
The Law Library at Washington and Lee University School of Law

Recommended Citation

Introduction

This annual report covering the 2015 fiscal year (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016) is prepared pursuant to the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools 601(a)(3) and serves as a record of the innovative work of the Wilbur C. Hall Law Library at Washington and Lee School of Law. It summarizes notable accomplishments, acquisitions, events, personnel and key facts and figures. In preparing this report, I document the unique mix of academic and administrative services and functions that are a vital component of the intellectual life of the Law Library and Law School. Included in this report is data regarding the Law Library’s physical space, resources, collection, programs, and services. The Annual Report is a tool to evaluate the adequacy of our Law Library’s resources and services.

Significant milestones of the fiscal year include: (1) completion of phase two of the Law School renovation; (2) the second annual W&L Law Reads; (3) the bi-annual Scholarship Celebration; (4) the addition of Jennifer Mart-Rice to the professional staff; (5) the departure of Instructional Services Librarian, John Eller, and, (6) the creation of a one credit, year long, required legal research class. Additionally, we continued to expand on our notable expertise in digital access and preservation.

Students, faculty, administrators, and the bench and bar continue to look to the Law Library to fulfill a wide variety of needs, from services in support of scholarship, teaching, education, or the practice of law to a physical space. The Law Library is essential in identifying, filling, and anticipating these needs, whether for our faculty, students, the University community, our alumni, the bench and bar, or the academy.

In conclusion, I extend my thanks to the people who make up the Library at Washington and Lee School of Law for their tireless work in support of teaching and scholarship at Washington and Lee.

Caroline L. Osborne, Esq.
Assistant Dean for Legal Information Services and Professor of Legal Research
August 19, 2016
The renovated spaces provide a blend of individualized study spaces, quiet study areas, and collaborative group study options. The light-filled Third Floor Reading Room, the Loft, and the five new study rooms are in high demand by all students. First-year students continue to enjoy the option of an assigned carrel. New librarian offices, a new footprint for Digital and Bibliographic Services, and a combined technology and circulation desk facilitate access and service in the Law Library.

**Space**

August of 2015 unveiled the newly renovated library spaces with the completion of a multi-phase planned renovation of the Law School. The renovation moved stacks, provided much needed high-density storage, eliminated the one carrel for every student option, and provided new group study areas and study rooms.
The Powell Archives continues to be a dynamic presence in the Law School and the Law Library. The Powell Archives comprises the Papers of Lewis F. Powell, Jr., other manuscript collections, the rare book collection, and the archives of the Law School. John Jacob is an acclaimed archivist and expert on the Supreme Court. Guided by his knowledge and expertise, we continue to acquire important collections in support of teaching and research, to provide record management services to our clinics, and preserve the history of the Law School.

On his death in 2015, the family of Representative M. Caldwell Butler (Virginia 6th District Representative) augmented his already extensive collection with a gift of additional papers. The Butler papers include documentation of his work on the House Judiciary Committee during the impeachment of President Richard M. Nixon and his role as a chief author of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978. A significant number of the Butler scrapbooks, both from these additions and from his earlier gift of papers, were digitized this year. The digitized scrapbooks are now available on Scholarly Commons at http://scholarlycommons.law.wlu.edu/.

The celebrated collection of Supreme Court case files of Justice Powell available online continues to grow. In addition to many other topics, all cases heard by Powell concerning Native American law were uploaded this year.

Other notable events include the design and installation of the Law School’s first permanent exhibit featuring Dean Steinheimer’s contributions to the Law School. The Roy L. Steinheimer Exhibit, named in his honor, opened in the lobby of the new main entrance in the spring of this year.

The Powell Archives received the Newton D. Baker manuscript donation. BakerHostetler donated a collection of scrapbooks of Newton D. Baker, 1894L. These volumes extensively document Baker’s rise in Ohio and national politics, including his time as mayor of Cleveland. They continue through his service as Secretary of War during World War I. A digitized version of this collection will be available in 2017.
Programming and Instruction

Programming targeted to our students is a high priority of the Law Library. In addition to the highly successful soup and salad exam breaks, students took advantage of a variety of programming offered by the Law Library. The annual spring semester Prep to Practice Workshop was held on Saturday, March 26, 2016. The class focused on preparing students for a successful summer internship and added a new layer of complexity with break-out sessions targeted to Virginia law, legislative and agency information, transactional practice materials, and free and low cost resources. Twenty-one students attended the program and sixteen completed the legal research certification exam. The program’s contents, including video, is available online at [http://libguides.wlu.edu/summersuccess2016](http://libguides.wlu.edu/summersuccess2016).

