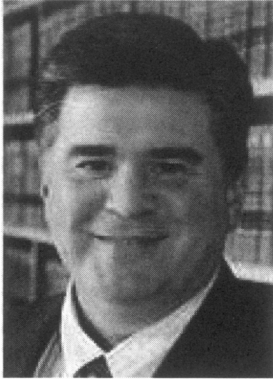


LIBRARIES AND THE RULE OF LAW: FINAL PROGRAM



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International Association of Law Libraries Board Liaison for the 33rd Annual Course on International Law and Legal Information

Welcome from the Board of Directors

Colleagues and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the International Association of Law Libraries, I welcome you to Buenos Aires, the national capital and also the largest city in Argentina. The Foreign Service Institute for Argentina, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Universidad de San Andrés are proud to host the 33rd International Course on International Law and Legal Information, the first IALL conference to be hosted in South America.

Buenos Aires is a World capital, and it boasts a lively and diverse arts scene and many other cultural attractions. Its cosmopolitan blend of Old and New World styles is unique in the world, and it is the cultural nerve center for Argentina and much of South America as well. Buenos Aires is home to a vibrant legal and justice industry, as well as numerous first rate cultural institutions. It is also home of hundreds of book stores, libraries and cultural associations.

The theme of this year's conference is Libraries and the Rule of Law. In addition to a generous number of networking and social activities, conference attendees

will have ample opportunities to learn about or deepen their understanding of the vital role played by libraries and librarians in the construction of modern democracy in Argentina. You will also learn about the status of human rights in Argentina and about rights initiatives and current challenges. Conference speakers will include noted legal academics, scholars, human rights activists and law librarians.

I hope you enjoy the rich program of speakers as well as the many interesting networking and social activities that have been organized for all of us. It has taken an enormous amount of work and planning to put together this conference and I wish to thank the Local Planning Committee, chaired by Gloria Orrego Hoyos, for their diligence, creativity and care in putting together this signal event.

I am sure that over the ensuing days you will come to learn a great deal about aspects of legal resources and legal research, the evolving status of human rights, and the rule of law in Argentina. Likewise, I hope you come away with an enduring appreciation of the cultural heritage and many other attributes of this most cosmopolitan Latin American city.