

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- Don't be spooked out by our October "Get REAL!" (Research and Electronic-Assisted Learning) classes! Along with the electronic training with our vendors (see stories below), we will also be offering refresher classes on finding cases and finding statutes. These thirty-minute sessions may provide you with the skills you need to become an excellent researcher. There are no signup sheets; just show up in the Seminar Room on Wednesdays at 4:15 pm.
- Westlaw comes to Grundy during the week of October 9. John Street will be providing training to some 1L students, but we will also be trying to offer an advanced class or two for the 2Ls and 3Ls. Watch the Circulation Desk for signup sheets.
- Then LexisNexis comes to town the week after. Scott Hite will be here during the week of October 16, again mostly for some 1L training, but with the option of doing some advanced classes. The signup sheets will be at the Circulation Desk.
- Have you noticed that the Reference Desk is staffed more often? We hope to have a librarian sitting at the desk Sunday through Thursday, especially during the times when classes are not in session. Right now, our desk schedule will be Sundays from 3 – 5 pm, and Mondays through Thursdays from 9 – 11 am and 2 – 4 pm. But if you don't see a person sitting at the Reference Desk, be sure to ask for assistance at the Circulation Desk, and they'll hunt down someone who can help you.
- We've changed a few of the rules for the group study rooms so that our students will make greater use of them. First, groups that are already in a study room can remain in the room after our staff leaves (10 pm Sunday through Thursday, 6 pm Friday and Saturday). Please note that the purple key tag must be returned to the Circulation Desk before our staff leaves, or you will be assessed a fine. All students must leave the Library at midnight. Second, individuals – especially those who want to practice for moot court arguments – may check out one of two designated study rooms. Because the study rooms are primarily for group use, during times of heavy demand groups will take priority and individuals in the designated rooms will be asked to vacate those rooms for the groups.

Other News

- Supreme Court watchers know one of the most important days of the year falls on the first Monday in October. The Supremes traditionally begin their new term, filled with many controversial cases, on that date. Although the justices will be taking the bench to announce a few housekeeping matters on October 2, they will not hold oral arguments like usual, due to the Yom Kippur holiday. Some of the cases they will decide during the upcoming term (which usually ends during the last week of June):
 - whether the Federal Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act violates the Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause due to the lack of an exception in cases protecting the mother's health, even though Congress expressly intended to leave that out: Gonzales v. Carhart, 05-380, and Gonzales v. Planned Parenthood, 05-1382;
 - whether, in cases where state law labels a felony what would be a misdemeanor under federal law, immigration laws and sentencing guidelines should take into account these "aggravated felonies": Lopez v. Gonzales, 05-547 (immigration), Toledo-Flores v. US, 05-7664 (sentencing);
 - whether a trial was unduly prejudicial when a murder victim's family, wearing buttons with the victim's photograph, sat in the front row directly behind the prosecution in full view of the jury: Carey v. Musladin, 05-785;
 - in regards to the Prison Litigation Reform Act, which requires prisoners to exhaust all administrative remedies before they can sue, whether (a) the prisoner has to allege exhaustion of all claims or instead whether non-exhaustion is an affirmative defense to be raised by the defense, and (b) there is an implied "total" exhaustion required which would mean the court could dismiss a prisoner's entire complaint if it contains a single unexhausted claim: Jones v. Bock, 05-7058, and Williams v. Overton, 05-7142;
 - whether, in a \$79.5 million punitive damages case to a smoker's widow, due process permits a jury to punish the defendant tobacco company for the effects of its conduct on non-parties: Phillip Morris USA v. Williams, 05-1256

For these and other Supreme Court cases, check the High Court's own web site at <http://www.supremecourtus.gov> or read about them in U.S. Law Week, a fantastic newsletter that tracks all the Court's cases and other significant legal news (the newest paper issues are on Reserve, while the newest electronic edition can be found on our web site under the "BNA All Access" tab on our electronic databases page at <http://www.asl.edu/library/databases.php>).

- It's time to change your clocks again! Daylight Savings Time ends on October 29, at 2 am. This is the last time you will "fall back" an hour on the last Sunday of October, since the "Energy Policy Act of 2005" [109 P.L. 58; 119 Stat. 594] expanded Daylight Savings Time to include the second Sunday in March to the first Sunday in November. That section goes into effect next year.

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