The Five in Five programs spread over the academic year continue to enjoy attendance. Sixty-two students attended a total of nine programs offered throughout the year. Subjects include legal research topics, such as researching with secondary sources, researching statistics, strategies for open memo assignments, researching international law, and searching dockets.

The second annual W&L Law Reads occurred on February 4, 2016 following a promotional campaign inviting students to guess the book. Aimed at encouraging reading for pleasure, the program featured *All the President’s Men* by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward. An all-star panel featuring Pam Luecke, the Donald W. Reynolds Professor of Business Journalism and noted editor and reporter; Lash LaRue, the Class of 1958 Alumni Professor of Law, Emeritus; Mark Rush, the Waxberg Professor of Politics and Law and Director of International Education; and, Brian Murchison, the Charles S. Rowe Professor of Law, provided a lively discussion on questions involving media ethics, law, politics, and Watergate. The video of this session is available at [All the President’s Men panel discussion](#). The program drew approximately thirty attendees.
“Celebrating Scholarship at W&L Law”, a bi-annual program highlighting the intellectual output of our faculty, library, and students, was held on September 30, 2015. The event highlighted published scholarly work completed in the prior eighteen months. A total of 151 works were placed on display both digitally and in print. Dean Hellwig provided welcoming remarks. Over one hundred guests attended sparking discussions around the scholarly works.
Legal Research 1

At the end of the prior fiscal year, the faculty approved the recommendation to offer five sections of Legal Research 1 as a one credit year-long class taught by four of the five lawyer-librarians. The course employed a flipped classroom model with e-Learning modules and readings consumed by students before class. Class time was devoted to hands-on workshops, review, and evaluations. A pre- and post-test was administered to measure the mastery of basic information literacy necessary for today’s attorney.

Digital Presence

Library Resource Guides or “LibGuides” are in great demand as a means of distributing information to students. This platform, provided by the University, permits the Law Library to provide targeted information based on the specific demand. Thirty-three public and private guides are currently available with varying degrees of access from no restriction to password restricted. Our Incoming Student Guide, distributed on a password-protected basis to our incoming first-year students, has over 3,498 views. Given the restricted access (approximately 300 users have current access), over 3,498 views demonstrate its value.

The Bar Exam guide is another highly successful publication. The guide assembles essential information for 3L students registering and preparing to take a bar exam. As of June 30, 2016 the guide has been viewed 8,604 times.

Public guides are available at [http://libguides.wlu.edu/law](http://libguides.wlu.edu/law).
Personnel Changes

Jennifer Mart-Rice (J.D., M.L.S.) formerly of Northern Kentucky School of Law joined us in July of 2015. Ms. Mart-Rice is the Digital and Metadata Services Librarian and serves as the Head of Digital and Bibliographic Services. She is an experienced and technologically savvy addition to the Law Library. In addition to teaching two sections of legal research, her expertise provides the Law Library with the ability to transform our Digital and Bibliographic Services and highlight our digital collections.

John Eller (J.D.), Instructional Services Librarian, resigned at the end of the year. Mr. Eller provided significant support to the administration through his competitive intelligence reports and in preparation for our Sabbatical Site Visit in the fall of 2015. In addition to his work in support of the administration, Mr. Eller also provided excellent scholarship support to our faculty on numerous articles and books. Last, but not least, Mr. Eller provided support to our third-year students studying for the bar. He arranged space for their summer study, coordinated with Reid Flynn, curated study aids, and generally took the pulse of students.

Carol Rollins and Bill French (J.D., retired) joined the Law Library in the role of part-time library assistants. They provide support for our digital collections, general library maintenance, and circulation support. Lauren Rice resigned from her position as part-time circulation library assistant upon the completion of her nursing degree. Chrissy Welsh joined us in the fall of 2015 as a part-time circulation library assistant.

