Library On-Track for Its “Extreme Makeover”

by Brian Raphael
Assistant Director of the Law Library

The Law Library continues to plan for a major renovation of its facilities, a project that will result in many enhancements for our students, faculty, staff, and other patrons. The renovation, scheduled to begin May 2005, involves remodeling the main floor of the Library with the actual renovation work taking place during the summer when classes are not in session, to avoid disruption of school-year activities.

One of the primary goals of the renovation project is to modernize all service areas and to improve the overall look and atmosphere of the library. During the project, there will also be many functional improvements, including new tables and wider carrels (with individualized task lighting) that can accommodate both books and laptops, additional and larger group study rooms to meet the demand for collaborative workspace, incandescent lighting to improve reading conditions, and additional compact shelving on the main floor to accommodate the growing collection of books. Other enhancements relate to the technology infrastructure in the library. (See related article below -- “Technology Enhancements Planned for Law School”).

(continued on next page)

Technology Enhancements Planned for Law School

by Darin Fox
Associate Dean, Information Technology and Law Library

A number of technology enhancements are planned for both the new Food Court, which will be built in the summer of 2004, as well as for the library renovation project, which will start in the summer of 2005. For the new student Food Court, students will have wireless network access both inside the court and outside on the patio. Power outlets will also be available.

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Important Dates:

| Monday, April 19 and Tuesday, April 20 | Legal Research Refresher Workshops |
| Friday, April 23 | Law Library Extended Hours Begin |
| Wednesday, April 28 | Law Library ID Checking Begins |
| Friday, May 14 | Law Library Summer Hours Begin |

“Extreme Makeover”
(continued from previous page)

The latest plans also call for expanding the library into the present George A. V. Dunning Foyer by filling in the opening in that area to create the necessary floor space for the expansion. The new library entrance, service counter, and Reference Office will be relocated to this new area. Campbell Lounge will be converted into a more open reading room, with a number of study tables placed along the windows to take advantage of natural lighting.

Since the library began its plans to renovate, it has been seeking input from students regarding what the priorities for this project should be. During the coming year, as the library begins more detailed aspects of the planning process, we will continue seeking student input so we can create a new library that will serve the needs of our student body for many years to come.

Brian is finishing up his sabbatical this Spring, working on revising portions of one of the seminal works on California legal research, Henke's California Law Guide.

He also recently co-authored with Pauline Afuso, a bibliography for the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) on Why We Need Trained Law Librarians. This summer he will be moderating a program on library services for LL.M. students at the AALL annual meeting.

Transitions and News

Timothy Von Dulm has been an intern with the Library since June 2003. A graduate student in the MLIS program at UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, Tim has completed his course requirements and will be graduating with his class this coming June. Although his “official” internship has concluded, he is assisting part-time in the Reference Office for the next couple of months.

Dean Brecht participated in the recent 32nd Annual SCALL Institute, held February in San Diego, speaking on the topic “The Challenge of Connecting and Staying Current: Teaching Legal Research Today and Tomorrow,” with co-presenter, MaryAnne Donaldson, the head Librarian at Arnold and Porter. The talk was well received and generated a vigorous question-and-answer period.

Paul Hellyer is our new Library intern. Paul started with the Library the first week of April and will be with us at least through September. A 1999 graduate of the UCLA Law School, Paul is getting his MLIS from San Jose State University. Leisure activities include skiing, hiking and watching old movies. Welcome!

Dave Dinh is the latest full-time addition to our staff, hired in March as a Help Desk Technician. Before coming to the Library, Dave worked for the City of Los Angeles IT Department. We are both lucky and happy to have him.
Technology Enhancements
(continued from page 1)

In the renovated Law Library, a new computer lab will combine in one facility the existing 42 PCs located at present in the Computer Lab and the Online Research Lab, as well as the two general purpose printers and the three Lexis/Westlaw printers. Wireless access will remain throughout the library. Finally, the Law School’s network infrastructure will be upgraded to provide speedier access to the internet and online resources.

The Law Library is also planning to build as part of its renovation project a student conference room with access to the latest multimedia technology. Students will be able to view in a small group setting CD-ROM mock trials, audiotapes, videos and DVDs. They will also be able to videotape themselves conducting mock interviews or arguments, access “streaming” audio and video from the Internet using a dedicated, networked PC, access course and research materials on the Internet using their own laptop computers by means of the wireless network, and conduct videoconferencing for such purposes as interviews with firms and judges around the country and even around the world.

The goal of these enhancements is to create state-of-the-art facilities that will enable the students to make the most of the information technology available at the Law School.

Darin is the Associate Dean for Information Technology. He currently serves as Co-Chair of the Statistics Committee for the American Association of Law Libraries, Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section, and Liaison to the USC Identity Number Steering Committee. He is a member of the University’s Distance Learning Network, the Blackboard Steering Committee, and the USC Technology Forum.

