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WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

By

Timothy L. Coggins

You're here! And the library and technology staff is excited to be among those who welcome you to the Law School. We look forward to working with you to find the legal and other information resources you need for your studies as well as helping you with your technology needs and questions. The primary goal for us is to make certain that you receive the library and technology assistance that will enable you to successfully complete your classroom and other law school related projects. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Introducing to you the talented group of individuals in the Law Library who will be available to assist you is my pleasure. The Law Library's Reference and Research Services Department staff assists you with legal research and reference questions. John Barden is the Head of Reference and Research Services, and Caroline Osborne is the Reference and Research Services Librarian. Other librarians, Paul Birch, Timothy Coggins, Joyce Manna Janto and Gail Zwinner, are available to help you with reference and research assistance as well as handling their responsibilities in other areas. A reference librarian is available at the library's Reference Desk from 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Monday—Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Friday, and 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Law librarians also teach in the first year Lawyering Skills program. A tip for you – pay close attention in Legal Research. You'll be happy that you did since what you learn in Legal Research will help you in all your Law School courses and in your practice years after graduation!

The library's Access Services Department staff assists you with reserve materials, checking out library materials, photocopier questions, location of materials and other related issues. Gail Zwinner, Head of Access Services, supervises Access Services and the student assistants at the desk and provides reference assistance. Kathy Salandro and W. Lois Brown, Circulation Library Assistants, will help with your circulation, reserve and audio-visual requests and other issues. You will find either a full-time library staff member or a student assistant at the Circulation Desk at all hours that the library is open.

Continued on Page 2
The library’s Computer and Technology Services staff handles your laptop, software, email, network and other technology questions that you might have. Paul Birch, Computer Services Librarian, provides technology assistance to faculty who are integrating technology into the classroom and serves as the Law School’s web master. Kimberly Wiseman, Computer Services Assistant, supervises the Computer Help Desk and Law Library Computer Lab operations, troubleshoots hardware and software problems and trains users about various programs used at the Law School. Alison Merner, the library’s Network Administrator, manages the Law School’s servers and network, including the wireless network. Law students with computer expertise assist Ms. Wiseman at the Computer Help Desk. They are happy to help you with software and hardware questions and/or problems.

The library’s Technical Services Department maintains the collection in an orderly manner, orders library materials, catalogs and classifies new materials, files new materials and other supplementation and handles many other related duties, including the distribution of newspapers and magazines, the shelving of library materials, binding and looseleaf filing. Sally Wambold is Technical Services Librarian, and you’re likely to see her at the library’s Reference Desk occasionally since she substitutes for other law librarians. Other Technical Services staff includes Janette Alsworth, Serials & Acquisitions Manager; Timothy Edwards, Collection Management Library Associate; Bob Weertman, Cataloging Library Assistant; and Amanda Mertz, Serials/Acquisitions Library Assistant. John Bric is a part-time Library Assistant who is responsible for filing the many types of supplementation for legal materials. Undergraduate students assist the library staff with some technical services functions.

The Administration of the Law Library consists of Timothy L. Coggins, Associate Dean for Library and Information Services & Professor of Law, Joyce Manna Janto, Deputy Director, and Deborah Barlett, Law Library Operations Manager. The administrative office staff is responsible for overall library operations, including budgets, facilities, personnel, and coordination with other departments at the Law School and the University. If you have any questions about library policies, do not hesitate to ask. In addition to teaching in the first year Lawyering Skills program, Professor Coggins and Professor Janto teach upper level courses – Advanced Legal Research and Professional Responsibility.

The Student Bar Association works closely with the Law Library staff through a Student Library Advisory Committee. In addition to addressing your questions to library staff members, you should feel free to talk with members of the student committee.

If you have any questions and any suggestions or recommendations, please contact us. We look forward to working with you.

Enjoy the coming year. Welcome again!

Timothy L. Coggins
Associate Dean for Library and Information Services and Professor of Law
What You See is Not All You Get!
By Sally Wambold

Technical Services is one of the well-kept secrets of this and many other Law Libraries. We are out of sight out of mind, but always working to provide students and faculty with the materials they need. Janette Alsworth, the Acquisitions and Serials Manager orders thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, microfiche—all formats, print and electronic!!! Janette also manages the bookkeeping and bill paying for all that she orders. Janette's Library Assistant Amanda Mertz is on maternity leave, but has managed the binding and serials check-in for five years. In addition, Amanda works to ensure all the volumes are barcode. Tim Edwards, the Collection Manager, has probably shifted all the volumes in the library several times in the almost twenty years he has worked here—with help from assistants and students. Further, Tim follows up to be sure the shelves are accurately labeled. He handles withdrawals and ensures that the titles are removed from the catalog. Tim worked in Circulation for a number of years before coming to Technical Services. John Bric, Library Assistant Part-Time, works with Tim Edwards and shifts books, shelves books, and files loose-leaf services. Bob Weertman catalogs most of the new titles received and labels them. Bob, like his fellows in Technical Services, performs quality assurance on everything he processes. Sally Wambold, Technical Services Librarian, catalogs books that do not have cataloging copy, also known as original cataloging. She also works on other projects, including adding electronic titles to the catalog, processing the Law Books Recommended for Libraries microfiche, adding the Tax Management Portfolios to the catalog, and resolving conflicts in the catalog. Sally does reference work as needed. Together with student assistants, Janette, Amanda, Tim, John, Bob, and Sally form the Technical Services Team to ensure that your research and studies have the best support possible. We welcome you to this new Academic Year, 2006/2007!

GOT QUESTIONS? BRING 'EM ON!
By John R. Barden

Things are always changing around the Law Library, but we're not just talking about new carpet and chairs. The way we access information is changing rapidly: resources that we consulted only in print just a few years ago are now much more easily handled online. Both the Law Library web page and the Universities Libraries online databases list offer new options for law-related indexes and full-text sources. Do you always know the best place to start to find that crucial but elusive document that you need for a paper or article? (Hint: the answer may not always be Google.)

Here's where your friendly reference librarians come in handy. We are always investigating resources, both new and old, print and online. During this coming year, we will be introducing you to some of these resources, in hopes that you will find the tools that will help you hone your own research skills and locate the answers that you need. But don’t wait for us to seek you out—if you have a question about finding a resource, bring it to us early. The quicker we put our heads together to identify the right tool for you, the more time you'll save and the better your paper will be.

Remember that while classes are in session, the Reference Desk is staffed from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. All of the reference librarians are eager to help you get the information you need. Don’t be afraid to bring us questions just because you think we might have heard them before. Chances are there will be something about your question that makes it unique.
Greetings from the Law Library's
Access Services Department

By Gail Zwirner

The Access Services Department’s responsibilities include circulation of library materials, including reserve items, coordinating audiovisual needs, photocopier questions, directing patrons to the location of library materials and processing interlibrary loan requests. Gail Zwirner is Head of Access Services. She oversees the operations of the Circulation Desk, supervises the student assistants at the desk, manages interlibrary loan services, provides reference assistance, and teaches in the first year Lawyering Skills program. Lois Brown and Kathy Salandro are full-time Circulation Library Assistants and can assist you with circulation, reserve and AV needs. Kathy is available during the day, while Lois is available to assist you during evening hours. Thirteen student assistants also play a vital role in library access services. Our students this year are Patrick Crocker, Donel Davis, Alyssa Emery, Zelda Gerard, Jim Hedrick, Nathaniel Lounsbury, Drew Mann, Scott Martin, Capri Miller, Lee Novotny, Justin Paget, Trevor Reid, and Mary Richardson.