

Hearsay

Fall 2003

FROM THE DIRECTOR

1

WEBSITE REDESIGN

2

NEW RIGHTS / NEW LAWS

3

ETC

ISSUES & ANSWERS

4

TOP 10 REASONS TO TAKE
ALR

ASKCOLORADO VIRTUAL
REFERENCE SERVICE

REGIONAL BUSINESS NEWS

5

COMPUTERS IN THE
LIBRARY

TAX RESEARCH

6

CONTRIBUTORS

Gary Alexander

Library Director

Debra Austin

Library Instruction Coordinator

Theresa Baker

Information Technology Librarian

Diane Burkhardt

Faculty Services Liaison

Goldie Burton

Reference Librarian

Sheila Green

Reference Librarian

Martha Keister

Foreign, Comparative &
International Law Librarian

Paul Sharpe

Access Services Librarian

Editor

Patty Wellinger

Reference Services Coordinator

From the Director

Gary Alexander

Whoa, here it is November already, and we haven't yet extended our annual "Greetings" to our new and returning students. Well, here it is, "On behalf of the staff of the Westminster Law Library, welcome to the University of Denver's College of Law!"

And why you may ask, is our Fall issue of Hearsay a little, okay, a lot later than is usual. I suppose I could offer up some lame excuse, like, uh, we were busy following up on the move? Maybe it was the time we spent dealing with our students' surprise at the numbers of computers available to them, or the fact that the network printers weren't completely set up, or the wexis printers that weren't quite working, or the succession of viruses, or the fact that our new compact shelving was experiencing technical difficulties, or maybe it was that the shop orders for the index tables didn't make it to the shop.

In any event, here we are and I'm sure that everyone is now enjoying our new facility. Even if you're being asked not to bring food into the library and we're trying to enforce the 'Golden Rule,' that is, "silence is golden." The truth is, we are fortunate to have such a marvelous new library. Much thought was put into the design and physical layout of our new library, and especially the layout of the collection.

Let me take a minute (an hour is really necessary to do this justice, but none of us have that kind of time) to try and explain the thinking underlying our decisions. The Readers' Digest version is that all of the library's print collections are shelved in call number order on the first level, with two exceptions: the current journals and the indices are on the second level (where you enter and exit the library); and the KF's, which are all up on the third level. Yes, some of the KF's did wind up in the compact shelving. Our goal here was to minimize the number of treatises that would have to be shelved in these units.

That the collection should be arranged in call number order may at first glance seem to represent utter simplicity, but the resulting layout reflects two important library concepts: collocation and 'squeezing.' The former term means simply that you put works on the same subject ("the same stuff") together on the shelves next to or close to one another. My favorite example is "acid rain." In our library, materials dealing with this topic are located in at least ten different call number locations. But that's a whole 'nother story. For those

Continued on page 2


From the Director

Continued from page 1

of you asking, “what’s a ‘call number,’” please contact me at 303.8716809 or galexand@law.du.edu. For the rest of us, on to “squeezing.”

“Squeezing” is library-ese for classifying something somewhere else. Catalogers, those folks who come up with call numbers, have this arcane notion that there is a “right” place for every book (see discussion of “acid rain” [supra](#)). There may be, but in certain instances, reason must prevail. Such was the case with our materials previously classified at KF 1975. Now, KF 1975 is a perfectly-good call number for works dealing with the US regulation of international trade, but what with all the other related materials the library owns being located on the first level, “squeezing” the KF 1975’s into K 1001 – K 1388 (international commercial law) and K 3840 – K 3862 (international trade regulation) seemed a better choice for collocation purposes.

So, in a nutshell, there you have it. There’s a place for everything and in our library, everything is in its place, unless in our considered opinion, there was a better place for something. Now on to a more-pressing matter....

The administration has informed me that our students are complaining that they don’t know who the library director is, where his office is, or what he does. I’ll address the last question first. My job is somewhat analogous to the Dean’s, ie, the Dean runs the law school and I run the library; more correctly, I do not actually run the library, rather I have responsibility for how the library runs. If you are at all interested in what I do, or have questions or concerns about the library, my office is 330M (along the west wall on the third level). You’re always welcome and my door is generally open. If I’m not in my office, I’m that gnomish gentleman working someplace in the library. 

