



# LPSS NEWS

Law and Political Science Section, Association of College and Research Libraries  
Volume 17, Number 2, Spring 2002

## ALA ANNUAL 2002 ATLANTA

### TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

**\*\*PLEASE CHECK THE ALA WEB  
SITE FOR FINAL SCHEDULE\*\***

[HTTP://WWW.ALA.ORG/EVENTS](http://www.ala.org/events)

### SATURDAY, JUNE 15

**11:30-12:30 PM**

**MARTA LANGE/CQ AWARD  
LUNCHEON**

**2:00 – 4:00PM**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP/ ALL  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**2:00 – 4:00PM**

**\*\*\*LPSS PROGRAM\*\*\***

**"LIBRARIANS IN THE BIG  
LEAGUES: ARE YOU READY  
FOR THE TEACHING  
ACADEMY?"**

### SUNDAY, JUNE 16

**2:00-4:00 PM**

**MARTA LANGE/CQ AWARD  
COMMITTEE**

Closed meeting for committee  
members only.

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**LPSS SOCIAL/HAPPY HOUR**  
TIME & PLACE TO BE  
ANNOUNCED ON THE LPSS  
LISTSERV

## LIBRARIANS IN THE BIG LEAGUES: ARE YOU READY FOR THE TEACHING ACADEMY?

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2:00-4:00pm**

Many of our institutions are placing greater emphasis on the teaching academy as a means of promoting and improving teaching skills. Librarians have the opportunity to become engaged in this cutting edge practice in several ways. The LPSS program in Atlanta will explore two approaches to the teaching academy. Dr. Sallie M. Ives, Director of the Faculty Center for Teaching at University of North Carolina at Charlotte will speak about the initiatives her institution has taken to enhance instructional skills for classroom faculty, including greater exposure to the library. Dr. Linda C. Smith and Prof. Susan Searing will talk about the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Library-GSLIS Teaching Alliance, a program that brings librarians and library school faculty together in an effort to improve teaching skills.

## Mary Fetzer Recipient of the Marta Lange/CQ Award

Congratulations to the 2002 Marta Lange/CQ Award winner Mary Fetzer, Government Resources Librarian, Alexander Library Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

Mary is an outstanding leader who has advanced the development of law and political science librarianship. She has made numerous contributions to the disciplines of international and national government information through research, publication, teaching and active committee work in the profession. She has shown distinction in not just one, but in all four criteria of the Marta Lange Award.

Please join us Saturday, June 15, 2002, at the Congressional Quarterly, Inc. (CQ) sponsored luncheon honoring Mary during the American Library Association Annual Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

--Kelly Janousek, Chair  
Marta Lange/CQ Award Committee

**CHAIR'S MESSAGE**

**DRAFT MINUTES  
LPSS GENERAL  
MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING**

ALA Midwinter,  
New Orleans  
January 19, 2002

The minutes of the MidWinter meeting will be sent for review to members in mid to late April 2002. Highlights of the meeting were a discussion of the LPSS Strategic Plan and its approval by the membership, the relocation of the LPSS listserv to the American Library Association server, a new webmaster and discussion of proposals for the redesigned LPSS web site.

Christine Angolia,  
LPSS Secretar

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Going to ALA Annual in Toronto, Canada in 2003?

ALA recommends that members obtain a passport, if you don't already have one. Information about obtaining a passport is available from the Department of State: [http://travel.state.gov/passport\\_services.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport_services.html)

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In the months ahead, you'll see the face of LPSS begin to change. Our newsletters, official stationary, and brochures will sport a new logo, while our Web page will undergo a complete redesign. I hope that you are as excited as I am about the new face of LPSS. While they say image is everything, content does count, and in the end substance triumphs over style. Fortunately for us, we've got substance to spare. As you will see in this edition of the newsletter, LPSS is continuing to serve as an important educational forum and information exchange for our members. It is my pleasure to highlight a handful of the exciting things taking place.

