

# ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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## What's New in the Library?

- Spring Break is here! We'll have more limited hours during your vacation week. Please note that we'll be closed completely on Sunday, March 6, and Saturday, March 12.

	Circulation/Reserve Desk	ID Card Access
Saturday, March 5	9 am – 4 pm (normal)	9 am – midnight (normal)
Sunday, March 6	closed	no access
Monday, March 7	9 am – 4 pm	8 am – 9 pm
Tuesday, March 8	9 am – 4 pm	8 am – 9 pm
Wednesday, March 9	9 am – 4 pm	8 am – 9 pm
Thursday, March 10	9 am – 4 pm	8 am – 9 pm
Friday, March 11	9 am – 4 pm	8 am – 9 pm
Saturday, March 12	closed	no access
Sunday, March 13	noon – 8 pm (normal)	noon – midnight (normal)

- Reminder: the Library's Circulation/Reserve Desk will be closed on Sunday, March 27, for Easter. Students will continue to have card access to the building from noon to midnight.
- Don't forget to turn in your Library survey form at the Circulation/Reserve Desk before you leave for Spring Break! We use it to help prioritize our services, so your vote counts! We'll post highlights from our results in next month's newsletter.
- We wrote in the January ASL Library News that there were some big changes to the bar exam in several states. In more recent news, in February, both Washington DC and Vermont both switched to the Uniform Bar Exam, beginning this summer. We've updated this information on our helpful "Bar Examination Resources" page at <http://www.asl.edu/Library/Library-Services/Bar-Examination-Resources.html> and we've also included a small calendar that indicates the upcoming bar exam weeks so you can plan ahead. If there are other pieces of information that you think would be helpful to have on this page, send a note to Chris. (Before you ask: No, we don't have answers to *upcoming* bar exams, so we can't offer those to you.)
- We'll be doing some cleaning projects before our ABA reaccreditation visit in early April, so we apologize in advance for any noise we might make. Please help us in making the campus look impressive to our important visitors!

## Other News

- It's time to update your clocks again. Daylight Savings Time will officially begin on Sunday, March 13, at 2 am. If you have clocks that don't magically reset, you'll have to remember to "spring ahead" one hour just before you return from Spring Break.
- We ran a story last month about the likelihood of the new president picking a new Justice for the US Supreme Court. As you've probably heard, Justice Scalia's sudden death has now made judicial nominations a top news story. If you'd like to see what a judicial nominee goes through – and how much the process has changed over the last century -- we have a thick series of books called *The Supreme Court of the United States: Hearings and Reports on Successful and Unsuccessful Nominations of Supreme Court Justices* (upstairs at KF8741 .A25). Those books cover all Supreme Court nominees from 1916 to the present (2012, really, as Justice Kagan was the last to go through the process). If you're allergic to paper, you can view them electronically by going to our Electronic Databases page, selecting HeinOnline, clicking on the "History of Supreme Court Nominations" link, clicking "Supreme Court Nominations," and finally clicking on the title to see all the volumes.

Before 1916, the Senate tended to investigate Supreme Court judicial nominees on its own, usually in executive session, so there are very few public documents available before this time. Astonishingly, before 1925, the judicial nominees rarely – if ever – made an appearance before the Senate (although they likely visited individual Senators for personal meetings). In 1925, Harlan F. Stone, a former US Attorney General, accepted an invitation to appear before the Senate Judiciary Committee, becoming the first known nominee to appear in person to testify, mostly to refute his connection to Wall Street corporate interests. But five years later, Fourth Circuit Judge John J. Parker, a nominee of President Hoover, offered to appear before the full Senate Judiciary Committee to explain a major anti-union decision and alleged racist remarks. The Committee chose not to have Judge Parker testify, and his Supreme Court nomination would later be defeated by the whole Senate, 41-39. (North Carolina students: one of the most prestigious awards given by the NC Bar Association is the Judge John J. Parker Memorial Award.)

- The US Government produces thousands of pages of text every day, and the job of making all that accessible to people is left to the Government Publishing Office (which was called the Government Printing Office until December 2014). The GPO hopped online in June of 1994 as "GPO Access"; fifteen years later they rebranded with the clunky "Federal Digital System" or "FDSys" name. Last month, GPO released <https://www.govinfo.gov/> which will provide a massive amount of documents, like the *Congressional Record* and the *Federal Register* and Congressional bills, and better ways to search them – for free. It's still in testing mode, so send in comments directly from the link on the site itself.

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