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.


Website Redesign

Theresa Baker

Web / Systems Librarian

The Library has a new website! Coinciding with our move to the new building, we launched our newly redesigned site. The new site was designed to be more user focused and comply with DU web standards and accessibility guidelines. Some of the features include:

- “How Do I?” drop down menu at the top of every page that takes you to the answers to frequently asked questions
- Catalog search box in the margin of every page
- “Ask a Librarian” link on every page
- A new “Journals on the Web” page that allows you to quickly find the full-text of online journals we subscribe to
- Lists of services for specific populations we serve including faculty, alumni, disabled users, and the public
- A database driven design allowing for quick and easy updating.

We hope the new design will allow you to quickly find the information you need. Check it out at:
<http://www.law.du.edu/library/> 

Innovative E-Curriculum Getting National Attention

The interactive web-based curriculum of DU’s Advanced Legal Research course has recently received the attention of legal educators across the country. In May, Debra Austin, JD published “Educating the Lawyers of Tomorrow Using E-Curriculum” in the Lessons from the Web Column on the Jurist web site. The article can be viewed at: <http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/lessons/index.htm>.

In July, Professor Austin presented “Cyber Advanced Legal Research: Educating the Lawyers of Tomorrow” at the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington. The acquisition of information literacy, digital literacy, and critical thinking skills for law students in a technology-enriched learning environment is the focus of Ms. Austin’s work.

New Rights / New Laws: Legal Information in a Changing World

Martha Keister
Foreign, Comparative & International
Law Librarian

From September 21-25, 2003, a select group of 90 international law librarians from around the world met in Cape Town, South Africa for the annual course in International Law Librarianship. It was an exercise in learning about the new, the hope and the optimism with which South Africans are facing the future. It was an educational and a social experience, as new librarians mingled with experienced ones.

We learned about the legal history of the country, the new constitution and bill of rights. Judge Kate O'Regan of the South African Constitutional Court, established in 1994, said that the constitution is not an amalgam of the past but a hope for the future, for equality between people of all races, a constitution for change. There are 11 members of the court appointed for 12 years. Their new building, and law library, will be ready in 2004 in the town of Bloemfontein. (Governmental divisions are located around the country: the legislature is in Cape Town and the executive office and government agencies are in Pretoria.)

We met two of the new South Africa's "founding fathers": Prof. Christina Murray and Prof. Hugh Corder, both of the Faculty of Law at the University of Cape Town. In 1994 Prof. Murray was chosen to serve on a panel of seven experts to advise on the final draft of the Constitution. Prof. Corder was a technical adviser in the drafting of the transitional Bill of Rights. Both professors spoke personally of the process and experiences of working on these documents.


We learned about the problems of implementation. We heard about transforming and working with customary law especially with regard to family law, about equality issues involving the legislative recognition of Muslim marriages, about land reform and restitution. We heard that the U.S. Alien Tort Claims Act is being used to pursue South African claims with regard to reparations.

We learned about the problems of the country. Zackie Achmat is South Africa's most famous AIDS activist, who spoke about the struggles to obtain medicines. We heard from Mary Burton, human rights activist, president of the "Black Sash", an anti-apartheid organization founded in 1955. In 1995 she was appointed a Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She spoke about these commitments and what they entailed.

Libraries and librarians were not neglected! At the University of Cape Town's Law Library we heard from various African librarians on topics ranging from setting up the new Constitutional Court Law Library as well as the collection of resources in various African countries. We learned that legal information on the Web may assist researchers or make materials more difficult to find and use.

A very special and memorable trip was arranged to Robben Island just off the coast of Cape Town and site of Mandela's imprisonment for 17 years of his total of 24 years in prison. Robben Island is today an historical monument to the founders of the new South Africa. Our guide was one of the Rivonia Seven (Mandela, etc. arrested in 1964), Ahmed Kathrada, an Indian South African, who is an historian and chair of the Robben Island Museum Council.