At the Annual ALA conference in Atlanta, our program committee will present "Librarians in the Big Leagues: Are You Ready for the Teaching Academy." LPSS is also co-sponsoring the RUSA History Section's program entitled "What Do You Mean I Can't Rely on Hitler's 1960 Web Diary for My Paper: Evaluating Historical Sources on the Web." Both programs explore timely and thought provoking topics and promise to be professionally enriching and informative. My thanks to the 2002 Conference Committee for all their time and effort.

On the heels of a very successful Midwinter discussion, Lorena O'English and the Instruction Committee are putting together a webliography to accompany the 2002 conference program. Kelly Janousek and the Marta Lange/CQ Award Committee have once again selected an outstanding colleague to honor in Atlanta. Marifran Bustion, Merle Slyhoff, and the rest of the Review and Planning Committee have authored a sound and progressive strategic plan that will guide us over the next five years. Gwen Halford and the Membership Committee have been busy gathering salary stories for the ALA Task Force on Salaries, revising the LPSS brochure, and changing the proclamation for Law & Political Science Day to Librarian's Day to broaden recognition. Gerry Foudy and the Vendor/Publishing Committee are preparing several new reviews and a new annotated list of digital collections. With the gracious help of John Stemmer, Hugh Thompson and Dawn Mueller, we moved the LPSS website to a server at ALA where Travis Johnson will take over as webmaster. In addition to playing an integral role in the redesign of the logo and Web page, Elaine Coppola, Lucia Snowhill, and the rest of the Publications Committee have once again done the impossible by cajoling us into submitting our articles in time to produce this newsletter.

Please let me extend my deepest gratitude to all of you who have given your precious time and worked so hard to support LPSS over the past year. A special thanks to Jan Lewis, who has patiently and faithfully guided me through my year as chair and to Barbara Norelli, who has done an incredible job as vice-chair and will serve us with distinction in the coming year.

I'll look forward to seeing many of you in Atlanta and many more of you on the Web!

Best wishes, Lisa Stimatz

# LPSS Develops Strategic Plan

At the 2001 Midwinter ALA Meeting, the LPSS Review and Planning Committee began the process of drafting a strategic plan for the Section. The strategic plan would give guidance and purpose to the activities of the section and its committees, as well as to help identify future needs of the section. The goal was to present a final draft to the membership at the 2002 meeting.

A first draft was written and sent to Committee members for input. Following a number of revisions, a preliminary draft was sent to the general LPSS membership via e-mail for comment and input. Comments and suggestions were incorporated into the document, with a final draft presented at the LPSS general membership meeting in January 2002. The membership unanimously approved the document.

The Review and Planning Committee, working with other committee chairs, is now developing the implementation stage of the strategic plan process. The plan will be reviewed annually by the Review and Planning Committee.

**Association of College and Research  
Libraries  
LAW AND POLITICAL SCIENCE SECTION  
STRATEGIC PLAN, 2002-2006**

## MISSION

The Law and Political Science Section (LPSS), a unit of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), is the educational forum and information exchange center for librarians, archivists, and others with interests in all aspects of, or subject expertise in, law or political science collections, libraries, and librarianship.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

LPSS provides continuing education in the areas of law and political science librarianship.

## GOALS

1. LPSS presents programs at ALA Annual Meetings and co-sponsors appropriate programs with other ALA units and sub-units.
2. LPSS conducts discussion groups at ALA mid-winter meetings.
3. LPSS presents and co-sponsors programs and conducts discussion groups at ACRL divisional meetings.
4. LPSS encourages its members to prepare and conduct poster sessions at ALA,

5. ACRL, regional, state, and local conferences and meetings.
6. LPSS expands continuing education to include information maintained on its web site.
  - LPSS develops an electronic and a print clearinghouse for pathfinders and other information relevant to its constituency.
7. Realizing that other associations provide continuing education relevant to LPSS members, LPSS pursues reduced rates for LPSS members to attend such meetings.
8. LPSS maintains standing committees and task forces to support the work of the Section.
  - LPSS reviews continually its committee structure to meet the current and future needs of its members and its other constituencies.
  - LPSS reviews continually its committee structure to meet the standards and conditions as defined by ALA and ACRL.
9. LPSS realizes the importance of networking to its constituents for enhanced job performance and career advancements and provides opportunities for this networking to occur.
  - LPSS encourages networking through its sponsorship of social events at ALA and ACRL conferences.

