



AI & LAW NEWS



August 1996

International Association for Artificial Intelligence and Law

Vol. 3, No. 3

French-American Conference Bridges Gap Between LES Builders and Users

“Bridging the Gap Between the Builders and the Users of Legal Expert Systems” was the theme of the first French-American Conference on Law and Artificial Intelligence held in April at Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, under the auspices of the Universite de Paris 1 (Pantheon-Sorbonne) and Syracuse University College of Law.

The idea was to introduce legal professionals to the use of artificial intelligence in lawyering tasks, such as evaluating, planning and advising.

Daniele Bourcier, co-chair of the conference, welcomed participants and began the program with

comments on “The Role of Technology in Bridging the Gap Between Legal Cultures.” The conference program then offered participants a balanced mix of hands-on experience and useful information about legal expert systems. The hands-on experience, which was intended as a signature characteristic of the conference, was provided both by tutorials and by

demonstrations. The hands-on experience was designed to help legal professionals both to understand how artificial intelligence technology can be useful for lawyering (as opposed to practice administration) tasks and to overcome the perception that artificial intelligence technology is not particularly accessible to those with legal training.

Some people participated in a pre-conference

tutorial that provided “An Introduction to Building Legal Expert Systems.” The four-hour tutorial, taught by Dan Hunter (Cambridge, UK) and Michael Aikenhead (Durham, UK), included an introduc-

tory lecture on legal expert systems, followed by a computer lab session, during which participants constructed a simple legal expert system.

Additional half-day tutorials in “Using Microsoft Excel to Build Legal Expert Systems” (Mohan Tanniru & Michelle Holquin, Syracuse, USA) and

It's Membership Renewal Time!

This issue of *AI & Law News* includes a membership renewal form for 1996. Although there is no ICAIL conference in 1996, please continue to support IAAIL by renewing your membership. The membership fee is \$65, which includes a subscription to the *Artificial Intelligence and Law* journal—an excellent price only available to IAAIL members.

A special rate for full-time students is \$40, and a reduced membership (not including the journal) is available for \$30.

Continued on page 4

COMING EVENTS

Call for Papers

Three special issues are in preparation for two international journals in computing for law. Calls for papers can be viewed on the Internet at the URLs indicated below. Inquiries should be directed at the respective contact, as listed.

Special Issue on Judicial Applications of Artificial Intelligence, *Artificial Intelligence and Law* journal, guest editors Karl Branting and Giovanni Sartor. Contact Branting at karl@eolus.uwo.edu; Contact Sartor at Sartor@cirfid.unibo.it; URL: <http://nathan.gmd.de/iaail/journal/cfp1.html>

Special Issue on Time and Evidence, *Artificial Intelligence and Law* journal, guest editors Antonio Martino and Ephraim Nissan. Contact Martino at martino@dsp.unipi.it; contact Nissan at E.Nissan@gre.ac.uk; URL: <http://gre.ac.uk/~ne02/call.time.evid.html>.

Special Issue on Formal and Computational Models of Legal Narratives, *Law, Computers and Artificial Intelligence*, guest editor Ephraim Nissan: E.Nissan@gre.ac.uk; URL: <http://gre.ac.uk/~ne02/call.legal.narratives.html>.

AI and Law Journal Features BANKXX, Legal Argumentation, and AI and Law in Japan

The first issue of the 1996 Volume of the *Artificial Intelligence and Law* journal has been mailed to subscribers, and the second issue is at the printers and will be mailed shortly.

Contents of Vol. 4 No. 1:

- "BANKXX: Supporting Legal Arguments through Heuristic Retrieval" by Edwina Rissland, David Skalak and M. Timur Friedman (The first of a two-part series of articles.)
- "How to Stop Being Depressed about AI and Law," review of "Building Intelligent Legal Information Systems: Representation and Reasoning in Law" by John Zeleznikow and Dan Hunter. (reviewed by Richard Susskind)

Contents of Vol. 4 No. 2:

- "An Integrated Framework for Ought-to-be and Ought-to-do Constraints" by P. D'Altan, J.-J. Ch. Meyer, and R. J. Wieringa
- "On Isomorphic Formalisations" by Tom Routen
- "ARPO-2: an Expert System for Legal Advice on the Breach of Building Contracts" by Jesus Cardenosa and Pilar Lasala

Two special issues are scheduled to appear in 1996:

Special Issue on Logical Models of Legal Argumentation (Editors: Henry Prakken and Giovanni Sartor):

- "A model of argumentation and its application to legal reasoning" by Arthur Farley and Kathleen Freeman
- "A theory of legal reasoning and a logic to match" by Jaap Hage
- "Abstract Argumentation" by Robert Kowalski and Francesca Toni
- "Jumps and Logic in the Law" by Aleksander Pacznick
- "Rules about rules: assessing conflicting arguments in legal reasoning" by Henry Prakken and Giovanni Sartor

Special Issue on Artificial Intelligence and Law Research in Japan (Editors: Katsumi Nitta and Hajime Yoshino):

- "A Goal-Dependent Abstraction for Legal Reasoning by Analogy" by Tokuyasu Kakuta, Makoto Haraguchi, and Yoshiaki Okubo
- "Defeasible Reasoning in Japanese Criminal Jurisprudence" by Masato Shibasaki and Katsumi Nitta
- "Logical Foundations of Compound Predicate Formulas for Legal Knowledge Representation" by Hajime Yoshino
- "A Legal Ontology Refinement Environment using a General Ontology by Masaki Kurematsu, Masayoshi Tuda, and Takahira Yamaguchi
- "Similarity of Legal Cases: From Temporal Relations of Affairs" by Satoshi Tojo and Katsumi Nitta

Call for Papers

Journal of Technology Law & Policy University of Florida College of Law

The *Journal of Technology Law & Policy* is devoted to exploring the legal and policy issues raised by emerging technology. To promote access to the journal, the journal will be published on the World Wide Web. Submissions to the journal are encouraged to take full advantage of this medium. Relevant graphics, sound, and video may be used.

