

# ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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## Welcome!

Welcome – or welcome back – to the ASL Library. The Library is designed to complement the Law School's educational program. We strive to provide a clean and secure area to study and to do research. We have very dedicated staff members who will try to help you find the materials you need in our collection.

Take the time to walk around and look at what the Library has to offer. We have a solid Virginia law collection and a strong collection of regional legal materials and general reference materials. We continue to purchase books that cover the topics that you will learn in school, including several study-guide series on Reserve. Our print collection is enhanced by our microfiche holdings, as well as electronic databases that you have access to (see our web site, at <http://www.asl.edu/library/>). Of course, we also provide training on all these resources, with class-like tutorials and one-on-one reviews with our professional librarians.

Please feel free to ask questions or make suggestions as to how we can improve your law school experience. Our suggestion box is upstairs in the copy area (for anonymous suggestions), or you can pass along your ideas to a Library staff member.

## Who's New In The Library?

Kaytlin Fields joins us as our Cataloging/Acquisitions Assistant. She was born in Abingdon, Virginia, and raised in Clintwood. She graduated from Clintwood High School in 2009 with an Advanced Diploma, having also been a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club, and Varsity Cheer Squad. She enjoys hiking, swimming, reading, and expanding her collection of *I Love Lucy* DVDs and memorabilia. She currently lives in Grundy with her husband Doug, their son Logan, and a very large dog named Rocky that tends to eat shoes and birds if he isn't fed on time. Kaytlin plans to continue her education through Southwest Virginia Community College.

## Other News

- If you're planning ahead, our normal school year student access hours will generally be Monday through Friday, 6 am to midnight; Saturday, 9 am to midnight; and Sunday, 12 pm to midnight. (Our hours can always be found at <http://www.asl.edu/Library/Library-Hours.html> but we'll post modifications due to holidays on the main Library page at <http://www.asl.edu/library/> ). When we begin our Reference Desk hours, we'll post notices on the Library bulletin boards.
- We just started school and already we're talking about our first holiday! The Library will have shorter hours for Labor Day (Monday, September 1). We'll offer card access from noon to midnight, but the Library's Circulation/Reserve Desk will be closed all day. The prior weekend hours remain unchanged.
- We're big fans of CALI lessons from the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction. This year, though, they've done away with their DVDs – all the lessons are completely online. If you're interested in using any of these thousand-some tutorials for all law school subjects, create your own account at <http://www.cali.org> (if you created an account last year, you should use that; notice the spiffy new web site was updated over the summer). If you create an account, you'll need ASL's authorization code, which is **[not in online version!]** (which is case-sensitive). Stop by the Reference Desk for assistance if you have trouble.
- We've updated our Student User Guide for the new academic year. To read a copy, find it on our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/Library/Library-Publications.html>. We also have a few printed copies which can be found at the "Information Station" across from the Circulation/Reserve Desk. Also in print there – and online – are a Library hours handout, and copies of the self-guided Library tour.
- We don't have our Lexis and Westlaw student representatives' "office hours" yet, but when we get them, we'll post them on the standard bulletin boards (near the two copy areas and in the Library Seminar Room).
- If you've lost your ID card over the summer, please stop by the Circulation/Reserve Desk. There is a \$5 (cash or check) fee for the replacement card.
- There's always been a lot of speculation about the US Supreme Court's decision-making process (for an extreme view, join the FantasySCOTUS fantasy league!). But a recent paper published this summer suggests that a not-so-simple formula can already predict a fairly high (~70%) number of decisions. A simplistic write-up can be found at <http://www.vox.com/2014/8/4/5967147/how-a-computer-model-got-to-predict-70-of-supreme-court-decisions> but the main paper (with pseudo-code representing the magic formula) is at <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2463244>

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