Fall 1997

Museletter: Fall 1997

Allen Moye

University of Richmond

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WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

Timothy L. Coggins, Director of the Law Library / Associate Professor of Law

The Law Library staff and I welcome all new and returning law students to the Muse Law Library. We are excited about the coming year and the opportunities to assist you with your legal research and computer questions and needs. Our goal is to provide you with the library services and the computer support that you need to complete your classroom and other law school related projects. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Your first encounter with the library staff likely will be either a need for research/reference assistance or for checking out library materials. The library's Reference and Research Services Librarians, Allen Moye and Brandon Quarles, are available to help you with both traditional and computer-assisted legal research questions. Allen and Brandon share office L12 and can be reached at 287-6555 and 289-8727 respectively. The Reference Desk telephone number is 289-8685. Other librarians assist at the Reference Desk as well. Librarians also teach the legal research component of the first-year Lawyering Skills course.

The Circulation Desk staff will help you with reserve materials, checking out library materials, photocopy questions, location of materials, and other related questions. Nancy Martin, Circulation Supervisor, can be reached at 289-8217, and Tim Edwards, Library Assistant/Circulation, can be contacted at 289-8931. Jean Hamilton and Doug Chapman handle the library's looseleaf filing. Student assistants also assist Nancy and Tim at the Circulation Desk.

Many of you will need computer help and advice. The Computer Support Services staff includes Paul Birch, Computer Services/Reference Librarian, David Keats, Computer Support Services Trainer, and Leighton Fuller, Network Administrator. They are happy to help you with your computer and network issues. You may contact Paul in room L11 and at 289-8222, David in room L9 and at 287-6687, and Leighton in room L9 also and at 287-6403.

The library's Technical Services staff organizes the library collection to guarantee that you can find what you need for your courses and research. The staff orders library materials, catalogs new materials, and handles many other related duties, including the receipt and distribution of newspapers and magazines. Technical Services staff includes Sally Wambold, Technical Services Librarian, Janette Alsworth, Library Associate/Acquisitions, Betty Cliborne, Library Assistant/Serials, Leah Viar, Library Assistant/Collection Management, Bob Weertman, Library Assistant/Cataloging, and our newest addition to the technical services staff Ann Bucci, part-time cataloging assistant. Staff at the Circulation or Reference Desk will direct you to the offices of Technical Services personnel.

The administrative staff of the library includes Timothy Coggins, Director and Associate Professor, Joyce Manna Janto, Deputy Director, and Deborah Barlett, Administrative Secretary. Tim's office number is L18, and his telephone number is 289-8218. Joyce can be reached at 289-8223 or in room L15. Deb's telephone number is 289-8225; her office number is L17.
Please contact any library staff member if you need help or if you have questions and/or suggestions. Good luck for a very successful year!

MORE CHANGES IN COMPUTER LAB

All of the pentium processors in the Computer Lab have been upgraded to a Windows 95 environment. The latest versions of Lexis-Nexis (4.2), Westlaw (Westmate 6.3 with Keycite), and Netscape Navigator have been added. Please note that you can no longer save to the hard drive on any of the computers in the lab. Centurion software has been installed which reformats the drive after each use.

NEW FACES AT THE COMPUTER HELP DESK.

The friendly, smiling faces you are likely to run into at the computer assistance desk probably belong to David Falcon, John Jung, Rick Scott or Nicholas Blanchenay. These four gentlemen join Ahn Nguyen in providing student assistance at the Computer Services Help Desk. Computer Services staff are available at the end of the Reference/Computer Services desk nearest the computer lab, Monday-Friday, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., plus some week-end hours.

FALL SEMESTER COMPUTER TRAINING SCHEDULE

All training sessions will be held in room 114 unless otherwise noted. Training will take place between 12 Noon & 1:00 p.m. each Thursday. Should you require additional training, please contact Dave Keats at 287-6687 or by e-mail at keats@uofrlaw.richmond.edu

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FALL BROWN BAG SESSIONS

In September, the law library will begin sponsoring monthly lunchtime research sessions. The first sessions set for the week of the 8th through the 12th will be geared toward First-year students and focus on the layout and holdings of the library. The sessions will last about thirty minutes, beginning at either 12:00 Noon, 12:30, or 1:00 P.M. Please sign up for your preferred time on the sign up sheet at the Reference Desk.

Additional sessions and topics will be announced on the Noticeboard.

FOREIGN AND INTERNATIONAL LAW ON THE INTERNET

Brandon D. Quarles, Reference/Research Services Librarian

A lawyer from rural Virginia recently stopped by the reference office. He was just beginning to work on a fascinating capital murder case that included an interesting variety of factual and legal issues. The most challenging aspect of the case was that it would be governed by the criminal laws and procedures of Trinidad and Tobago, about which the attorney knew next to nothing. He was starting his research from scratch and wanted to know how and where to begin.

Some of the most difficult questions patrons pose involve issues of foreign and international law. This difficulty is compounded by the fact that many of us work in libraries where the foreign law collection is less than comprehensive. While I can occasionally direct the patron who has a foreign law question to sources that we own, I have found over the past year or so that I can almost always find more complete information on the Internet. This is precisely what I did for this attorney and, while we were unable to locate as much as he would have liked, he was overjoyed with what we were able to find.

Several of my favorite foreign and international websites are listed below. They represent a very small sampling of what is
available on the Internet, and many other sites may be reached by following links from the listed sites.

