

Westminster Law Library
University of Denver College of Law

Hearsay

Spring 2005

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From the Director
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Happy New Year to one and all! I hope that your time away from classes was restorative. I wonder whether any of you have already decided, as I have, to delay the implementation of one or more resolutions until 2006.

One matter that is immutable - the ABA will be here the first week of April. Lest anyone be concerned, there is no cause for alarm; this 'visit' is for the Sturm College of Law's sabbatical (every seven years) re-accreditation inspection. Some of us on the staff have been through these 'visits' a number of times, but we realize that for you students, this will be your first - and only - time to participate in this process. Here's the gist of what you can expect, and actually, should look forward to.

The inspectors' usual M/O is to seek out students to solicit their opinions on a wide range of issues. So if you have something to say, about anything related to the Sturm College of Law, now is the proverbial time to speak up or forever We of course hope that you will have nothing but good things to say about the library; that if there was something less than positive, you would have already brought it to our attention.

Therein lies the rub: we seldom hear from you, be it good or bad tidings. In a rather roundabout way, we have heard that at the student roundtables last April, when asked to comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the library, several students did voice their opinions about noise and other distractions in the library. Seems that everyone's pet peeve has to do with cell phone etiquette and the lack thereof. So please, do be respectful of others, and as Ms. Manners would say, turn those d—n things off when you're in the library. Thank you.

Now back to that communications thing. We really and truly would love to hear from you. I embrace an open door policy (my office is along the west side of the third floor of the library), and you can always reach me via email (galexand@law.du.edu). Hopefully, you know that you can also send us your thoughts, concerns, etc using the Suggestion Form on the library's website (it's located in the lower right-hand corner). These come directly to me and offer the option of anonymity should you prefer.

That's all for now. Have a great semester.

New Databases

The library has added five new electronic resources in recent months. All can be found on the Databases page of our website. <http://www.law.du.edu/library/databaserd.asp>

Interactive Courtroom

Legal skill building courses that allow you to interact with the program, turning your PC desktop into a simulated courtroom or law office. Some of the topics include cross examinations, mastering motions, taking depositions, and civil discovery.

LexisNexis Academic Universe

Full-text and abstracts of comprehensive legal, business, and news information. Sources of information include federal and state case law, news services, and radio and television transcripts.

Evans Early American Imprints (1639-1800)

Full-text, PDF documents on all areas of early American life in the 17th & 18th centuries. Some of the legal topics include free speech, labor and employment, women and minority issues, criminal law and politics.

Eighteenth Century Collections Online

Searchable images of every page of 150,000 books published during the 18th Century in the fields of law, history, literature, religion, fine arts, science and more.

Early American Newspapers Digital (1690-1876)

Full-text, searchable reproductions of hundreds of historical newspapers.

Loislaw

All students can register for a password for access year-round to Loislaw at <http://www.law.du.edu/library/loislaw.cfm>. The library subscribes to this full-text legal database that covers federal cases, statutes & regulations as well as Colorado cases, statutes, regulations and jury instructions.

There are no usage restrictions for students using Loislaw, so students may use this database in situations where they are barred from using Westlaw & Lexis—for example, while clerking or during the summer when they are not enrolled in classes.

Alumni can continue to use Loislaw for free at any of the pc's on Level 1 & Level 3 of the library, so keep that in mind if you plan to open a solo practice.

Spring Semester Reference Desk

Hours

Monday - Thursday	8am - 10pm
Friday	8am - 6pm
Saturday - Sunday	10am - 6pm

Reference Librarians are available to assist you with your research needs in person (Level 3 Reference Desk & Level 1 International / Foreign Reference Office), via email at refdesk@law.du.edu or via telephone at 303-871-6206.

AskColorado:

Virtual Reference Service

AskColorado connects you with a live reference librarian 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A consortium of Colorado libraries provides professionals who answer your questions quickly and efficiently by searching the Internet, journal and topical databases. Follow along as the librarian uses their expertise to locate information for you and “pushes” the material directly to your browser. You will also receive a complete transcript of the session so that you will have a record of the web pages that were used.

This free service works best for brief, factual questions or general search assistance. Special assistance is offered for kids (Live Homework Help) and Spanish speaking patrons.

AskColorado is one of the options on the Ask A Librarian section of the Law Library's homepage at <http://www.law.du.edu/library/asklib.cfm>.

This service should NOT be used for legal questions. Legal questions from the AskColorado service are forwarded back to us via email and may incur a delay. For legal research assistance, please use refdesk@law.du.edu or 303-871-6206 to reach the Westminster Law Library's Reference Desk.

The Law Library answered approximately 50 referral questions in 2004. Other special libraries that answer referral emails include the National Indian Law Library, CU Health Sciences, and the State Government Publications Library.

