



## Meet an ALA Member

I have a DBA and an MBA respectively from ESC Rennes Business School in France and Laval University in Canada. I gained significant experience in project management on a dam in **Canada, where I lived** for five years. I developed various marketing tools for my firm's corporate communication, among which a bi-monthly event called "Un Autre Regard" ([www.un-autre-regard.eu](http://www.un-autre-regard.eu)), recently awarded the **prize of communication** in French law firms.



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I grant a great deal of importance to a person's teamwork capacity, to their spirit of sacrifice for the collective group and their attitude. People should not be parsimonious in sharing their goodwill and time in the interest of the advancement of common cause. Having an open and understanding mind are of paramount importance to me. I have the luck of working directly with assigning managing partners who are open to criticism and new suggestions.

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Growing up is about adapting to change and trying to be a better person every day that goes by. Every night when I go to sleep I try to re-live through the day backwards to see how well I used my time to progress as a human being and how efficiently I managed to go through my daily workload. Being of service to others has always been a guideline of my life. I believe that the purpose of life is not just to live it out for oneself but also about being there for others. The world would surely be boring were it to be solely a place for self-indulgence.



We never sufficiently give credit to the people working in administration of law firms. Secretaries, legal assistants and other support staff are the backbone of any successful practice. These people are rarely in the limelight and without whom not much would get accomplished. They are the “unknown soldiers” of a victorious army who deserve far better recognition for their efforts than what they are getting.

I never became a lawyer because the practice of law is too serious to be left to lawyers alone. I have an MBA and I believe that opportunities are created through the interaction between people coming from different horizons. Diversity of backgrounds is an asset and not a handicap. Running a law firm is just as fun as practicing law if not more.

I would like to see myself as a stake holder in the equity of the firm, an option that French law provides for non-lawyers. For this to happen, I would like to play a greater role in bringing clients to the firm, something that I already do, albeit modestly. I am an active member in France for COM'SG (a French association of office managers in law firms) and would also love to be an active member in Europe for ALA.

ALA helps me by enabling me to tap into the wealth of knowledge and experience of hundreds of highly qualified professionals. It helps me to share with them the issues I encounter in my job and learn from their approach to similar matters. Being able to learn from the experience of others saves me both time and precious resources. I am indebted to ALA for all the opportunities for continuous learning it has created for me. ♦

**DO YOU KNOW AN ALA MEMBER WHO SHOULD BE FEATURED IN THIS SECTION?** If so, contact Amy Dvorak at [advorak@alanet.org](mailto:advorak@alanet.org).