Foreign and International Law (University of Chicago)  
http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/Libinfo/Law/intl.html  
Links include: Constitutions and Constitutional Courts; Comparative Law; Laws of Foreign Countries; Treaties; U.S. Foreign Affairs; European Union; Council of Europe; United Nations; Other International Organizations; War Crimes; Human Rights; International Trade; Intellectual Property; and International Law Journals

Foreign and International Law (Indiana University School of Law - Bloomington)  
http://www.law.indiana.edu/law/v-lib/non-us.html  
An alphabetical list of links that is fully searchable

Foreign and International Law Web (Washburn University)  
http://lawlib.wuacc.edu/forint/forintmain.html  
Includes: Foreign Law by Geographical Region (Africa, America, Asia, Europe, and Pacific); International Law by Topic (Constitutions, Criminal Law, Economic Resources, Environmental Laws, Genealogy, Human Rights, Intellectual Property, International Treaties, Public International Law, Tax Law, and Trading Law); Journals; International Organizations; Law Firms; and Listserv Archives

Foreign and International Law (Willamette University)  
http://www.willamette.edu/~studies/forint.htm  
Links include: International Organizations; Treaties and Other International Agreements; Human Rights; Foreign Relations; Foreign Constitutions and Constitutional Courts; Foreign Law and Government Sites; and Foreign and International Study Abroad

http://lcweb2.loc.gov/glin/x-nation.html  
An annotated list of links to the law of jurisdictions around the world

Legal Information Institute, Cornell University: Legal Material - By Source  
http://www.law.cornell.edu/sources.html  
Links: Constitutions of the World; Decisions of the International Court of Justice; National Law Material (North America, South America, Australia and New Zealand, Asia, Europe, Middle East, and Africa); International Trade Law Materials; United Nations Materials; International Treaties; Treaties Dealing with the Environment; and more

The U.S. House of Representatives Internet Law Library  
http://law.house.gov/52.htm  
Contains links to laws and treaties of other nations

Web addresses and the contents of web pages frequently change, and new sites are added on a daily basis. The usual warnings apply regarding the accuracy and currency of the information contained on the Web. However, legal transactions increasingly involve many nations and many different sets of laws, and the sites listed above often provide a good starting point in the research process. They also are useful when there is little or nothing available at your library or through commercial databases.

LIBRARY HOURS

Regular Hours
Mon - Thur  
7:30 A.M. - 12 Midnight  
Fri. 7:30 A.M. - 9 P.M.  
Sat. 9:00 A.M. - 9 P.M.  
Sun. 10:00 A.M. - 12 Midnight

Fall Break  
To be announced. Remember to check the notice board.

Thanksgiving Holiday  
Tue., November 25  
7:30 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Wed., November 26  
7:30 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Thurs., November 27  
CLOSED

Fri., November 28  
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Sat., November 29  
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Exam Schedule  
Fri., Dec. 5  
7:30 A.M. - 12 Midnight

Sat., Dec. 6  
9:00 A.M. - 12 Midnight

Sun., Dec. 7  
10:00 A.M. - 12 Midnight

Mon - Thur, Dec. 8-11/15-18  
7:30 A.M. - 12 Midnight

Fri., Dec. 19  
7:30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
The Reference/Research Services department has designed a series of simple guides to help answer some basic research questions.

Check the oak display near the Reference Desk for the following and other handouts as they become available.

* GUIDE #1
DIRECTORIES OF LAWYERS, LAW FIRMS, COURTS & JUDGES

* GUIDE #2
BOOKS ON THE LAW SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

* GUIDE #3
LOCATING LEGAL PERIODICAL ARTICLES

* GUIDE #4
INTERPRETING CASE CITATIONS

* GUIDE #5
FEDERAL REGISTER/CFR

* GUIDE #6
U.S. SUPREME COURT

* GUIDE #7
LOCATING U.S. TREATIES

* GUIDE #8
UNIFORM LAWS/ MODEL ACTS

* GUIDE #9
VIRGINIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

* GUIDE #10
OPINIONS OF VIRGINIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

* GUIDE #11
FEDERAL STATUTORY MATERIALS

* GUIDE #12
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ON THE WWW

* GUIDE #13
FEDERAL AND STATE COURT OPINIONS ON THE WWW

* GUIDE #14
FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

* GUIDE #15
CALL NUMBER GUIDE

* GUIDE #16
SEARCHING THE ON-LINE PUBLIC ACCESS CATALOG

* GUIDE #17
POPULAR VIDEOS

* GUIDE #18
FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

* GUIDE #19
FEDERAL TAX RESEARCH

* GUIDE #20
FOREIGN & INTERNATIONAL LAW ON THE WWW

* GUIDE #21
FEDERAL TAX: LEGISLATIVE HISTORY SOURCES

WORDS OF WISDOM...

The law is the witness and external deposit of our moral life. Its history is the history of the moral development of the race.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., Supreme Court Justice
January 8, 1897

Be sure to visit the MuseLetter on the WEB.
Point your browser to:
http://law.richmond.edu/library/muselink.htm

The MuseLetter is the official Newsletter of the William Taylor Muse Law Library, School of Law, University of Richmond, Virginia 23173

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Contributors: Deborah Barlett; Timothy Coggins, Joyce Janto, David Keats, Nancy Martin, Brandon Quarles.