as director of the law library at Campbell University School of Law in Buies Creek, North Carolina on July 1, 2005. He will be responsible for the operation of the law library and the IT function at Campbell.

Erika Keup has also left the library and our new Acquisitions/Budget paraprofessional is Suzanne Kaufman. Suzanne comes to us from Infotrieve in Canton, Michigan. She has also worked in the law libraries of the University of Pittsburgh (Acquisitions/Serial Librarian), and Thomas Cooley (Acquisitions Assistant). She also spent a total of five years working as a paralegal at law firms in Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, Michigan. Suzanne has a Master of Library and Information Science from Wayne State, and a B.A. in Psychology from Michigan State University.

Finally, Erin Willis (public services paraprofessional) is expecting her first child at the end of February, and will be taking a leave of absence at that time. She is expected to be back working full-time by the fall of 2005.

Arthur Neef Law Library Report, Wayne State University

Georgia A. Clark, Law Library Director

Since October 2004 Georgia A. Clark has been wearing two hats in the Wayne State University Library System: Director of the Law Library and Interim Director of Resource Services. Resource Services is the unit responsible for the acquisitions, cataloging and database management for the entire library system. She loves it! As a result of Georgia's additional responsibilities, Anne, Lauren, and Michael are being assisted by two WSU Library and Information Science Program students – Michael T. Davis, JD and Jetaun Colbert.

In her spare time, Georgia participated in a banana bread bakeoff. Her bread went loaf to loaf against, among other people, the Dean of University Libraries, Sandy Yee. The contest was part of the January all staff meeting. Seven banana breads were marked with numbers so that there could be no political ramifications. The winning bread was #3 – Georgia's! She will be happy to share the recipe. E-mail request to: georgia.clark@wayne.edu.

In 1976 the WSU Law Library/Law School was a founding member of LLMC (Law Library Microform Consortium) with the University of Hawaii Law Library/Law School. A few years ago, LLMC-Digital began digitizing microfiche titles in its catalog and making them available to subscribers. This new development, as a result of enhanced technology, will speed up the digitization process. This year, the Arthur Neef Law Library will contribute its volumes of state reports to LLMC-Digital, thus making images available to the world at an unbelievably low price. Our participation is another way to fulfill our mission of making legal information available to a broad base of users. The preservation aspect of LLMC has already been realized by us since we have the reports on microfiche. The shift to digital enhances service to our patrons by delivering information in an attractive, user friendly format.

Thomas M. Cooley Law School Library Report

Duane Strojny, Associate Dean for Library and Instructional Support

The Cooley Law Libraries welcomed our 20th full-time librarian on October 29, 2004. Jennifer Lunt is the new Head of Educational Services at our Grand Rapids location. At all three locations, we continue to make new and exciting acquisitions. Both Rochester and Grand Rapids are building basic reference collections. In Lansing we are continuing to enhance our professional ethics collection housed in the Cooley Center for Ethics and Professional Responsibility.

Academic News

The public services librarians taught nearly 100 bibliographic sessions of some type this past semester. Over 1300 students attended a class taught by a librarian during this past term. We know this will better prepare students for legal research in the real world!

COOLCAT, our online catalog at <innopac.cooley.edu>, reflects holdings for all of our locations. We have recently purchased a significant number of Hein reprints to strengthen our core collections at Grand Rapids and Rochester. In addition, Cooley continues to selectively catalog web sites. As part of the Government Depository program, numerous government websites are cataloged giving searchable access to patrons no matter where they access our catalog.

Michigan State University College of Law Library

Jane Edwards, Head of Faculty and Public Services

Services: Last fall the Michigan State University Libraries (including the law library) expanded their shared catalog to include bibliographic records for the Library of Michigan and the Law Library of Michigan. Now when you search the online catalog, Magic, you'll find material from all of the MSU libraries and the two state libraries.

Personnel: Barbara Bean is the newest addition to the MSU College of Law Library reference staff. Barbara is new to the field of law librarianship and has a special interest in administrative law, international law, and water rights. In January 2005, Jane Edwards, Head of Faculty and Public Services Librarian, conducted a full day training session for the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys on free Internet legal resources. Hildur Hanna, Associate Library Director continues to teach classes as an adjunct instructor for the library and information science program at Wayne State University and she co-teaches Advanced Legal Research at the law college with Jane Edwards. Reference librarian, Janet Hedin, is busy coaching the Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court team and the Niagara International Moot Court team, and last fall Janet taught Transnational Legal Research with Professor Elliott Meyrowitz. In addition to her teaching and moot court responsibilities, Janet has been diligently working on a Master's in Library Science at Wayne State University, and she expects to complete her degree in December 2005. Library director Charles Ten Brink had two articles published this academic year. The first article, titled "A Jurisprudential Approach to Teaching Legal Research", was published in the winter 2005 issue of the New England Law Review. The essay suggests that students can better apprehend the uses and limitations of common legal research tools by understanding the structures of law accepted as givens by the creators of those tools. The second article titled "Cell Phones, Socializing & Psychotic Behavior: A Brief Guide to Library Etiquette" is a lighthearted editorial, advising students on how to live in harmony in the Library. It was published in the autumn 2004 issue of The Green Bag:

