

NEW COPIERS
2

LEGAL INFORMATION
INSTITUTE
3

UPDATE:
INTERNATIONAL LAW
ARTWORK
4

NEW LIBRARY PERSONNEL
LEXISONE.COM
5

ETC.
THE TAX MAN COMETH
6

STUDYING FOR THE QUIZ
7

SWEATS OR NO SWEATS
8

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Hearsay

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From the Director

Gary Alexander,
Assistant Dean of Information Services and Law Library

Greetings, and welcome to the New Millennium! I hope that during your break from classes and finals you were able to share in the warmth of the company of family and friends. No doubt that being rested and reinvigorated, and with your batteries recharged, you're ready for the challenge of another semester.

Our first-year students, upon returning, are being offered Westlaw and Lexis training; a bit earlier this year, but I'm sure they're wondering why they had to wait so long. A good question and it's one that with every passing year, we ask ourselves whether the answers given in previous years are still the 'right' answers. Lately, it seems that we've begun to question whether we're even asking the right questions.

The truth be told, there are many questions being asked these days by a lot of different folks about legal education. But I do not intend to discuss the generalities of this subject. The real question is what is the relationship between the library and 'legal education' at the College of Law today? More importantly, what effect will the inexorable advance of information technologies have on this relationship in the years to come?

Good question. But, even though that last sentence sure reads well, I'm not about to go there; instead, I'm going to ramble on about the challenge, if not futility of trying to predict the future, whether it be several years or several hundred years. The context for my remarks is the planning for the 'law library of the future' in our new facility. I say 'several hundred years' because that's how long the new building for the business school is

from the director
continued on page 2

Cornell University's Legal Information Institute (LII)

Sheila Green,
Reference Librarian

Visit law schools, government agencies, companies, and other organizations that feature helpful Web links. These links may lead to full-text primary and secondary materials, search engines, directories, and other law-related sites. Cornell's University's LII (www.law.cornell.edu/) is an on-line legal research leader and gives researchers an excellent starting point for accessing resources.

LII provides links to current newsworthy events in [Spotlight](#). Recent links lead researchers to Election 2000 decisions, briefs, arguments, and key legal personnel. Spotlight's Law and Legal Proceedings and Other Law Events in the News include EPA's rules on diesel trucks and buses, Department of Agriculture's new national standards for organically grown agricultural products, and an EEOC decision involving the Pregnancy Discrimination Act.

Use LII's search engine by clicking on [search](#). LII also provides a clickable directory ([Law about . . .](#)) with topical link options. Some examples include:

- Commercial transactions
- Enterprise law
- Law for particular activities & businesses
- Property & the environment

Each category gives a topic overview, federal/state primary sources, and related links. Researchers can also use LII's search engine for keyword searches. LII provides Contents and Context research guides and Ways to Access Materials for selected directory items.

[Constitution & codes](#) contains:

- U S Code (Acts of Congress)
- U S Constitution
- Code of Federal Regulations

- Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
- Federal Rules of Evidence
- Uniform Commercial Code
- Other uniform laws
- State constitutions & codes

Click [Court opinions](#) and research


- U S Supreme Court
- Other Federal courts
- New York Court of Appeals
- Other state court

Look under [Law by Source or Jurisdiction](#) for

- Federal law
- State law
- Law from around the world

Browse American Legal Ethics and Social Security in [LII topical libraries](#). Open [Cornell Law School](#) for admissions and Web site information, law-related working papers, and the Cornell Law School Library catalog. See [Directories](#) for information about law organizations, judges, lawyers, and legal academics. This link also offers Full Text Searching of Law Journals on the Internet site and Legal Academics for U.S. law school faculty and staff.

[Current Awareness](#) includes:

LIIBULLETIN-NY: New York Court of Appeals case summaries (1995 to date).
LIIBULLETIN-PATENT: selected patent appeals case summaries from U.S. Court of Appeals (Federal Circuit) and U.S. Supreme Court. Eye on the Courts monitors appellate decisions in the news. BigEar tracks mailing lists and reports what's new on the Internet for lawyers. E-mail bulletins--a free current awareness service from LII. 

Keeping Up-To-Date in International Law

Martha W. Keister,

Foreign, Comparative & International Law Librarian

The uses of current materials on any topic varies according to the needs of the user. For example, as a reference librarian specializing in international law, I need to know the most current events to help answer questions from faculty and students and to recommend topics for research for students in international law classes. "Keeping up" involves reviewing some print materials on a frequent basis, and subscribing to some online newsletter-type materials. Some of the online sources are very current. Here are some free sources in case you need to keep up-to-date in International Law.


