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## Museletter: September 1988

Muse Law Library Staff

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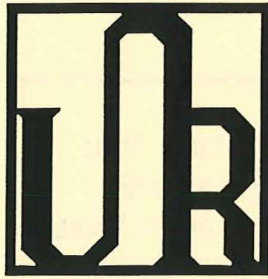
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William Taylor Muse Law Library

# MUSELETTER

University of Richmond

T.C. Williams School of Law

Volume 6, No. 1

September, 1988

## HERE WE GO AGAIN....

"What happened to the LEXIS terminals?" "What do you mean that the WordPerfect software isn't on reserve anymore?" "Where are you hiding the photocopier that was in the Southwest Basement?" "What's the story with this LegalTrac machine?" "What happened to Ms. Harrison's office?" "Where the !@%!\*! did you put the Virginia Code?"

In anticipation of these and other burning questions, we are dedicating this first MUSELETTER issue of the academic year to a look at some of the significant changes in policies and users' services that have taken place in the Law Library during the Summer. Most of these changes represent dramatic improvements in service to our users, and we believe that you will like what you see!!!

"What more could we want," you ask? Well..., how about our regular "Questions & Suggestions" column in which we attempt to address both user reference questions, and comments of general interest? "Not enough," you say? OK...!!! Take a look at Acquisitions Librarian Joyce Manna Janto's "Recreational Reading Reviews," another regular MUSELETTER feature in which some of the Library's most recently-acquired, law-related books are described (first-year students may want to consider checking these titles out during that relaxing 4:00-4:10 a.m. "free period" that you can look forward to every day!!!).

Still want more??? Nah..., that's enough for this issue - let's save something for next time!

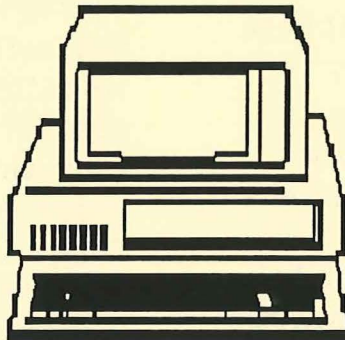
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## MICROCOMPUTER LAB OPENS

*IBM-Compatibility and Laser Printing Featured*

During the Summer, the long awaited Microcomputer Lab was completed and is now fully operational. Located on the Library's first floor, directly across from the Circulation Desk, the Lab represents a quantum leap forward in student micro-computing at the Law School, both in terms of hardware and physical environment. Those of you who remember the old microcomputer operation will be happy to know that the former three-person, three-terminal computer room is now a one person staff office. (How did we ever cram three people, three computers, and four printers into that room???) A quick glance through the double glass doors of our new, bright, and spacious facility should bring a smile to everyone's face.

Better than the facility itself, the Lab is equipped with eight beautiful new AT&T PC



6300 microcomputers that, frankly, leave the old DEC Rainbows in their dust! That's right! The DEC's are just a distant memory now (we know how that chokes everyone up!). The AT&T's are fully IBM-compatible and, (for those "computer jocks" who can't get enough technical jargon) each is equipped with a 30mb hard-disk drive, and a single 5 1/4" floppy disk drive (translation for most of us: there is a whole lot

of storage capacity on each of these machines!). Finally, one terminal (labelled as LEXIS #2) is also equipped with a 3 1/2" disk drive to allow users of that format to convert their disks to a size that is usable with the majority of the Lab's machines.

Software, like WordPerfect Version 5.0, is loaded permanently on each machine's hard-drive, meaning that qualified users no longer need to check out software at the desk, and install it themselves. Instead, users merely turn in their University ID's to the Circulation Desk where they will be issued a key that will allow them to access a micro-

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computer. Once the computer is turned on, the user will see an access menu on their screen from which they can select the program of their choice. Once the choice is made, users do their work, save the results on a disk (and/or print it out on the printer), and exit the system. All that is left is for the user to turn the key to the "off" position and return it to the Desk - That's it!

At present, four of the eight microcomputers in the Lab are primarily for LEXIS/WESTLAW use. The other four (labelled WP1, WP2, WP3, and WP4) have been set aside for general use - primarily, for word processing. All four "WP" machines are attached to a Hewlett-Packard LaserJet II printer. If you haven't experienced laser printing yet, we know that you will love the quality and speed with which the LaserJet works. Although there is only one printer at this time, print jobs are kept straight by a sophisticated "switcher" mechanism that "queues" computer output to the printer so that several users can issue print commands to the same printer at the same time (the printer does each job in turn and, at eight pages per minute, it doesn't usually take very long for each job to be completed).