Oakland County Law Library Report

Dianne Zyskowski, Law Librarian

The Oakland County Bar Foundation approved the Adams-Pratt Oakland County Law Library's grant request for \$19,400. The funds will be used to replace 7 computers and 3 printers for public use.

The Law Library's 40,000 annual visitors have access to the Internet, selected Westlaw databases, Loislaw and MS Word, in addition to approximately 70,000 volumes of material in print and other formats.

University of Michigan Law Library Report

Margaret Leary, Library Director

Timothy Gatti is the new Head of Technical Services at the University of Michigan Law Library, as of December 1, 2004. Tim's former position was Head of Cataloging at SUNY Albany. Prior to that, he worked at the Iowa State Law Library, and at the University of Iowa, where he earned his undergraduate and library degrees.

LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWS

Law Librarians of Metropolitan Detroit (LLMD) Report



LLMD met on October 7th 2004 at Clark Hill PLC:

The LLMD meeting schedule set for 2004-2005:

December 16th – Pepper Hamilton

January – Butzel Long

February – Dykema Gossett

March – Miller Canfield

April -- Undecided

Main topic for discussion was Passwords. Participants addressed the following question: Does anyone have an easy method for distributing to users their passwords whenever they get lost?

Answers provided by members were:

- ⇒ The majority continue to have paper files in the library. After a manual lookup then either email and/or a telephone call to the user.
- ⇒ One solution to problem of lost passwords is to create a laminated card using card stock paper. The card would include all appropriate user names and passwords for every electronic resource the user may use on a regular basis.
- ⇒ The most advanced concept mentioned was an Intranet hotlink to a password database. Users are able to lookup their access code before they connect to the database.

LLMD met again at Clark Hill PLC on October 28th 2004. The meeting sponsor was Thomson West Librarian Relations.

Katherine Lowry, Manager, Thomson West Librarian Relations was introduced to the group. The presentation by Katherine showed upcoming enhancements to several statutory databases including Statutes Plus, Past Stat, and state legislative intent databases. The presentation focused on how the databases have been developed and their potential usefulness in a law firm setting.

At the end of the meeting best wishes were extended to Linda and Om Smith as they both entered a new phase in their life. Linda retired at the end of November from the Ralph M. Freeman Memorial library for the U.S. Courts (Eastern District of Michigan). Om Smith also retired in November from the Wayne County Sheriff's Department Law Library.

Member News

Margaret Vitale able to spend holidays at home with family

Margaret Vitale, librarian at Cooley Law Library, Oakland University, has been discharged from the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan at the Detroit Medical Center and is now at the Lakeland Center in Southfield. You can send her cards, plants, flowers, etc. at:

Margaret Vitale
The Lakeland Center
26900 Franklin Road
Southfield, MI 48304

Margaret very much enjoyed working at the Cooley/Oakland Library and would love to hear from any of you. Her husband Fred posts news of her progress on her website, <http://margaretvitale.blogspot.com> and Margaret was able to spend some time at home over the holidays. There are a few very nice photos of this noteworthy milestone at <http://mypeople.com/members/fx2386/mvitale>.

Please take a moment to send Margaret your best wishes.

Jean Beer, wife of late Richard Beer, passed away in November 2004

It is with great sadness we share that Jean O. Beer, wife of the late Richard Beer, passed away Wednesday morning, November 17, 2004.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jean's family and friends. The funeral was held Saturday, November 20, 2004 at St. Mary's In The Hills Episcopal Church in Lake Orion, MI.

Memorial contributions can be made to the St. Mary's In The Hills Episcopal Church Building Fund.



PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL
ACQUISITIONS/SERIALS LIBRARIAN
LANSING CAMPUS

RESPONSIBILITIES: Plans, supervises, and directs all acquisition and serial department services. Manages staff in the day-to-day departmental processes and workflow.

Participates in all areas of Technical Services, including, but not limited to, collection development, long and short planning, report generation, and problem solving. Supervises both full and part-time staff. Involvement in professional organizations and current awareness of technical services trends is highly encouraged.

