

ORALL NEWSLETTER

OHIO REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

JUNE 2005

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President's Column – Claudia Zaher

President's Column

I always say that when something starts coming at you from several different directions, it's time to start paying attention!

The idea of recruiting new members to our profession has been coming at us from many different directions recently. Shannon Malcolm, an intern at Gallagher Law Library at the University of Washington, wrote an article in the April issue of AALL Spectrum, "Getting Them Where We Live: Inspiring interest in the profession among law students."

The Law-lib listserv has had a thread about the "graying" of the profession, meaning a trend toward numerous "boomer" retirements that will create a high number of job openings in the profession. Even non-legal and non-professional publications like our local newspapers have recently reported a predicted rise in opportunities for librarians / information professionals.

Of course, "predicted trends" don't mean there's a well-paying job waiting for you when and where you want it, or that a retirement opens up a position for an entry-level job-seeker. But overall, information professionals will be in demand.

As a professional organization, one of ORALL's goals is to "promote the growth, advancement and improvement of the profession of law librarianship". Since members of ORALL are some of the brightest, most creative, and dedicated people I've ever met, we already have a pool of good people to brainstorm some additional ideas for promoting our profession. I think we're already doing a lot of things right.

Most of the scholarships that we award each year to attend the ORALL meeting and the AALL meeting are restricted to newer members. Some of our members speak at

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ORALL

Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries

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Non-member subscriptions: \$10 per year

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Profile

ORALL is a 4-state chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries [Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan]. It was formed in 1949 "to further the development and usefulness of law libraries and to stimulate a spirit of mutual helpfulness among law libraries of this region." An annual conference is held each fall. ORALL publishes or sponsors the following publications: *Core Legal Collection* [bibliographies for Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan], ORALL Membership Directory, ORALL Newsletter, Ohio Legal Resources Annotated Bibliography & Guide 3rd.

We can't wait to see you in San Antonio...



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*LexisNexis is proud to host the AALL Opening Event
at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. Enjoy
a fantastic array of delicious desserts while networking
and reconnecting with familiar friends.*

President's Column *continued*

Career Days at library schools. Some of our members, from private, court and academic libraries, serve as role models when they teach Legal Research classes at library schools and law schools. Many of our academic librarians participate in university activity fairs. I know that ORALL's Kentucky Special Interest Group has provided goodies for the UK library students at exam time, just to let them know we exist and that we're wishing them well. On a recent visit to the UK Law Library, I saw one of one of our former Chase law student assistants working at their Circulation desk - because he's now a UK library student headed for a career in law librarianship.

So, Good People – what else is happening out there? We read about low career satisfaction among attorneys. Would some of them make great law librarians? What more can we do, both as individuals and as an organization, to attract new law librarians? I'd love to hear from both veteran members and newer members. What initially attracted you to the profession? What kept you interested in it for years? Would those things that appealed to you also be attractive to potential law librarians now?

I think it's beneficial for all of us to take a step back and think about what we do, and what we identify as the most satisfying aspects of our work life. Of course, we have to weigh that against the least satisfying aspects to get a true picture, but I'm pretty sure that for most of us, the job satisfaction index is fairly high. And that just might be the best selling point we have! A little enthusiasm tends to be very contagious.

And speaking of enthusiasm for the profession...I would like to thank the ORALL members who have so willingly agreed to accept nomination to the ORALL executive board. Their talents and enthusiasm will make ORALL better and better. Thank you to **Miriam Murphy**, nominee for Vice-President / President-Elect, **Don Arndt**, Treasurer, and **Ken Kozlowski**, Board Member. Thanks also to Beth Langton and her Nominations Committee for the excellent slate of candidates they have provided us.

If you do spend some time thinking about job satisfaction, I predict that you will identify professional camaraderie as one of the most satisfying aspects of our profession. We enjoy great professional relationships and friendships with our colleagues throughout the ORALL region, even though we officially meet only once a year.

We had hoped that there would be an opportunity in San Antonio for ORALL members to gather informally with those colleagues who contribute so much to our professional lives. Unfortunately, all the efforts so far (through Local Arrangements, phone calls, surfing the web) to find a reasonably close and affordable site have been unsuccessful. Perhaps anyone with a brilliant idea on where we might meet informally could post a message to the Listserv.