The AskColorado project is in the second year of a pilot program currently underwritten by grants and donations. It was a recipient of the 2004 Project of the Year Award by the Colorado Association of Libraries.

Website Statistics

Theresa Baker

Information Technology Librarian

Use of the Library's website continues to grow. In 2004, the home page was accessed 125,245 times. This is a 37% increase over 2003! Compared to the law school as a whole, usage of the Library's website constitutes 20% of all web activity. The department with the second highest number of hits was the Registrar's Office with 8% of the total web traffic at the law school.

The web server maintains logs of every file requested. These logs can be cumulated through the use of a web statistics program. The results allow us to see website usage patterns and plan content accordingly.

Probably not surprising to anyone, our Databases page was the second most requested page last year with over 18,000 hits. Next was Library Catalogs with 17,000 hits, followed by the Lexis/Westlaw page with 14,000 hits, and the Internet Research Links page with 13,000 hits.

We were also pleased to find that many folks are finding our COL History website (see below). The audio clips were listened to over 8,000 times, and listings of images viewed 5,000 times. We continue to collect and add content to this site.

College of Law History Exhibit

The Westminster Law Library's digital history exhibit celebrates the continuing legacy of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. The website encourages an exploration of the history of the College of Law through a variety of resources:

- 1) Archival and current photographs
- 2) Alumni Magazines from 1985 to current
- 3) Lawyers From Denver - a book celebrating the 100th anniversary of the College of Law
- 4) Audiotapes and written memories of the College of Law
- 5) Timeline of the College of Law's history
- 6) Selected video footage

This digitization project provides a virtual scrapbook of the law school's tradition of excellence since 1892. We invite you to browse our website and enjoy this glimpse into the past and present of the College of Law. Are you an alumni, staff member or student? Be a part of this exciting project by sharing your memories with us or submitting ideas and photos for inclusion. Brought to you by the staff of the Westminster Law Library.

<http://www.law.du.edu/library/colhistory/>

New Library Buildings

Each year, Library Journal highlights new construction and remodeling projects for public, academic and special libraries across the United States in an annual "Year in Architecture" issue. Charts and photos compare features such as costs, size, architects, etc.

This year the Westminster Law Library (as part of the new Frank H. Ricketson, Jr. Law Building) is listed in the section for new academic buildings. A CD with photos, floorplans and other information was submitted in conjunction with our architectural firm of H&L Architecture. Some of the photos submitted are included below.



ETC.:

Or What We Do Outside the Library

Diane Burkhardt, Faculty Services Liaison

Paul Sharpe, Access Services Coordinator for the Law Library, has accepted a new position at the University of Houston. He will become Access Services Coordinator for the University of Houston Libraries, with his primary responsibility being in the area of circulation. Paul has already rented a loft in a new development in downtown Houston, which is about four miles from the campus, and he's looking forward to exploring a new city. If you have any tips or suggestions about life in Houston, feel free to share them with Paul! His last day in the Law Library will be in February 18.

Sergio Stone is the newest addition to the Library's reference staff. Sergio has a J.D. from New York University, and he received an M.L.I.S. in June 2004 from DU's School of Library and Information Science. Sergio is no stranger to the Library, however, having worked as the acquisitions assistant (the one who buys all the stuff in the library) since April 1998.

Sergio, Goldie Burton, and Sheila Green are teaching a legal bibliography class to students in the Library and Information Science program during winter quarter. Most of the students in the class have had no previous experience with legal research. Be kind if you see them in the library buried beneath digests and reporters and statute books!

JoAnna Patrick is a student in the legal bibliography class this quarter. When she isn't doing homework for that class, she rides her new motorcycle, a blue Marauder 1600.

Theresa Baker has been busy. In addition to adding cool new stuff to the library's web pages, she attended the Library and Information Technology Association Forum in St. Louis in October. She is also the official webmaster and list manager for the Colorado Association of Law Libraries, and she serves on a task force that is redesigning Prospector.

Goldie Burton had a special guest during the winter break. Her dad came for a visit, and Goldie reports that she, her dad, and her husband, Jeff, "celebrated each day like it was our last (even though it wasn't)." We're glad for that, but what a good way to live! They went snowshoeing, ice-skating, disc golfing, hiking and sledding, saw "The Life Aquatic" (Goldie says two thumbs waaaay up), and dined at a middle-eastern restaurant where Goldie tipped the belly dancer. Goldie and Jeff celebrated their first wedding anniversary on January 10, with champagne and a Katherine Hepburn movie.