- LPSS distributes badge flags to LPSS members at conferences to identify members of the Section to one another and to others.

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2**

LPSS is the main source of information pertinent to law and political science libraries, librarians, and librarianship within ACRL and ALA for law and political science libraries, librarians and, librarianship.

### **GOALS**

1. LPSS communicates with its constituency -
  - law and political science librarians, archivists, library staff assistants; their supervisors or managers; the faculty, students and/or legal professionals that they serve; and the publishers and vendors of material in all formats to the law and political science community -- on a continuing basis. Communication includes library instruction and information literacy as appropriate.
- LPSS maintains a web site:
  - LPSS expands its web site to include web resources relevant to and useful to its constituency, based on the needs and expectations of, and with input from, its constituency.
  - LPSS keeps its web site current and accurate;
  - LPSS Committees contribute to sections of the LPSS web site relevant to their individual mission.
- LPSS maintains a newsletter to assist in communication with and among its constituency:
  - LPSS automatically places LPSS members on the subscription list for the newsletter;
  - LPSS expands the newsletter to include columns on all areas relevant to law and political science libraries, librarians and librarianship beyond that which is covered at present;
  - LPSS investigates alternative formats for the delivery of its newsletter, including its web site and other electronic means.
- LPSS maintains a listserv that serves as a means of communication for members and the LPSS officers and

automatically adds all members to this listserv.

2. LPSS committees prepare relevant publications, such as program pathfinders, for the LPSS web site, and, when required, in print and other formats.

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3**

LPSS promotes law and political science librarianship to new librarians, and to ACRL and ALA members in general.

### **GOALS**

1. LPSS produces a flyer/brochure to promote the Section and to be used as a marketing tool to prospective members.
2. LPSS works with ALA's New Member Round Table to promote Section membership.
3. LPSS conducts an in-depth member survey of LPSS members to determine needs and skills of members.
4. LPSS works cooperatively with the Spectrum Scholarship Program as a resource for new members.
5. LPSS encourages members to mentor library staff assistants and new librarians.
6. LPSS invites the students of library and information science programs in the vicinity of ALA and ACRL conferences to attend and participate in the LPSS socials, programs, committee and general meetings, and discussion groups.
7. LPSS sponsors social events at LA and ACRL conferences.
8. LPSS distributes badge flags to LPSS members at conferences to identify members of the Section to one another and to others.

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4**

LPSS works cooperatively with other ALA and ACRL units and sub-units, as well as other law and political science related organizations, publishers and vendors, to envision, create, produce, and promote joint projects.

### **GOALS**

1. LPSS identifies potential partners for cooperative ventures.
2. LPSS communicates with these partners to assist in the facilitating of cooperative projects.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION 5

LPSS recognizes and values the contributions its members make to librarianship.

### GOALS

1. LPSS celebrates and promotes "LPSS Day," which recognizes the contributions of LPSS members in keeping the academic community informed on issues of the day.
2. LPSS presents the Marta Lange/CQ Award annually to recognize an academic or law librarian who, through research, other creative activity, or service to the profession, makes

distinguished contributions to bibliography and information service in law or political science. The plaque and stipend are generously provided by Congressional Quarterly, Inc.

3. LPSS recognizes member accomplishments in its newsletter and on its website.
4. LPSS distributes badge flags to LPSS members at conferences to identify members of the Section to one another and to others.