QUALIFICATIONS: (1) MLS from an ALA-accredited library school; (2) 3-5 years experience in a large library's serials and/or acquisitions department; (3) Ability to create and work with computer generated records; (4) Experience in job-related OCLC applications; (5) Experience in supervising, managing, and training department staff; (6) Ability to communicate with staff and patrons and to respond effectively to the needs of our patrons; (7) Ability to work independently, to exercise individual initiative and to coordinate specific operations within the department; to use good judgment and to take necessary action in a timely and courteous manner; (8) Ability to develop department policies and procedures; and to monitor and direct workflow in all aspects of the Serials and Acquisitions Departments and (9) Experience with Innovative Interfaces Millennium Serials and Acquisitions modules.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Salary dependent on qualifications. Excellent benefit package including up to 36 personal leave days per year. Medical, prescription, dental, and vision insurance and employer-paid and 403(b) retirement contribution plans.

HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES—ROCHESTER/OAKLAND CAMPUS

RESPONSIBILITIES: Plans, supervises, and directs all reference, educational, and instructional services. Manages computer-aided legal instruction programs, participates in reference duty rotation, faculty liaison program, and teaching and research seminars. Participates in all areas of Public Services, including, but not limited to, collection development, circulation, and stack management. Supervises professional and support staff. Must be willing to work a flexible schedule. Some evening and weekend hours are required.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED: MLS and JD degrees from accredited schools. Three to five years of law library experience, preferably in a supervisory capacity. Extensive knowledge of legal information technologies. Ability to optimally utilize legal research resources, both print and electronic. Strong interpersonal and excellent written and oral communication skills. Ability to work with faculty and staff in a collegial setting.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Salary dependent on qualifications. Excellent benefit package including up to 36 personal leave days per year. Medical, prescription, dental, and vision insurance and employer-paid and 403(b) retirement contribution plans.



Applicants for either position should send a cover letter, resume, and list of at least three references to: Tim Tuohy, Director of Human Resources, Re: OU Librarian, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, P. O. Box 13038, Lansing, MI 48901-3038. Resumes will be accepted through March 31 or until the position is filled with a qualified candidate.

***THE ARTHUR NEEF LAW LIBRARY—WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIAN I/II: ACCESS/GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS LIBRARIAN—FULL TIME***

RESPONSIBILITIES: The Access/Government Documents Librarian reports to the Law Library Director. Primary responsibilities include coordination and marketing of interlibrary loan and document delivery services, coordination of the selection, deselection and promotion of the U.S. depository document collection and services; coordination, maintenance and promotion of the major microfiche collection; participation in reference, research support and instruction; and participation as a team member in development and delivery of all client services.

REQUIRED: M.L.S. from an ALA accredited program by date of hire; strong service orientation; excellent oral and written communication skills; interpersonal and organization skills; working knowledge of Westlaw, Lexis and the Internet; ability to work cooperatively in a collaborative environment; and willingness to work an evening and rotational weekends.

PREFERRED: JD from an ABA accredited program by date of hire preferred. State Bar of Michigan membership.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Salary rank: commensurate with education and experience. Wayne State offers dental and health plan options. TIAA/CREF or Fidelity, tuition assistance for employees and family members, relocation assistance and liberal vacation.

ENVIRONMENT: The Arthur Neef Law Library is a major unit of the Wayne State University Library System. It is the second largest academic law library in Michigan and the twenty-ninth largest in the country. The law library is noted for its collection and the services provide by the law librarians and staff. With nearly 600,000 volumes, it serves as a major center of legal research for law school faculty and students, all other university faculty and students, members of the local and state bar, representatives of state and federal agencies, alumni and people from the community.

TO APPLY: Please submit applications electronically by sending a complete resume and letter of interest, including the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of at least three professional references to: Wayne State University's ON-LINE HIRING SYSTEM at <https://www.jobs.wayne.edu> posting number 031484.

Proposed changes to MichALL Constitution

The complete Constitution is on the MichALL website at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/michall/organization/constitution.htm>

The ballots for these amendments will be in the same mailing as the nominations for officers. Two-thirds of the ballots returned will be necessary for passage.



Proposed changes are noted by underlining.

Article VI. Officers.

A & B [no changes]

C. Duties of Officers

1. [no changes]

2. The duties of the Vice President/President Elect shall include, but are not limited to, attending the Chapter Leadership Training at the AALL annual meeting. The association shall grant the Vice President/President Elect at least \$500 to help with the expenses of attending this training.

