

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- We have a nice new map of the Appalachian region (as defined by the legislation that created the Appalachian Regional Commission; see 42 U.S.C. §14102). Appropriately, it's hanging next to the Appalachian Collection, to the left of the elevator on the first floor. (No, we haven't thrown out the picture of the Virginia Supreme Court justices; that's now across the way hanging over the dictionary stand.)
- If you need a bit more help understanding legal research, be sure to stop by one of our popular "Get REAL!" (Research and Electronic-Assisted Learning) classes during October. The "Finding" series kicks off with cases, and progresses through statutes, law review articles, and citators. Classes are on Wednesday afternoons at 4:15 pm and run about fifteen minutes; meet at the Reference Desk.
- Westlaw and Lexis will be coming to town at various times during October (and perhaps November as well). The trainers will be concentrating mostly on 1L classes (we'll have sign-up sheets available soon), but we're hoping that John Street and Scott Hite will have some time for talking to 2Ls and 3Ls as well. We'll post notices about the upcoming vendor visits in the usual spots (Library bulletin boards and the Library web site).
- October 24 is United Nations Day. Although we don't have a large collection of international materials, we've added some extra electronic primary materials in case your research leads you outside the US. We've had the UN Treaty Collection online for some time (ask at the Reference Desk for the username and password), but Hein Online has recently added several titles to their Foreign and International Law Resources collection. Now you can have access to publications from the American Society of International Law, the Permanent Court of International Justice, the International Court of Justice, and the League of Nations. Several yearbook series are also included. Access Hein Online (and the UN Treaty Collection – or for that matter – any of our electronic resources) by going to the Library's "Electronic Databases" web page (<http://www.asl.edu/library/databases.php>).
- This isn't new, but there are apparently still several students who need the CALI authorization code. Just like before, it's **[not in online version!]** (and it is case-sensitive). Use that to create your own username and password and then you'll have access to almost 700 lessons on all sorts of legal topics.

Other News

- For Supreme Court watchers, the First Monday in October is always very special: it's the first day of a new term for the High Court. The Supremes are tackling several cases dealing with statutory construction, but, as always, they've found a few highly controversial issues to discuss as well. Some of the cases for argument this term include:
 - Whether the term "proceeds" in money laundering cases encompasses all receipts (gross income) or just profit (gross income minus expenses); *U.S. v. Santos*, 06-1005
 - Whether political parties have a freedom of association claim against a state system that allows candidates to proclaim themselves members of any political party, regardless of whether the political party wants to nominate them; *Washington State Grange v. Washington State Republican Party*, 06-713, and *Washington v. Washington State Republican Party*, 06-730
 - Whether a prohibition against "purported" child pornography is too vague and/or overbroad; *U.S. v. Williams*, 06-694
 - Whether a state has violated the dormant Commerce Clause by exempting state-issued bonds from taxation, while taxing bonds issued from other states; *Kentucky Department of Revenue v. Davis*, 06-666
 - When the Armed Career Criminal Act provides for enhanced sentences for prior convictions unless a person has had their civil rights restored (among other exceptions), whether a state conviction that never caused the loss of civil rights should be counted as a prior conviction or as an exception; *Logan v. U.S.*, 06-6911

For the briefs and eventually the opinions in these and all other cases before the High Court, you have many options. The Supreme Court's own web site has information including audio transcripts at <http://www.supremecourtus.gov> . Also skim copies of *U.S. Law Week*, a newsletter that follows the Court: paper copies are on Reserve at the Circulation Desk, while electronic copies are available at the "BNA All" link on our databases page (<http://www.asl.edu/library/databases.php>).

- We're not trying to dismiss the work the Supreme Court does, but the justices only decided 72 cases last term, which is the lowest in recent history. A story from McClatchy newspapers earlier this spring noted that Justice Thomas spoke no words during the entire year (his last question was asked in February 2006). Perhaps that's better than having the Chief Justice say to you, "Counsel, it's a good thing you've got a lot of fallback arguments because you fall back very quickly." See the oral argument transcripts for *Powerex Corp. v. Reliant Energy Services, Inc.*, 05-85 (2007)).

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