

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

November 1, 2017

Volume 21 Number 4

What's New in the Library?

- The Library will have more limited hours during the Thanksgiving Break.

	Circulation/Reserve Desk	Card Access
Saturday, November 18	not staffed	10 am – 6 pm
Sunday, November 19	not staffed	2 pm – 10 pm
Monday, November 20	9 am – 4 pm	6 am – 10 pm
Tuesday, November 21	9 am – 4 pm	6 am – 10 pm
Wednesday, November 22	9 am – noon	6 am – noon
Thursday, November 23	not staffed	no access
Friday, November 24	not staffed	9 am – midnight
Saturday, November 25	not staffed	9 am – midnight

- Immediately after Thanksgiving is over, we move into the exam weeks. Beginning the night of Sunday, November 26, the Library will offer card access to the building until 2 am (instead of the normal midnight closing). This extended access will end on the last day of exams: Friday, December 8, at 5 pm. If you've lost your ID card, stop by the Circulation/Reserve Desk during normal business hours with \$5 (cash/check) for a replacement. (Please be aware it might take up to 30 minutes to process the ID card, so we can't guarantee we can issue one just before your exam starts!)
- Please remember that our group study rooms are not dining areas. Food isn't allowed in the Library (at any time, even during our extended hours!). Over the years, we've had infestations of mice and creepy crawlies, not to mention some pretty bad smells. Tobacco use is also prohibited in the Library, which includes smokeless tobacco and the associated "spit cups." Help us keep the group study rooms clean for the people who use the rooms after you!
- As you begin to prepare for finals, don't forget about the many CALI (Center for Computer-Assisted Learning Instruction) tutorials available online, all for free! You should have registered during Orientation, but if you procrastinated, you can still register now at <http://www.cali.org/> with our school's authorization code of **[not in online version!]** (which is case-sensitive). The tutorials cover all topics – 2Ls and 3Ls can also benefit, as it's not just limited to 1L classes.

Other News

- When November rolls around, it's time for Daylight Saving Time to end. This year, November 5 is the first Sunday in November. Don't forget to "fall back" by setting your clocks one hour in the past at 2 am on that Sunday. You're also encouraged to replace your smoke detector batteries, plus you should check your carbon monoxide detector if you have one of those.
- Virginia holds Election Day on November 7, and several top state spots will be decided by voters. Virginia has a one-term limit on governors, so the ballot lists candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general. You can find results of the voting at the State Board of Election's web site at <https://elections.virginia.gov>
- One of the dreams of all law students is to rake in the big bucks as an attorney. We're always a little bit jealous of those big firm attorneys who seem to make millions of dollars per year. But it was shocking to see the price tag for a highly-controversial estate issue from Texas: \$48,000 *per hour*. The case stems from a fight over an oil tycoon's trust; in an apparently shocking turn, one of the attorneys was able to make a reasonable settlement in a relatively short amount of time. But the trustees thought the previously-negotiated fee was too high and refused to pay, so the lawyer sued and won a \$7.25 million dollar jury verdict for only 150 hours of work. Now that verdict is before the Texas Supreme Court, and a decision is expected within a few months. You can view the filings for the case at <http://www.search.txcourts.gov/Case.aspx?cn=16-0107&coa=cossup> or you can read a summary from the *Houston Chronicle* at <http://www.chron.com/business/energy/article/Texas-Supreme-Court-examines-48-000-an-hour-12278721.php>
- In another bit of financial news, a recent report suggested that the average lawyer collects only 1.6 hours of billable time in an average eight-hour day. The folks at Clio, an online legal productivity suite (which includes document management, calendaring, and billing services in the cloud), found that their users only managed to work on billable projects for about 2.3 hours on an average day, but only collected 1.6 hours. They suggested two reasons for the wide gap: "Too much time was being eaten away by non-billable administrative tasks, [and I]aw firms didn't have enough clients to support their billable targets." Those administrative tasks, though, included licensing and continuing legal education requirements, as well as business development. The report also pointed out "what potential clients look for," including responding to e-mail or a telephone call right away, free initial consultations, and fixed fees. You have to provide your e-mail address to receive a PDF copy of the report; you can go through that process at <https://www.clio.com/2017-legal-trends-report/>

The [ASL Library News](#) (ISSN 1535-539X) is published monthly during the academic year (except for two combined issues: Aug/Sept and Apr/May) by the Appalachian School of Law Library, Grundy VA 24614. Uncredited stories are written by Chris King, Library Director. If you would like to respond to any story in this newsletter, please contact Chris or leave a message in the upstairs suggestion box.