The Unique Role of Academic Law Libraries in Legal Education:
A Selected Annotated Bibliography

Compiled by

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This bibliography compiles select materials that discuss the unique role of academic law libraries in legal education. Ruth Levor’s statement for the ALL-SIS Marketing Toolkit serves as the foundation of this annotated bibliography. On account of the broad topic and the large number of academic law library-related materials available, the bibliography is highly selective. The citations are comprised of both scholarly works as well as more practically-oriented publications intended for the academic law library audience. The sources include a wide scope of subtopics including law library administration, technology, and legal education. Also included are a small number of audio cassettes from pertinent association programs as well as a list of materials available on the Internet. The websites contain practical justification tools, standards, and recent association publications related to academic law libraries. However, due to the frequent revision of content and organization of website materials, the citations for Internet resources are listed without annotations.

The compilers conducted online searches in September and October 2003 and used the following databases to locate materials for this bibliography:

Information Science Abstracts (produced by ISI/Plenem Data Company; searched via Westlaw)

The Internet (searched via Google; Librarians’s Index to the Internet; Yahoo)

Journals and Law Reviews (Westlaw database)

Legal Resource Index (produced by Information Access Co.; searched via Westlaw)

Library & Information Science Abstracts (produced by Bowker-Saur; searched via SilverPlatter)

WorldCat (produced by OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.; searched via OCLC FirstSearch)

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The bibliographers emphasized current works with the majority of items published after January 1, 1995. A small number of classic books and articles published prior to this date have been included to give an historical overview of the topic. Due to the many discrete subjects and the highly selective nature of the bibliography, the organizational scheme is divided by material type: books, articles, audiotapes, and Internet resources.

The citations in this bibliography use a hybrid citation form combining *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* and the *Chicago Manual of Style*.

**Books**


*The History of Law School Libraries in the United States* is one of the few book-length projects chronicling the history of law libraries. As such, it is a must-read for those interested in the evolution of collection development and staffing. Ahlers reprints relevant Association of American Law Schools (AALS) and American Bar Association (ABA) documents within the text and in an appendix.


This publication contains anonymous sample tenure documents for law librarians from private and public law schools. The compilers also included pertinent policy documents and reports from the American Association of University Professors.


This title is a compilation of reprinted articles previously published in the journal *Legal Reference Services Quarterly* as volume 21, numbers 2/3 and 4 in 2002. The contents of this title specifically address the unique aspects of collection development in a law library. These aspects include electronic availability of print publications, digital publishing, electronic journals, the legal publishing industry, and vendor relations.


Danner has assembled an important collection of articles that consider the law library profession in light of technology and public policy changes. In addition to Danner, contributors to this
volume include: Margaret Maes Axtmann, William R. Mills, Roy M. Mersky, and Peter C. Schanck. Authors discuss all aspects of academic library administration and operation from staffing and training to library facilities and funding opportunities.


This contribution to the AALL publication series provides a wide breadth of information about the history of law librarianship. The publication includes chapters on the histories of specific law libraries, individuals, AALL and various chapters, and the profession of law librarianship in general.


In an update to Byrnes and Bintliff’s *A Representative Sample of Tenure Documents for Law Librarians*, Harhai and Bintliff have collected tenure, continuing appointment, and other professional status documents from thirty-seven academic law libraries. Although the schools remain anonymous, volume count is included and a distinction is made between public and private institutions. This book gives an overall idea of librarian status and criteria for promotion. Any institution revising their promotion document should examine this collection.


A part of the AALL publication series, this title discusses the unique aspects of law librarianship in relation to the changing technology and times. The title’s chapters include such topics as law library administration, collection development, and cataloging. The title looks at these topics from the perspectives of private, academic, and public law libraries.


This doctoral dissertation analyzed the growth rates of the seventy-five ABA approved law libraries that existed in 1932. The empirical analysis studied such factors as administrative structure, funding, new buildings, and influence of law deans, law librarians, or directors of university libraries. The author concluded that the main factor in promoting the growth of a law library is the influence of an important individual such as a law dean, law librarian or director of a university library.


