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Conference Roundup: Workshop Report on Digitization for Small Institutions

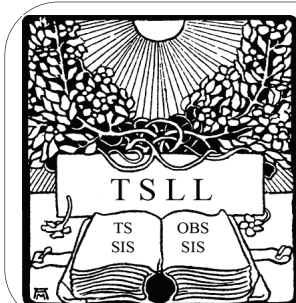
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INSIDE:

From the Officers

TS-SIS	3
OBS-SIS	4

Columns

Acquisitions	4
Classification	1
Collection Development	5
Conference Round-Up	9
Description & Entry	11
The Internet	14
Library Metrics	15
Management	18
OCLC	19
Preservation	20
Private Law Libraries	21
Research & Publications	22
Serials Issues	23
Serials Title	24
Subject Headings	25
TechScans	26

CLASSIFICATION

International Law and Human Rights: K or KZ?

*George Prager
New York University*

Works on international human rights law have traditionally been classified in K3236-K3240 (and nearby numbers). This range has also been used for works on comparative law of human rights in multiple jurisdictions not in the same region.

In October 2012, the Library of Congress added a new subject heading: International law and human rights. It added a corresponding class number, KZ1266, in April 2013. How and when should this newer subject heading and associated class number be applied? Unfortunately, there is no scope note on the subject authority record for the subject heading. KZ1266 has the caption “Relationship between human rights and public international law” and is indented under “International public law and municipal law.” “Relationship” is such a broad term. I would venture to say that the majority of works about or consisting of international human rights law fall under this umbrella. To understand better how and when KZ1266 and its associated subject heading should be used, I looked at a sample of national level records in OCLC. I found 83 that used KZ1266. I then compared these records to ones that used K3240 and had been published in 2013 or later (since the creation of KZ1266). There are a lot of works published with titles “International human rights law” or similar titles, both in English and other languages, for which one might think of using KZ1266 and the LCSH “International law and human rights” but which are classed under K3240. I could not figure out the basis upon which some records used KZ1266 and others used K3240. What is one to do in such a situation? Ask Jolande Goldberg and Aaron Kuperman, naturally (a conundrum indeed as to what to do once they retire). Aaron explained that KZ1266 and the subject heading “International law and human rights” is essentially for conflict situations, for the conflict or interface between human rights and the rights of nations (such as sovereignty). Works which focus on, or are collections of, international human rights laws should still be classified in K. Thanks, Aaron!

[Continued on page 27](#)

*A Publication of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the
Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries*



CONFERENCE ROUND-UP

*Jackie Magagnosc
Cornell Law Library*

Welcome to the second installment of TSLL's "Conference Round-up" column. The goal of this column is to facilitate sharing of conference experiences beyond AALL's Annual Meeting. Whether at a national conference such as ALA, a regional conference, or a local workshop, there is a wealth of information being shared that can be reported back to our peer technical services law librarians. This issue's column features two reports from regional conferences and the keynote presentation at this fall's Depository Library Conference. If you have the opportunity to attend a local, regional, or national conference or workshop with content of interest to technical services librarians, consider providing a brief write up for TSLL.

Workshop Report Digitization for Small Institutions

Rachel Evans

University of Georgia School of Law

Presenters: Angela Stanley, Director at Georgia HomePLACE with Georgia Public Library Service

Mary Willoughby, Digital Projects Manager at Digital Library of Georgia with University of Georgia & GALILEO

This Georgia Library Association (GLA) preconference workshop was a half day long with a short break in the middle of the session. The two presenters opened by talking about the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG). In this context, I quickly learned more about the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) and the Digital Library Foundation (DLF). This introduction served as the backdrop for the rest of the session's more detailed "how to" segments. Although I had heard of and visited each of the aforementioned DL sites before, it had been quite a while since I had taken a moment to just learn more about them and familiarize myself with their respective purposes. This seemed particularly relevant after I returned from the conference as we prepared for Open Access Week just a few weeks later. I did not realize how many wonderful resources DLF made available for free online. It was a treat diving deeper into their content.

Following this intro, the presenters shared links to highly useful resources. My favorite of those shared was the DLF toolkit for Project Managers: https://wiki.diglib.org/DLF_Project_Managers_Toolkit. For folks new to using a project management tool, this wiki has an excellent table of recommended software with summaries of each, links to them, and pros and cons side by side. Many of the tools you expect to find are there (Jira, Asana, Trello, Slack, Google Suite), though there were still a few I had not yet heard of or tested out. The project manager toolkit wiki is invaluable, and even if you are not working on projects that will eventually feed up into a DL site, the kit contains so many best practices and tips that it could be useful for many types of digitization projects. One such best practice was this 5-step process: (1) Selection & Planning; (2) Metadata Creation; (3) Prep & Scanning; (4) Post-Processing (crops & edits); and (5) Ingest & Preservation (into institutional repository).

Before an intermission midway through, attendees were divided into break-out groups of 3 to 4 people. In this form, we discussed why we were there, what projects we were undertaking, and what our role was at our institution. It was very cool to experience the unique mix of staff and librarians in the workshop groups and to hear issues they experience or projects they are working on coming from such a wide variety of library types, including museums and public libraries.

I was able to share in my breakout group out loud the challenges of a certain project I have been collaborating on in our library for properly and efficiently archiving thousands of photographs. Lucky for me, our project is dealing with media that is already digital, and I already have a space that exists and is ready for hosting the images and metadata (Digital Commons). It was super neat to hear the stories and challenges of others, including what types of media they are digitizing, organizing, and archiving to make accessible to their patrons. This workshop also provided a hands-on station to practice digitization before you left the room. I love that the session enabled everyone, even those interested in the topic (lots of MLS students were there too) but not currently working in a place or role that allows them to get their hands dirty, to do just that!

For the rest of the workshop, we were shown workflow charts and given what might as well have been a micro-course on metadata terms, with a focus on descriptive data and specifics on Qualified Dublin Core. There was even a little Linked Data talk! What was most helpful about this section were the slides that included specific examples of Title fields. You know a session is worthwhile when you can take that nugget of info back and start using it immediately at work when you return. This was that particular nugget for me! I left the workshop feeling inspired and with an added confidence for the project waiting for me back in the office. Many of the tips I gained from the workshop I am currently utilizing this very week.