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Recommended Citation

William Taylor Muse Law Library, "e-Museletter: March 2023" (2023). *Museletter*. 181.
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MUSE LAW LIBRARY MUSELETTER



Volume 37, Issue 7 // March 2023

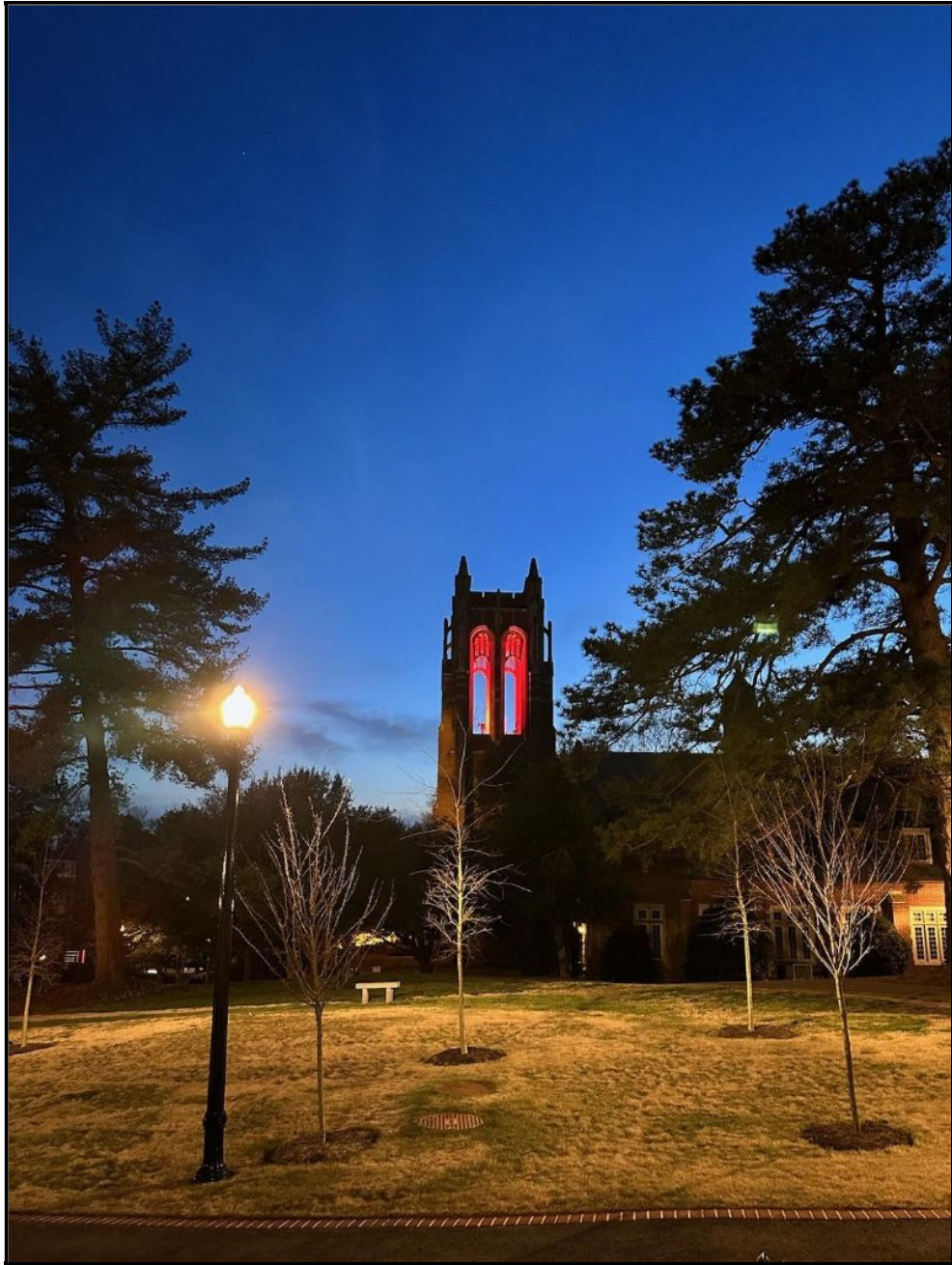
Director's Message



We're almost there! As the term end approaches quickly, the library wants you all to finish successfully and be prepared for whatever comes next. This week we launched the latest "Prepare to Practice" program, where we provide expert lessons for summer success. We also updated the syllabus archive, added in-person research refresher sessions, and we are adjusting spaces to focus on law student success through the end of exams. Whether you're finalizing a bar application or planning for your first summer law job, we wish you all good luck.

Roger V. Skalbeck
Associate Dean for Library and Information
Services

Library News



Twilight falls on campus (photo by Michael Dickerson, March 2023)

Henry David Thoreau once said, "It's not enough to be busy, so are the ants. The question is, what are we busy about?" It seems like this time of year the law school is buzzing with busy people doing busy things. Meetings, interviews, finals, bar prep, competitions—so many things to pull you in all directions. Stay busy, but remember what you are busy about. Keep in mind what's important. Take a minute for yourself if you need to—those quiet moments will pay dividends. So don't be "busy" like Thoreau's ants, be busy bettering the world. You know it needs it. And as you get to it, check out the library news.

—ACH



Research Refreshers: Lunchtime Labs (Free Pizza!)