Meanwhile – happy summer to all!

Claudia Zaher
ORALL President

* * *

Breaking News!

**CLEVELAND-MARSHALL RECEIVES AALL/WEST EXCELLENCE IN
MARKETING AWARD**

**By Leslie Pardo, Circulation & Faculty Services Librarian
Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library**

The Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library at Cleveland State University has been awarded the *American Association of Law Libraries/West Excellence in Marketing Award for the Best Use of Technology* for the ***Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library Half Million Celebration Multimedia Presentation.***

The dynamic multimedia presentation chronicles the one hundred year history of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library. The presentation was the highlight of the Law Library's Half Million Celebration ceremony held on February 4, 2004. The ceremony was attended by hundreds including the law school community, alumni, representatives from area law schools, and the general public. It was a wonderful event that marked a milestone for the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and its Law Library.

Law Library Director, Michael J. Slinger will accept the award for the Law Library at the AALL Annual Meeting Association Luncheon in July. The multimedia presentation will be displayed at the AALL Exhibit Hall as part of the AALL PR showcase. The presentation was produced entirely in-house by members of the Law Library staff. Circulation & Faculty Services Librarian, Leslie A. Pardo developed and wrote the presentation. Multi-Media production was done by Rick Zhang, Network Administrator. Special assistance was provided by Michael J. Slinger, Associate Dean for Technology & Law Library Director and Marie Rehmar, Head of Reference Services.

If you attend the AALL meeting in July, be sure stop by the PR showcase and take a look at the award winning presentation. If you are not able to make it to the Annual Meeting and would like to view the Half Million Celebration multimedia presentation, please visit the Half Million Celebration web site at: <http://www.law.csuohio.edu/lawlibrary/HalfMillionCelebration.html>.

**CONGRATULATIONS
CLEVELAND-MARSHALL LAW LIBRARY!**

* * *

Tech Talk

CONFERENCE REPORT: IUG13 IN SAN FRANCISCO

By Deborah Dennison, Case Western Reserve University School of Law

Advances in information technology have blurred the boundaries of traditionally distinct library services – public services, cataloging, and information technology. Ideally, these three components should interact and thereby inform each other about what information patrons are seeking, to what extent patrons are successfully finding (that) information in the catalog/web page, and explore technology enhancements enabling the process.

The Innovative Users Group (IUG) facilitates such synergy at its annual user meeting, as members discuss how the Innovate system works – in theory, and importantly, in practice: sharing procedures, querying problematic areas, and suggesting/previewing enhancements.

Fifteen hundred (world-wide) IUG members gathered in San Francisco recently for IUG's 13th annual meeting. Notwithstanding that May is a wonderful time to visit a beautiful city, the conference covered information applicable for all levels of Innovative library staff.

Most of us are familiar with the name “Innovative” as the platform running our library catalog (and related modules). Serials librarians have a special affinity for Innovative due to its groundbreaking serials check-in module developed in 1985. The IUG group itself was founded in 1991 to foster communication about new and existing products.

There was a real possibility of information overload at the conference; the temptation was to try to be at every session and “learn” everything. To IUG's credit, it often repeated presentations at different times, making scheduling easier if not totally solving conflicts. Of the half day preconference workshops offered, I attended the XML/metadata session (other workshops covered electronic resource management, and Web OPAC design). The metadata workshop began with the infamous definition, “metadata is information about data”; even the presenter laughed at this. Three hours of metadata instruction later, many in the room expressed some level of confusion. Luckily, later targeted presentations built on some of the concepts covered in the metadata workshop, aiding participants' understanding, e.g., a program entitled, *XML server applications, the catalog breaks free of the box*. I attended excellent presentations on style-sheets, ISBN-13, and FRBR (functional requirements for bibliographic records). Incidentally, IUG had not originally planned to offer the ISBN-13 presentation; as it turned out, attendance and audience interest/participation was great. ISBN identification numbers, unique to individual titles and a popular search in the online systems, are expanding from ten to thirteen digits. Consequently, automated systems have to accommodate the new search parameter. For more on ISBN-13, see <http://www.niso.org/standards/resources/ISBN.html>.