3. The duties of the Secretary . . . [only change is in numbering]

4. The duties of the Treasurer . . . [only change is in numbering]

(The intent of this change is to provide for a grant for the Vice-President/President Elect to attend the Chapter Leadership Training at the AALL annual meeting and to make that a requirement of the office. In previous years, grants have been made to new members. This provision would not eliminate the possibility of grants to new members, but would assure that the VP would have help in attending the leadership training. Every three years the money would come from AALL, rather than MichALL.)

Article IX. Nominations and Elections and other Membership Votes

Note: In these provisions, where email is the stated means of communication, the communication to those members who do not have email easily available to them shall be by regular mail.

A. General Elections

1. The Executive Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee, consisting of three members of the Association that fairly represent the membership at large.



2. The Nominating Committee shall submit the names of nominees to the President by January 20. The President shall promptly announce the nominations by posting them on the website.
 3. Additional nominations may be made by any member by communicating such nomination to the President in writing, including by email, endorsed by the signatures or by emails of at least five percent of the Association's members. These nominations and endorsements must be received by the President by January 30 to be accepted.
 4. Ballots including all names duly nominated shall be emailed by the Secretary, or by another Executive Board member if the Secretary is a nominee, to the membership on the first Monday after February 10.
 5. Election ballots must be received by the Secretary (or other Executive Board member, as provided above) by the Monday two weeks following sending out the ballots. Email ballots shall be returned by a direct reply to the ballot email.
 6. The Secretary or Executive Board member receiving the filled-out ballots shall print out all email ballots and present them and any ballots returned by regular mail along with a tally of the votes to the President, who will announce the results to the membership. The paper record of the ballots shall be maintained until the new officers take office at the spring business meeting.
- B. Vacancies and Special Elections.
1. [no change]
 2. Vice President/ President Elect. In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of the Vice President/President Elect, a special election will be held to elect a new Vice President/President Elect to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. Such a special election shall be held as soon as practicable and shall observe the procedures established for General Elections, with the dates of necessity being changed and the time periods being reduced by up to one-half if the Executive Board decides the reduction desirable.



3. [no change]

4. [no change]

C. Membership Votes

1. The affairs of the Association, including elections, shall be conducted by the majority vote of members voting unless otherwise provided in the Constitution.

2. If the Executive Board determines that a particular decision should be decided by the vote of the membership, it will also determine whether that vote will be at the spring business meeting, by special business meeting, or by mail vote.

3. A notice of the decision to be voted on, along with the exact wording to appear on the ballot, shall be sent by the President to all members at least twenty (20) days prior to a vote.

4. Ballots shall be emailed by the Secretary to the membership on a Monday.

5. Ballots must be received by the Secretary (or other Executive Board member, as provided above) by the Monday two weeks following sending out the ballots. Email ballots shall be returned by a direct reply to the ballot email.

6. The Secretary or Executive Board member receiving the filled-out ballots shall print out all email ballots and present them and any ballots returned by regular mail along with a tally of the votes to the President, who will announce the results to the membership. The paper record of the ballots shall be maintained until the end of the next business meeting.

(The intent of these amendments are to 1: provide for a definite schedule for officer elections, in part, so that the incoming VP/PE will be able to plan for attending the AALL Leadership training, 2: allow for email balloting in MichALL elections rather than regular mail ballots, and 3: by adding Section C to Article IX, provide for the procedures for elections or other matters to be voted on by the membership. AALL has gone to email balloting and found it worked well.)

* * *

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Receive news from your favorite Internet sites in real-time via RSS technology