The integration of faculty support as a division of the Law Library continued. A streamlined suite of services was rolled out to the faculty with the Fall 2015 semester. We welcomed three new hires, Jamie Beaulieu, Deborah Price, and Andrew Coburn in the wake of multiple retirements and departures. Faculty Support is smaller, reflecting the transition plan, but continues to provide the suite of services necessary to support the faculty in their teaching and scholarship.
Scholarly Commons

Scholarly Commons, the Law School’s institutional repository, remains a dynamic tool to provide access to the intellectual content of the Law School and houses digitization projects of value to the Law School, University, bench, bar, and public. New collections added this year include the Law News and Virginia Bar Exams. We continue to expand the availability of the Supreme Court (Powell) case files in a digital format and are in the process of making our Virginia Supreme Court records available to the general public in a digital format. The repository contains 12,341 unique documents downloaded 1,679,316 times on six continents and 218 countries around the world. Scholarly Commons continues to promote the work of our faculty, students, and library. Given the purchase of SSRN by Elsevier in May of 2016, the significance of Scholarly Commons as a platform to highlight and provide access to the work produced by the Law Faculty and Law School is greatly increased.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Total Items</th>
<th>Downloads as of 6/30/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Scholarship</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>129,347</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Supreme Court Records</td>
<td>4,691</td>
<td>10,451</td>
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<td>Supreme Court (Powell) Case Files</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>31,049</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington and Lee Law Review</td>
<td>3,494</td>
<td>1,330,375</td>
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<td>Washington and Lee Law Review Online</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>14,926</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>109,257</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal of Energy, Climate, and the Environment</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>12,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law News</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>5 (dark archive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Bar Exams</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
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The Law Journal Rankings

The Law Journal Rankings project (LJR), launched over a decade ago, is recognized nationally and internationally as a preeminent source for law journal citation data and rankings. The LJR is a citation data project updated annually in January/February. The database contains records of over 1,700 law journals. LJR is a resource for scholars to locate journals by subject, country of publication or ranking (when available), to display journal editorial information, and to facilitate an author’s article submission decision. The site currently ranks journals based on citation data from the 2008-2015 survey period. The legal academy is the primary user of this resource. Journal editors use this as a tool for self-evaluation and faculty throughout the academy rely on LJR in placing their work. In the 2015 calendar year, the LJR site received 710,324 page views from 161,191 unique users around the globe including the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, India, Germany, Israel, Hong Kong, and China.

Scholarship Support – By the Numbers
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Number of unique faculty projects completed  479
Total professional hours spent providing support to faculty scholarship and teaching  1,112
Total number of students assisted  427
Total number of service hours provided to students (including daily & weekend reference)  332
Total number of public patrons assisted  147
Presentations (exclusive of library programming)  34
Competitive intelligence (including committee support)  235
Total number professional hours spent on competitive intelligence and institutional support  713
Faculty special requests purchased  100%

Law Library Expenditures

- Programming/Exhibits: 6%
- Staffing: 3%
- Cataloging: 2%
- Operations: 8%
- Information: 81%
Resources

Full-time staff: 18
Student Assistants: 1
Part-time staff: 6
Items added this year: 6,684 items added; of these, 730 are new titles
Items circulated: 5,072 check-outs, 3,277 renewals
ILL: 442 requests filled

Space

Public space: 23,400 square feet
Seating: 473

Open hours each week: 168 hours
Staffed hours: 76 hours
Reference hours each week: 60 hours (45 hours abbreviated weeks)
In distinction:

Acknowledgments

David Kuhn: you saved my life. Thanks to Becky Sweren, Jessie Borkan, and all the good people at Kuhn Projects. Thanks again to best editor and dearest friend Gail Winston at HarperCollins and to all the good people there – Jonathan Burnham, Emily Cunningham. And to Sarah Blustain, the mother of it all. Stephen Wagley again did yeoman service on the citation front. I had research help from Jessica Anne Gresko and Robert Wyatt. No one writes about women and judging without a big boost from the incomparable Lynn Hecht Schafran, and the University of Chicago’s Geoffrey Stone provided stimulation as well as information. Thanks to all the clerks who chatted, overtly and covertly. I never had such a smart set of interview subjects. Walking pals Loretta McCarthy, Jill Faber, and Gloria Feldt listened patiently and helped every way they could. Phoenix pal Paul Eckstein knew everyone. Washington and Lee’s Ann and Kent Massie put me up and put up with me. Powell papers’ John Jacobs was incredibly helpful. I get by with a little help from my friends. My daughter, Sarah Shapiro, herself a lawyer, reminded me that a new generation of women had come to the Court, and gave me an ending.

From Sister in Law by Linda Hirshman

American Association of Law Libraries – Law Library Publication Award Print Division for “Celebrating Scholarship at W&L.”


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