



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

### **Advisory Committee on Communications 2015-2016 Annual Report**

The IALL Advisory Committee on Communications provides advice and counsel to the Editor of the *International Journal of Legal Information* and the Director of the IALL web site, while developing other IALL print and electronic publication and communications initiatives. The Committee's 2015-2016 members are the Journal Editor (Mark Engsborg), the Chair (Bård Tuseth), Board members (Kerem Kahvecioglu and Daniel Boyer), and two members-at-large (Silke Sahl and Aslihan Bulut). The Journal editor serves as an ex officio member of the IALL Board of Directors. The Committee usually meets during the IALL annual conference and is in regular contact throughout the year via email.

For 2015-2016, the Committee reports the following activities:

#### **I. International Journal of Legal Information (IJLI)**

Mr. Mark Engsborg continues his editorship of IJLI, which began with the first issue of volume 33 (2005).

Ms. Aslihan Bulut, Harvard Law Library, compiles the International Calendar and has done so since 2009.

Mr. Thomas W. Mills, Cornell Law Library, continues as the Book Review Editor. He has worked in this capacity since 2005.

IALA President, Jeroen Vervliet and IJLI editor, Mark Engsborg, met on Wednesday 24th February, 2016, at the Cambridge University Press (CUP) offices in Cambridge, UK, to discuss a future agreement with CUP as printer and distributor of the IJLI. CUP officials take a professional approach to the production of the Journal, including a more formal yearly production schedule and a defined schedule per issue, two matters that, in their absence, have plagued the production of the Journal for many years. The formatting of the IJLI will also change to include abstracts for each article and Internet-indexing, as well as cover design and even the size of the Journal.

To help facilitate the new arrangement with CUP, the IALL changed its constitution to eliminate institutional memberships in favor of more standard subscriptions. Personal memberships will remain, with members receiving a copy of the IJLI as a member benefit. Also, citation, the copy-editing-work and CUP's role in that in relation to the work of the traditional IJLI-Editor, type-setting (according to formatting templates), proof-reading (and corrections by the authors), courtesy copies for authors and related matters. CUP will handle claims.

CUP will market the IJLI to promising subscribers while also reaching out to former members who have allowed subscriptions/memberships to lapse. They will work to define a future policy on new subscriptions, and will work overall with the IALL to develop a first class journal.

Ms. Rebecca L. Emerson has served as the Editorial and Administrative Assistant for the IJLI since 2005. However, the new arrangement with Cambridge University Press, described above, has made her services redundant and so her relationship with the IALL, through the IJLI, will end in August 2016. IALL

President Jeroen Vervliet will compose a letter of thanks to Ms. Emerson in recognition of her long service to the Association. The Senior Officers of the Board have also agreed to provide a modest honorarium as a parting gesture on behalf of the Association.

## **II. Website**

The domain name "iall.org" is registered through Network Solutions.

The website is the primary tool for accessing information on the organization and its activities. Many other short-term and long-term upgrades and projects are underway to improve the functionality of the site and provide more up-to-date content and information for the members. Recent changes include the ability to accept bursary applications via the website

## **III. Other Activities**

### **A. Blog Posts**

Since the new IALL website launched in May, board members and members of the Communications Committee have contributed posts on law and law librarianship. Thirteen contributions have been published between the annual courses in Berlin and Oxford. The blog has provided some insights to what is going on in the association or covered other interesting issues from around the world. Hopefully the blog will continue to provide an incentive for colleagues to visit the site regularly.

### **B. Listserv**

The IALL members' listserv currently has 485 subscribers, which is up 8 % from last year. The list serve has become a supplement to the INT-LAW list for seeking assistance from colleagues around the world for solving difficult reference questions.

### **C. Facebook**

The IALL Facebook page currently has 2,308 likes. This includes likes of the page and likes of individual posts, so this number does not represent individual Facebook users. The Facebook page automatically links to the content from the IALL blog and provides a way for interested colleagues to effortlessly stay abreast of the activities of the association.

Bård Tuseth  
Chair  
July 2016