10-1-1990

Vol. 01, No. 02 (October 1, 1990)

Follow this and additional works at: http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/resipsa

Part of the Legal Education Commons

Recommended Citation

"Vol. 01, No. 02 (October 1, 1990)" (1990). Res Ipsa Loquitur. 78.
http://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/resipsa/78
As an ever-growing number of practitioners come to rely on the two major legal databases, LEXIS and WESTLAW, it is vital that law students seek to develop and hone their computer-assisted legal research skills. In order to provide both better hands-on training and increased access to these systems, the Law Library has arranged with LEXIS and WESTLAW for the installation of a Permanent Learning Center. Each company has agreed to supply the Library with six terminals with printers, and student assistants whose duties will include teaching law students to use the systems and helping with research problems.

The LEXIS/WESTLAW Permanent Learning Center will be located in the Library's Media Center, in Room 208E (which was previously used as the Audiovisual Viewing Room). Both group and individual hands-on training sessions for LEXIS and WESTLAW will be held in the Permanent Learning Center. When the PLC is not being used for training, students may use the terminals for regular LEXIS and WESTLAW searching. Student representatives for both companies will hold regular hours at the PLC, providing information and assistance in the use of the two systems. The LEXIS student representatives are Jennifer Jordan and Jack Past, and the WESTLAW student representative is Mitchell Counts, who also works in the Reference Office.

In broadening the scope of their services to law students, both LEXIS and WESTLAW are also offering individual passwords to all students who have received introductory training on the systems. These passwords give students twenty-four hour access to the databases for education-related computer searching. Both companies are also providing interested students with communications software, so that those students who already have their own personal computers and modems may use LEXIS and WESTLAW in their homes. (Remember: your LEXIS password also gives you access to NEXIS, an enormous database which contains the full-text of newspapers and business-related journals). All second and third year students may obtain their passwords and software by contacting the LEXIS and WESTLAW student representatives. First year students may obtain their passwords during the spring semester, when both systems will be offering group training sessions. It will not be possible to access LEXIS without a personal password after the fall semester, so make sure you obtain your password as soon as possible. Finally, although the student representatives are specifically assigned to help you with computer research problems, the reference librarians are always available to answer any questions you might have about LEXIS or WESTLAW.
BLOOMINGTON DELIVERY SERVICE

Have you ever used IO (the online catalog) and found the perfect book only to discover that it is located at the Main Library or one of the many branch libraries on campus? How many times have you decided that you can do without it rather than walk all the way across campus? Bloomington Delivery Service (BDS) is the perfect solution. BDS is a service of the University Libraries that provides photocopies of journal articles and delivers books to any faculty member or graduate student on the Bloomington campus. This means that any law student may request an article or book from the BDS Office in the Main Library and have it delivered to a campus address. Requests are generally filled within 48 hours. Although there is no charge for the delivery service itself, you will be billed for the cost of photocopying an article.

There are three ways to request a book or an article from BDS. You can fill out an order form and send it to BDS at the Main Library through campus mail. Order forms are available at any participating library, including the Law Library. You may pick the forms up at the Circulation Desk. There is a campus mailbox in the Law School at the north entrance by Dean Fromm’s office. Requests will also be taken by telephone. The phone number is 855-8BDS. An answering machine will take requests after business hours or when the staff is unavailable. The third way to make a request is through electronic mail on the VAX.

If you wish to request photocopies through BDS you must have an account number. Students may set up a personal account by going to the BDS office in the Main Library. The office hours are 8-5, Monday-Friday. You should go to the Circulation Desk in the Main Library for directions to the BDS office.

Don’t forget that BDS is only for materials located on the Bloomington campus, but IO includes books held by the whole University Library system, including the regional campuses. If you find a book you would like that is held only on another campus, let us know and we can request it for you from the appropriate regional campus library. See Steve Ingeman in the Circulation Office to make such a request.