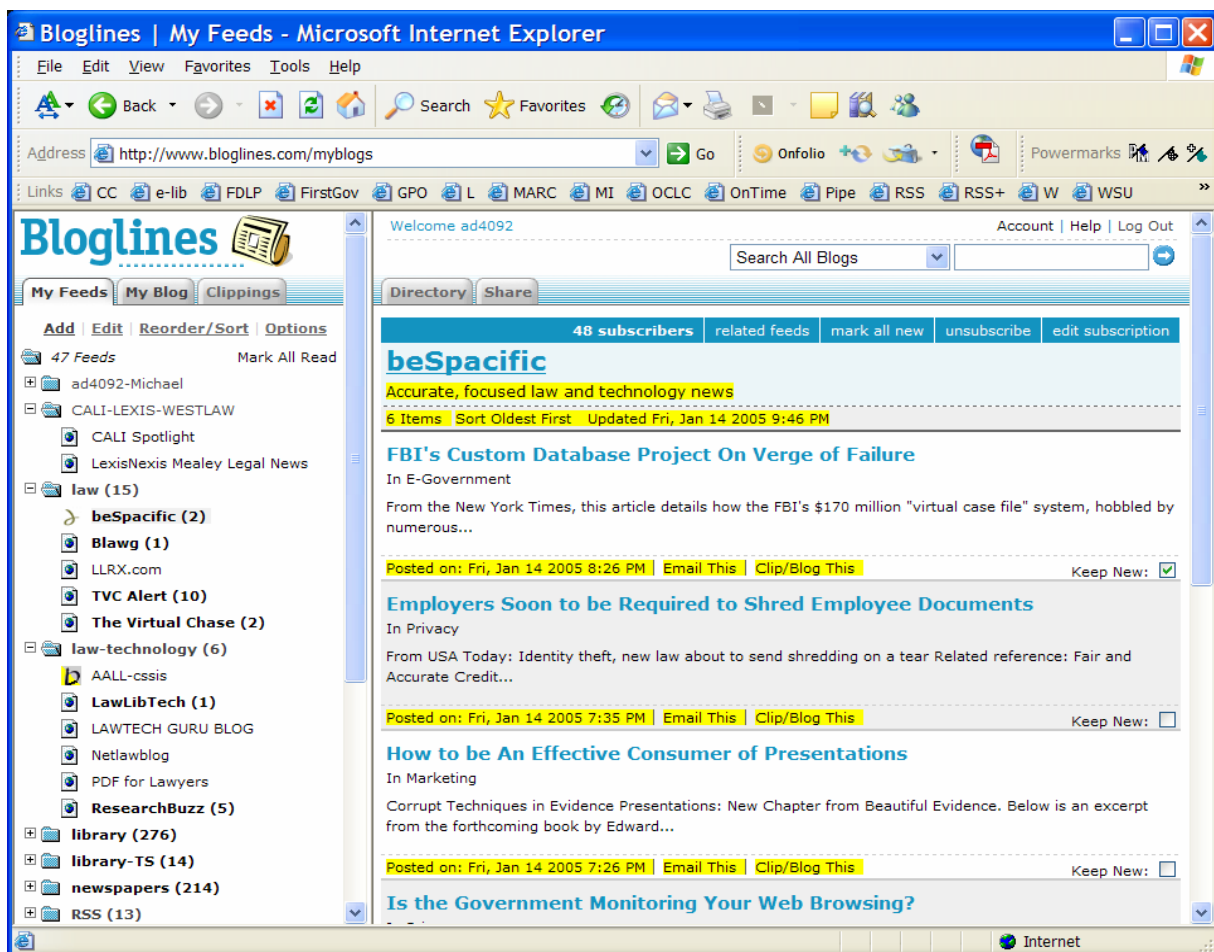
Michael Samson, Arthur Neef Law Library, Wayne State University

RSS is a XML meta language that, when used in combination with specialized software packages called RSS aggregators or News aggregators, allows a user to be notified of news or new content on a web site without having to visit that site specifically. An individual can use a content notification