Submitted by Merle J. Slyhoff, University of Pennsylvania Law Library

## REVIEW

### *Declassified Documents Reference System and Digital National Security Archive Databases*

#### **Declassified Documents Reference System – U.S.**

Published by Primary Source Media/Gale Group/Thomson

[Telephone: 1-800-444-0799

E-mail: [international@galegroup.com](mailto:international@galegroup.com)

Web site: <http://www.ddrs.psmmedia.com>]

#### **Digital National Security Archive**

Published by

Chadwyck-Healey/ProQuest/UMI

[Telephone: 1-800-521-0600

E-mail: [info@il.proquest.com](mailto:info@il.proquest.com)

Web site: <http://nsarchive.chadwyck.com/>]

The online databases **Declassified Documents Reference System (DDRS)** and **Digital National Security Archive (DNSA)** both offer full-text access to primary source documents from government agencies involved in foreign affairs and national security issues following the second World War. However, there are some differences in terms of amount of content, search capabilities, delivery of the material, and organization of the databases.

The producers of both the **Declassified Documents Reference System (DDRS)** and the **Digital National Security Archives (DNSA)** have taken advantage of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to procure previously classified national security

documents from such US governmental bodies and agencies as the CIA, FBI, NSA, State Department, and the White House. Primary Source Microfilm, now a division of the Gale Group, states that its Declassified Documents Reference System – U.S. (DDRS) "remains the only compilation of materials that are recorded as they are released by US government agencies, the National Archives, and Presidential Libraries," and that it "contains over 78,000 documents, constituting more than 450,000 pages of material." In December 1998, Chadwyck-Healey and the National Security Archive at George Washington University, which actively used FOIA requests to pursue recently declassified national security information, agreed to collaborate to create the subscription database **Digital National Security Archive (DNSA)**. According to DNSA, the database now contains "more than 35,000 of the most important declassified documents that led to policy decisions."

**DNSA** documents are organized into fifteen thematic collections focusing on diverse geographic areas and time periods, with new collections being added annually. The current collections are: Afghanistan: The Making of U.S. Policy, 1973-1990; The Berlin Crisis, 1958-1962; The Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962; El Salvador: The Making of U.S. Policy, 1977-1984; Iran: The Making of U.S. Policy, 1977-1980; The Iran-Contra Affair: The Making of a

Scandal, 1983-1988; Iraqgate: Saddam Hussein, U.S. Policy and the Prelude to the Persian Gulf War, 1980-1994; Nicaragua: The Making of U.S. Policy, 1978-1990; The Philippines: U.S. Policy During the Marcos Years, 1965-1986; Presidential Directives on National Security from Truman to Clinton; South Africa: The Making of U.S. Policy, 1962-1989; The Soviet Estimate: U.S. Analysis of the Soviet Union, 1947-1991; The U.S. Intelligence Community: Organization, Operations and Management, 1947-1989; U.S. Military Uses of Space, 1945-1991; and U.S. Nuclear Non-Proliferation Policy, 1945-1991. Upcoming topics for collections are: Japan and the United States; China and the United States; and Guatemala.

Each collection is prefaced by a comprehensive introduction, including information on the scope and sources of the document set, pending FOIA requests, excluded materials, project methodology, an analysis of its importance to researchers, plus a breakdown of number of documents by year and by source (i.e., State Department, Defense Intelligence Agency, etc.). Types of documents available include: presidential directives, memos, diplomatic dispatches, meeting notes, independent reports, briefing papers, White House communications, email, situation reports, oral histories, policy papers, intelligence reports, bank records, legal depositions, cables, and confidential letters.

**DN SA** users may search individual collections or across all collections at once. Available search fields are: keyword, subject, title, level of classification (i.e., "top secret"), creator, recipient, date, item number, or document number. One may combine search fields. Searches will retrieve results from indexed fields; the full text of the documents is not searchable. Boolean and wildcard searching is available. Users may also create bibliographies or chronologies by using keywords for either individual collections or across the entire database. There is also a searchable glossary, and help screens are available for all sections of the database.

Documents are made available online in "full text replicated to 300 dpi" which are also available in PDF and can be accessed in

Adobe Acrobat. I found that generally the PDF-versions of the documents are much easier to read. Because of this format, there is no e-mailing retrieval capability common to so many databases. Since many of the available documents were once mimeographed or typewritten, the image quality is sometimes poor. However, students seem to enjoy such authentic touches as "top secret" stamped across the top of the documents, or a Presidential signature at the bottom of a memo.