The conference was held in the Breakwater Conference Center which is part of the University of Cape Town Business School. It is located in the former Breakwater prison which housed convicts in the 19th century who built the breakwater at the Cape Town harbor. (See a photo, it looks like a prison: http://www.hotels-shopper.com/ZA/CPT_d.html#BREAKWATER_LODGE)

Both before and after the conference I had the opportunity to enjoy the great natural wonders of South Africa, including the national parks such as Kruger and all the wild animals and birds there, the incredible flora of the Cape and the wonderful natural beauty of southeastern South Africa, the Garden Route. 

Recommended reading:

1. Mandela, Nelson: Mandela, an illustrated autobiography, 1996
2. Krog, Antjie: Country of my skull: guilt, sorrow, and the limits of forgiveness in the new South Africa, c. 1999.
3. Corder, Hugh: "Towards a South African Constitution", 57 Mod. L. Rev. 491 (1994).
4. Ebrahim, Hassen: Soul of a Nation: Constitution Making in South Africa, 1998.

Recommended web pages:

1. South African Government Online
<http://www.gov.za/>
2. South African National Parks
<http://www.parks-sa.co.za/>
3. Natural Resources - South Africa
<http://www.law.du.edu/naturalresources/Individual%20Countries/South%20Africa.htm>

ETC.:

Or What We Do Outside the Library

Diane Burkhardt

Faculty Services Liaison

Not much to report this time around, but a few people have been really busy!

Sheila Green is taking “Issues in Free Expression” in the School of Mass Communications this quarter and studying the First Amendment. She’s heading to Monterey, California for the annual Internet Librarian conference in just a few days. In her spare time, Sheila plays acoustic guitar with her church band and enjoys yoga. She recently hiked a segment of the Colorado Trail with friends, the first of 27 segments in her quest to hike the entire trail!

Theresa Baker attended the Innovative Users Group annual conference in San Jose, California this past spring. There she presented a poster session promoting the Rocky Mountain Regional Innovative Users Group. She also presented this at the annual meeting of the Colorado Association of Libraries in October. Theresa spent a week on Cape Cod with her family after the law school move, and she is now taking classes in University College’s Computer Information Systems program.

Martha Keister reports that two of her quilts are on display at the Parker Public Library. Quilts made by several other members of her quilting group, the Pinery Needles, are also part of the display. Stop by if you’re in Parker.

Diane Burkhardt played the piano in the Mercury Ensemble’s annual Clementi Festival in October. Accompanied by a small ensemble of strings and wind instruments, she shakily performed Clementi’s Sonatina in D Major, Opus 36, No. 6 in one of the Festival concerts at Wells Music.

The library staff said goodbye to two employees this fall. Rayna Wandell, who worked in Technical Services for 11 years, departed to take a position as assistant to the headmaster of a small Jewish day school here in Denver. Amy Albers-Mead, also part of the Technical Services staff, promoted herself to full-time Mommy hood with her almost-three-year-old twins, Lucy and Elliott. Good luck to both of them (but especially to Amy)!! Elena Kelty has taken on Amy’s former position of bindery assistant. She’s the one who keeps track of the library’s many journals. 📖

Issues & Answers

Paul Sharpe

Access Services Librarian

As the dust settles in our new College of Law building, it is interesting to notice the changes taking shape in our new habitat. We find ourselves in a different place, under circumstances we could neither anticipate nor control. The library is attempting to meet the challenges head on.

The primary computer lab space in the new building is on Level 2 of the library. With the myriad of problems that can come about with technology (viruses, printer problems, PC vs. Mac compatibility, etc.), it is important to be patient and understand that troubleshooting is the responsibility of several departments. However, the library staff is available to help in any way we can.

Food and drink has also become an issue in our new digs. Students who spend long hours, early and late, at study tables in the library need their caffeine fix. Banning coffee makes no sense, but we want to keep the burger and fries in the Forum. Therefore, no food is allowed in the library. Drinks are allowed in spill-proof containers.

