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Museletter: March 2009

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Museletter

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**Want to use your
LexisNexis
account for
approved uses
this summer?**



**Remember to
REGISTER
your
password!**

**(Westlaw no longer
requires summer
registration.)**

Be Prepared for Employment this Summer

By Joyce Manna Janto

On Friday, April 17th, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., the Law Library is sponsoring a program called "Bridge the Gap Between Law School and Employment." The purpose of this program is to prepare students for the work they will be doing this summer.

The program will provide a review of research skills, both in print and online, plus some tips on practice-oriented materials. The program has two tracks, one for students who will be working in a traditional legal setting and one for students who will be clerking. Each program will feature two outside speakers. On the firm side, the speakers will be Lauren Nowlin and Brent Timberlake. Ms. Nowlin is a 2007 graduate of the Law School. She will offer advice to students on what to look for when considering a firm, as well as what she wishes she had known before arriving for her first day on the job. Brent Timberlake, currently at Troutman Sanders and formerly the hiring partner at Setliff Holland, will advise students on what behaviors will maximize the chances of an offer.

The second track is designed to help students understand the differences between being an associate and being a clerk. The first speaker for this program is Sandy Hausrath, a 2007 graduate who formerly clerked for Judge Henry Hudson of the Eastern District of Virginia. Ms. Hausrath will outline how clerking is different from working as a lawyer. The second speaker will be the Honorable Elizabeth Lacy, Senior Justice of the Virginia Supreme Court. Justice Lacy will share what her expectations are for her clerks.

Both programs will conclude with a session designed to refresh research skills. Suzanne Corriell, Head of Reference and Research Services, will present a program that reminds students where to find legal and business information either in print or on the web. Representatives from LexisNexis and Westlaw will discuss how the use of their services differ in a firm/court setting than in an academic setting. New reference librarian Stacy Etheredge will moderate this discussion. Students will also be presented with a bibliography of useful sources in various subjects.

While we have never done a formal evaluation of the program, the feedback we receive is generally positive. I will always treasure an e-mail I received from one of my students. In it he wrote, "Thanks for making me sign up for your program. I would have been in trouble this summer without it."

Because pizza and refreshments will be provided, students must sign up for these programs in advance. The sign up notebooks are located at the Reference Desk.

Obtaining Access to PACER: A Brief How-To

By Suzanne B. Corriell

Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) is an electronic public access service that allows users to obtain case and docket information from Federal Appellate, District and Bankruptcy courts and from the U.S. Party/Case Index. Reference librarians can assist you with document retrieval using the law library's password, but this password is only to be used by them. If you are interested in obtaining your own personal password for PACER, more information is below.

In order to obtain a PACER login and password, complete the on-line PACER Registration Form at <https://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/psco/cgi-bin/regform.pl>. Your registration must include your name, address, phone number and e-mail address. A PACER login and password allows access to Federal case and docket information in all approved Federal Judiciary electronic public access programs.

Customers who provide a valid credit card or debit card number at the time of registration will receive access instructions shortly thereafter (usually in a matter of minutes). Customers who do not provide a card number at the time of registration will receive access instructions via U.S. mail.

There is no registration fee. Access to web-based PACER systems will generate an \$.08 per page charge. The per-page charge applies to the number of pages that result from any search. Once you are charged for the search, you may view, print or download the document with no additional charge. Searches that result in no matches incur a charge for one page of data (\$.08); however, there is a cap of \$2.40 for a single document or case specific report (including docket sheets). PACER bills that are not paid on time are subject to federal debt collection measures.

By registering for a PACER account, you assume responsibility for all fees incurred through the usage of this account. The PACER account being registered is for your use only, unless specifically designated otherwise on the registration form. You are responsible for preventing unauthorized use of the account. If you believe there has been unauthorized use, you must notify the PACER Service Center immediately.