service (aggregator) where he or she can sign up for feeds from web sites, blogs, and other news sources. Users will be automatically notified which subscriptions have new content via RSS feeds. Aggregation is considered to be 'the web at its best!'

RSS stands for:

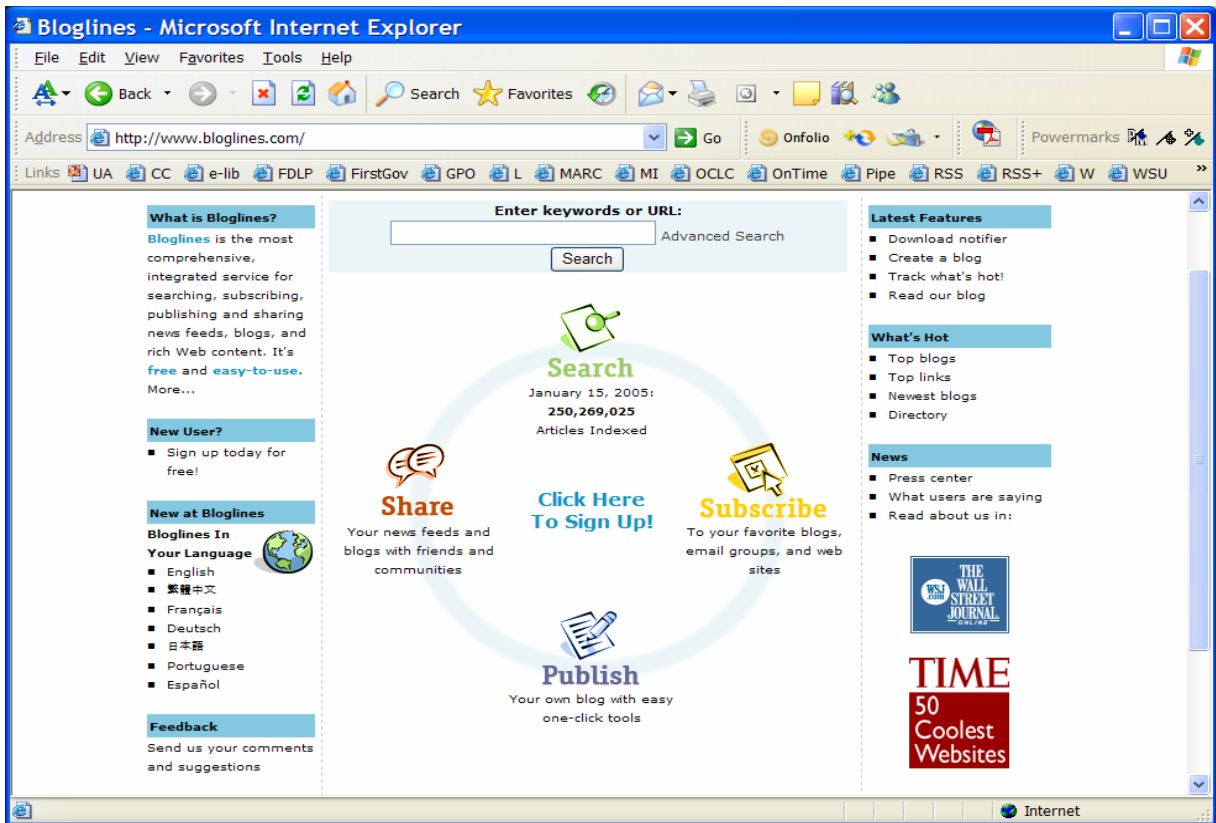
- ⇒ Rich Site Summary
- ⇒ Really Simple Syndication
- ⇒ Really Salvation (from) Spam

