

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

March 1, 2001

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What's New in the Library?

- Our Westlaw representative will visit us on March 14th and 15th. Chris Vassey will be teaching a Legal Research Lab for the first year students (but everyone else is invited to attend). She will also be roaming the halls, eager to explain Westlaw's new services and to help you with general searching questions. If anyone is interested, she will even arrange a short training session with you (contact Chris King to sign up).
- We will also need to select a new student Westlaw representative for the upcoming school year. The student rep assists other students with general Westlaw problems and solutions. If you have questions about the position, see our current Westlaw student rep -- Nathan Lyons -- or talk to Chris King. Resumes are due to Chris Vassey by **March 7, 2001** (yes, that is during Spring Break). Check on the Library bulletin boards for her address or fax number.
- We expect a LEXIS representative to be here on March 28. This person will teach a Legal Research Lab for the first years (again, others are invited to attend) and should be around to answer general LEXIS questions. It is possible -- although not yet confirmed -- that this representative will be interviewing for the LEXIS student representative position. If you are interested in being the LEXIS student rep, stop by Chris King's office and he will provide you with any information he has on this job.
- Don't forget about the Library's special classes on "**Finding a Job with Westlaw and LEXIS.**" These hour-long classes will be offered on March 16 (2 pm - 3 pm) and on March 22 (3 pm - 4 pm). Class size will be limited, so sign up early! Sign-up sheets are available at the Circulation Desk.
- During **Spring Break** the Library will be staffed on a limited schedule. Our modified hours will start on Monday, March 5 and run through Friday, March 9. During this time we will only be staffed from 9 am to 5 pm. Regular hours return on Saturday, March 10. All ASL faculty, staff, and students will still have 24-hour access to the Library during Spring Break.

Other News

- There's a lot of interesting Westlaw news this month (see front page for other stories). Westlaw has recently purchased FindLaw, a free legal Internet site. The press release states that FindLaw will continue to grow: "Everything that exists on FindLaw today... will remain. ... [W]e plan to make it even better." Some critics have suggested that this is Westlaw's way to provide free content, similar to LEXIS' "LEXIS One" service, which provides free case law, statutory law, and forms.
 - Westlaw: <http://lawschool.westlaw.com/>
 - FindLaw: <http://www.findlaw.com/>
 - LEXIS: <http://lawschool.lexis.com/>
 - LEXIS One: <http://www.lexisone.com/>
- It's almost tax time (April 16 this year). For you procrastinators, try surfing the Internet this year to find the forms and instruction booklets that you need. The best place for federal forms is the Internal Revenue Service's own web site at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/forms_pubs/ (You might need special software -- like Adobe's Acrobat Reader -- to view and print these forms. Ask Chris or Brian Ratliff, Computer Administrator, for assistance.)

For state forms, try Yahoo!'s subject listing at http://dir.yahoo.com/Government/U_S__Government/Taxes/Online_Tax_Forms
[there are two underscores between the "S" & "Government"]

For general information about taxes -- or if you're studying for your tax class -- try the following sites:

TaxSites: <http://www.taxsites.com>
WorldWideWeb Tax: <http://www.webtax.com/>

- Don't forget that the Library is a QUIET place to study. If you are planning on having an impromptu study session, please move into the Fishbowl or one of the study rooms.
- Another reminder: please do NOT adjust the thermostats in the study rooms or in the main areas of the Library. The thermostats have to be kept on seventy degrees in order for our heating/cooling system to work properly. When those thermostats are changed -- high or low -- it confuses the system and we end up with some rooms boiling at ninety degrees and other rooms at a frigid sixty degrees. Also, with the warmer weather slowly moving back to our region, please do NOT open the windows, since that too will throw the heating/cooling system out of whack.