This classic book includes organization charts, job descriptions, and advertisements from
academic law libraries in the late-1980s. Although this work includes materials collected before the advent of most computing positions, Saltalamacia and Tracy’s book is like a time capsule and would be useful for the scholar researching changes in law librarian position descriptions and library organization over the last fifteen years.


This title is a compilation of reprinted articles from the journal *The Acquisitions Librarian*, number 26 in 2001. The chapters included in this title discuss the publishing industry from a legal perspective. The articles touch on such topics as copyright, constitutional issues, tax, tort liability and antitrust. Several of the chapters are either written by law librarians or discuss the legal publishing industry.


Svengalis has put together an important tool for law library acquisitions and collection development. In addition to listing the seminal in print resources across a variety of major legal subjects, Svengalis offers cost saving tips for purchasing library materials and contact information for most legal publishers.

**Articles**


Anderson sets forth the special challenges inherent in the legal reference interview. Chief among these is a reference librarian’s desire to avoid the unauthorized practice of law. An analysis of current communication theories and library science literature is provided and the article serves as a review of the literature and its relationship to the legal reference interview.


This article provides a fundamental outline of the opportunity and means for legal research instruction during transactions at the reference desk. The guidelines contained in the article give insightful analysis regarding how to approach legal research instruction when dealing with various library patrons including law students, the public, and attorneys.

Axtmann, Margaret M. *From the President: AALL and the Pricing of Legal Publications*. 4 AALL Spectrum 4 (June 2000).
In this AALL President’s column, Axtmann discusses AALL’s efforts concerning the legal publishing industry. This article details the efforts of the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors and the AALL Special Committee on the Pricing of Legal Publications. Axtmann includes information about the Federal Trade Commission’s decision to rescind the *Guides for the Law Book Industry*. In 2003, AALL published the *AALL Guide to Fair Business Practices for Legal Publishers*.


Balleste and Russell discuss the implementation of a virtual reference program at an academic law library. The article does not discuss the use of the program by librarians, but, rather, it discusses the decision-making process by the library director in selecting and administering such a program.


By way of a hypothetical example, Boeringer details the many issues an academic law library must consider before dropping out of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Boeringer shares the staffing, acquisitions, and interlibrary loan challenges for a library dropping their depository status. This short article lists most of the topics a library must consider when evaluating their membership in the FDLP.


This short article provides direction in ways that library directors can improve their own salary as well at that of their employees.


Callister begins with an historical overview of legal research instruction and then turns to a discussion of the various methods now in use. While the author proposes a new pedagogical model, he also encourages librarians to tailor their pedagogy to their own law school environment.

Canick, Simon. *Availability of Works Cited in Recent Law Review Articles on LexisNexis, WESTLAW, the Internet and Other Databases*. 6 AALL Spectrum 12 (October 2001).

This article outlines the limitations of online database content. Canick examines seven recently published law review articles and checks the online availability of works cited therein. Not
surprisingly, the author finds that the majority of post-1990 legal periodicals cited are available on Lexis and/or WESTLAW. For pre-1990 articles, Lexis and WESTLAW contain only a relatively small amount–24 or 25%. The other 75% of items are not located in another database or on the Internet. Canick also looks at non-legal articles, books, reports and working papers, and a variety of primary legal materials.


After studying collection use in academic law libraries, Chiorazzi concludes that 80% of an academic law library’s collection accounts for 20% of all legal materials that are available online. The article then analyzes how this conclusion affects library budgets and expansion or building of new library facilities.


Clark and Alsbury analyze payments made by the University of Florida Legal Information Center during three fiscal years from 1996-97 through 1998-99 for materials that are purchased by virtually all law libraries: reporters, citators, statutes, and periodicals. The authors conclude that there is no consistency in the price increases for any of these legal publications.


In order to assist library administrators in marketing the skills of the library in light of ever-increasing technology, this article discusses how to best market those skills. These means of marketing the skills of librarians include planning and negotiating, making the collection accessible, marketing the collection, and providing instruction.