Below are several screen shots of Michael's professional awareness RSS feeds coming to his desktop in real-time via the Bloglines' RSS reader.

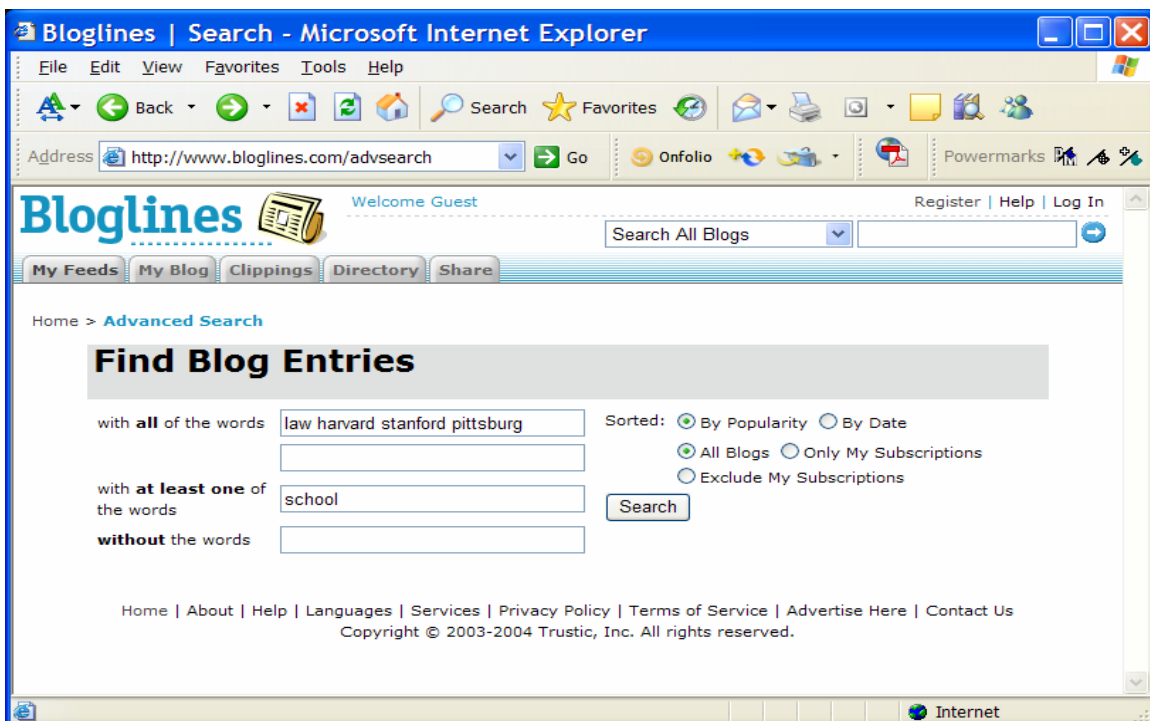


RSS readers

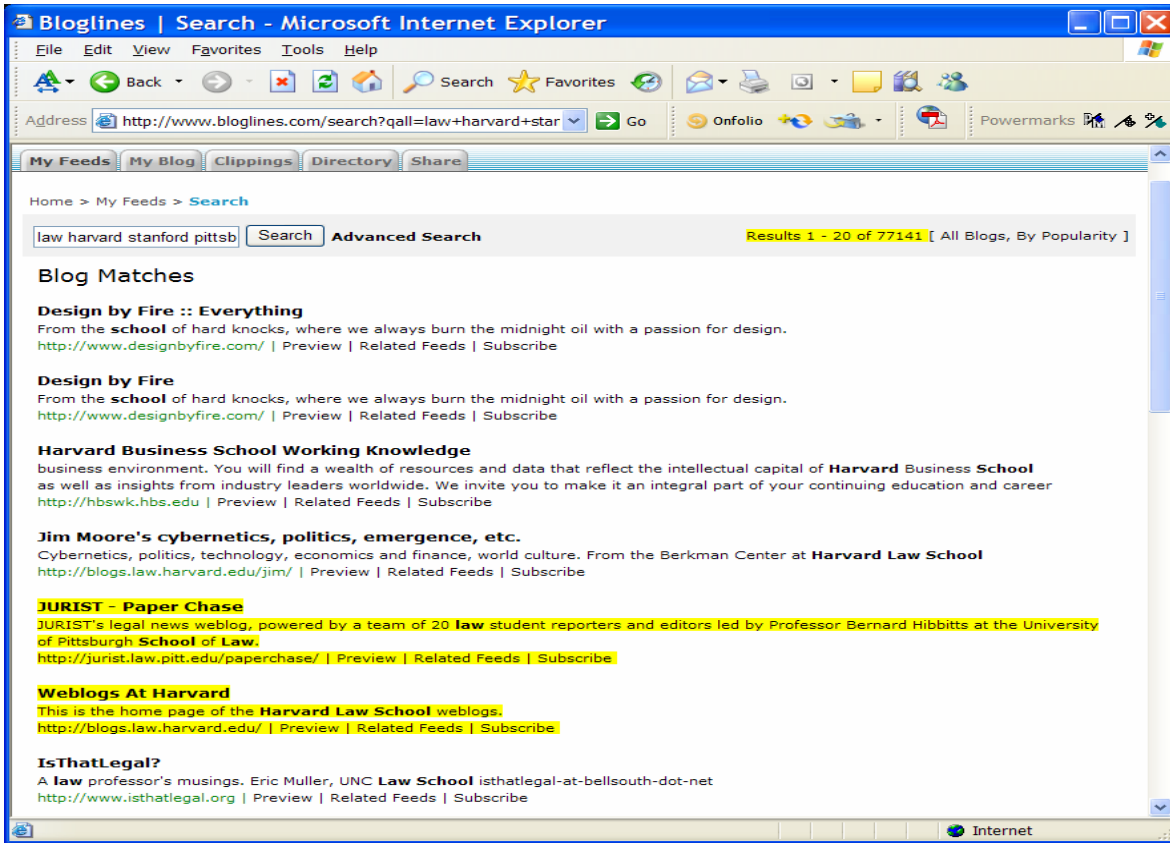
You can experiment with RSS feeds using a web based aggregator like Blog Lines. To do this you need to open an account with www.bloglines.com and give it a try for a few days. It is free and it also works as a blog (syndicator) and e-mail service too!