There are no length limitations for submissions. Submissions must include a copy in electronic form. All citations should be in Bluebook and endnote form. Please include the URL of any cited information available online. Student contributions are encouraged.

Please direct questions and submissions to techlaw@grove.ufl.edu; <http://grove.ufl.edu/~techlaw>; Fax: (352)-377-7655; mailing address: *Journal of Technology Law & Policy*, University of Florida College of Law, P.O. Box 117640, Gainesville, FL 32611-7640.

French-American Conference ...

Continued from page 1

"Introduction to Neural Nets" (Can Isik, Syracuse, USA) were offered during the conference. Demonstrations also enabled the participants to see what artificial intelligence technology has to offer the legal profession. A few of the demonstrations were incorporated in the program to serve as exemplars of legal expert systems for subsequent formal and informal discussions. One exemplar system provided a case for "Improving the Quality of Legal Services Through Computer Aided Checklists" (Marc Lauritsen, Harvard, USA), while another, "A Wrongful Dismissal Advisor" (Don and Gerri Downie, Guelph, Canada), showed how expert system technology can enhance the understanding and handling of a typical legal problem. Another dozen or so legal expert systems were available for hands-on use during three demonstration periods scheduled during the conference. These expert systems focused on a range of legal issues, including municipal noise regulations, medical treatment consent issues, business law, immigration law, legal information retrieval, trademark law, tax law, and nuclear power plant regulation compliance. During the demonstrations, participants had the opportunity to try out the expert systems and to have their questions answered by the system builders.

The conference also included information presentations that addressed a range of conceptual and practical issues. The conceptual issues addressed, for example, included "Computerizing Legal Decision Making" (Lucien Mehl, Councillor of State, France), "Methods for Automatic Legal Construction" (Jean-Paul Cailloux, ESSEC, France), "Bridging the Gap between Human and Computer Languages" (Serge Diebolt,

Paris, France), "How to Handle the Concept of Time" (Rim Faiz, Paris, France), and "An Implementation of Eisner v. Macomber" (L. Thorne McCarty, Rutgers, USA).

The practical issues of interest to system builders looked at such things as "Licensing Considerations for Builders and Users of Legal Expert Systems" (Stephen Wentsler, Syracuse, USA). Also of interest to both builders and users were presentations on the nature of neural networks: "Understanding Legal Neural Networks" (Dan Hunter, Cambridge, UK) and "Introducing Lawyers to the Differences Among Expert Systems, Fuzzy Logic, and Neural Nets" (Can Isik, Syracuse, USA).

System builders were provided useful information on "Selecting an Appropriate Expert System Shell" (R. Sawyer, Kaman Sciences Corp., Syracuse, USA) and "Developing a Commercial Expert System in Tax Law" (Marcia Suelzer, CCH, USA).

The concerns of users of legal expert systems, on the other hand, were the focus of presentations on "Tort Liability Issues Involving Expert Systems" (Theodore

Hagelin, Syracuse, USA) and "Law Firm Management of Expert Systems" (Mohan Tanniru, Syracuse, USA).

The conference's final session was a discussion of the future of legal expert systems. Participants agreed that the use of such systems was likely to increase dramatically over the next 10 years or so and that the builders and users of such systems should keep in touch. Co-Chair Patricia Hassett agreed to set up a list serve over the summer to facilitate such contact.

Co-Chair Daniele Bourcier closed the conference with an expression of appreciation for the contributions and enthusiasm of those attending, and with an invitation for everyone to reassemble for the second conference in Paris in two years time.



Contact IAAIL via the WWW at <http://nathan.gmd.de/iaail/iaail.html>

International Association for Artificial Intelligence and Law (IAAIL)

President: Edwina Rissland
Department of Computer Science
University of Massachusetts

Vice President: Anja Oskamp
Department of Computing
Vrije Universiteit

Secretary/Treasurer: Carole D. Hafner
College of Computer Science
Northeastern University

AI & Law News is a publication of the International Association for Artificial Intelligence and Law. Correspondence concerning *AI & Law News* should be directed to Karl Branting, IAAIL Newsletter Editor, Department of Computer Science, University of Wyoming, P.O. Box 3682, Laramie, WY 82071, USA; Tel: (307) 766-4258; Fax: (307) 766-4036; Internet: karl@index.uwyo.edu

For information on IAAIL membership, contact Carole Hafner, College of Computer Science, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115, Tel: (617) 373-5116, Fax: (617) 373-5121, Internet: hafner@ccs.neu.edu

Layout and design by Susan Branting

International Association for Artificial Intelligence and Law

1996 Membership Form

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

***Make check payable to IAAIL and
return this form with payment to:***

**Prof. Carole Hafner, IAAIL
College of Computer Science
Northeastern University
360 Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02115 USA
E-mail: hafner@ccs.neu.edu
FAX: (617) 373-5121**

Please check one:

- Regular Member (includes Vol. 4 of
AI and Law journal) \$65
- Reduced Membership (reduced
membership does not include
AI and Law journal) \$30
- Full-Time Student \$40

Special offer for new members:

(while supplies last)

- Volume 3 of *AI and Law* \$40
- Volume 2 of *AI and Law* \$40

IF Full-Time Student:

University: _____

Department and degree program: _____

Total amount of payment (US dollars) _____

Method of payment

- Check or money order (in US dollars)
- Mastercard
- Visa

Mastercard or Visa card number: _____

Expiration date: _____

Signature: _____