The measurements for law libraries in the ABA standards for accreditation need to be reevaluated. Three factors make this reevaluation necessary: technological advances, budgetary exigencies, and legal pressures. Daly contends that the reevaluated standards should focus on the library’s success in implementing its mission as opposed to measures of size and statistics.


Danner examines the literature of the professions for insight into the workplace relationships among librarians and other information professionals. He focuses on our ever-increasing reliance on technology and how it will impact the future of the information profession. In
addition, he discusses the merging of responsibilities and practices for librarians and other information-related professions.


Danner outlines current opportunities in distance education for law schools and how this ultimately will impact law school libraries. This article discusses Duke Law School’s use of education technology and the ABA regulations concerning distance learning. Danner provides a broad picture of the current state of distance learning in legal education.


In this article, Jean Davis, Victoria Szymczak, Katherine Topulos, and Stefanie Weigmann discuss teaching foreign and international research in an academic law library. The authors outline teaching techniques, course formats, and resources available in beginning such instruction. The article is intended to assist academic law libraries in establishing foreign and international training sessions and courses.


Dethman provides a description of the legal publishing industry in the United States as it currently stands. Beginning with a history of legal documents and moving through the publisher consolidations of the 1990s, Dethman recounts the background of the three major legal publishers and discusses antitrust issues related to their mergers.


The author looks at the tenure and promotion of law librarians through an anthropological lens. His analysis reveals three factors in the granting of tenure and promotion to law librarians: (1) what is the library’s role in education? (2) is the library’s role in education a function of the nature of books or the actual duties of a librarian? and (3) do librarians need academic freedom to fulfill their roles? The author also provides a case study to demonstrate the use of the first factor identified above.


Ebbinghouse shares a first-hand perspective of the law library’s role in the ABA and the Western Association of Schools & Colleges accreditation processes. The article includes a literature review on library standards in general and for law school libraries more specifically. The author
describes each step of the accreditation process from the self-study though the site visit and the library's overall role in the process. This article is a useful starting point for those beginning their research about the accreditation process.


Edwards discusses the challenges presented to a library director in planning and constructing a new library building. He outlines some key considerations to give insight to administrators, architects, and contractors and to prevent them from becoming a victim of common pitfalls.


In tough economic times, autonomous academic law libraries may consider developing a collaborative collection development model with their central university library. Fisher and Alexander detail the process by which the Westminster Law Library at the University of Denver developed such a collection development plan. The authors share how to implement a similar program.


Furnish discusses the results of a 2000 regional survey on electronic instruction in academic law libraries. Respondents include law school libraries in Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio. This article provides a useful model for future surveys and a description of present practices in electronic instruction.


This annotated bibliography focuses on the impact of computer technology on law schools and legal education. The author limits entries to English language articles published between 1970-2001, and gives a comprehensive bibliography of the topic. Goldman includes the following categories: curriculum, distance education, pedagogical effectiveness, and the future of technology in legal education.


In this article, Hazelton reprints her report given at the AALL Space Planning and Technology for Academic Law Libraries workshop held at Duke University School of Law in March 1999.
In her report, she concludes that only 13% of the Gallagher Law Library’s collection is duplicated electronically.


Healey examines the current state of the law library job market. Research indicates that there are fewer qualified candidates for a greater number of positions. To remedy this situation, the author suggests ways to increase recruitment to the profession.


In 2000, Anne Hemmens conducted a survey of advanced legal research courses in ABA accredited law schools. This article describes these survey results regarding the state of advanced legal research instruction and specifically how they relate to the Kauffman report which predicted that most law schools would begin offering such instruction. Hemmens concludes that, while advanced legal research is regularly offered at most law schools, the instructors face numerous problems such as labor-intensiveness and devaluation by students and other faculty.


Hibbits discusses the history of the transition from print to electronic publication of law journals. He then analyses the future of academics independently publishing law journals and sharing scholarly information through knowledge networks. Hibbits argues that knowledge networks are the likely future of scholarly electronic publishing.


In this article, Howland gives an analysis of several historic articles about discriminatory hiring practices within librarianship. Although illegal hiring practices are less prevalent in the present day, law librarians are urged to make themselves aware of the lack of diversity within the profession and work to increase minority recruitment.


