From The Director…

Colleagues –

As the fall semester winds down, I wanted to update you on activities in the library this fall.

We offered a new research course this Fall – Legal Research for Practice. This one credit course covered specialized research topics in a workshop setting. Students learned about information sources particularly useful for the practicing attorney and researched problems using those sources. We hope to offer a similar course on a regular basis going forward.

The library staff has been busy for the past year planning for the library in the new building. A significant change in the collection in the new building will be the installation of compact shelving. Approximately two-thirds of the print collection will be in this movable shelving allowing more square footage in the library to be used for study and collaborative work space.

The new library will boast a formal reading room that will seat approximately 40 readers. This room will open onto a balcony that looks over the courtyard of the new building. The two story ceiling height should make for an impressive space. Please see the representation of the new reading room elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks to Matt Gissendanner who served as an adjunct instructor in the Legal Research, Analysis and Writing course this past fall while we searched for a new reference librarian colleague.

Please see the remainder of the newsletter for more details on the busy fall semester in the Law Library.

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

Wishing you a happy holiday season.

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

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Reserve Law Library Study Rooms Online

The library has four large study rooms and 10 small study rooms that can be reserved for group study by law students. For room information, study room policies and to reserve a study room online, go to http://www.law.sc.edu/library/study_rooms/
New Law Library Update

Planning for the new building and law library is proceeding apace. Below is a representation of the reading room in the library. This formal room will look out over the courtyard below. The details are not final, but this rendering gives some hint of grandeur and formality of this new space.

Library Exam Hours

Pre-Exam Period: Sunday, November 16 through Monday, November 24
- 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

Thanksgiving: Tuesday, November 25 through Friday, November 28
- Tuesday: 8:00 am – 12:00 am
- Wednesday: 8:00 am – 11:00 pm
- Thursday: CLOSED
- Friday: 11:00 am – 11:00 pm

Exam Period: Saturday, November 29 through Friday, December 12
- 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 7:00 pm on Friday, December 12

Makeup Exams: Saturday, December 13 through Monday, December 15
- Saturday: CLOSED
- Sunday: 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Monday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

SC State Register Digitization Completed

The Coleman Karesh Law Library, in partnership with the South Carolina State Library and the South Carolina Digital Collections, recently completed the digitization of the first twenty-two years of the South Carolina State Register. Having this material online means that the entire run of the SC Register is now accessible to researchers via the internet.

Above: Amanda Stone (left) from the SC State Library stands with Tabitha Samuel (right) of SC Digital Collections in front of the Law Library display about the State Register digitization project at the SCLA Conference.
Law Library Faculty and Staff Achievements

In July 2014, the AALL Special Committee on Access to Justice, of which Terrye Conroy is a member, published a white paper entitled Law Libraries and Access to Justice: A Report of the American Association of Law Libraries Special Committee on Access to Justice. Terrye Conroy was a primary drafter of the section on Academic Law Librarians.

Access Services Assistant/Interlibrary Loans staffer Megan Brown and Access Services/Reference student assistant Aaron Glenn (shown at right with Endowment donor Mrs. Prue Goolsby) were recipients of scholarships awarded by the Prue Goolsby endowment fund for the 2014–2015 academic year. The scholarships are given to deserving Library or Law School students who have worked for the Law Library and expressed an interest in Law librarianship.

Aaron Glenn also received a scholarship from the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries (SEAALL). As a part of the scholarship, he will be authoring an article for SEAALL’s newsletter, the Southeastern Law Librarian.

Law Librarian Alyson Drake and Student Assistant Aaron Glenn presented a poster at the annual South Carolina Library Association Conference on October 24th. The poster, entitled "A Perfect Fit: Tailoring Your Own Research Text with LibGuides CMS, highlighted the online textbook used in the first year Legal Research, Analysis and Writing program.

Pamela Melton (pictured at right) who coordinated the South Carolina Register digitization project, presented a poster at the South Carolina Library Association conference on October 24. The poster, entitled “unbinding access to State Agency Regulations”, described the collaboration among three libraries to make the project possible.

Terrye Conroy was interviewed for an article in the October issue of Information Today about how to help non-lawyers conduct legal research without giving legal advice. Our Circuit Riders outreach program was mentioned, along with a screenshot of the website.


Candle Wester presented at the 2014 annual Mid-America Association of Law Libraries (MAALL) Conference held in Chicago, along with her colleagues Sandy Placzek from the University of Nebraska and Michelle Hook Dewey from the University of Illinois, on intergenerational mentoring entitled “We Are family, I Got All My Mentees and Me.” The presentation focused on generational mentoring and the interaction between mentors and mentees in a variety of different contexts and situations. Using the framework of a family tree, the panel addressed the following issues in connection with mentoring relationships: building; balancing; formal vs. informal; reverse mentoring; and methods and approaches. The trio also presented this program at the 2014 annual SEAALL Conference.
Recent Events at the Law Library:

Friends from Far-Away Places:

The Law Library made a new friend this summer in the person of Virginia de Carvalho Leal, a visiting scholar from the University of Leon in Spain. Virginia visited the Law School during August and September to research American products liability law. The Law Library provided her with a study room and reference and research services while she was here. Virginia is originally from Brazil. The day before she returned to Spain, she brought us a selection of homemade Brazilian cake and candy to symbolize the “sweet time” she had here. Virginia also donated to the Library’s collection two volumes in which she is a contributing author. We enjoyed getting to know Virginia, wish her much success with her scholarship, and hope to see her again if she’s ever back this way.

LibraryFest 2014

On September 17th, over 200 students, faculty, and staff came to the library to celebrate Constitution Day, as part of LibraryFest 2014! 1Ls met with our awesome Bloomberg, Lexis, and Westlaw vendor representatives to win great prizes, like private study carrels, gift cards, t-shirts, and more! All students who attended received goody bags and ate delicious cake.

South Carolina Library Association Conference Exhibit

In October, the Coleman Karesh law librarians partnered with the SC Access to Justice Commission and SC Legal Services to promote access to online legal information at the South Carolina Library Association (SCLA) Conference. Through our conference exhibit, we shared information about the new online presence of our Circuit Riders Outreach program as well as interactive court approved forms and other online legal information available for SC librarians to share with their patrons.

Annual Halloween Carnival

On Wednesday evening, October 29, the Coleman Karesh Law Library participated in the Law School’s annual Halloween Carnival. Rebekah Maxwell and retired colleague Pam Dawes staffed a table featuring a ring-toss game, and gave away candy, prizes, and children’s books. A frighteningly good time was had by all.