

Merging Reference & Circulation Services: The Savior or Undoing of Reference in Academic Law Libraries

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This project researched the implications of merging the reference and circulation desks in academic law libraries. It investigated the impact these service models have had or might have on reference service quality and on the future role of reference librarians in academic law libraries. The final project report analyzes and summarizes the data gleaned from: 1) a review of professional library and law library literature; 2) an electronic survey emailed to the lawlib listserv; and, 3) interviews conducted during site visits with library staffs from two academic law libraries (Pence Law Library, Washington College of Law and Cleveland-Marshall Law Library) and two specialized academic libraries (Cornell Engineering Library and Moon Library at the State University of New York, School of Environmental Science and Forestry). We will distribute a synopsis of our survey results through the lawlib listserv, with an invitation for readers to contact us for complete survey data. We hope to publish the selective annotated bibliography of relevant sources in *Law Library Journal* or another law library publication and submit an AALL Annual Meeting program proposal for a roundtable discussion of the issues raised in our study.