Introducing Three of USC’s Premier Libraries
by Hazel Lord,
Senior Law Librarian - Head of Access Services

Thirsting for a new study place? Desperate to see some new faces? Read on and discover some of USC’s best kept study secrets:

The Leavey Library:
It’s Not Just for Undergraduates!

Features of Leavey Library, the newest library on campus, that might be of interest to law students include that it is open 24/7 and has a number of large group study rooms, equipped with white boards and network connections, which are available by reservation to all USC students. The Leavey Library also provides an extensive collection of current best sellers for leisure reading, as well as comfortable seating at large carrels in sunny reading areas.

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The Hoose Library of Philosophy: A Touch of Tuscany in Southern California

A visit to the Hoose Library, located on the second floor of the Mudd Hall of Philosophy, will transport you to the old-world atmosphere of Northern Italy. Its magnificent reading room features a massive stone fireplace, a vaulted ceiling, stained glass windows, decorative inscribed tile plaques, and leather seats set at small carved tables beneath graceful cubicle arches. No wonder this was formerly a favorite location for weddings, and is still used by the President of the University for special receptions. For students, it is a quiet place for study and reflection.

Edward L. Doheny, Jr., Memorial Library: A Romanesque Gem

Everyone should go into the Doheny Library building at least once before they graduate! If you are impressed by the grandeur of its stately limestone and brick exterior and the ornate main entrance with its great bronze doors, you’ll be blown away by the three story rotunda of the main lobby with its exquisite mosaics, murals, sculptures and stained-glass windows, and by the beauty of the main reading room with its richly decorated ceiling, bronze chandeliers and arched leaded windows. Even the cavernous stacks with their maze of shelving are worth a quick look. This proud flag-ship library of the University has been recently restored to its original splendor.

Hazel maintains active memberships in the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), and its Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL) chapter, for which she serves on the membership committee. This past year she prepared a book review, which is forthcoming in the Law Library Journal, on Richard Delgado’s Justice at War: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights during Times of Crisis.

On a personal level, Hazel spent time last summer hiking in the Canadian Rockies, and finally, an event for which she can take no credit, she became a grandmother last March.

LLMC-Digital: A New Electronic Resource

by Leonette Williams, Associate Director of the Law Library for Collections and Technical Services

New to the “Online Resources & Research Links” on the Law Library’s Web page (http://lawweb.usc.edu/library) is a useful resource for legal researchers and historians entitled LLMC - Digital. LLMC, the Law Library Microform Consortium, is a non-profit library cooperative created by librarians, dedicated to document preservation.

At present, LLMC offers the world’s largest collection of legal literature and government documents in microform. The first group of titles LLMC has converted and mounted onto its digital Web site is its collection of U.S. federal documents. However, it is anticipated that constitutional, legal, and law-related materials from Commonwealth and civil law countries will begin appearing by the end of the year. Digitization of LLMC’s full collection of over 90,000 volumes should take approximately ten years.

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The Law Library’s subscription to *LLMC - Digital* provides free access to the Law School as well as the larger USC community. Access is available at any of the campus libraries and remote access is available by means of USC’s dial-up Internet service or any PC connected to the Internet using USC’s VPN software. If you have any questions about this resource, please contact one of the Research Librarians.

**Leonette is serving this year as Chair of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Scholarship Committee, Co-Chair of the AALL Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section Statistics Committee, and Bibliography Coordinator for the Toolkit for Academic Law Libraries, among other AALL activities. Last summer, Leonette spoke at the AALL’s annual meeting in Seattle on “ABA Statistics: Tackling Topical Questions. She also works as Chair of the Awards Committee for the Southern California Association of Law Libraries, as the Law Library Advisor to the Los Angeles Daily Journal, and as a Board member for USC Women In Management.**

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**New Display Highlights USC Law School Deans**

by *Tim Von Dulm - Law Library Intern*

Climbing the stairwell located near the main entrance of the law school to reach the law library, you may have noticed a series of portraits of those who have served as Dean of the USC Law School. Have you ever been curious about the role each of these Deans played in the development of the law school? If so, you are in luck. A new display highlighting many of the achievements of our Deans has been mounted in the east lobby near the Ackerman Moot Court Room.

The backgrounds and accomplishments of these select individuals are as diverse as they are fascinating. For example, did you know that one dean served as a Brigadier General and was awarded the French Croix de Guerre medal? Or that another served as Chairman for Californians Against Capital Punishment and strongly advocated a law school curriculum that incorporated moral values and volunteerism? Who was the first woman selected as dean of a major American law school and later appointed to serve on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals? Which dean was a clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren prior to joining the USC faculty? These achievements represent just some of the fascinating details associated with each of the nine deans who served the law school from 1904-2004. Stop by the display, which includes photographs, publications, and law school miscellanea, to learn more about those who guided the USC Law School to its present status as one of the premier centers for legal education in the United States.

