

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- The Library is pleased to announce the beginning of the "Get REAL!" legal research classes. These Research and Electronic Assisted Learning (REAL) sessions will cover the basics of legal research, including how to find law review articles, how to Shepardize, and how to find primary law, as well as refreshers on Westlaw and LEXIS. These classes will be held every Tuesday evening from October 2 through November 13. Classes begin at 5:30 pm and should only last about a half-hour. Because these sessions will be held in the Library's Seminar Room, that room will not be available for general computer use at those times.
- Several students have noticed the addition of a laser printer in the downstairs copy area of the Library. This is our dedicated Westlaw printer. We're waiting for the folks in Eagan, Minnesota, to work their magic on it before we can use it (they have to connect our Westlaw passwords with that printer). As soon as that happens, we'll let you know, and then you'll be able to print out Westlaw cases on that machine without going through our network! (That means that if you forget to log on to our network, you'll still be able to print Westlaw cases.) LEXIS has also promised us a printer; we're expecting that one to be set up by late October.
- The ASL Library has begun a subscription to Virginia Mining Journal, a monthly periodical that discusses the mining industry in Virginia. Look for current issues in our "Current Awareness" area upstairs; several back issues are also available.
- The Library's "book swap" program has found a new home: upstairs on the back wall, relatively close to the upstairs copy area. Here you will find some donated books that are not an official part of our collection. That means you don't need an ID to check them out, and you can return them whenever you're done with them. If you'd like to share too, drop off your books at the Circulation Desk.
- We've received two comments in our upstairs suggestion box and wanted to share them with you. The first asked us to clean up the upstairs copy area. Unfortunately, our recycling program is not yet running, so we've collected a lot of paper up there. We're removing the recycling bin, so excess photocopies should go in the trash cans. Hopefully, this will remedy that problem. The second comment asked for packages of staples to be left in case the staplers run out. We've been hesitant to do this because we've noticed that when we leave both staplers and packages of staples out, both tend to disappear. It's part of our opening and closing procedures to refill staplers, so we're not sure why this is happening. Please let us know at the Circulation Desk if the staplers aren't full. Thanks!

Other News

- The first Monday of October begins another Supreme Court term, and it looks to be yet another interesting set of cases that the High Court will hear. Within the first week, the Supremes will begin debate over employment plans, taxes on Indian casinos, and patents on sexually reproduced plants. Later in the term, the justices will discuss a number of controversial cases, including
 - whether Child Pornography Prevention Act is constitutional or overbroad
 - whether a person on probation has given "implied consent" to a probation officer to perform random searches on him and his home
 - whether the execution of a murderer with an IQ of 67 is constitutional
 - whether students grading each other's homework and tests is a violation of federal student privacy laws.

Stay up-to-date with the opinions of the Supreme Court by reading U.S. Law Week (on Reserve), or by visiting the Court's website at <http://www.supremecourtus.gov>.

- The Supremes aren't the only act in D.C.; in any "usual" year, Congress would be spending October in battles over the budget and whether the Internet should be taxed (the moratorium ends October 21 of this year). But after September's terrorist attacks, look for bills promoting stronger law enforcement powers and a stronger economy. We've got the materials you need to be aware of what's happening on the other side of our state: looseleaf services like Congressional Index, governmental publications like the Congressional Record, and periodicals like CQ [formerly Congressional Quarterly].
- We expect both of our Westlaw and LEXIS trainers to be back in October for extra training on those online services. Check with our student representatives Michelle Thomas (Westlaw) and Madeline Short (LEXIS) if you're stumped by things like formulating Boolean queries; their "office hours" are posted on the Library's bulletin boards. We'll post signs when we have dates for the training classes.
- Our Computer Services Department is almost ready to hand out "@asl.edu" e-mail addresses to all of our students. Watch for a notification in your (paper-based) mailboxes when this service is instituted.
- As we do every year, we remind everyone that Daylight Savings Time ends on the last Sunday of October. "Fall back" an hour by turning your clocks from 2 am to 1 am! The trade-off is one hour of extra sleep for earlier darkness in the evenings....

The ASL Library News (ISSN 1535-539X) is published monthly during the academic year by the Appalachian School of Law Library, Grundy VA 24614. Uncredited stories are written by Chris King, Public Services Librarian. If you would like to respond to any story in this newsletter, please contact Chris or leave a message in the upstairs suggestion box.