Over 100 presentations covered broad areas such as acquisitions/serials, cataloging/authorities, circulation/ILL, management of electronic resources, management & reports, webOpac, and services & systems – something for everyone. For handouts and other information on the conference, visit the IUG website at: <http://innopacusers.org/iug2005/>. (N.B.: You must be an Innovative library. Obtain the password from your library's Innovative administrator.)

In this period of diminished library budgets, a costly conference may be considered a luxury. However, it is crucial to master the system that powers some of our most user friendly services,

such as our OPACS (potentially the best public relations a school can have) and online borrowing. At a minimum the system administrator should attend. Sending additional staff members (reference, cataloging, and information technology) would further maximize our utilization of the system. In the end, it is in the library's best interest.

* * *

CASE LAW LIBRARY RENOVATION UPDATE
Library is scheduled for completion in Dec. 2005
Staff offices are moving to temporary locations May 2005
Certain collections and areas of the library continue to be restricted
Please call before you visit to make sure materials are available for your service
216-368-2792

* * *

Reader's Request

OHIO LAW LIBRARIES: WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT THE NEW AUDIT STANDARDS?

Patricia Glessner, Law Librarian, Wayne County Law Library Association

The Ohio Auditor may have raised a few eyebrows, and maybe blood pressure, of those who are responsible for the preparation of law library financial statements. Technical Bulletin 2005-002 was issued on April 13, 2005, and it outlined changes made by the AICPA regarding what type of audit opinions can be granted to entities such as law libraries. It also contained scary terms like cash basis and GAAP. This article is being written to calm your fears and provide information to allow your law library to retain positive audit results.

Most, if not all, law libraries in Ohio work on a "cash basis" financial system. In order to understand what is meant by cash basis, we only need to look at our own checking accounts. My checking account shows income coming in, payments going out and a final cash balance at the end. This is very similar to what most law libraries are presenting in their financial statements: income, expenses and account balances. However, my checking account does not take into consideration what other assets I might own and, maybe more importantly, what liabilities or debts I might have. My checking account alone does not show my entire fiscal picture. It does not show if I am able to meet my obligations and it certainly does not show whether I am fiscally sound.

This is why, in my opinion, the AICPA has issued their interpretation. In recent years, CPAs have consistently been on the losing side of court battles regarding their own financial liabilities for issuing positive audit findings when there were corrupt, undisclosed or undiscovered material problems within a business. Thus, it is not surprising that the CPAs are tightening the rules. Cash basis financial statements do not necessarily disclose a law library's true fiscal condition and whether the library can continue its existence in the future.

GAAP, or Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, are the rules, standards and procedures which an accountant, auditor or business must follow. GAAP infers that certain minimum standards will be met and it has a lot to do with the reliability and the reputation of the entity following its standards. The AICPA extended GAAP standards to county governments in the late 1980s, and it now wants to extend GAAP to all governmental entities including libraries, townships and school districts.

In its interpretation, the AICPA provided choices to Ohio law libraries. We could actually switch to GAAP based accounting which, I believe in most situations, would be too costly in terms of funds and time involved. The second option is to continue filing cash basis financial statements and receive both an adverse opinion and, if there are no material problems with our cash basis records, a second unqualified opinion. The final solution is to prepare our financial statements in a GAAP-like format. We could then receive a single unqualified audit opinion, provided again our financial records are satisfactory to the auditor. I know this switch to GAAP-like statements sounds difficult, but it is not really that hard. It only involves one additional step at year end: plugging in your fiscal information as you have it now into the GAAP format.

Since I have a BS in Accounting, I developed GAAP-like financial statement in 2002. They make better sense to me because of my background and my audits have been quick and painless since then. The Ohio Auditor's website, www.auditor.state.oh.us, has sample forms under their Local Government Resources page. These forms can be downloaded in Excel and pdf files and can be adapted to your law library. In addition, the Ohio Auditor's staff is ready and available to assist with the transfer to GAAP – all it takes is a phone call or email request for assistance.

In Ohio, law libraries are fortunate to receive public funds through court fines. We have an obligation to account for these funds thoroughly and accurately. In my opinion, receiving an adverse audit opinion would only give fuel to our critics and fan the fire started by HB 66. During these times it is important to put our best foot forward and provide GAAP-like statements. By doing so, we present a professional and credible face to those interested in looking at our financial statements.