If you would like to read more detailed information about how to use PACER before registering, you can review the [PACER User Manual](https://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/documents/pacermanual.pdf) online at <https://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/documents/pacermanual.pdf>.

From the Suggestion Box

Suggestion:

Think about getting restrooms in the basement, or create a hallway to the DU.

Answer:

Thank you for your suggestion. Additional bathrooms in the library is a goal and has been for some time. During the discussions about a possible addition to the Law School building and renovations to existing space, we have talked about additional bathrooms in the library. The discussions and plans are not far enough along at this point to think about a specific location for additional bathrooms, but the basement is certainly an option. Thanks.

Trading Spaces: Spring Carrel Swap

April 6–8 is the Spring Carrel Swap. Students have the option of remaining in their carrel for all three years of Law School, with the exception of students enrolled in a clinic. Students registered for a clinic are assigned a carrel in the clinic for that semester and must relinquish their carrel until the next semester.

On Friday, April 3, the list of available carrels will be posted on the front doors of the Law Library. Vacant carrels and carrels of December and May graduates are included in the swap. The list will be updated daily during the swap process. In order to sign up for a new carrel you must go to the Administrative Office in the Law Library (L17). If you would like to switch carrels, the following are the dates and times when you may request a new carrel:

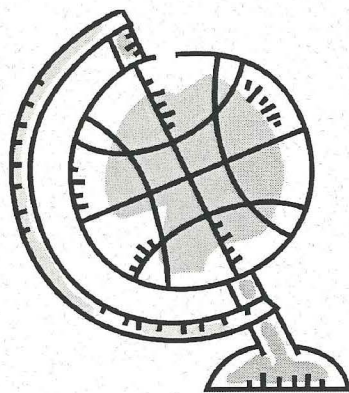
Monday, April 6, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.—Current clinic students only

Tuesday, April 7, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.—Rising third year students

Wednesday, April 8, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.—Rising second year students.

Contact Ms. Deborah Barlett at dbarlett@richmond.edu if you require any additional information.

“Worlds Connect @ Your Library” National Library Week April 12-18, 2009



First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and musical instruments. Concerned that Americans were reading less, the ALA and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens organization called the National Book Committee. This committee encouraged people to read in their increasing leisure time to "improve incomes and health". In 1957, the committee developed a plan for National Library Week based on the idea that once people were motivated to read, they would support and use libraries. With the cooperation of ALA and with help from the Advertising Council, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958 with the theme "Wake Up and Read!"

The Law Library will be sponsoring an international law themed scavenger hunt/quiz during National Library Week. Stop by the Reference Desk on April 13-15 to learn about your chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to World Market. (Faculty and staff, you're also eligible!)

New Faces at the Law Library

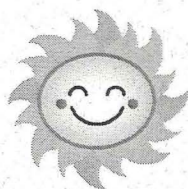
The Law Library is welcoming two new employees in March!

Eric Wetzel will begin as the new Library Assistant for Supplementation on Monday, March 16. Eric is a native of Richmond and regularly volunteers at the Library of Virginia. He recently received a B.A. in Religious Studies from VCU and plans to pursue a Master's degree in Library Science. Eric's responsibilities in the library include shelving books, filing loose leaf services and stack maintenance.

Stacy Etheredge will begin as the Reference/Research Services Librarian on Monday, March 23. Stacy received her B.A. from the University of Puget Sound, her J.D. from the University of Nebraska College of Law, and her M.L.I.S. from the University of Washington. She has experience in law school, law firm and county law libraries, as well as in the legal publishing and information field. Most recently, she was the Reference/Special Collections Librarian at the University of South Carolina School of Law.

Summer Hours

Regular hours for the Summer Session (Sunday, May 17—Saturday, July 27) are:



Sunday	10:00 a.m.—10:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday	7:30 a.m.—10:00 p.m.
Friday	7:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

The Library is closed on Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day) and Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4 (Independence Day).

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The **Museletter** is the official
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