

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- The Thanksgiving holiday is fast approaching, and that means the Library will have some unusual hours. Here are the changes to our regular schedule:

	Circulation Desk hours	Card Access hours
Tuesday, November 22	8 am – 10 pm (regular)	6 am – midnight (regular)
Wednesday, November 23	8 am – 5 pm	6 am – 5 pm
Thursday, November 24	not staffed	no access
Friday, November 25	not staffed	9 am – 9 pm
Saturday, November 26	not staffed	9 am – 9 pm
Sunday, November 27	9 am – 10 pm (regular)	9 am – midnight (regular)

- The Library will have extended hours for exam weeks beginning in December. We will again be having 24-hour card access, which will start in the early morning hours of Friday, December 2, and run until 6 pm on the last day of finals (Friday, December 16). Please remember that we are only extending the access hours; our Circulation and Reserve Desk hours will remain the same.
- We've added some new members to the Library crew in late October. We'll have short write-ups about them in the December newsletter, but if you just can't wait, be watching the Library's staff page (<http://www.asl.edu/library/staff.php>) around the second week of November!
- As we mentioned last month, we are increasing our practice-oriented collection for several regional states. Someone donated the Kentucky Decisions, but we just didn't have room upstairs near the Kentucky materials. We've placed it in the first range of the compact shelving for now; over Winter Break we'll move things around upstairs so the set will be easier to find.
- Final exams are looming, and the Library is always eager to tell people about the study resources we've collected. Of course, one of the most popular items is the CALI CD (alternatively, we can give you the authorization code **[not in online version!]** for online access). We also have many of the "Examples and Explanations" series which offer helpful essay answers to practice questions, and many of the Lexis "Understanding" series which give fairly detailed analyses of legal topics. Ask for any of these at the Circulation Desk, or ask our Reference Librarians what they would recommend!

Other News

- The first few weeks of November bring the last "Get REAL!" (Research and Electronic Assisted Learning) classes of 2005! We have a repeat of our ALWD Citation Workshop, a review of Shepard's, and then two classes on searching the online databases of Lexis and Westlaw. Check the calendar at the side entrance or at the Reference Desk for dates and times. We'll be repeating some of our more popular classes next semester, and may even add a few new ones, especially if we get ideas for worthwhile topics (hint! hint!).
- Election Day is November 8 in Virginia. The Tuesday after the first Monday in November was first used for electing US Representatives in 1845 (Senators were added to that date in 1914). But why such an odd date? The Federal Election Commission suggests that November was right after the fall harvest, but just before the weather turned ugly. Lawmakers also wanted to avoid having Election Day on the first of the month, partially for religious reasons (Roman Catholics celebrate All Saints Day on November 1), and partially for economic reasons (many merchants would do end-of-month balance sheets on the first of the month). Check out the US Election Assistance Commission's web page for the full details at <http://www.eac.gov/faq.asp>

Note that we said "Election Day is November 8 *in Virginia*." Unlike 23 other states – including North Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia – the Commonwealth of Virginia does not allow early voting.

- An interesting recent case from Alaska gets to the issue of what to call a lawyer ("in debt" and nasty names* are not allowed). The defendant got nabbed for DUI, and asserted his Sixth Amendment right to have "assistance of counsel." But in a creative legal strategy, he claimed that the Alaska Bar only offered "attorneys" but not "counsel." The Court of Appeals of Alaska researched the history of the terms. Apparently, an "attorney at law" historically performed some of the research for cases and could attend proceedings, but could not actually plead the case – that was the job of the "counselor." In 1873, Parliament abolished the term "attorney" due to its bad reputation, which is why England's "attorneys" are now known as "solicitors" (and "counselors" are now known as "barristers"). But in the US, the two terms began to merge, and now the words are considered synonyms. For an etymological excursion, check out *Crane v. Alaska*, 118 P.3d 1084 (2005).

[* Although it appears one can use some "nasty names" against candidates for public office without giving rise to a defamation claim. See *Vogel v. Felice*, 127 Cal.App.4th 1006, 26 Cal.Rptr.3d 350 (2005).]

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