We have made an attempt to “zone” certain areas as quiet (Levels 1 & 3), others as noisier, more prone to business transactions and quiet conversation (Level 2). The use of study rooms for groups is encouraged, but this highlights yet another problem. A return to the old reservation system is imminent, guaranteeing the use of appropriate-sized rooms by appropriate-sized groups.

Public phones are located throughout the building including the atrium areas each floor. There is a public phone on Level 2 of the library along the north wall. Dial “9” to get an outside line. Cell phones should not be used in the library since they disturb other patrons. Please go into a study room or leave the library before using your cell phone.

Copiers are located on all three levels of the Library. Copy rooms on the first and third levels are in the northeast corner of the Library. The second level copy room is located in the southwest corner. Use change, bills, DU ID card, or your Pioneer Copy Card. Copies are 15¢ per page if you use cash, or 10¢ per page if you use a copy card. The copier in the second level copy room has a document feeder and duplexing capabilities. Use the copy card machine on the west wall of the second level (next to the printers) to purchase a card or add money to your Pioneer Card.

If you have an idea or a concern, please take the time to let us know what you think. Your input can help make the library what you want it to be!

Top 10 Reasons to Take Advanced Legal Research (ALR) Prior to Graduation or Your Summer Clerkship

Debra Austin
Library Instruction Coordinator

10. Improve your Information Literacy, Digital Literacy, and Critical Thinking Skills.
9. Experience e-curriculum (an innovative and interactive technology-enriched learning environment) in the new CIC.
8. See for yourself why this instructor won the William T. Driscoll Master Educator Award.
7. Create a web-based portfolio of your legal work to market yourself to potential employers.
6. Key Numbers, Citators, and Digests, Oh My!
5. Learn all the major research resources your Law Library staff considers critical to your success as a legal researcher.
4. Free cases and statutes on the Internet, who knew?
3. Gain access to the ALR web page, a resource for the course and your practice.
2. 674 DU Law students have taken ALR since fall 1998.
1. CU ain't got no course like this!

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, magazine databases, and more. Follow along as the librarian uses their expertise to locate your information needs. When the librarian finds what you are looking for, they will simply "push" the information directly to your browser. You will also receive a complete transcript of the session so that you can refer back to web pages that were visited.

This service works best for brief factual questions, or general search assistance. AskColorado is one of the options on the Ask A Librarian section of the Library's homepage at <http://www.law.du.edu/library/asklib.cfm>.

This service should NOT be used for legal questions. Legal questions are forwarded back to us via email and may incur up to a 24hr delay. Use refdesk@law.du.edu or 303-871-6206 to reach the Westminster Law Library's Reference Desk.

Other special libraries that answer referral emails include the National Indian Law Library, CU Health Sciences, the State Government Publications Library and a music librarian.

Regional Business News Publications

Goldie Burton
Reference Librarian

Because they're generally so good, it's tempting to rely heavily on LexisNexis and/or Westlaw's electronic databases. But don't forget the Library subscribes to many other electronic databases, some highly specialized, that you as a student are entitled to use, whether you're on or off-campus. These databases are found under the "Research" heading on the Library's homepage (<http://www.law.du.edu/library/research.cfm>).

A company called "EBSCO host" provides many databases available through the Library's web page. For an example, see the database "Regional Business News Publications." It contains both full-text searchable articles and abstracts, going back as far as 1990. Because Westlaw and LexisNexis are less likely to offer regional business publications than those serving national or major metropolitan audiences, this is an especially attractive full-text alternative.

Whether you know exactly what you're looking for or simply wonder if something is "out there" on your topic, EBSCO's interface allows you to search efficiently. Under "advanced search," you may limit your results to specific document types (curiously enough, document types include "poem" or "recipe" – very helpful in sating your curiosity as to whether any of these actually appear in business news – frighteningly enough, they do).

Some of the standard search options available in LexisNexis and Westlaw work in EBSCO's databases too, such as date limits and by journal title. Regional Business News Publications is just one example, there are dozens more such databases categorized for your convenience by subject when you click on "Databases/Indexes" under "Research" on the Library's homepage or, if you prefer, in alphabetical order at <http://www.law.du.edu/library/procselectdbi.cfm>.