So, if you find something you want in IO, don’t give up just because it is not here at the Law Library. If it is located in the Main Library or a branch library on the Bloomington campus, use the Bloomington Delivery Service. If what you want is on a regional campus, talk to Steve Ingeman here in the Law Library and he will request it for you.

Linda Fariss,
Associate Director

NON-LAW STUDENTS IN THE LIBRARY

Beginning this month we expect to see an increased number of non-law students in the Library doing research assignments for various classes. In the past we have received numerous complaints from law students about undergraduates in the Library. We will continue to conduct routine patrols for students who are not using the collection and we will ask those students to leave. Because we cannot be constantly checking, I am certain we will miss some students, but we will make every effort to monitor the Library during busy times. Please understand that our collection is unique within the University and we have an obligation to serve all members of the University community. We hope that you will cooperate with the policy and make the non-law students feel welcome during the times they must be here to use our collection.

Linda Fariss,
Associate Director

NEW CD-ROMS IN GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

Two compact disk products have been added to the government documents collection covering topics related to the environment and demographics of the population by region. This brief article provides a description of these titles and, I hope, incentive for utilizing these new sources of information.

Toxic Chemical Release Inventory describes health and ecological effects of toxic chemicals released routinely or accidently by manufacturing facilities in the U.S. This database is composed of reports submitted by manufacturers to the EPA and may be searched by a variety of methods including chemical name, manufacturer, SIC Number, and disposal method. Although the reports themselves are quite technical in nature, Fact Sheets offer a thorough narrative analysis of the chemical in question and includes workplace exposure limits, ways of reducing exposure, health effects, workplace practices, handling and storage methods, and emergency procedures.

The City and County Data Book contains demographic, economic and governmental data from federal and private agencies for the purpose of area comparisons or single area profiles. It presents a variety of information on states, counties, cities, and places in the United States. Searchable categories include social welfare programs, employment, income, vital statistics, crime, housing, commerce, and population data. This is an exceptionally user friendly database.

(continued)
These CD-ROMs are shelved at the Circulation Desk. Any of the Reference Librarians would be glad to help you use them.

Marianne Mason,
Documents Librarian

NEW ACQUISITIONS LIBRARIAN HIRED

The Library is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard Vaughan as the new Acquisitions/Serials Control Librarian. Beginning October 1, Dick will assume responsibilities previously held by Nonie Watt who is now Head of Technical Services. A native of Bloomington, Dick returns to the Midwest after holding positions at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County Library and the Felix G. Woodward Library, Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

As Acquisitions/Serials Control Librarian, Dick will oversee the ordering and receiving activities of the Library’s books and serials as well as coordinate the acquisition and management of faculty office copies. In addition, Dick will be devoting much of his time in the upcoming months to the Library’s conversion to an automated acquisitions/serials system.

Feel free to contact Dick with your library requests or questions pertaining to faculty office copies. He looks forward to meeting and working with all of you in the future.

Nonie Watt,
Head of Technical Services

NEW CD-ROM DATABASE ON EUROPEAN LAW

The Library has recently acquired a new CD-ROM database, called JUSTIS, which should prove quite valuable to anyone doing research in the area of European law. JUSTIS contains the full text of the founding and amending treaties of the European Communities in official English translation, as well as all secondary legislation printed in the Official Journal. The legislation includes all laws in force on 1 July 1979, plus all subsequent acts adopted by the Communities. JUSTIS also includes abstracts of decisions handed down by the European Court of Justice since 1961. This database is a welcome addition to the Library’s collection, since the printed sources of EC law are cumbersome to use and poorly indexed.

JUSTIS is shelved at the Circulation Desk, together with the Library’s other CD-ROMs. For the most part, the CD-ROM is self-explanatory and easy to use. Brief instructions are available at the CD-ROM workstation.

The Suggestion Box

(Each month in this space Associate Director Linda Fariss replies to suggestions received by the Library)

Suggestion: The Library needs recycling bins at the Xerox machines. Install them as soon as possible. Matt Miller, 2L.

