

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- It's hard to believe Spring Break is almost here. The Library will have limited hours during that week (February 21-27). We'll be completely closed on Sunday, February 21, and on Saturday, February 27, which means no card access. During the week (Monday through Friday), we'll have the Circulation/Reserve Desk open from 9 am to 5 pm, but students will have card access from 8 am to 10 pm. Regular hours return on Sunday, February 28.
- The ASL Library student survey will be placed in your mailboxes on February 8. Please turn them in to the Circulation Desk before you leave for Spring Break (February 19). We appreciate all comments, as we're constantly trying to improve our collection and services.

Lexis and Westlaw student representative hours (Spring 2010)

if these hours aren't convenient, send an e-mail and make alternative arrangements

	LexisNexis David Robinson drobinson11@my.asl.edu	Westlaw Jacob Eberhart jacob@eberhartweb.com
Monday	8:00 am – 9:45 am	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am – 11:00 am	10:30 am – 2:30 pm
Wednesday	<i>no scheduled hours</i>	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Thursday	11:45 am – 4:00 pm	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Friday	<i>no scheduled hours</i>	<i>no scheduled hours</i>

Reference Notes

by Ethan Atwood, Reference Librarian

We're continuing our "Get REAL!" (Research and Electronic-Assisted Learning) refreshers in the Library. Last month we focused on secondary sources and this month we'll be reviewing primary sources. On Tuesday, February 2, we'll review how to find statutes. Then, on Tuesday, February 9, we'll look at how to use digests. Finally, on Tuesday, February 16, we'll complete the "Get REAL!" series with a review of how to update primary source research. A complete schedule of all the "Get REAL!" sessions is available at <http://www.asl.edu/library/classes.aspx>. If you're interested, just stop by the Library's Reference Desk on Tuesdays at noon.

Other News

- Now that most state legislatures have begun a new session, you might be interested in following the progress of certain pieces of legislation. If you only care about one state, you can easily search in Google to find the web site for the legislature, all of which now have some sort of bill tracking option. But if you want to compare bills from many different states, consider using LexisNexis Congressional (a link is on our Electronic Databases page at <http://www.asl.edu/library/databases.aspx>). For example, a simple search on "cell phones" finds that there are 70 bills in the various states to mention the term, most of them dealing with prohibiting cell phones while driving. Check with Ethan or Chris if you need some help using this database.
- C-SPAN recently aired interviews with the nine current Supreme Court Justices and with retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. These interviews cover a number of legal topics, and run from 30 minutes to just under an hour. You can download audio-only MP3s of these chats by going to http://download.rbn.com/cspan/cspan/download/scotus_feed.xml
They are also available as video on demand at
 - * <http://www.c-spanvideo.org/program/7716-1>
 - * <http://www.c-spanvideo.org/program/7654-1>
 - * <http://www.c-spanvideo.org/program/7537-1>If you poke around on C-SPAN's web site, you'll also find streaming videos about many current legal news stories that may help put some of your classwork into context. Check out C-SPAN's "Judicial" page at <http://www.c-span.org/Topics/Supreme-Court-Judiciary.aspx>
- As a law school, we can get pretty excited about people continuing their education. So when we hear that the members of the U.S. Supreme Court are still learning new words, it reminds us that education is a continuing journey. In an oral argument last term, the Supremes were discussing two statutory provisions that have a million subsections (the actual citations were 18 U.S.C. §922(a)(33)(A)(i) and 18 U.S.C. §922(a)(33)(A)(ii)). The justices had been referring to those provisions as "little eye" and "little eye eye." Then the Assistant to the Solicitor General started referring to the sections as "Romanette one" and "Romanette two." Chief Justice John Roberts asked for a definition ("Oh, little Roman numeral") and was startled that he had never heard that term before. Fast forward to January 2010, and Roberts again questioned counsel on a particular term. The lawyer (a University of Michigan professor) was trying to deal with a not-particularly-relevant question, so he said "I think that issue is entirely orthogonal to the issue here." Justice Scalia offered to use the word in the opinion or the dissent. Read the transcripts of *United States v. Haynes*, 07-068 (2008), and *Briscoe v. Virginia*, 07-11191 (2010), on the Supreme Court's transcript page:
http://www.supremecourtus.gov/oral_arguments/argument_transcripts.html