

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

February 1, 2000

Volume 3 Number 7

What's New in the Library? Some New Electronic Resources!

- Check out the new electronic resources available to all ASL students, faculty, and staff: LegalTrac on the Web and LOISLaw. These services can be accessed by going to the Library's web page (<http://www.asl.edu/library/>), then selecting "Electronic Databases." See the next two paragraphs for specific details.
- LegalTrac is an electronic periodical index that allows you to search several years worth of law reviews, bar journals, and other legal periodicals. Enter whatever search terms you want: author, title, or subject. You can limit by year or by periodical. LegalTrac claims to have over 800,000 articles indexed, with some dating as far back as 1980. Although we had previously purchased LegalTrac on CD-ROM, the Internet version allows us to have the most up-to-date indexing available. **Warning:** Because access is based on IP addresses, you must be on an ASL computer (such as those available in the Library Seminar Room) to use this service. If you have any questions, just ask Chris King, Reference Librarian.
- LOISLaw is an electronic legal database similar to Westlaw and LEXIS. It offers access to statutes, acts, case law, and administrative regulations from all 50 states, as well as federal case law, statutes, and regulations. LOISLaw encourages students to use their service throughout the summer – unlike Westlaw and LEXIS – and also offers free access for six months after graduation. LOISLaw also allows our students to use their service for externships, summer jobs, and community service projects.

You must register to use this service. Get to LOISLaw by going to the Library's web page (<http://www.asl.edu/library/>), choose "Electronic Databases," and then select LOISLaw. After typing in your name in the boxes, pick "VA: Appalachian" (which oddly falls at the end of the Virginia list) as the law school. ASL's access code is **XXXXXXX** (it is case sensitive, so use upper case letters). Finish by choosing a user ID and password (which can be anything you want, so long as no one else has chosen the same user ID). Instructional guides for using this service will be available soon.

(ASL access password is not available on the Internet version of this newsletter. Please see Chris King for the password.)

Other Library News

- First year students: Don't forget your online training sessions are a part of your Legal Research class during the month of February. Sign-up sheets are available at the Circulation Desk. You will need to sign up for only one session per week on the weeks that the electronic training is held. Please bring your Westlaw password, and, if you sign up for a "laptop" spot, bring your computer along as well.
- Second and third year students will have the opportunity to sign up for West Group's 2000 Summer Associate Program and Judicial Clerkship program. It's an hour-long program that will be held in March (the date has not yet been verified; watch for the March Library newsletter and signs in the Library).
- All students and faculty are invited to our training sessions for our new online catalog (SIRSI WorkFlows). We will have several during the month of February, taught by Glenna Owens, Technical Services Librarian. These 30-minute sessions will explain how to find books in the Library by using both the proprietary software and the Internet version. Look for sign-up sheets at the Circulation Desk. If you have questions, contact Glenna.

Suggestions

- After last month's article about the Library's suggestion box, we have received a few more suggestions. Not all of these have been Library-related, such as the person who requests his or her fellow students to stop popping bubble gum during classes and exams. Another person brought up an important point: people have been smoking in non-smoking areas. Smoking is not allowed in the Library building or on the Library steps. As of this publication date, smoking is only allowed in the outside area behind the Classroom Building. We understand that the Student Bar Association has been petitioned to change this rule, so contact your student representatives to let them know how you feel on this issue.

Since both of these suggestions dealt with areas outside the Library's jurisdiction, they will be passed on to the Dean's office.

For Library-related suggestions, please drop off your anonymous notes in the suggestion box located in the upstairs copy area. For all other suggestions on improving the school, drop a note in the Dean's suggestion box located in the vending machine area in the Classroom Building.