Wednesday, April 5

@12 in Room 101

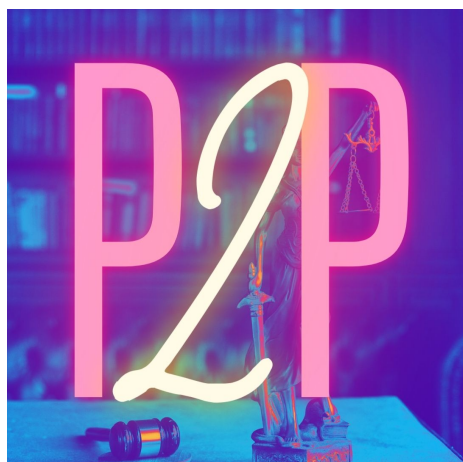
Practical Law & Secondaries with Sylvia Yanes, Faculty Services Librarian

Tuesday, April 11

@12 in Room 101

Researching Case Law and Statutes with Alex Clay Hutchings, Student Services Librarian

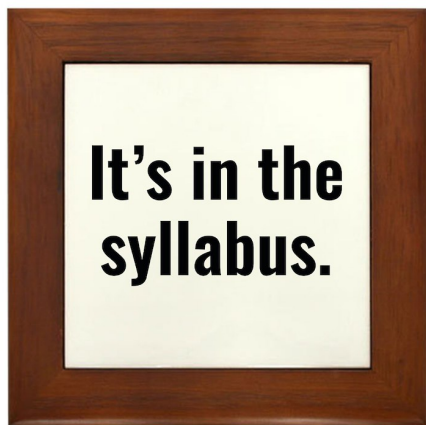
Featured Resources



Prepare to Practice: Tips and Tricks to Make Your Summer Easier

Prepare to Practice is a series of eleven video lectures designed to either give an more detailed

explanation of some area of research covered in Legal Research or topics not covered in basic research classes. BTW, viewing two of these videos is *required* for the Summer Public Service Stipend!



Syllabus Bank Update

The Richmond Law Library team recently redesigned our [Syllabus Archive](#) where you can find past syllabus documents for classes. Check out the glow-up here.

Materials Update



We added **63** new titles to our collection this month. Browse the Law Library's latest resources on our [updated materials list](#).

Looking for an e-book? We added **33** new e-book titles this month. Check out our [updated e-book list](#).

Things to Consider



Richmond Women's Law: In Celebration of Women's History Month

by Taylor Anne Moffett (3L) and President of RWL

Each year Women's History Month gives us a moment to reflect on how far we have come as a community. Before the 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, the University of Richmond began accepting women. In 1923, the first female graduated from Richmond's Law School. Her name was Jane Brown Ranson. Since Jane's graduation in 1923, women have continued to make history across the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond. [Continue reading...](#)

Student Services Corner



Selfie Contest Winners!

Congratulations to this year's winners of the "Show Us How You Study" Selfie Contest, Mimi Mays (1L) and Savanna Clendinging (1L)! Their photo, which they captioned "FSSCS (Fee Simple Subject to Condition of Slopes)," was selected by our panel of staff and faculty judges as number one. Melody Bohannon (1L) came in second, and Will Swiacki came in third. Thanks so all our participants this year! We look forward to next year's contest. And a big thank you to LexisNexis for sponsoring our prizes. **[Check out all our amazing entries 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 🙄



Today we'll learn that sometimes even injustice can be sweet in this candy-coated Facepalm.

We're shining the spotlight on Willy Wonka's dark secret (and it has nothing to do with his treatment of Oompa Loompas)—all that candy you've been inhaling for years is toxic! Well, according to the state of California it's toxic, and therefore it might get banned. Now, you should always take everything California says is toxic with a grain of salt, since it's world-renowned alarm-bell of overreaction, Prop 65, requires labels on anything that contains practically any chemical element whatsoever—from Christmas trees to Disneyland. So when I hear that my beloved favorites like Skittles, Hot Tamales, Peeps, and candy corn are potentially being banned due to the presence of food dye, I get suspicious. **But, according to a new bill, Cali may be putting a kibosh on the candy because of "dangerous additives and toxic chemicals"** like titanium dioxide and Red Dye No. 3. The bill, titled AB 418, would ban the manufacture and sale of any food products containing these and several other common additives. Everyday staples like Sour Patch Kids and Nerds shall be deemed by the powers-that-be as "unfit for human consumption" and ousted from the Golden State's shelves.

But not without a fight. The National Confectioners Association, a.k.a. the candy lobby, a.k.a. Big Chocolate, a.k.a. the Jelly Bean Mafia, is challenging the bill, claiming there is no harm in eating the colorful concoctions, and the science behind the ban is bogus. For example, a 1983 study of found that rats who ingested a diet of up to ten percent red dye had decreased reproductive success and lower brain weight. But, FYI, humans are not rats, and unless you

are *me*, your diet is likely balanced enough that it doesn't consist of those astronomical amounts of additives. Likewise, a study of blue dye showed that it gets into the brain, but it didn't find it did any harm. So, all I'm hearing is that thanks to the candy industry my brain is now a lovely shade of aquamarine, but otherwise just peachy. Other studies have linked Red Dye No. 3 with hyperactivity in kids. Apparently, if you give your kids a bunch of Skittles and Mountain Dew Code Red, they become hyperactive. Who knew? As an aside, Red Dye No. 3 is listed as an "inactive ingredient" on the popular ADHD medication Vyvanse, since it's the dye used in the gelatin capsule. Call me a conspiracy theorist, *but....*

Personally, I'm a bit skeptical about the state of California limiting my freedom of food choice when clearly I understand the common sense health risks of eating over-processed foods. It's not like the presence of artificial colors in Skittles was some big secret. The Mars Corporation, manufacturer of Skittles, is literally inviting us to "taste the rainbow," and no natural rainbow I've ever seen contains any of those radioactive hues. There has got to be a level of "eat at your own risk" release of liability when you are intentionally swallowing fistfuls of sugar the color of glow-in-the-dark aquarium gravel, right?

I'm so glad I don't live in California or I'd starve to death without my precious Hot Tamales. Heaven forbid, I might have to eat a vegetable. Facepalm achieved.

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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.

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