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**The Wonderful World of Web Sites**

*Renee Rastorfer, Law Librarian - Research Services*

No one has time to keep up with the proliferating world of new Web sites. But here is a sampling of ones that have crossed my desk in the last couple of months that seem interesting and useful.

One of the biggest law-related stories this year was the release in March of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun’s papers. In 1997, Blackmun joined the ranks of thirty-eight other justices and chief justices who have donated their papers to the Library of Congress (LOC). Justice Blackmun’s papers span 1913 through 2001, with the bulk concentrated from 1959 to 1994, the period he served on the Eighth Circuit and the Supreme Court.

For those not able to travel to the LOC, there are two alternatives. The LOC has made digital copies available online of selected documents, as well as a 510-page transcript of Justice Blackmun’s oral history, also available in audio, and a 410-page finding aid that describes in detail the contents of the 1,576 boxes of Justice Blackmun’s papers. The results of this project can be viewed at [www.loc.gov/rr/mss/blackmun](http://www.loc.gov/rr/mss/blackmun).

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The second alternative is on the National Public Radio (NPR) Web site. NPR’s Nina Totenberg was granted prior access to the papers, and she put together a series of broadcasts in the week leading up to the release of the papers to the public. If you missed the broadcasts the first time around, they are available at the NPR site, www.npr.org/news/specials/blackmun (remember to scroll down), supplemented with many extras, including personal notes exchanged between the justices while listening to arguments.

Next, EZLegal File is an interactive program that helps litigants fill out the forms necessary to respond to papers for a variety of causes of action in the California Superior Court system. Users answer a series of questions and the program generates completed forms to print and file in court! These forms are available for family law (marriage, divorce, custody, support), small claims, evictions, and guardianships and, at present, for 28 California counties (Los Angeles is not yet included). The site is sponsored by San Mateo Superior Court and is available at http://www.ezlegalfile.org/index.jsp. Why didn’t I just give you the whole URL for the above article? Because it is very long. A solution to this recurring problem can be found at a Web site called TinyURL.com. For example, I popped the 71 characters for the “50-State Rundown” URL into the appropriate box, and TinyURL.com came back with http://tinyurl.com/ywa7x, only 24 characters. It’s very easy to use and can make your email life much easier!

Renee has been working at the Library since August 2003. Some of her outside activities include a recent appointment to the American Association of Law Libraries LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee and Program Chair for the Southern California Association of Law Libraries.

**Advocat Usage Skyrockets**

*by Wendy Nobunaga, Senior Law Librarian - Head of Cataloging*

For the past several years, use of the Law Library’s online catalog, ADVOCAT, has increased dramatically. Two big jumps occurred in 2001-02 and 2002-03. In 2001-02, usage had an increase of 72% with over 9,000 more searches than the previous year. Equally noteworthy, in 2002-03, usage had an increase of 87% with close to 20,000 more searches than in 2001-02. Even in 2003-04, usage has had an increase of 14% with several more months of searching to be calculated before the end of the fiscal year.

Several factors may have contributed to the above increases. In 2000, the web-version of ADVOCAT and Z39.50 became available. If you remember, Z39.50 allows library patrons to search other library catalogs using the same search features found in ADVOCAT. Around this time, the Law Library also made available the USC Integrated Catalog, which allows patrons to search all three USC campus library catalogs (Main Campus, Law, and Medical) with one simultaneous search. In 2002 and 2003, the Law Library publicized the availability of our USC Integrated Catalog to the entire USC campus.

Another factor for the increase in usage may be a direct result of the availability of more online resources in ADVOCAT. In 2001 and 2002, a major project was undertaken to add both selected JSTOR and all Hein-On-Line
titles to our catalog. Both JSTOR and Hein-On-Line offer a number of periodicals in electronic format. As of April 2004, there are over 450 Hein-On-Line and over 250 JSTOR electronic titles available in ADVOCAT. To experience ADVOCAT for yourself, go to http://innopac.usc.edu. Happy searching!

Wendy has had a busy year. Besides continuing her work as Chair of the SCALL Public Relations Committee, she also worked with the exhibitors at the 2004 SCALL Annual Institute in San Diego, created the exhibitor game, and handled the publicity for this institute.

In her free time, Wendy is working on completing her article, “The Vindication and Arrest of John H. Hickcox,” which is an update to her 1995 article on this government document historical figure.