The Library is presently reviewing other software programs that might be added to the Lab's hard-disks in the future. Eventually, it is hoped that users will be able to select a wide variety of useful software packages in the Computer Lab!

We expect the Lab to be a huge success, but we would really like to know what you think about it. Please feel free to drop any comments or suggestions, pro or con, into the MUSELETTER box at the end of the Circulation Desk.

## **WORDPERFECT VERSION 5.0**

The folks at WordPerfect have done it again - they have released yet another version of their beloved word processing software, thus throwing everyone who invested in Version 4.2 (or earlier versions) into a frenzy. As always, Version 5.0 boasts a number of "new and improved" features that make it semi-incompatible with any of the prior versions. Regardless, "progress" is inevitable, and the Law Library Computer Lab, is now using WordPerfect Version 5.0.

Users who created and saved

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documents in Version 4.2 before the Library conversion can still use those documents in the Lab. The first time that a 4.2 document is retrieved by the new software, it is automatically converted to a Version 5.0 file. If the user wants to continue saving in Version 4.2 (because that is what they have at home), a different "save" technique, using the "text-in/text-out" function key (Control F5), must be used to retain these documents. Although saving in Version 4.2 is possible with the new software, we advise that users work exclusively in Version 5.0, if at all possible, since it appears that it will be the WordPerfect "standard" for the next few years. Users with personal copies of Version 4.2 and IBM (or compatible) computers at home can order an upgrade to Version 5.0 for \$60.00 from the WordPerfect Corporation. The procedure for ordering the upgrade software is posted on the bulletin board just inside the Computer Lab's double doors. However, the WordPerfect Corporation itself advises that, due to the incredible size of the Version 5.0 program, one should not attempt to upgrade to the new version unless their machine is equipped with at least a 20mb

hard drive (cost - \$200 to \$300+).

Happy word crunching!

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## **LEGALTRAC: CD-ROM LEGAL PERIODICALS INDEX GREATLY SPEEDS RESEARCH**

Let's face it! Searching through endless printed indexes of law journal articles looking for titles that might be informative is no fun! The print is almost microscopic, the indexes are not cumulative, and you are stuck with the publishers' choices of subject headings which can be cryptic, at best.

Aware of the problems associated with traditional periodical indexing, the Library is pleased to announce the installation of LegalTrac, a state-of-the-art, computerized index to articles published in over 800 legal publications, (including all major law reviews) since 1980. The system is extremely fast and easy to use (complete instructions are posted on the terminal located on the Library's First Floor).

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## LEXIS/WESTLAW ACCESS CHANGES

### *PC's Replace Dedicated Terminals*

Returning students walking back to the old LEXIS/WESTLAW room will notice (we hope!) that it is now the office of Catalog Librarian Sally H. Wambold. There is no sign of the old LEXIS Deluxe terminals or the IBM-PC that had been used to access WESTLAW. What??? No more LEXIS or WESTLAW?!? Au contraire, mes amies. The Library has merely converted the entire LEXIS/WESTLAW operation to personal computers located in the new Computer Lab. Of the eight AT&T computers located in the Lab, four have been set aside primarily for LEXIS and WESTLAW access. These terminals have been marked "LEXIS 1," "LEXIS 2," "WESTLAW 1," and "WESTLAW 2," so that they will not be confused with the general/word processing terminals.

We feel that accessing LEXIS and WESTLAW through PC's (attached to modems and phone lines) provides users with the kind of database access that they will see more and more in practice. Very few law firms or businesses will continue to pay exorbitant rental fees for LEXIS

and WESTLAW's "dedicated" terminals ("dedicated" in the sense that they serve no useful purpose other than to access either LEXIS or WESTLAW) when they could purchase a PC and modem and use the computer to access any database from home or office.

Although accessing LEXIS and WESTLAW through a PC may seem strange to some returning students at first, there are few real differences between using these databases on dedicated terminals and PC's beyond the initial access procedures. We have installed the necessary communications software on the Lab PC's so that users do not have to insert a diskette to make the computers "dial up" LEXIS or WESTLAW. As with WordPerfect, users merely exchange their University ID at the Circulation Desk for a key and access number for the system of their choice. Once the computer is turned on, a menu screen listing LEXIS and WESTLAW as choices will appear (if this doesn't happen, you are on the wrong terminal). The user then simply types the

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appropriate number from the menu and presses the "enter" key, and the computer will initiate contact with either LEXIS or WESTLAW. Once contact is established, the user types in the ID # on the card obtained at the desk, and then proceeds to search LEXIS or WESTLAW normally.