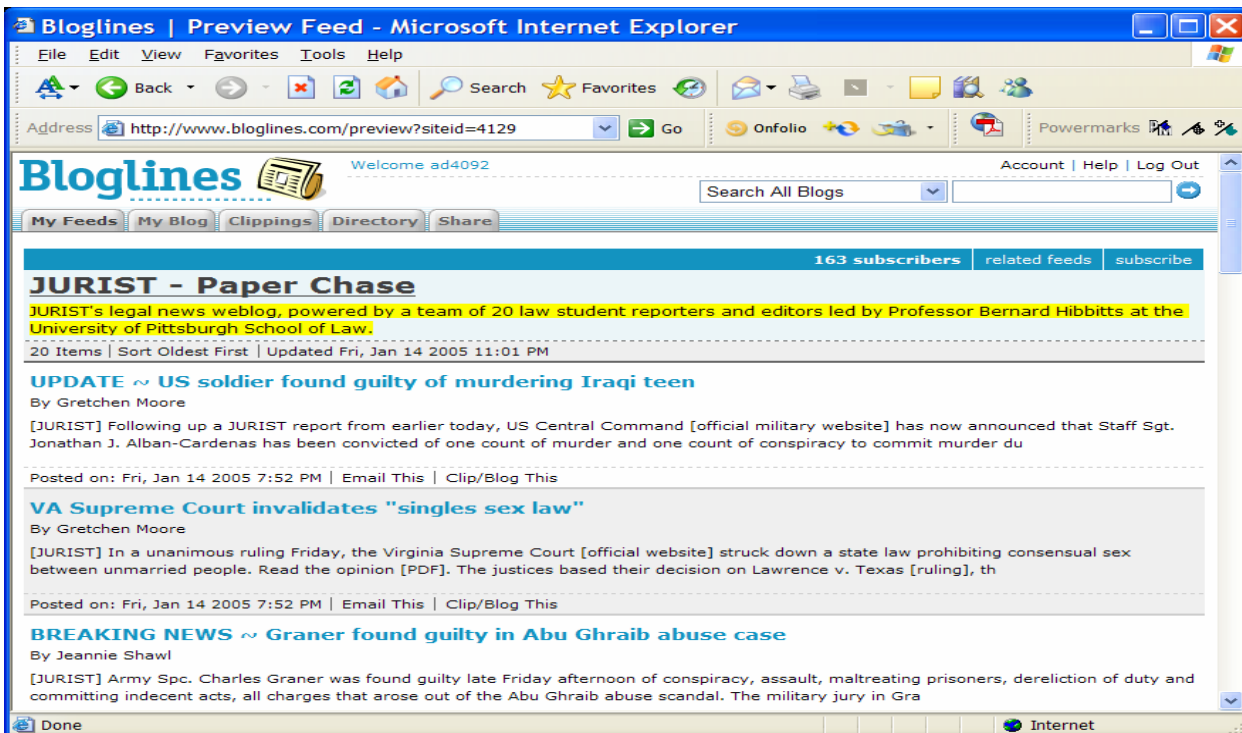
Use Bloglines search engine to find sites that provide RSS feeds for subjects and areas of interest to you:



Below are the results of the search showing several law schools' blawgs:



Below are feeds posted by JURIST:



How do you know a site is syndicating its news via RSS feeds?

Most web sites that publish RSS feeds (syndicate their content) are usually identified by the use of words like "syndicate this site" followed by a tiny orange box or button labeled "RSS," "XML," etc. By clicking the RSS/XML button your web browser will take you to the RSS/XML page (all cryptic code).

In order to add the site's RSS feed to your reader (aggregate site's content), you have to copy the web "address" (URL) of the RSS/XML page and paste it into your reader's subscription area. The software will then automatically retrieve and display that site's latest news/updates (RSS feeds) as soon as they are published.

Happy aggregation!

Supporting New Professionals: AALL Annual Meeting

The AALL Grants Program provides financial assistance to law librarians or graduate students who hold promise of future involvement in AALL and the law library profession. Funds are provided by vendors, AALL, and AALL individual members. Grants are awarded to cover the Annual Meeting registration fee or the registration fee for workshops presented at the Annual Meeting. Preference is given to applicants who are new to the profession and active in AALL or one of its chapters.

The AALL Grants Program began in 1952 and is one of the oldest and most successful AALL programs. More than 1,000 librarians have received funding to assist them in attending AALL educational activities. Many of those recipients are leaders in the profession today. For additional information, check out the application on the Association's web site: <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/grants/grants.asp>

In 2001, the Minority Leadership Development Award was created to assure that AALL's leadership remains vital, relevant and representative of the Association's diverse membership. The Award provides up to \$1,500.00 toward the cost of attending the Annual Meeting, an experienced AALL leader to serve as the recipient's mentor, and an opportunity to serve on an AALL committee during the year following the monetary award.

For additional information, check out the application on the Association's web site: http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_mlda.asp

Applications for both AALL Grants must be received at the AALL headquarters by April 1, 2005.

Paddy Satzer, AALL Grants Committee Chair



JOIN MichALL!

Membership Forms:

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

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

MICHALL NEWSLETTER

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

Christopher T. Bloodworth, Editor, or
Michael Samsom, Co-Editor and
MichALL President

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Detroit, MI 48202-3698
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FAX: 313-577-5498

E-MAIL: ad4092@wayne.edu

*Special thanks to this month's guest
co-editor, Lauren M. Collins*

Check out the MichALL web site @
<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/michall/>

LOOK HERE FOR:

- **Annual Meetings
- **Job Postings
- **Membership Forms
- **Travel Grants
- **News
- **Newsletters
- **Officers & Committees

MICHALL NEWSLETTER
Arthur Neef Law Library
Wayne State University
474 Ferry Mall
Detroit, MI 48202-3698



Customer Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code