

University of Richmond

UR Scholarship Repository

Museletter

Muse Law Library History & Publications

1-2023

e-Museletter: January 2023

William Taylor Muse Law Library

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.richmond.edu/museletter>



Part of the [Other Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

William Taylor Muse Law Library, "e-Museletter: January 2023" (2023). *Museletter*. 179.
<https://scholarship.richmond.edu/museletter/179>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Muse Law Library History & Publications at UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Museletter by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

VIEW THIS EMAIL IN YOUR BROWSER

MUSE LAW LIBRARY MUSELETTER



Volume 37, Issue 5 // January 2023

Director's Message



If your New Year's Resolution included more exercise and climbing stairs, you're in luck! This construction phase gives us all new opportunities for this. When it's done, we'll enjoy many improvements. For now, we know it may cause confusion or consternation. The law library still has the same services and resources, and we've expanded in a few areas, too. There are two more group study rooms on the third floor, as well as another bathroom. They're all accessible from the library's elevator. Good luck with the term ahead, and let us know how we can help in your studies and success.

Roger V. Skalbeck
Associate Dean for Library and Information
Services

Library News



Find the Library, the Reference Desk, and the Circulation Desk

Having trouble? You're not alone.
Follow these directions for access.



Find the Computer Help Desk and printers

Need to find the techy stuff? Look no
further.

Materials Update



We added **76** new books to our collection this month. Browse the Law Library's latest resources on our [updated materials list](#).

Looking for an e-book? We added **over 6000** new e-book titles this month. Check out our **[updated e-book list](#)**.

Things to Consider



Current and Future Library Spaces

by Roger Skalbeck

In Fall 2023, the law library will have updated and redesigned spaces for study and service points for reference, IT support and library circulation. During Spring 2023, we have relocated our service points, now all located on the library's second floor. In addition, we have adapted existing spaces to provide comfort and a variety of options to study, where you can connect with others or find an area to read and even relax. **[Continue reading...](#)**

Student Services Corner



Show Us How You Study! Selfie Contest

It's time for the law library's 2nd Annual Student Selfie Contest. Here are the rules: Take a photo of yourself reading your favorite casebook/textbook/Bluebook and send it to me at ahutchings@richmond.edu. A panel of your professors will judge the photos. The funniest, craziest, zaniest, ridiculous-est selfie wins a fabulous prize! Go nuts! Submissions Due Friday, February 17.

Check out [last year's winners](#) for inspiration!

MuseDay Tuesdays are back

Join us every Tuesday beginning **January 31** for MuseDay Tuesday. We give you a 3-minute lesson in legal research, resources, and technology, and you get a chance to win some awesome Richmond swag from the Spider Shop! Every MuseDay you attend will earn you a raffle ticket. Find us in front of the **Library**

Reading Room every Tuesday from noon - 1pm.

See all of our [MuseDay presentations](#) here.

If you are a student who wants to have your voice heard and be published in MuseNews, contact [Alex Clay Hutchings](#), Student Services Librarian.

The Facepalm

Legal News to Make You 🧑



Alright, ChatGPT, *write me a Facepalm!*

Maybe you've heard about the AI text generator [ChatGPT](#). Proponents are calling it the greatest technological leap since the Tamagotchi, while AI naysayers are, well, saying *nay*. Beyond the generalized anxiety surrounding

artificial intelligence caused by humanity's existential questioning of its intellectual and moral supremacy and the threat of unleashing a disembodied, artificially sentient Frankenstein's monster upon the world (*I'm not worried*), AI is posing some real-world questions about the future of society. In essence, ChatGPT is an open-access AI text generator. For example, I plug in the query "write me a 1000-word essay on *Pride and Prejudice*," and my English homework is done instantly (without me having to slog through *Pride and Prejudice*, thank God). All well and good when it doesn't really matter (*ahem, English department*), but what about when someone's liberty is on the line?

Along comes Joshua Browder, CEO of AI startup DoNotPay. Browder has actually convinced someone to allow an **AI chatbot to represent them in a real court case**. The defendant will appear before the court wearing earbuds that will stream AI-generated legal arguments in real-time. All the defendant has to do is regurgitate the lawyer-bot's argument verbatim -- never mind that these text generators have a tendency to spit out nonsense and false info by the terabyte. But if that's not confident enough for you, Browder has offered \$1 million to any lawyer willing to use his virtual Cyrano de Bergerac before the U.S. Supreme Court. Kind of problematic that the SCOTUS prohibits most forms of electronics, but I appreciate the *chutzpah*.

But not everyone is drinking the Kool-AI-d, and some are even fighting back in court. In a first-of-its-kind action, **three artists have sued AI art generators** Stability AI and Midjourney, and online art community DeviantArt, claiming massive intellectual property theft. These art generators operate by scraping the internet for images, then recombining them according to a user's text prompt -- the heart-rending artistic masterpiece "Facepalm" (above) was created with AI. Besides flooding the market with infinite images of surreally rendered fingers, the plaintiffs allege the AI programs are amalgamating billions of legally protected IP works to create derivative works. According to plaintiff/programmer Matthew Butterick, AI is a "cancer" and a "parasite that, if allowed to proliferate, will cause irreparable harm to artists, now and in the future." Doubling down on his AI animosity, Butterick has also filed suit against Microsoft, GitHub, and OpenAI (the brains behind ChatGPT) for instigating the same kind of IP apocalypse, but with legally protected text.

Personally, I wouldn't want to upset our new AI overlords with insults and litigation. Am I the only one here who's seen *Terminator*? And with Judgment Day looming, *Facepalm* achieved.

READ OUR FACEPALM ARCHIVES HERE

MUSENEWS BLOG

LIBRARY HOURS

QUESTIONS?

Have a questions about Muse Law Library resources, events, or other goings-on? Want to share your ideas with us? Email Alex Clay Hutchings, Research & Student Services Librarian, at ahutchings@richmond.edu.

CHAT WITH A LIBRARIAN

[🔗 Blog](#) [🐦 Twitter](#) [🔗 Website](#)

Copyright © 2022 University of Richmond, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

203 Richmond Way
University of Richmond, VA 23173

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).