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IALS Autumn Newsletter

Our newsletter this October gives you a quick update on a number of IALS projects and associated services. We profile the journal *Amicus Curiae* and the Flare Index to Treaties. Hester Swift reviews a brand new book on the challenges of managing information in an international legal context. We illustrate Lindsey Caffin's design work on the IALS banner - Lindsey's designs have helped us a lot this year in our roadshows.

All of us at IALS Library look forward to being of service to you, in one way or another, during this academic year. Please do keep in touch by e-mail or by phone, or call into IALS the next time you are in London. We can discuss your information needs in detail, and, if you wish, we can book an appointment for you here at IALS.

With best wishes,

Gerry Power
Access Librarian, IALS



Flare Index to Treaties extended

The Flare Index to Treaties, which is freely available on the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) website at <http://ials.sas.ac.uk/treatyindex.htm>, has recently been extended to include key multilateral treaties from 1353 onwards and, in addition, key bilateral treaties from 1353 to 1815.

The Flare Index to Treaties is a searchable database of basic information on over 2,000 of the most significant multilateral treaties and some bilateral treaties concluded between 1353 and the present, with details of where the full text of each treaty may be obtained in paper and, if available, electronic form on the Internet.

For further information about the Flare Index to Treaties see: <http://ials.sas.ac.uk/library/flag/introtreaties.htm>

More detail about the work to extend the Flare Index to Treaties is available in a recent article by Dr Peter Clinch and Steve Whittle published on LLRX.com <http://www.llrx.com/features/flareindexextended.htm>

Steven Whittle, IALS Information Systems Manager



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IALS at the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) Conference held at Downing College, Cambridge

Amicus Curiae is the journal of both the Society for Advanced Legal Studies and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. It aims to promote scholarship and research done by academics, legal practitioners, and those involved in the administration of justice. *Amicus Curiae* began publication in 1997 and comes out four times a year.

Amicus Curiae is now available online on open access at <http://journals.sas.ac.uk/amicus> where you can find the current issue and previous issues from 2003 onwards. It forms part of [SAS Open Journals](#), an open access service for social sciences and humanities journals produced by, or in association with, the School of Advanced Study, University of London.

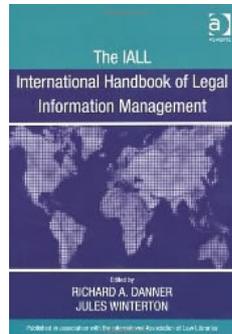
Height of Design

Lindsey Caffin, of the IALS Information Systems team, has been putting her design skills to very effective use this year. Lindsey designed the IALS banner which was welcomed in the Spring and early Summer at a number of UK Law Schools as part of the IALS roadshow programme.



Front Entrance. One of two banners near the main entrance displaying IALS services and facilities

Recently Lindsey has worked on the attractive building banners installed at 17 Russell Square showing the range of activities, services and facilities available at the Institute which are the national resource for legal research.



The IALL International Handbook of Legal Information Management
Edited by Richard A. Danner, Duke University, and Jules Winterton, Associate Director and Librarian, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

(Ashgate Publishing, July 2011) ISBN: 9780754674771

(For more details see the Ashgate catalogue, <http://www.ashgate.com/isbn/9780754674771>)

This handbook is intended for all those working with legal information in an international context -and it soon becomes clear to the reader that the internationalization of law has brought a growing proportion of the profession into this category. Produced under the auspices of the International Association of Law Libraries (IALL), the book is edited by former IALL President Jules Winterton and former IALL First Vice-President Richard Danner and the contributors are all linked with the Association.

Globalization and the information age are the main themes in a wide-ranging overview and analysis of where the international legal information profession is today, the challenges it faces and where it is going. The book gathers together the thoughts of leading professionals from eleven different countries including law librarians, academic lawyers, and legal publishers. Information managers seeking a broader awareness of the global context in which information services operate will benefit from their knowledge and expertise. The majority of the contributors are from the academic sector, but research institutes, international organisations and law firms are represented. The issues covered – global copyright issues, knowledge management, commercial and free-to-Internet publishing and so on – are relevant to other branches of the profession and ‘will also engage legal information scientists, know-how managers, legal process analysts, legal management consultants, legal knowledge engineers, and may

other related specialists', as the Foreword by Richard Susskind indicates.

The book includes profiles of law librarianship in six different countries: India, Moldova, Nigeria, the Philippines, Turkey and Vietnam. Mariana Harjevschi, in her contribution on Moldovan law librarianship, notes that there have been no previous studies of the subject - new ground is being broken here. Another chapter offers numerous suggestions for further research in the field of international law librarianship, on topics ranging from the preservation of legal information to the role of librarians in open access publishing and the education and training of law librarians.

In part, the Handbook is a very practical resource. It covers the development of print and electronic law collections, legal research training and knowledge management. There is a survey of international organizations and their publications, while other chapters include an overview of free foreign law websites and a list of government sources of foreign legislation in English translation. The factual is always accompanied by contextual information and analysis and the emphasis throughout is on best practice. Each chapter has a detailed bibliography and some have appendices, enhancing the book's value as a reference source.

Hester Swift, Foreign and International Law Librarian, IALS

There is a discounted price for bookings for all three events.

[Archives, Records and Repositories for Socio-Legal Research](#) will be on the 4 November at IALS, and is organised by the British Library and IALS, with support from the Socio-Legal Studies Association. It is aimed at those embarking on archival socio-legal projects.

Full details of both events are on the [IALS events calendar](#).

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In Brief...

We have no books page in this issue, because the IALS Library has been very busy with its annual stock-take and refurbishment during September. But you can catch up with a list of [new material added](#) to the collections on the IALS website, and you can of course search the [Library Catalogue](#) on <http://catalogue.urls.lon.ac.uk/search~S6> The books page will be back in the January issue of IALS Library News.

Two forthcoming events at IALS are of particular interest to doctoral students. [How to Get a PhD in Law](#) will be on the 2 November at IALS and considers the challenges of researching a PhD in the first year. This day will be followed up during 2012 with two more events aimed at PhD researchers, and students can book for any one of the events, or for all three.