Newsletters and Guides

- UN Wire, an Independent News Briefing about the United Nations. A free, daily publication covering the UN, global affairs and key international issues.
http://www.unfoundation.org/unwirelogin/unf_reg_form.cfm
- International Law in Brief, a weekly digest of developments in international law, prepared by the Attorney-Editors of International Legal Materials, from the American Society of International Law. <http://www.asil.org/ilibindx.htm>
- Newsletter for International Organisation publications. A free, weekly newsletter covering the OECD, IMF and World Bank.


<http://www.databeuro.com/system/index.shtml>
LLRX (<http://www.llrx.com/>) has occasional research guides on doing research in foreign countries and also some subject guides. LLRX is free Web journal for legal professionals on Internet research and technology-related issues. Links to some of the guides are below:

- "Researching Dutch Law" <http://www.llrx.com/features/dutch.htm>
- "Japanese Law Via the Internet" <http://www.llrx.com/features/japan.htm>
- "A Guide to the Swedish Legal System" <http://www.llrx.com/features/japan.htm>
- "Researching Intellectual Property Law in an International Context" <http://www.llrx.com/features/iplaw.htm>

Journal Tables of Contents:

- Print: Tables of Contents from journals and law reviews received by the Westminster Law Library in the previous week. While these are very current in terms of law journals we know it takes months of preparation before some of them see the light of day.
- "Contents Pages from Law Reviews and Other Scholarly Journals" from the Tarlton Law Library, University of Texas. Updated daily, this is a keyword-searchable database of tables of contents of 750 journals from the past 3 months. http://tarlton.law.utexas.edu/tallons/content_search.html
- European Integration Current Contents covers 109 journals in 9 languages. <http://www.law.harvard.edu/programs/JeanMonnet/TOC/> 

Artwork

Local artist James A. Dixon has again brought his latest works to the walls of the DU Law Library. No stranger to DU, this artist has displayed his creations a number of times over the past few years, adding more than a touch of color to the library. With a variety of two and three-dimensional pieces to show, Dixon demonstrates his ability to master a number of mediums, from bronze sculptures to multi-colored paintings with a mix of textures. The Westminster Law Library welcomes James A. Dixon and a touch of artistic class to our busy lives. 

New Library Personnel

Carol Perkins,

Bibliographic Access Librarian

The Technical Services Department is very fortunate to have two new staff members who are not only pleasant and hard-working but bring a great deal of library experience and expertise to their positions.

Madeline Kriescher has been working part-time as our Journals Assistant since October. She is also a First Year law student in the Evening Division at DU College of Law.

Madeline grew up in Denver, but she left to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison on a gymnastics scholarship, where she received her B.A. in French and her M.A. in Library and Information Studies. After living in Wisconsin for ten years, she and her husband and their dog moved back to Denver in 1995. Madeline's husband, Paul, is a design engineer and owns his own business.

Before entering law school, she worked as a reference librarian at the Denver Public Library downtown. Madeline's interests include volunteering at the Denver Dumb Friends League, dancing, and continuing her education in French language and culture.

Amy Albers-Mead, our new Bindery Assistant, also grew up in Colorado. Born in Independence, Missouri, her family moved to Colorado when she was five, and she has lived here ever since. Amy attended Rangeview High in Aurora and then went on to CU Boulder, where she earned a B.A. in English and Communication.

For several years, Amy worked in the libraries at CU Boulder. She then worked as an academic advisor, both there and at DU, before returning to library work in her current position. Amy has been married for 10 ½ years to her husband, John, who works as a web engineer at an Internet start-up company in Westminster. Their family currently includes 8 cats and 1 greyhound, but they are expecting human "twins" in April! Her interests include remodeling their 110 year-old house in Denver and fostering animals for local animal shelters. 📖

LexisONE .com

Are you planning to open your own practice after graduation, but won't have a lot of money available for online research? Are you clerking for a firm or agency that doesn't have access to online resources? If so – then LexisOne might be for you!

Lexis has released a new website geared to small firm and solo practitioners by offering **free** legal materials, specifically:

1. All cases from the two highest courts from ea state beginning Jan 1, 1996; all federal circuit court cases beginning Jan 1, 1996 and the complete collection of Supreme Court Cases from 1790.
2. Free legal forms
3. An annotated Legal Research Guide with over 16,000 legal-related sites

In addition to these free materials there are options to pay for legal materials that are outside the free coverage area. Shepard's is never free. The site is simple to use. You must first register by selecting a username and password (and optionally provide some additional information about your practice). The site link is: <http://lexisone.com> . Give it a try! 📖

ETC.