* * *

Ohio Legislative Update

HB 66 BIENNIAL BUDGET

**Marcus Hochstetler, Government Relations Chair , 2004-05
Librarian, Mahoning Law Library Association**

HB 66 BIENNIAL BUDGET (CALVERT, C): *To make operating appropriations for the biennium beginning July 1, 2005 and ending June 30, 2007, and to provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs.*

As many of you may know by now, county law librarians in Ohio are engaged in a battle to retain county funding for their future survival. House Bill 66 was introduced into the 126th General Assembly of the Ohio House of Representatives on February 15, 2005. The language in this bill (lines 29580-29697 and 80319-80356) effectively reduces the county commissioner's financial responsibilities toward county law libraries to zero by 2011.

A coalition of county law librarians have responded to this action by testifying before the House Finance and Appropriations committee on March 17, 2005. The language of HB 66 changed after this date to include the creation of a 13 member Task Force on County Law Library Funding. The task force will consist of 13 members appointed by House and Senate Majority and Minority leaders, the Judicial Conference, the County Commissioners of Ohio, and the Ohio State Bar Association. Three law librarians will be a part of this task force, which will have from September 1, 2005 until June 30, 2006 to make a report to the House, Senate, and Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court.

Currently, the salaries and benefits of a Librarian and up to two assistant librarians are paid from the county treasury.(O.R.C. 3375.48) The county commissioners are also responsible for providing "suitable" space, bookshelves, and utilities for each county law library.(O.R.C. 3375.49) This budget bill forces law libraries to assume the above costs through successive 20% increases from 2007 to 2011 until the commissioners are released from their responsibilities to fund county law libraries. The net result will be that for some law libraries such as the Cleveland Law Library Association, which serves over 9000 attorneys, their available budget may be cut in half by 2011. Kathy Sasala, Director of the Cleveland Law Library Association, notes on her HB66 update website <http://clevelandlawlibrary.org/Public/Misc/HB66.html>, "It is no exaggeration to say that the Law Library could not absorb such drastic cuts without significantly reducing the valuable legal services and materials we provide and upon which patrons have come to rely."

Many county law librarians are pooling resources and collecting data to help support this effort to save funding for our law libraries. On April 8th, several county law librarians met with the Court Administration Committee of the Ohio Judicial conference and presented a detailed notebook outlining the services provided by county law libraries in Ohio. The Ohio Judicial Conference urged the removal of the language from HB66.

If you have a State Senator on the Senate Finance and Financial Institutions committee, please consider sending a letter them urging the removal of the current language pertaining to county law libraries in HB 66. The bill must be signed by Governor Taft by the end of June.

For committee members: http://www.senate.state.oh.us/committees/com_finance.html

The Ohio State Bar Association Law Library committee held a meeting on Thursday, May 12th. In a recent e-mail to the County-SIG listserv, Kathy Sasala, Cleveland Law Library Director, shared these comments from Bill Weissenberg of the OSBA: "the County Commissioners want to be totally out of the business of paying for the law libraries, and that several commissioners were "adamant" on imposing the increasing cuts until the funding is totally gone. Bill nevertheless thinks the CCAO leadership is committed to creating a new plan as part of the Task Force." Bill also indicated that he has been busy lobbying the delegates at the OSBA convention and said that this issue is very important to the OSBA. The Task Force will look at all issues related to county law libraries, including funding from fines and penalties.

NOTE: An update on the progress of Ohio House Bill 66 will be provided at the Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training: Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies for Success during the AALL annual meeting in San Antonio, TX on Saturday, July 16th, 2005, 8:30-12:00 pm. If you are interested in attending please contact Mary Alice Baish at baish@law.georgetown.edu by June 15th, 2005.

HB 188 ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT SERVICES ACT (BUEHRER, S) To adopt the Electronic Government Services Act to prohibit a government agency from providing duplicative or competing electronic commerce services with the private sector unless the government agency complies with specified procedures.

This is the third time that this piece of legislation is being introduced in the Ohio House of Representatives. The last time it was attached to the Biennial Budget bill HB 95 in 2003. Editorials were written opposing this legislation at that time and testimony from many state agencies also fought for the removal of this language from that budget bill. A letter from the AALL Washington Affairs office was also sent to legislators. They were successful. We will continue to monitor the progression of this bill. The protection of private industry should not be at the expense of dissemination of publicly funded information or services to the citizens of Ohio.

