

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

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Fabulous! Incredible! Wonderful! Impressive! Inspirational! These are just a few of the accolades I heard from conference delegates at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Course on International Law and Legal Information held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from September 28<sup>th</sup> through October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014.

The theme of the conference was *Libraries and the Rule of Law*. Conference speakers addressed a wide range of topics within that theme, including women's rights, the fight against domestic violence, banned books, and other topical issues. There was a special focus on the period of repression during the Argentine dictatorship of 1974 to 1983. Also known as the Dirty War, this dark period in Argentina's history was a time of censorship, book burnings, disappearances, unlawful detentions, torture, government sanctioned death squads, and other gross abuses of state-sponsored terrorism leveled against Argentina's own population. During that tragic time, a number of Argentina's librarians were targeted, harassed, arrested or disappeared. The efforts of those librarians who took enormous risks to preserve and protect "suspect" literature is nothing less than heroic and inspirational.

While much of the conference's substance was somber, there were many lighter moments and plenty social and networking opportunities which have become a hallmark of IALL conferences. There were dine-around opportunities in Buenos Aires' world-class restaurants, receptions at impressive venues, an evening bus tour of the city's illuminated landmarks, and the Annual Dinner was held in a stunning early 20<sup>th</sup> century restored mansion. The conference truly did deserve the praises heaped on it.

If you have never attended an IALL Annual Course—or if it has been too long since your last one—I strongly urge you to consider attending a future Course. This year, the Annual Course will be held in Berlin, Germany from September 20-24. In 2016, the Annual Course will be in Oxford, England in late July and early August. Information about the Berlin conference is already on the the IALL website (<http://iall.org/annual-conference-2/>). The venues are always interesting and exciting, and the content of the programs are always world-class and highly relevant. Costs are kept to a minimum, so IALL Annual Courses are a very good value.

This issue of the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LEGAL INFORMATION (IJLI) is the proceedings issue from that conference. It features the IALL President's Report, key sections of the Conference Program, Book Reviews and the International Calendar, and seven papers that were presented at the conference, including two "articles" that reproduce slide presentations. The

**papers are all interesting and give the IJLI's readers a sense of the content of the Annual Course. Read. Learn. Enjoy!**

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And now for something entirely different: I wanted to inform the IJLI's readers about an exciting event in the life of the IJLI. Over a decade ago when I began my duties as editor of the IJLI, one thing I said I wanted to do was to feature an occasional guest editor. For one reason or another I just couldn't seem to get that done: the time never seemed right, or I couldn't find just the right person to do it. At long last, however, the time *is* right (or it's as right as it ever will be), the stars have aligned just so, there is someone well qualified and willing to do the work, and so the IJLI will indeed have its *very first* guest editor!

I am pleased to announce that **Christine (Chris) Glon** will take on the task of guest editing the IJLI in a forthcoming issue. Chris is a young, smart and enthusiastic librarian. She is a reference librarian in my library, a member of IALL, and has expressed an interest in legal publishing. Chris has also authored an article which will appear in issue 42.3 of the IJLI. I thought a turn as guest editor of the IJLI was a perfect fit for her.



Chris has agreed to guest edit issue 43.2/43.3, which will be a double issue coming out later this year. The double issue, while containing substantially more pages than a single issue, is not really more difficult to edit. Some readers may recall that the IJLI first published a double issue (40.1/40.2) in 2012. I will be here to assist her if and when necessary.

Since I have never worked with a guest editor before, there are some unknowns in terms of procedure, so Chris and I, along with **Thomas Mills** who

edits book reviews and **Aslihan Bulut** who compiles and edits the International Calendar, will kind of figure things out as we go. I'm not sure what Chris may think, but I believe it's an added bonus that her office is just down the hall from mine. In all seriousness, I'm thrilled to be working with Chris on the forthcoming issue, I believe she will bring a fresh voice to the IJLI, and I am so pleased to help mentor a newer member of our profession and get her even more interested in the IALL and its work.

I am convinced that Chris's future guest editorship of the IJLI will be wonderful. And I am certain that you will enjoy reading this issue!

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