Specialized Databases

The Westminster Law Library subscribes to 31 databases in addition to Westlaw & Lexis. These databases are available via the library's homepage at <http://www.law.du.edu/library/databases2.cfm>. Directions for remote access by DU Law students, faculty and staff are also posted at this location.

Computers in the Library

Theresa Baker

Information Technology Librarian

By now you have probably noticed that the library has a lot of computers in it. What you may not know is they're not all the same. We now have three different kinds of computers available for our users.

On the second level, there is a counter with twelve PC's. You must log in to these PC's with your network username and password. These PC's are similar to those provided in the computer labs at our old building. They have Internet Explorer, the Microsoft Office suite of applications, and access to your H: drive. Many have a floppy disk drive.

The second level also has twenty iMac's. The iMac's have much of the same functionality as the second level PC's. If you've never used a Mac before, take a look at the "iMac Info" file on the desktop for a quick overview. Instead of floppy drives, the iMac's have writable CD/DVD drives. To open the drive, hit the key with an up arrow on it in the upper right corner of the keyboard.

The third kind of computers we have are Online Public Access Catalogs (OPAC's) There are four OPAC's on the first level and six on the third level. OPAC's are devoted to online research and are available for anyone to use (no login required). The OPAC's have Internet Explorer but no other application programs. Some of the OPAC's have floppy drives or CD/DVD drives.

Getting on the network with your laptop is also an easy task in the new library. There are network jacks and power outlets in the desk lamp bases, study carrels, occasional tables, and along the walls. And, of course, wireless access is available anywhere. For help getting your laptop connected, stop by the Law School's Help Desk.

CALI Exercises

CALI publishes over 270 computer-based tutorials in over 28 different legal subject areas. The lessons use a variety of formats and methods for teaching doctrine, analysis and critical thinking skills.

Access via the library's webpage at Research -> Tutorials -> CALI or <http://lessons.cali.org/>. The password for DU is learnthelaw.

Tax Research

Sheila Green

Reference Librarian

Tax season is approaching rapidly! Plan ahead and use our Tax Resources links for a variety of current information on primary and secondary sources.

At the Library page under RESEARCH, click Internet Research Links & Tax Resources for the following information:

- [DU's Graduate Tax Program](#): Browse the Graduate Tax Program bulletin online and review continuing education programs.
- [FindLaw](#): Let West Group help you find articles, law firms, expert witnesses, tax law jobs, tax guides, products, and services.
- [H&R Block](#): Use refund calculators, preparation checklists, a tax glossary, and tax tips.
- [Internal Revenue Service](#): Link to income tax treaties between the U.S. and other countries.
- [Internet Law Library](#): Find city, state, federal, historical, and international tax links from Pritchard Law Webs.
- [Tax and Accounting Sites Directory](#): Browse tax and accounting sites and search job-finding resources.
- [Tax Law Sites on the Internet](#): Link to tax law gateways or search the IRC, Tax Court cases, IRS publications, tax exempt organizations, etc.
- [Tax Links: Your Online Source for IRS Revenue Rulings](#): Find tax links and IRS Revenue Rulings from 1954 to present.
- [The Tax Prophet](#): Read about employee stock option, estate planning, foreign taxpayers, tax class, tax & trust scams, hot topics, FAQ, and tax columns from Attorney Robert L. Sommers.
- [The Virtual Library – Taxation](#): Use the Taxation link to browse the Indiana University School of Law site.
- [U.S. Code](#): Search or browse Title 26 from 1994 to present, resources from congress, Congressional Record, glossary of bills, and public laws from GPO Access.

Recommended reading:

1. Raabe, William A. [West's Federal Tax Research](#), 6th ed., Thomson, Mason, OH, 2003. Level 3 Reference KF241.T38R33
2. Richmond, Gail. [Federal Tax Research](#), 6th ed. Foundation Press, New York, NY, 2002. RefDesk KF241.T38R5

Westminster Law Library Handouts:

- Federal Tax Related Reporters
- A Research Guide to CCH's Standard Federal Tax Reporter
- A Research Guide to RIA's United States Tax Reporter (available in the library's handout racks and on our website)