Users can receive a printout of selected LEXIS and WESTLAW screens on the Hewlett-Packard "ThinkJet" printers located between the LEXIS and WESTLAW terminals. Since there is only one printer for each system, a manual switch box (located next to each printer) must be used to select the terminal that is ready to print. Once a computer is linked to the printer through the switch box, the user merely presses the "print screen" button (top row - to the right of Function Key "F12") to receive a printout of the screen currently displayed on the monitor.

As always, the Library will provide all first-year students with LEXIS and WESTLAW training in the Spring as part of their Legal Research and Writing training. We hope to be able to provide several LEXIS and WESTLAW training sessions for second and third-year students later in the Fall.

Hours of access for LEXIS

and WESTLAW vary depending on the day of the week and the terminal used. Specific access times are listed in the LEXIS and WESTLAW reservation books located on the Circulation Desk (don't forget that you must reserve time on either system to avoid conflicts with other users).

## **BOOKS, MACHINES, & PEOPLE ON THE MOVE**

### *Space Crunch Necessitates Changes*

"OK! I can take a joke, but what have you done with the copier that was in the Southwest Basement? And why isn't Ms. Harrison in her office behind the Circulation Desk? And, why isn't the Virginia Code shelved where it was last year? What is going on around here???"

First of all, take it easy! Everything is still here, but changes have been made over the Summer to get as much productive use out of the Library's rapidly-disappearing space as possible. Let's go over the changes by category to help sort all of this out:

\* **Photocopiers** - As returning students will recall, the Virginia materials were

moved from the first floor (where the new Computer Lab is located) to the Northeast Basement in January, 1988. Since that time, we have felt that we should have an additional photocopier in that area so that the heavily-used Virginia materials could be copied conveniently. Over the Summer, the University approved a fourth copier, but asked that the Library relocate its least-frequently used copier (the one in the Southwest Basement) to the first floor in an effort to reduce the extreme demand on the existing first-floor copier. As a result, there is now an additional copier in the Library, located in the Northeast Basement with the Virginia (and other state) materials (located directly at the bottom of the stairs). As for the other copiers, two are now located on the first floor, and the third is located on the second floor.

**\* Staff Offices** - As part of an effort throughout the Law building to get all possible use out of the limited space remaining, some Library staff offices have moved, or will move in the near future. By

consolidating the micro-computer and LEXIS/WESTLAW operations in the new Computer Lab, the rooms formerly used as computer rooms became free to use as Library staff offices. Having lost her office in the Admissions Office/Placement Office move during the Spring and Summer, Catalog Librarian Sally H. Wambold was relocated to the former LEXIS/WESTLAW room. Reference Librarian Lucinda D. Harrison then moved across the hall from her old office to the site of the former Microcomputer Room. Finally, it

is anticipated that

Circulation  
Department

Supervisor  
Nancy A.  
Martin will  
move from  
behind the

Circulation Desk to the vacated office of Ms. Harrison within the next month. Stay tuned..., there could be more changes any minute, and you can't tell the players (or their positions) without a scorecard!!!

**\* Book Moves** - It's a fact that the Library is running out of available shelf space at an alarmingly fast rate. In no area was the problem more troubling or critical than in the Northeast





Basement where the Virginia materials were moved in January to make room for the new Computer Lab. There simply was not sufficient room to insure that newly-acquired Virginia materials would have a place on the shelves, and there were no longer any distinct shelving areas large enough to establish a new, separate "Virginia Alcove." It was determined that the only logical move was to consolidate all current state materials in the Northeast Basement, with the Virginia materials "interfiled" with the other states. As a result of this move, it is hoped that the confusion between current and "superseded" state materials has been resolved (superseded state materials are still located in the Southwest Basement - no longer side-by-side with the current materials). To make the move possible, the government document collection (including the Code of Federal Regulations, Federal Register, Congressional Record, and the official administrative reporters) was moved to the Southwest Basement, thus switching spaces with the current state materials.

