

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- We will have limited access to the Library on Monday, January 19 (Martin Luther King, Jr., Day). Card access to the Library will begin at 2 pm and continue through midnight. The Circulation Desk will only be available from 2 pm to 6 pm. We will have regular hours on the preceding weekend days.
- As we mentioned over a month ago on our blog, the famous "Yellow Books" series from Leadership Directories are now available online. If you remember searching through the Judicial Yellow Book, Federal Yellow Book, or Law Firms Yellow Book while job hunting, save time by going to our electronic databases page on our web site and look for the "Leadership Directories" link. You can even access this database off campus by using your barcode on the back of your student ID. If you have questions about this resource, stop by the Reference Desk. (And if you aren't reading our blog, why not? The most important headlines are sent directly to our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/library/> but you can set up an RSS subscription at <http://asllibrary.blogspot.com/>)
- We have almost a dozen new research guides available at the Information Station (across from the Circulation Desk) and on our web site. These new resources will help you work your way through printed digest and statutes searching, use lesser-known but cheaper online legal research services, and assist you with the materials available in the Library to help you in your job search. If you have questions – or even suggestions for other guides – stop by the Reference Desk.
- Have you forgotten how to do research over the long winter months? Our popular "Get REAL!" (Research and Electronic-Assisted Learning) training classes will be restarting in January. These short, informal sessions will help clarify the mysteries of legal research. Stop by the Reference Desk on Wednesday afternoons at 4:30 pm. For a complete class schedule, check out our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/library/classes.php>
- As of press time, our student Lexis and Westlaw representatives have not set their upcoming "office hours." Watch for signs in the middle of the month when their hours are finalized. If you have an urgent project coming up, stop by the Reference Desk and we can put you in touch with them.

Other News

- We noticed quite a few last-minute converts to CALI last semester. If you haven't signed up for a free account with the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction, you're missing out on over 700 tutorials tailor-made for law school classes! You need a secret authorization code – it's **[not in online version!]** – and you'll need to know the web site, which is <http://www.cali.org> If you have questions, stop by the Reference Desk and ask a librarian for assistance.
- On January 20, 2009, the United States inaugurates only the forty-third person in 220 years to hold the office of President of the United States. As we get closer to the event, web sites will appear with more concrete information about this year's festivities, but for the official sources, check out <http://change.gov/learn/inauguration> and <http://www.pic2009.com/content/home/> for the schedule and ticket information. (The Inaugural Committee was looking for volunteers, so if you want to take an extended weekend trip, sign up now!) For a look back at prior ceremonies, the Library of Congress has assembled an impressive collection of speeches and photos from the past at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/>

(And, yes, we're aware that President-Elect Obama will be the forty-fourth president. Grover Cleveland's non-consecutive terms in the late 1800s bump up the number of "presidencies" but not the number of people who held the office.)

- By the time President Obama is sworn in, the 111th Congress will already have assembled (one of its first jobs is counting the electoral votes in the presidential election). This year should be full of legislative proposals and enactments, with so many different economic and social problems that need fixing. We have a number of Library resources that can help you follow all of these events:
 - In print, there's *CQ Weekly*, which covers all the news in Congress, often with analysis and explanation
 - Also in print is *Congressional Index*, which provides a handy tool for searching for recently-introduced legislation
 - We have printed copies and microfiche copies of the *Congressional Record*, the daily "newspaper" of what Congress did on any given day (an electronic version can be accessed through our online catalog or the "GPO Access" link on our electronic databases page)
 - Online we have LexisNexis Congressional, which offers advanced searching capabilities (like specific terms or phrases), and provides access to some historical information like legislative histories
 - There's also the free <http://thomas.loc.gov> which tracks recent legislation; it also can search the *Congressional Record*

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