Why Use Hein-On-Line?
by Diana Jaque, Senior Law Librarian - Head of Collection Development and Acquisitions

Introduced in 2000 by legal periodicals distributor William S. Hein & Co., Inc., HeinOnline contains nearly 1,100 law journals and provides an alternative to the full-text law review collections available on LexisNexis and Westlaw. HeinOnline, however, has several distinctive features. High up on that list is that Hein allows users to view articles as text-only or in an image-based format, meaning that all pages appear as they originally did in print.

Unlike other periodical databases that supply post-1980 volumes, HeinOnline also distinguishes itself by providing journals from their inception to the most current volumes. Comparable coverage of law review titles is not available on either LexisNexis or Westlaw. LexisNexis’ combined law review coverage begins in 1982 while Westlaw offers coverage of the major law reviews back to the early 1980s and coverage from the 1990s for most others. HeinOnline also recently added historical coverage of the Federal Register (1936-1992) and U.S. Reports (1754-2002). For the Federal Register, Hein’s coverage appreciably predates that of Lexis or Westlaw. Additionally, Hein is under contract with the American Bar Association and the International Bar Association to add their journals.

Library users can access HeinOnline from the Library’s homepage, under “Online Resources and Research Links” or by means of the HeinOnline home page: http://www.heinonline.org. As an added convenience, if a title is available within this database, the Library has added direct links to HeinOnline from the catalog record to the journal. Users will see the message “Access volumes via HeinOnline,” which they can click to see the full text of available issues.

So, the next time you find yourself looking for a law review or another legal periodical, consider pointing your browser to HeinOnline. Since their collection grows every day, check back again soon and that elusive journal you have been looking for may have been added to the database since your last visit.

Diana is Head of Collection Development and Acquisitions. Currently, she is the President of SCALL (Southern California Association of Law Libraries) and serves on the American Association of Law Libraries Council of Chapter Presidents. Diana is also the co-compiler, with Catherine F. Halvorsen, of Law Library Journal’s book review column “Keeping Up with New Legal Titles.”
Dear Research Librarian:

Help! I am in the process of sending out my resume and feel overwhelmed. What is a good way to find background information about individual law firms and attorneys? Signed, Dazed and Confused

Dear Dazed:

Rest assured, most of the information you need is only a few mouse clicks away. What you are looking for is a directory of law firms and attorneys. One of the most widely used is Martindale-Hubbell. While Martindale-Hubbell comes in a variety of formats, I recommend using their Web site at www.martindale.com. You can gather all sorts of information on both individual attorneys and law firms through www.martindale.com. Martindale.com allows the user to focus a search on specifics such as lawyer name, firm name, or practice area. Each search can be tailored to meet the individual’s needs. This means, for example, one can create a search that will identify all attorneys who are USC alumni practicing in Los Angeles, or any other city you choose! When searching for a specific attorney, the searcher is provided with general contact information as well as the attorney’s educational background, bar admission date, and practice area.

Dear Research Librarian:

Much recent media attention has been devoted to the actions of the United States Supreme Court. I am interested in learning more and would like to know the kinds of materials available to law students that pertain to recent Supreme Court activities. Do you have any suggestions? Signed, Curious

Dear Curious:

As a student, you also have access to two fee-based online sources of information on the Supreme Court: Westlaw and BNA’s United States Law Week. Westlaw created an entire “folder” of Supreme Court databases. Among the many databases included, you will find oral argument transcripts and briefs. Additional analytical sources are included in the Preview of Supreme Court Cases and the Westlaw Bulletin – Supreme Court databases.

BNA’s United States Law Week is available in print and online and provides access to significant case law and legislative and regulatory developments in all United States jurisdictions. You can track the activities of the Supreme Court through the United States Law Week’s Supreme Court Today database online. Supreme Court Today is a searchable database that provides current information on every petition and case on the Supreme Court docket. It allows for immediate access to Supreme Court rulings, opinions, and summaries of arguments. To access the online version, do a title search for “United States Law Week” in Advocat, the Law School’s online catalog. This will allow you to link immediately to the online version.

Jessica Wimer, Senior Law Librarian
Head of Research Services

Two free Web sites that I recommend visiting are the official United States Supreme Court Web site and the Legal Information Institute (LII) Web site sponsored by Cornell Law School. Both of these sites provide current information, including the Court’s docket and the full text of the cases and oral arguments heard by the Supreme Court. LII takes it one step further and provides links to other relevant information including recent news articles and other analytical material. To get a better appreciation of what these sites offer, I urge you to try them out for yourself! The official Supreme Court website is located at http://www.supremecourts.gov/index.html. Visit LII at http://www.law.cornell.edu.

Jessica remains active in the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and the Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL). On the national level, Jessica serves on the AALL Scholarships Committee. In spring 2003, she was elected Treasurer of SCALL, and attended this year’s Institute held in San Diego, CA. Additionally, Jessica wrote a book review that appeared in the Fall 2003 issue of Law Library Journal.