

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

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Before bringing up important changes affecting the *IJLI*, I wish to give tribute to those without whom this proceedings issue would not have been possible, the organizers of the successful Lund conference: legal historian **Kjell Åke Modéer**, Professor of Law at the *University of Lund*, and IALL Secretary **Britt S.M. Kjölstad**, Lund University alumna and Librarian at the *United Nations Library* in Geneva. Britt's daughter, **Helle Kjölstad** and **Mats Svensson**, law students at the University of Lund, were responsible for the local arrangements. The 16th Course was conducted in cooperation with the *Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law*, affiliated with the Lund University and founded in 1984 to promote research, training and education in the fields of human rights and humanitarian law. The organizers succeeded in attracting not only prominent speakers in the field of human rights, but were also able to provide an "immersion" into the Swedish legal system and in the history and culture of *Skåne*. This southern region of Sweden had, until the latter part of the 17th century, belonged to Denmark, giving the institution and the area its distinctive character. The field trips in the, for Sweden, record hot summer of 1997, included not only an excursion to a refugee camp in Landskrona, but also visits to castles dating back to the period when Sweden was a great power.

It is a great pleasure to announce that with this issue the *West Group* is assuming the responsibility for printing and distributing the *Journal*. After negotiations also with another major international publisher, IALL President **Larry Wenger** signed the final contract between the *International Association of Law Libraries* and the *West Group* on November 3, 1998. It stipulates that *West* will print and distribute the *Journal* as a public service for a five-year period (1997 - 2002), after which the contract will be up for renewal. To the reader and IALL Member, it should mean a more reliable and stable schedule. In order to catch up with the delays in publication, the current and following volumes, vols. 25 (1997) and 26 (1998), will be published as consolidated issues, encompassing numbers 1-3. Starting with volume 27 in the Spring of 1999, *IJLI* will again be published three times a year: Spring, Summer and Winter.

The main credit for this advantageous outcome for the *Association* goes to Professor **Richard A. Danner**, Senior Associate Dean for Library and Computing and the Director of *Duke University School of Law Library*. Dick has been appointed to an *ex officio* post on the IALL Board as *Chair of the Advisory Committee on Communications*. Furthermore, through his efforts, and those of IALL Board Member **Claire Germain**, Edward Cornell Law Librarian and Professor of Law, and the Cornell Law Library Staff, the Association has advanced to the cutting-edge technologically through the development of the IALL website: <http://www.iall.org>. Claire is the website coordinator and may be contacted directly ([cmg13@cornell.edu](mailto:cmg13@cornell.edu)) for suggestions to be posted, information or links that will benefit the entire membership. The website is still in the making, but there you will find a list of the members of the *IALL* Board, the *IALL* Constitution, and information about upcoming conferences. Please visit the website and take a look at the exciting program of the next Course which will take place in Melbourne, Australia, September 12 - 16, 1999.

Last, but not least, this is also to welcome a new member on the Editorial Board: *Book Review Editor Katherine Topulos*. Katherine, a lawyer and a librarian, is the Foreign and International Law Specialist and Lecturing Fellow at *Duke University School of Law*. We invite all members interested in reviewing books or having books reviewed to contact her directly, ([topulos@law.duke.edu](mailto:topulos@law.duke.edu)) indicating specific areas of interest. Members from the German-speaking countries may contact **Jürgen C. Gödan**, Director of the *Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Private Law* in Hamburg, instead: he is covering the legal publishing in the German-speaking countries ([goedan@mpipriv-hh.mpg.de](mailto:goedan@mpipriv-hh.mpg.de).) Please contact them or me ([mber@loc.gov](mailto:mber@loc.gov)) to offer your contributions, ideas and services.

*Marie-Louise H. Bernal*