From The Director…

What a difference 2017 made! The law library was closed during May in order to move the collection, personnel and equipment from 701 Main Street to 1525 Senate Street – our beautiful new space. I hope you are as pleased as we are about the new, comfortable and inviting study spaces in our new home.

Two-thirds of the physical collection is now located in the basement on electronic compact shelving. Press a button and the shelves move — an efficient use of space which allows for more collaborative work space.

The law library now has 26 group study rooms and a beautiful, formal study space – the Coleman Karesh Reading Room. Study tables and study carrels are available on all four floors of the library.

The summer was busy with the physical move and the early fall was filled with adjustments to the new space and whittling down the punch list of the law library.

In August, our colleague Pamela Melton retired after 20 years of service to the law library and law school. Pamela was instrumental in the design of the new law library, particularly of the Reading Room and the Legal History Room. Her attention to detail resulted in the beautiful spaces we see today.

We welcomed four new library colleagues this year:
Daniel Brackmann – Reference Librarian
Megan Brown – Acquisitions and Electronic Resources Librarian
Amanda Bullington – Catalog and Serials Librarian
Andy Kretschmar – Access Services Librarian.

For reports on the accomplishments and activities of our library colleagues, please see elsewhere in this issue of The Addendum.

As always, please let us know if we can assist in any way.

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

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Law Library Adds Chat and Text to Reference Services

The Law Library has added a chat and text feature to its reference services. Now, in addition to phone, email, and in-person assistance, students and the public can contact a reference librarian online via a chat link available on the law library website, or by texting 803.219.2529. The chat widget also allows users to send files to the librarian or to email transcripts of the chat to the users. Because the chat is live and thus only available to online patrons during standard reference hours (8:30—5:00 M-F), users are directed to email queries to librarians during off-hours at lawref@law.sc.edu.

The Law Library held its annual LibraryFest event on September 22. This year’s superhero theme introduced 1L students and welcomed 2L and 3Ls to the new Law Library, IT Services, and the Law Librarians. Attendees earned prizes by visiting different stations in the Law Library, giving them the chance to explore new areas of the library, such as the reading room, legal history room, and study rooms. Attendees were also treated to discovering the ‘secret’ identities of Superhero Law Librarians.

Law Library Welcomes New Librarians

Access Services Librarian Andrew Kretschmar received his MLIS from the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science. Prior to joining the University of South Carolina Law Library, Mr. Kretschmar was a Library Specialist/Manager at Thomas Cooper Library.

Acquisitions and Electronic Resources Librarian Megan Brown received her MLIS from the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science. Prior to joining the Law Library in her current position, Ms. Brown was an Access Services Assistant and Interim Day Supervisor at the Coleman Karesh Law Library.

Catalog and Serials Librarian Amanda Bullington received her MLIS from the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science. Prior to joining the University of South Carolina Law Library, Ms. Bullington cataloged manuscripts for the South Caroliniana Library.

Reference Librarian Daniel Brackmann received his MLIS from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining the University of South Carolina Law Library, Mr. Brackmann was the Electronic Resources Librarian at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University.

LibraryFest 2017

Above: Librarian Candle Wester shows a student items from the Legal History collection. Below: Librarian Andy Kretschmar demonstrates the Bookeye Scanner to law students in the new copy room. Photos courtesy of USC Law Library Facebook page.
Law Library Faculty and Staff News and Accomplishments

Reference librarians Eve Ross (pictured, left) and Aaron Glenn (right) presented a poster at the South Carolina Library Association Conference in October, which demonstrated the Law Library’s South Carolina Court Forms Index. The index, which can be found at guides.law.sc.edu/sc-forms, received a very positive reaction, particularly from public reference librarians who often direct patrons to court forms. Photo courtesy of Eve Ross.

Eve Ross also spearheaded a petition to solve an issue with citing state regulations. Ross drafted a letter to the South Carolina Supreme Court requesting an update to and suggesting a citation format for Rule 268, SCACR which would reflect a change how regulations are currently published. Many of the Law Library faculty signed the letter. In September, the South Carolina Supreme Court amended Rule 268; the order can be found at http://www.sccourts.org/courtOrders/displayOrder.cfm?orderNo=2017-09-20-01.

Earlier this summer, Eve Ross and Aaron Glenn attended CALIcon 17 (the 2017 conference of the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction). Ross presented on “Professional Social Media: More Fun than [Barrel Emoji] [Monkey Emoji]. Another presenter on the topic of social media included a “Social Media Jeopardy:Ethics Edition” game, which Aaron Glenn won. Eve Ross was also appointed by AALL to the Emerging Leader Award Jury for a 1 year term (July 2017 to June 2018).

Associate Director for Faculty Services and Administration Candle Wester was promoted from her previous position (Assistant Director for Faculty Services). She also was awarded tenure in June.

Catalog and Serials Librarian Amanda Bullington (pictured, right) received the Distinguished Student Award for SLIS. The annual award is given to students with outstanding potential in the field of library and information science. Presented to a graduate from the previous year’s class, the award is based on the entirety of the student experience, including GPA, quality of class participation, and the ability to assimilate information and pass it on. Photo courtesy of Amanda Bullington.

Michael Mounter, Ph.D., Law Library Evening Access Services Supervisor and Archivist, aided in the acquisition of historical documents of Richard Theodore Greener, USC’s first African American professor (1873-1877), and USC Law Alumni (1876). Mounter wrote his dissertation on the professor, and donated his research collection to the South Caroliniana Library. Mounter’s contributions were acknowledged at the announcement of plans for a statue of Greener.

Former Associate Director for Library Administration Pamela Melton (pictured, right, with Associate Dean and Law Library Director Duncan Alford) retired after 20 years of service to the Law Library. She received her J.D. from Washington & Lee University School of Law in Lexington, Virginia, and her M.S.L.S. from the Catholic University of America’s School of Library and Information Science in Washington, D.C. Professor Melton taught Legal Research, Analysis & Writing and Advanced Legal Research. She served as Chair of the Research Instruction and Patron Services (RIPS) Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries in 2004–2005. In 2006, she represented RIPS at the AALL Education Summit. She was the 2009 Chair of the AALL Research & Publications Committee, which is responsible for awarding approximately $7500 in grant money per year nationwide for projects that advance the field of law librarianship. She is currently the Immediate Past President of SEAALL (the South Eastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries), having previously served as Vice President/ President-Elect and President. Her scholarly interests of legal research pedagogy and legal history served her in helping orchestrate the design of the Coleman Karesh Reading Room and her continued curatorship of the Legal History Room and Memory Hold the Door projects. Photo courtesy of Rob Schaller.
Above: Hallett Movers personnel painstakingly measured the width of books in the library’s collection to plot and plan their locations in the new shelves. Below: The Law Library entryway, reference, and circulation desk areas during final construction.


Above: The 701 Main library entryway, shows the library empty of books for the first time in over 40 years. Below: On the new Reference desk sits a planetary model made of the tags that marked the previous and current locations of books. At the center of the model is a tiny replica of the U.S. Constitution — the document around which the library’s legal information revolves.

Below: The compact shelving was installed in December 2016 in the basement of the law library. The compact shelving houses most of the library’s collection. Photo courtesy of Duncan Alford.

Bottom: The new Coleman Karesh Reading Room, completed and in use.