Response: In response to your suggestion, the Library has ordered signs to be placed on one trash can at each copy machine designating that can for the recycling of white paper. We are also planning to place a recycling receptacle in the newspaper area for the recycling of aluminum cans. We hope that everybody will take advantage of this and place their soft drink cans in the recycling bin instead of the wastebaskets in the Library. Thank you very much for your suggestion.

Suggestion: Why is the copy card machine downstairs where there are no copy machines? Put it in the lobby of the Library where the copy machines are.

Response: Believe it or not, we gave a great deal of thought to the placement of the copy card machine before it was installed. Besides the Law School, there are currently only three locations on campus where a student can obtain a copy card or add to an existing copy card. These locations are the Main Library, the School of Business and Jordan Hall. Because the Law School is one of the few places where a student can get this service, we felt that it was likely that many people would come here to purchase a copy card. Given the policy of the Law Library to limit access to those students actually using the collection and the sensitivity of many law students to this policy, we felt it would be best not to encourage non-law students to come to the Law Library solely to purchase their copy cards. Therefore, we had the machine installed in the student lounge near the entrance door to discourage more traffic in the Library by those not actually using the collection.

Suggestion: Since a bunch of slobs seem to have invaded the Law School, especially the newspaper area, maybe you could remind them that their mothers did not follow them to the Law School, and that newspapers may be placed on the racks just as easily as they can be taken off the racks. Ditto for the magazines.

Response: We agree wholeheartedly!
and complete documentation is shelved in the Reference Office.

For the first several weeks of October, the Library will ask those who use JUSTIS to fill out a very brief survey. The survey form will be distributed at the Circulation Desk to patrons when they check out the cd-rom, and collected when they return it.

We encourage as many patrons as possible to try out this new cd-rom database. Even those not directly interested in European law will find it an interesting example of the Library's increasing depth in computer-based resources.

Ralph Gaebler,
Foreign and International Librarian

WORKING THE HALLS

Congratulations to this year's recipients of faculty research fellowships:

Professor Doug Boshkoff is the John S. Hastings Fellow
Professor Craig Bradley is the Charles L. Whistler Fellow
Professor Steve Conrad is the Louis F. Niezer Fellow
Professor Lynne Henderson is the Harry T. Ice Fellow
Professor John Scanlan and Professor Alex Tanford are the two Ira C. Batman Fellows

Welcome to Tina Richardson, the new secretary in the Library.

We are also pleased to note some of the recent activities and appointments of faculty and librarians:

Kevin Brown has been named to the Commission on Uniform State Laws.

Ralph Gaebler will be speaking in October at the Workshop for Depository Libraries sponsored by the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities. He will be a member of a panel entitled: Databases: Their Utility and New Developments.

Mary Ellen O'Connell has recently returned from the Regional Conference of the American Society of International Law, where she spoke as a member of the panel entitled: The Iraqi Crisis: The Law of War.

We hope you all have a great day!!!

Happy Birthday to You!!

Earl Singleton, in the Community Legal Clinic, on the 5th of October
Professor Bill Oliver on the 6th
Professor Bob Heidt on the 10th
Tina Richardson, in the Library, on the 12th
Professor Kevin Brown on the 13th
Krystie Herndon, in the 2nd Floor Pool on the 15th
Pam Kriete, in Career Services Office, on the 20th
Professor Bruce Markell on the 24th
Professor Bill Hicks on the 26th, and
Professor Bill Popkin on the 28th

Calendar of Events

October 1: Dean Search Candidate: Ellen Jordan, University of Georgia School of Law
October 5: Harris Lecture: Barbara Babcock, Stanford Law School
October 21-23: Dean Search Candidate: Fred Aman, Cornell Law School
October 21-24: National Conference for State Legislators Workshop for Senior Legislative Drafters