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Editorial Comment

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

This is a particularly meaty issue of the International Journal of Legal Information. It contains seven substantial articles covering a lot of ground, including a major piece on legal education in the United States, South Africa's Constitutional Assembly database project, an interview with a major figure in international law, and a wide-ranging thought piece on digital libraries.

Leading this issue off is an important new study by **James Maxeiner**. Dr. Maxeiner is Associate Professor of Law and Associate Director, Center for International and Comparative Law, University of Baltimore School of Law. His piece compares two landmark studies of the case method of legal instruction. Mr. Maxeiner's article compares and contrasts a recent Carnegie Foundation Legal Education Report with its earlier counterpart, the Redlich Report. The Redlich Report was prepared in 1914 by Josef Redlich, an Austrian law professor. While the two reports are similar in a number of ways, Mr. Maxeiner teases out their differences, which inform us about the course that American legal education has taken in the last century.

David Gee is Deputy Librarian at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in the University of London. David is a friend and colleague I met at a previous IALL annual course. He brings IJLI readers up-to-date on copyright considerations in the United Kingdom. His article examines the UK's *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* of 1988, and assesses the impact of several key EU Directives and implementing UK Statutory Instruments on the working of this regime. He also discusses the implications of the new rights for owners of digital material, and analyzes current UK copyright hot topics.

Beth DiFelice has compiled a useful bibliography of articles and materials on the International Transitional Administration. Her focus is on East Timor, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Eastern Slavonia, and Kosovo. Scholars working on subjects related to the United Nations' presence in these jurisdictions will find Beth's bibliography a very useful resource.

The history of the South Africa Constitutional Database Assembly Project is the subject of an article written by **Julien Hofman**. Professor Hofman is a member of the Department of Commercial Law at the University of Cape Town. His interest in using information communication technology to spread information began in 1995 when he set up the Constitutional Assembly Database Project to put the proceedings of the Constitutional

Assembly onto the World Wide Web. More recently he set up, with others, a digital repository for research done in the Law Faculty. In 1995 the Constitutional Assembly Database Project (the Project) began publishing the proceedings of South Africa's Constitutional Assembly on the Internet. The Project completed its work in 1996, but the Database has been unavailable since a computer crash in 2000. Ms. DiFelice's paper urges a restoration of the Database. She also makes recommendations that will help avoid the mistakes made when the database was first brought online.

Here is something completely new. **Lesley Dingle** and **Daniel Bates** of the Cambridge University Law Library realized they had a real treasure in their midst. **Kurt Lipstein** was a longtime fixture at their university and in their law library. They convinced Professor Lipstein, an icon in the world of international law, to participate in four separate interviews. Lesley and Daniel recorded and transcribed the interviews, and the IJLI publishes them in this issue for your edification and enjoyment. In these wide-ranging discussions, Professor Lipstein recounts his participation in events at Cambridge University and its law library, as well as recalls key 20th century developments of international law and the notable scholars, jurists, and political figures that he encountered in his remarkable life. Lesley and Daniel showed great foresight in this endeavor, as Professor Lipstein passed away just a few months after completing the interviews. This article is therefore something of a biography or history, as well as a lasting tribute to Kurt Lipstein.

The final article in this issue of the IJLI was authored by **Claire Germain**. Claire is Edward Cornell Law Librarian & Professor of Law at Cornell Law School in Ithaca, N.Y. As immediate past president of the American Association of Law Libraries, as well as a long-time and active member of the law library profession, Claire Germaine is a name familiar to many in the law library profession. Claire's article is an overview of public policy issues surrounding digital libraries. She discusses the impact of globalization and the Internet on international and foreign law information, the free access to law movement and open access scholarship, and mass digitization projects. She examines some concerns for today's law librarian community, focusing on issues of digital preservation and long term access to born digital legal information and authentication of official digital legal information. Her article closes with a discussion of new roles for law librarians as evaluators of information quality, teachers of legal research methodology, and advocates in information policy. Her article will be of

interest to all law librarians and to those interested in the current developments of digital libraries.

This issue also contains, of course, its two regular features: Book Reviews, edited by **Thomas Mills**, and the International Calendar, edited by **Lyonette Louis-Jacques**. As you can see from this brief summary, there is a lot of good reading in this issue of the IJLI. Enjoy!

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