**DN SA** is designed for use with Netscape Navigator 4.0 or Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 or higher browsers. Users will also need to download Adobe Acrobat Reader to be able to access documents in PDF-format. It is available through IP-addressing for an unlimited number of users. Pricing is based on FTE, and must be negotiated with the vendor.

Types of documents available in the **Declassified Documents Reference System** database (DDRS) include cabinet meeting minutes, NSC policy statements, CIA intelligence studies, Presidential conferences, State Department political analyses, diary entries, technical studies, correspondence, and Joint Chiefs staff papers.

The full text of documents in **DDRS** is keyword-searchable. Users may construct basic keyword searches or advanced searches on such fields as document type, classification level, or institution that produced the document. Boolean and wildcard searching are possible. Digital facsimiles of the images are available, as well as keyed-in texts, which are generally more legible and highlight search terms within the texts. However, the scanned images of the original documents may be important to some researchers. Forward and backward page navigation as well as a "go to page # ..." buttons are incorporated into every multiple-page document. Documents may be printed, e-mailed, or saved to a disk via Netscape or Internet Explorer browser functions. The digital facsimile images also may be saved as GIF files.

**DDRS** is available via IP verification, and makes available monthly usage statistics. It is recommended that users have at least a 56 kb modem and a 300 dpi laser printer. Browsers

must be able to display HTML frames. Pricing is based on FTE, and must be negotiated with the vendor.

Both **DNSA** and **DDRS** offer researchers the opportunity to access primary materials online. Such use of primary research would greatly enhance students' understanding of postwar history and politics. **DDRS** offers greater content, full-text searching, and enhanced delivery of material. However, **DNSA's** organization of their documents into thematic

collections is useful for undergraduate researchers. Subscription prices quoted for my institution did not differ greatly. Of course, in an ideal world, libraries would be able to afford both products. I would not be able to recommend one product over the other; I think each library would have to make a decision based on its constituents' research needs.

Gerri Foudy  
University of Maryland at College Park

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## Call for LPSS Committee Members

Thanks to everyone who has already volunteered for a committee. We still need a few talented and dedicated librarians willing to work on one of the following committees for a 2 year term, commencing after the 2002 ALA Annual Conference. I challenge you to learn for yourself how your involvement in LPSS can bring many rewards, both personal and professional.

- **Library Instruction Committee**  
Sponsors a discussion group addressing library instruction issues in legal and political science research. Prepares a library guide to accompany the annual conference program.
- **Marta Lange/CQ Award Committee**  
Reviews nominations and selects recipients of the award which recognizes an academic or law librarian who makes distinguished contributions in law or political science.
- **Membership Committee**  
Encourages new membership and the active participation of members in LPSS activities. Plans and hosts the Section social at annual conferences. Creates and updates the section brochure.
- **Publications Committee**  
Plans and reviews the content of LPSS News, the semi-annual Section newsletter. Establishes newsletter policies, solicits/submits articles, reviews, and other pertinent information of interest to section members. Assists the editor in the production of the newsletter and maintains the membership manual.
- **Review And Planning Committee**  
Studies the implication of the ACRL Strategic Planning Task Force report as a guide for future section activities.
- **Vendor/Publisher Liaison & Review Committee**  
Works on strategies for better communications with publishers and vendors. Reviews and critiques indexing sources in law and political science and suggests improvements to the publishers.

To serve on any committee within ACRL, you must be a member of the Association. It is American Library Association policy that no member of ALA may serve simultaneously on more than three committees, including division and section committees, unless membership is ex-officio. It is also ALA policy that committee members are to attend the meetings of the committee at both the Midwinter and Annual conferences of the Association. Neither ALA nor ACRL provides funds for committee members to attend these meetings.

I look forward to hearing from you soon if you wish to be appointed to a committee.

Barbara Norelli , LPSS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect  
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**KEEP IN TOUCH**

The LPSS Web Site has moved to the ALA server:  
<http://www.ala.org/acrl/lpss/index.html>

The LPSS listerv acts as a forum.  
lpss-l@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu

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