Or What We Do Outside the Library

Diane Burkhardt,

Faculty Liaison

A departure and two arrivals to announce: **Al Dong** left in December to take a new job as a reference librarian at Holland & Hart. **Amy Albers-Meade** recently joined the Technical Services staff. She formerly worked as a student advisor at the Women's College. **Madeline Kriescher** left the Denver Public Library to join the Technical Services staff. Many of you may already know Madeline because she is a first-year law student in the evening division.

Ignacio Ferrer-Vinent and Susan Ferrer-Vinent presented a paper titled "Organizing a Collection & Creating Its Searchable Bibliographic Database" at the Colorado Library Association's annual conference in Snowmass. The presentation described the online bibliographic database that they developed for the Daniels College of Business' Marketing Department.

Sheila Green visited her family in Florida for the holidays. Among the highlights of her trip were beachcombing at Ormond Beach, her high school reunion, and a day at Universal Studios Orlando. Sheila also attended the Internet Librarian 2000 conference in Monterey, California in November and teamed with Holly Kulikowski of Holland & Hart to teach a day-long CLE in December called "Internet Strategies for the Paralegal."

Patty Wellinger spent time at Disney World in Orlando after Thanksgiving. She attended Emporia State University's library school graduation ceremony at the Denver Public Library. Twenty-four people graduated from the most recent Emporia-in-the-Rockies distance-learning program. Patty is a member of Colorado Advisory Committee for Emporia's School of Library and Information Management. Patty is also participating on a committee to evaluate the

mission of the Colorado Supreme Court Library in the 21st Century.

Barbara Allen traveled to Chicago for the holidays and managed to miss the blizzards. **Jessica Hogan** visited her family in sunny Tucson. And, **Caryl Shipley** tennised in Palm Springs, California.

On Friday, January 12th **Jessica Hogan** participated in a presentation to a distinguished group of State Legislators concerning the Colorado Institute for Technology. CIT was launched last spring as an remedy to the state's threatening high-tech worker deficiency and to turn Colorado into "Silicon Mountain." **Jessica** truly keeps us on the cutting edge!📖

The Tax Man Cometh

Patty Wellinger,

Reference Services Coordinator

The law library does not receive individual print copies of federal and state tax forms, but we have several resources available to those in need of forms or instructions. There is a tax resources site on our homepage under Research Links - Topical Resources (http://www.law.du.edu/library/research_links/topical/tax.htm). Included are links to federal IRS forms and TaxLinks which includes tax forms sites for all states. Be aware that you will need Adobe Acrobat to download these forms.

For those of you who may be allergic to the Internet or who will not need your forms immediately can use one of the reproducible forms sets available in the library. Please note that the 2000 forms will not be available until late January / mid-February if you want to use one of these print resources.

- 1) Colorado Reproducible Tax Forms - Reserve KFC 1820.R43
- 2) Reproducible Copies of Federal Tax Forms & Instructions - Reserve KF6366.U54 📖

Studying for the Quiz (aka the Bar Exam)

Dan Wilson, Assistant Director, AAP Program

I took the quiz in July of 1996. It was one of the most terrifying things I have ever done. I have tutored for the quiz twice a year since. I was asked to make a few comments, and for what they are worth, here they are.

Top Ten Tips for Passing the Quiz

1. It's just another pop quiz. You have done things that are much harder in the last few years.
2. There are no tricks. Yes, I know Bar-Bri fills your head with tips, tricks and sure fire techniques. Most of them are wrong. The National Board of Bar Examinors, who write your MBE test, know what Bar-Bri is telling you, they are very sophisticated at writing these questions, and I assure you that they can and will write questions that will foil any tip Bar-Bri will give you. The Colorado Board of Bar Examinors, who write your essay questions, are equally skilled.
3. Which brings me to my next tip: The key to success is knowing more substantive knowledge than you ever will again. Your knowledge will be very wide and exceedingly shallow.
4. Don't take 10 million practice MBE questions. That is the absolute worst way to study. Once you have taken a few hundred practice questions, you will be familiar with the format. What you then need in order to bring your score up is substantive knowledge. Study the big green book. Memorize it.
5. Which brings me to my next tip: The small outlines that are handed out at lectures are inadequate. Sometime they are wrong. (I hope Steve Davis of Bar-Bri doesn't read this; he seems like a nice fellow and he sends me students.)