HB 186 STATE ASSETS/ENTERPRISES (BUEHRER, S) To require the Office of Budget and Management to review all services performed by the state, and all goods provided by the state, that are of a commercial nature to determine which of them may be opened to competition by private enterprise, to review the delivery structure of all state administrative services to determine the efficiency of their provisions, and to develop a rating system for evaluating the effectiveness of all state programs; to earmark funds appropriated to the Office to support these duties; and to create the Asset and Enterprise Review Committee to inventory and appraise all state assets and enterprises.

A companion bill to HB 188, HB 186 seeks to also limit government agencies from competing with private corporations. Testimony in opposition to this bill has been given by Bruce Wyngaard, operations director of the Ohio Civil Service Employees Association, Local 11 AFSCME. He said that, first, it is confusing with what is meant by "commercial nature." He said that often, when services are provided somewhere else, they are "not the same services or the quality is different."

Chapter News

THE ORALL NAME CHANGE TASK FORCE

Sarah L. Lynch, Reference Librarian, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP

The ORALL Name Change Task Force was formed to make suggestions and to determine the procedures to change the name of our chapter to something which more accurately reflects the locations of our members. We have met and discussed and e-mailed and have narrowed the choice down to 4: ORALL, make no change; MEALL (Mid-East Assn of Law Libs); LLOKI (Law Libraries of Ohio Kentucky and Indiana; or KOILL (Kentucky Ohio Indiana Law Libraries). The task force and the Executive board probably prefer LLOKI or KOILL, but it will be up to the membership as to what we do.

I wanted to get the idea in front of the membership in the June issue of the newsletter so that members could think about it and comment in the September newsletter before it is goes on a ballot and put to a vote of the active membership. AALL will have to approve our name change and we will have to change our name registration with the Secretary of State once we decide whether or not to change.

If you would like to direct your comments to me, Sarah Lynch, at sllynch@vssp.com, I will see that they are posted in the September newsletter. Thank you for all the suggestions and discussion that I have already seen and I look forward to hearing more from the rest of you.

* * *

AALL News

2005 ALL-SIS Election Results:

ORALL member Carol Bredemeyer, Assistant Director for Faculty Services, Northern Kentucky University, Salmon P. Chase College of Law Library, has been elected Executive Board Member of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section.

CONGRATULATIONS CAROL!

* * *



AALL Annual Meeting
MIDDLE MANAGERS MEETING
Amy B. Osborne, Foreign and International Law Specialist
University of Kentucky College of Law Library

Now that the 2005 AALL Annual Meeting registration has arrived, it is time to start thinking about plans for the San Antonio meeting. If you are a middle manager in an academic law library I encourage you to attend the Annual Middle Managers Breakfast. This year the breakfast will be held at 7:00 a.m. Tuesday July 19. Registration is \$10.00 and must be included with the Annual Meeting Registration by marking the appropriate line on the registration form and by the inclusion of the registration fee.

Our speaker will be Professor Tracy McGaugh of the South Texas College of Law. Today we work in libraries which are increasingly cross generational. Our colleagues may include Baby Boomers, Generation Xers, Veterans or Millennials. Professor McGaugh will help us understand how we can keep harmony in the workplace while addressing the disparate views, learning and work styles of these distinct groups.

This is a great opportunity to catch-up with colleagues, enjoy good food and become a better manager all at the same time.

Hope to see you there!

* * *

And don't forget to checkout the PR showcase at AALL to see Cleveland-Marshall Law Library's award-winning presentation!

GOING TO SAN ANTONIO? YOU NEED THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE SITE

Paula E. Howe, ExxonMobil Law Library

A visit to the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) web page can simplify and enliven your trip to San Antonio for this year's Conference. The page contains "Essential" information plus tips on how to "Enjoy San Antonio." Either go directly to the LAC page (<http://www.stcl.edu/aall>) or click your way there from AALL's homepage (start at <http://www.aallnet.org>, click on Annual Meeting, General Information, Local Advisory Committee Page).

