From The Director...

The semester is done and the librarians and library staff have been busy over the last 6 months. So busy we have not issued a newsletter in a long while.

Please see the articles and notices that follow for an introduction of new librarians and staff in the law library, news on the renovation in the Technical Services department, photos of the refurbished computer labs on the second floor of the law library, a fun orientation for new students to the Law Library (Library Fest) and more.

Of course, none of the accomplishments described above could have been completed without the dedication and hard work of the librarians and library staff.

As always, please let us know if we can be of assistance.

- Duncan Alford, Associate Dean and Director of the Law Library

LibraryFest introduces 1L Students to Library

On August 30, over 40 first year law students participated in LibraryFest. Students were treated to goody bags and ice cream; the festivities featured a Library scavenger hunt and Blackout bingo, presenting a fun chance for 1Ls to learn about the library, IT, and library services.

Students even had a chance to win prizes – including study carrels – a rarity for 1Ls. LRAW TAs were also on hand to answer questions about life in law school.

Above: Students tour the Law Library during LibraryFest. Photo courtesy of Rebekah Maxwell.
Holiday Hours

The Law Library will observe the following hours during the December 2012 holiday/exam period:

Pre-Exam Period: Sunday, November 25 - Saturday, December 1, 2012:

Sunday 1:00 pm - 12:00 am
Monday – Thursday 7:00 am - 12:00 am
Friday 7:00 am – 11:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am – 11:00 pm

Exam Period: Sunday, December 2 through Saturday, December 15, 2012:

Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 am
Monday - Thursday 7:00 am - 1:00 am
Friday 7:00 am - 11:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am - 11:00 pm

NOTE: The Library will close at 6:00 pm on Friday, December 14 and will be closed Saturday, December 15.

Makeup Exams: Sunday, December 16 through Monday, December 17, 2012:

Sunday 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Monday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Law Library Staff updates:

The Law Library welcomed several new librarians and staff members this summer:

Candle Wester, Assistant Director for Faculty Services, arrived at the law library in June. Prior to joining the USC faculty, she was the Access Services Librarian at Southern Illinois School of Law Library.

Reference Librarian Alyson Drake came to the library in August after completing her JD at the College of William and Mary. She also teaches in the first year Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing program.

Law Library Administrative Coordinator Regenia Dowling joined the staff in September; she recently worked with M.B. Kahn in Columbia and completed her MA at Gonzaga University.

Faculty & Staff Publications:

Associate Dean and Law Library Director Duncan Alford recently published an update to his research guide “Harmonization of International Commercial Law” on Globalex, sponsored by the New York University School of Law.
Summer Upgrades to Law School Computer Labs
The Law School upgraded both its second-floor computer labs this summer. In addition to attractive new paint, lights, whiteboards, windowshades, and furniture, the labs now have all new hardware such as larger 21.5 inch monitors, printers, and a pulldown screen for video. Although the total number of computers was reduced, it leaves extra space for students to work more efficiently. Work tables also have power outlets for laptop usage in conjunction with the available lab desktops. You can visit the new labs on the second floor in rooms 223 and 219, adjacent to the IT Department and Computer Services.

Above: upgraded computer labs at Coleman Karesh Law Library.
Photos courtesy of Jim Epting.

Technical Services Area Redesign
The Law Library Technical Services division also completed a space redesign in June 2012, creating open work areas for staff, and office spaces featuring modular, moveable walls. New workstations, shelving, and cabinets not only lend an airy, modern feel to the area, but allow for easier collaboration and more efficient handling of books and periodicals.

Above: Tech Services after summer 2012 redesign.
Photos courtesy of Gloria Zinky.
2012 Law School Halloween Carnival a Feartastic Success!
The 2012 annual Law School Halloween Carnival, held by the Law School and coordinated by Women in Law, entertained 80 local parents and children, including families from two local shelters on October 30, 2012. Students, faculty, and staff distributed treats, goodie bags, and books, and led fun games for children – and the young at heart.

Photos courtesy of Rebekah Maxwell.