

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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Welcome!

Welcome – or welcome back – to the ASL Library. The Library is designed to complement the Law School's educational program. Our recently expanded staffed hours allow us to help you find the materials you need in our collection. We provide a clean and secure area to study and to do research. We have very dedicated staff members who will try to help you in every reasonable way possible.

Take the time to walk around and look at what the Library has to offer. We have a solid Virginia law collection and a growing collection of regional legal materials, as well as general reference materials. We continue to purchase books that cover the topics that you will learn in school. Our print collection is enhanced by our microfiche holdings, as well as some electronic databases that you have access to (see our web site, at <http://www.asl.edu/library/>).

Please feel free to ask questions or make suggestions as to how we can improve your law school experience. Our suggestion box is upstairs in the copy area (for anonymous suggestions), or you can pass along your ideas to a Library staff member.

Who's New In The Library?

Charles J. Condon is the new Director of the Law Library. He was previously the Computer Services/Reference Librarian at Northern Illinois University College of Law in DeKalb, Illinois. Professor Condon has taught Basic and Advanced Legal Research at Northern and has conducted several legal research presentations for both graduate and undergraduate courses. He earned his B.A. from Florida Atlantic University, J.D. from Nova Southeastern University, LL.M. from the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville), and his M.L.S. from the University of Southern Mississippi. Professor Condon and his wife Jean have bought a house at Hobbs Branch and are happy to be a part of the ASL community.

Brett Vandyke is our new Circulation Assistant. Brett was born in Richlands, Virginia, but reared in Whitewood. He graduated from Whitewood High School (which is now Twin Valley) in 2000. He received an A.A.S. from Southwest Virginia Community College, and he is currently finishing his B.S. in Biology at Radford University. Brett plans on obtaining a master's degree within the next few years.

For short biographies of other Library staff members, check out our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/library/>

What's New in the Library?

- One of our big summer projects was to clean the Library. Please do your part to help keep the Library a clean and comfortable place to study. As part of our cleaning process, we will be strongly enforcing our "don't leave your stuff" policy.
- Another big but somewhat invisible change was that we upgraded our Library catalog over the summer. Although most of the enhancements are for the staff, one big change is that more databases will now be available to you from off-campus locations. We'll be writing instructions for these services during the upcoming semester, but if you just can't wait, stop by and talk to Chris.

Other News

- Our access hours are exactly the same as last year. With a valid ASL ID, students have access to the Library Monday through Friday, 6 am to midnight, and Saturday and Sunday, 9 am to midnight. For the next few weeks, we will have more limited Reference Desk hours. As soon as we hire our Reference Librarian, we will increase those hours to help answer your toughest research questions!
- First year students got a brand-new copy of the 2005-2006 Student User Guide during Orientation; returning students can download one from our web site (<http://www.asl.edu/library/publications.php>) or pick up a copy at the Circulation Desk.
- Second and third year students: We will be posting student Westlaw and LexisNexis representative hours on the Library bulletin boards soon. Your passwords remain the same.

Over the last few months, you've probably heard about a number of companies "losing" or "misplacing" customer data. One of those companies affected by data loss was LexisNexis. In moves designed to remedy this, both Lexis and Westlaw are slowly modifying their password policy. When you use your password, you will now be required (Lexis) or strongly recommended (Westlaw) to create your own username and password to access these services. When doing so, you must provide an e-mail address. That e-mail address will be where Lexis or Westlaw sends a forgotten password. In other words, we (the Library staff) may no longer be able to "remind" you of your password. We're trying our best to understand these new rules; as soon as we learn more, we'll pass it along to you.

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