Under "Essentials" are photos of the Conference hotels, a guide to booking a room, and options for transportation from the airport to your hotel. "Enjoy San Antonio" contains guides written by LAC Committee members to help you pack the most fun into your visit. These guides include nightlife, shopping, live music, museums and galleries, bookstores, music stores, libraries, LGBT, fun for families and kids, internet access, excursions, outdoor activities, fitness centers and spas, and places of worship. The guides are available in printer friendly versions so that you can easily bring the ones you want with you.

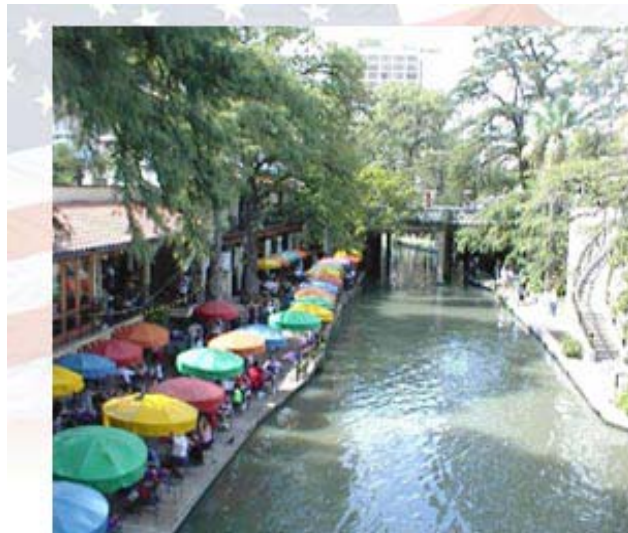
The LAC page also contains volunteer forms so you can assist the various committees (don't forget that volunteers get perks), a link to the Dine Arounds, a list of the Local Advisory Committee members in case you need to contact one of them, and the Conference registration form.



More on Visiting San Antonio

The May 2005 issue of *Southern Living* magazine offers a 3-page “Insider's Guide to the River Walk,” by Les Thomas, which encourages readers to “Skip the guidebook; let our resident expert lead you to his favorite San Antonio spots.” It’s probably worth finding a hard copy of the magazine, but an electronic version is available at the magazine’s web site, with links to a printable San Antonio walking-tour map and to other San Antonio travel features:

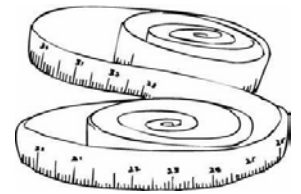
<http://www.southernliving.com/southern/travel/weekends/article/0,13676,1056472,00.html>



Photograph: San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

* * *

"897 Inches" to Where?
Nancy S. Clark, Jones Day



The Columbus Area Law Librarians are excited to host the ORALL 2006 Annual Meeting in our vibrant and growing city. Please mark your calendars for **October 11 - 13, 2006**, to visit our city for the first time or fall in love all over again as you experience the new developments since we hosted our 50th Anniversary Meeting in 1999.

We have a block of rooms at the **Hampton Inn & Suites, 501 North High Street,**



located in the ever developing Arena District and adjacent to the Short North Arts District. This hotel opened in September 2000 with it's beautiful main lobby highlighted by a dome of sky blue & clouds. Attendees can experience many options for entertainment, dining, gallery browsing as well as unique shops and venues. Thursday and Friday educational classes will be held right across the street at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, "**897 INCHES DOOR TO DOOR**" as highlighted in Hampton's



marketing. Other areas within the Greater Columbus Convention Center include a food court and retail shops.

Our Hampton Inn room rates can accommodate one to four persons per room with a single king or two double beds. They



have also allowed us great rates on their two bedroom king suites! All rates include a **Complimentary Deluxe Breakfast** with seven different stations of **hot and cold items**. If you are in a hurry, ask the breakfast hostess for the new **On the Run Breakfast Bag™**, complete with water, fruit, a muffin, and a cereal bar. Available Monday - Friday.




Located in central Ohio, Columbus is accessible from all our member states. According to maps, below are some approximate driving distances to our conference site.



- 6 miles from the Columbus International Airport
- 144 driving miles from Cleveland
- 105 miles from Cincinnati
- 148 miles from Toledo
- 176 miles from Indianapolis
- 207 miles from Louisville, KY

Stay tuned, more details to come!

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US IN 2006!



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