Although this shelving change comes as a shock to Library users who have gotten

used to a separate Virginia section, we feel that it was necessary, and that it does provide some temporary relief from our shelving/expansion problems. Users are encouraged to take Virginia materials to the nearby tables, carrels, or counter-height shelving units when they need to use and compare multiple volumes during their research. As always, the Library asks users of Virginia materials to reshelve their books after using them, even though the book move will mean that they will have to walk back into the stacks to get to the Virginia section.



## Notice



**Law Students may use the microcomputer lab that is operated by University College. This lab contains 10 IBM-compatible microcomputers that are loaded with version 5.0 of WordPerfect (the same set-up as in the Law Library Computer Lab). These computers are equipped with dot-matrix printers.**

**To use the lab, students must sign in at the University College office located on the ground floor of Richmond Hall (there is no reservation system; computers are available on a "first-come, first-served" basis.**

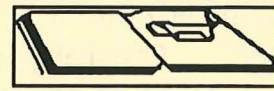
### **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LAB HOURS:**

**Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday 10:00 a.m.-12 noon**

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## RECREATIONAL READING REVIEWS

by Joyce Manna Janto, Acquisitions Librarian



What exactly is "Recreational Reading?" you may ask yourself. No, it's not the latest pot-boiler from Jackie Collins or Judith Krantz. And the books aren't the kind with lots of pictures and large type - the kind you want to read when your casebooks are making you blind! "Recreational Reading" books are simply those books, either fiction (yes, we do have real books in the library!) or non-fiction that deal in some way with the law or the legal profession. The newest of these books are put on display in the revolving book rack that sits on the shelving where the Shepard's Citations are housed.

The following are four of the books to be found there this month:


✉ Now that you've mortgaged your future to come to dear old T.C. Williams, check out The Terrible Truth About Lawyers by Mark McCormack (KF/311/.Z9/M39 1987). McCormack is the founder and CEO of International Management Group, a sports and entertainment empire. By drawing on the experiences of himself and his friends, McCormack advises

clients on how not to be taken advantage of by their lawyers. A must read, if only to find out what the opposition is saying.

✉ The Socratic Method by Michael Levin (PS/3562/.E88965/S6/ 1987) is a very funny (and sometimes uncomfortably realistic) novel about life within a law school. The book focuses on Professor Rebecca Shepard, the only woman faculty member at McKinley Law School, and the problems that surround her bid to win tenure. This process is complicated by, among other things, Rebecca's rejection of that thing most law professors hold dear, the Socratic Method.

✉ On a more serious note, The Hawk's Nest Incident by Martin Cherniack (RA/1231/.Q37/C48 1986) is on the Recreational Reading shelf this month. In 1930 the Union Carbide Company achieved an engineering marvel by boring the Hawk's Nest Tunnel through Gauley Mountain in two years. The only problem was, that within five years of the tunnel's completion, over 700 of the 5000 men who worked on the tunnel were dead. They had died of lung diseases caused by

the breathing of rock dust.

 Contrary to the expectations of non B-school students, Knights, Raiders and Targets (KF/1477 .K54/1988) is not about warfare in medieval Europe. It is a serious look at the impact of hostile take-overs on the American economy. This book is a collection of essays originally presented at the Columbia Law School's Center for Law and Economic Studies.



QUESTIONS &



SUGGESTIONS

**QUESTION:**

I recently read an interesting law review article by a member of the Boston University School of Law faculty. I really do not know anything about the author except the little bit that was revealed in the biographical footnote accompanying the article. Is there any source containing more extensive biographical sketches of law teachers?

**ANSWER:**

The Association of American Law Schools (AALS) publishes an annual Directory of Law

Teachers (the latest edition is located on the Reference shelves outside the offices of Ms. Janto and Mr. Hinckley - Call \* REF/KF/195/.T4) that provides biographical sketches for all full-time law teachers identified by deans of accredited law schools as members of their faculties. In addition to the the biographical section, the Directory also includes lists of law teachers by school and by subject.

**QUESTION:**

I am having a difficult time compiling statistical information in a number of categories relating to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Isn't there any convenient, compiled source of Virginia statistical information?

**ANSWER:**

Although few people are aware of it yet, the University of Virginia's Center for Public Service/Demographic Studies Center published its first annual Virginia Statistical Abstract approximately one year ago. This convenient source of detailed statistical information on a wide range of subjects of general interest relating to the Commonwealth and its subdivisions, is shelved in the Reference area (call \* REF/HA/686/.V57).