Caryl Shipley is now the Community Services Liaison for the Sturm College of Law. Her new responsibilities include ordering examination/desk copies of texts and coordinating the acquisition of special materials for law faculty. She pledges to continue providing law faculty and staff with the materials they need to do their work successfully.

Martha Keister has listened to hundreds of hours of books on tape during her daily sixty-mile round-trip commute to DU. Among the books she has heard are the Barsestshire and Palliser series by Anthony Trollope, John Galsworthy's *The Forsyte Saga*, all the Harry Potter novels, and about half of Charles Dickens' opus. Martha says the person reading the novel makes the difference. This is a great way to catch up on all the books you'd like to read if you only had the time. Check with Martha for recommendations!

Sheila Green spent the Christmas holiday with her family in warm, sunny Florida. In November she made her annual trek to Monterey, California for the Internet Librarian Conference.

Madeline Kriescher and her husband Paul became the proud parents of Rachel Anne on October 5, 2004. Madeline is having such a good time being a Mommy that she has resigned from her position as a law library assistant.

Lexis & Westlaw Student Reps

The Lexis & Westlaw student reps are available to answer your online research questions. Spring semester office hours are held in the Library, Study Room 330R at the following times:

Monday:	
LEXIS	- 10:00AM – 2:30PM
WESTLAW	- 10:15AM – 2:45PM
Tuesday:	
LEXIS	- 2:30pm – 6:30pm
WESTLAW	- 9:00AM – 3:00PM & - 4:30PM – 5:30PM
Wednesday:	
LEXIS	- 10:30AM – 3:30PM
WESTLAW	- 10:15AM – 2:45PM
Thursday:	
LEXIS	- 2:30PM – 6:30PM
WESTLAW	- 9:00AM – 3:00PM & - 4:30PM – 6:30PM
Friday:	
WESTLAW	- 9:00AM – 3:00PM

Additional help is available via phone or live chat:

LEXIS 1-800-45LEXIS
WESTLAW 1-800-WESTLAW

Looking for a Job?

Let these new library databases help in your job search!*

Congressional Staff Directory
Federal Staff Directory
Homeland Security Staff Directory
Judicial Staff Directory


Other job search tips:

- 1) "Finding a Job" handouts on the Library's webpage cover environmental law, government jobs, judicial clerkships, international law, public interest law and opening your own law office.
<http://www.law.du.edu/library/handouts/employment.cfm>
- 2) "Legal Jobs" links on the Library's webpage at <http://www.law.du.edu/library/weblinks/legaljobs.cfm>.
- 3) Use the Library's web catalog to locate recent books such as:
 - Careers in Law - KF 297.M86
 - Nonlegal Careers for Lawyers - KF 297.M862
 - How to Start & Build a Law Practice - KF 300.Z9F66
- 4) Contact the Career Services at 303-871-6124 or see <http://www.law.du.edu/career/>.

* The Westminster Law Library subscribes to over 40 databases in addition to Westlaw & Lexis. These databases are available via the library's homepage at <http://www.law.du.edu/library/databaserd.asp>. Directions for remote access by DU Law students, faculty and staff are also posted at this location.

Alumni Library Cards & Services

COL Alumni are eligible for free lifetime library cards which provide access and checkout privileges at the Westminster Law Library. To request a card, please fill out the form available at the Circulation Desk on Level 2.

Your alumni library card will also allow you remote access to some of our research databases (contractual restrictions limit some databases to current students, faculty & staff). For a full list of library databases, see <http://www.law.du.edu/library/databaserd.asp>. Those databases that do not allow remote access for alumni have this symbol 

Alumni also have in-library access to databases such as Shepard's Online, Bradford Legal Forms (Colorado) and Loislaw. These can be important cost-saving resources for recent graduates.

Cross References

Theresa Baker

Information Technology Librarian

The Library just completed a project that enhanced our authority records. You might be wondering, "What are authority records?" They are the foundation for cross references in the online catalog. For instance, if you do a subject search for "EPA", you'll find a link to "2 Related Subjects". Click on it and you'll discover the proper form of subject heading is "United States. Environmental Protection Agency".

Another function of cross references is to alert you to name changes. As an example, an author search for "Lawrence Livermore Laboratory" will yield two cross references: "See also Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory" and "See also Lawrence Radiation Laboratory"

As you search our online catalog, you'll now find more of these cross reference links than ever before. We hope they help you find the information you need.



DU Journals on HeinOnline

DU law journals are now available via HeinOnline—see the Databases/Indexes section of our webpage for full-text pdf files of articles.

- The University of Denver Water Law Review is available from 1997 - 2003.
- The Transportation Law Journal is available from 1969 - 2000.
- The Denver University Law Review is available from 1923-2002.
- The Denver Journal of International Law & Policy is available from 1971-2004.