6. Do not neglect studying the state essay subjects. On the eight quizzes between and inclusive of July 1996 and July 2000, the frequency of subjects tested is: Wills-7; Family Law-5; Civil Procedure-5; Corporations-5; Partnership-5; Agency-4; Administrative Law-4; Secured Transactions-3; Payments-1.

7. Do not neglect the Performance Tests. They are a goldmine of points, they all follow the same pattern and they are easy. Study five or six of the related questions until you discern the common pattern. Do not be afraid of them.

8. Practice actually writing answers to essays and Performance Tests and then grade yourself. Grade yourself hard.

9. Stop studying two days before the test.

10. Be sure you bring four Number 2 sharpened pencils!

I have tutored persons who have failed the quiz at least once or twice a year for the past four years. The number one reason why these people have trouble passing is that they did not learn what they were supposed to in the first year of law school. Two thirds of the points on the essays are for issue spotting and a clear statement of the rule. People who have trouble with the essays refuse to clearly state the issue, have an inability or unwillingness to state the rule, or conversely, spew black letter law hoping that something will stick.



To Wear Sweats or Not to Wear

Sweats

Rayna Wandel,

DU Law Library Official Fashionista

So you are going to take the Bar. In all my years (and I am *still* young) working at the DU Law Library, I have picked up some handy tips that are guaranteed to help you prepare for one of the most important, crucial, pivotal exams of your life. However, if you pass the bar and my tips did not help at all, you can not sue me.

* The first and foremost tip to remember - you are **TAKING** the BAR, not going to a BAR. Need I say more?

Beverages - Since you are taking the Bar and not frequenting one at this particular moment (leave that for after the exam), refrain from the use of alcohol one month before the actual exam. Instead, I highly suggest beverages with high amounts of sugar and caffeine. No caffeine free, sugar free drinks. My top choice - Mountain Dew. You can drink a couple of these and you will be flying sky high and get in some good hours of studying. If you insist on being semi-healthy and getting some vitamins, the best beverage I would recommend is chocolate milk. Make sure there is more chocolate than milk in your drink. In an 8 oz. glass of milk, make it 80% chocolate syrup, 20% milk. It might be a little thick, but you will get used to the consistency, even if you have to use a spoon to “drink” it. If you are one of those people who have to have a hot drink, skip the herbal tea. Coffee is the way to go. Steaming, black and full of caffeine.

Food - Now we come to the food section. You have to eat, but skip the healthy stuff for now (no trips to Whole Foods, Alfalfas or Wild Oats). There is time after the Bar exam in which you can indulge on all the leafy greens you want. No fruits or veggies. This is the **BAR EXAM** and healthy food isn't going to cut it for now. Once again, I am going to suggest a diet loaded with sugar. You need to get in a lot studying, and what better food to keep you

alert and perky than candy (any will do) or candy bars? My personal favorite for the Bar exam: Mr. **Goodbar**. Chewy candies such as gummy bears are also beneficial. When you get that jaw working and moving, you can not possibly fall asleep while studying. Once you see your bar scores, you will realize that gummy bears and candy bars played an essential part of passing this exam.

Attire - This is a very important set of tips. We've taken care of “body fuel”. However attire plays a big role for the Bar. Leave the double breasted Brooks Brothers suits, winged tip loafers, and crisp, white, oxford button downs with french cuffs, and that new attaché case with your initials engraved on it at home in the closet. You're not at the firm yet. When studying for the Bar the only way to go - **comfort**. This requires your favorite old t-shirts from college, maybe one from homecoming weekend, or your frats or sorority days. Not only are these t-shirts your most favorite, lived in shirts, but they are usually made of cotton. Cotton is very breathable material. It is great for when you break out in a sweat and realize there are only 3 days, 17 hours, 6 minutes and 4.3 seconds left until the exam. Also, I recommend the good old sweat pants. These are a must. The waistband will expand (good old elastic waistbands) as you perhaps put on a few little pounds here and there from the caffeine and chocolate you will ingest while studying. Just a warning, but while studying for the bar, there will be **MORE** bad hair days than good. That's when the reliable, yet fashionable baseball cap comes into place. Wear it. Enough said. As for footwear tennis shoes hands down. They are comfortable and easy to kick off. One major fashion faux pas in the footwear department is Birkenstocks and socks worn together. While there is a time a place to wear Birks. #1 it is never with socks and #2 never while studying for the bar. It just looks bad!

So good luck and use my tips. They are sure to help you along your journey of studying for **THE BAR!**