Johnston explains that it is in the best interests of an employee to manage his or her boss and then offers a set of principles that can help one do so effectively.

Among the many recent technological enhancements to U.S. law schools has been the addition of a wireless local area network. Kaufman shares her firsthand experience at Nova Southeastern University and their decision to go wireless. The article closes with a useful set of considerations for librarians deciding to add a wireless network.


The authors conducted a survey to determine how law libraries manage library tours in the information age. In analyzing the results of this survey, they conclude library tours are an even more critical component to library relations now than in the past. The opportunities that library tours offer include marketing the library and its services, reinforcing library services with handouts and informing patrons of training opportunities.


The authors present results from a 1992 survey of AALL minority law librarians. With the ultimate goal of helping the association increase diversity within law librarianship, the survey addressed the following three topics: the overall racial distribution of minority law librarians in comparison to the general library profession and library student graduation rates; the type of library settings in which minority law librarians work; and the current level of participation by minority law librarians in professional organizations. The authors provide an analysis of the data within the text and reprint the survey data in an appendix.


This article, written by the director of the North East Law Library Consortium, discusses the benefits of a national consortium for law libraries. In addition, Klaiber proposes a structure for such an organization and addresses some of the concerns that a library director might have about a national consortium.


In this short article, McKenzie discusses the job responsibilities of a law library director. She reflects on the administrative matters handled by a library director as well as the more holistic matters, such as integrating the library mission statement into the library policies and procedures.


After nearly twenty years as a selective federal depository library, the Suffolk University Law
Library left the FDLP in 1998. *Leaving Paradise* describes the library’s rationale for dropping out of the depository program as well as the steps involved in deaccessioning and redistributing the collection. A short bibliography is included in an appendix.


Molina outlines fundamental principles to use in establishing the organizational structure of a law library and technology department. He stresses the importance of maintaining communication and encouraging teamwork.


Nicholson offers a comprehensive list of tips for space planning in technical services departments. She encourages administrators to consult with staff members about work processes prior to reconfiguring space. The article includes a brief bibliography on the topic.


This article identifies the process for withdrawing from the FDLP. In addition, it analyzes the costs and benefits of withdrawal and discusses possible alternatives to withdrawal.


Percy discusses the pros and cons of user fees in academic libraries. The article includes results from a survey of fifty-eight public and private academic law libraries concerning five types of library services: computer printing, document delivery, reference services, borrower privileges, and library access. Percy lists the major issues a library must address when implementing new fees.


Placzek outlines the job responsibilities of a reference librarian in an academic law library and offers advice on how to manage both time and stress in such a position.


In a discussion of spatial needs, Puckett examines the average number of books added at ABA approved law schools and collection growth before and after the introduction of Computer
Assisted Legal Research. Although evidence shows that the overall rate of volume growth is slowing, Puckett argues that a bookless library is still very far off. Many users continue to prefer books as a medium of information storage. The author reminds readers to convince decision makers of the distinction between a work collection and a research collection whose total contents may never be replaced by technology.


This brief article provides a basic discussion of licenses and what it means to negotiate them. Reddy also identifies additional publications of use to a librarian interested in this topic.


Richman and Windsor examine the benefits of staffing law library faculty service departments with law student workers. The authors include findings from their 1996 survey of 184 academic law libraries on library personnel and the employment of law students in a research role. The faculty services department at the O’Quinn Law Library at the University of Houston is used as a case study to show the advantages of such a program.


Rumsey discusses the various technologies and means with which to assist disabled library patrons. She also provides a cursory review of steps a library should take to ensure Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.


Many law libraries collect reference statistics on a daily basis. Rumsey illustrates how best to collect reference statistics by giving examples of how statistics can be mishandled. This article includes a short list of “don’ts” applicable to all library statistics, not just reference statistics.


In Russell’s response to *How Much of Your Print Collection is Really on Westlaw or LexisNexis*, he posits that academic librarians cannot use statistics stating little of a print collection is available electronically as a justification for building larger and more expansive library spaces. Russell argues that library design should embrace and incorporate technology not merely house print publications. He then discusses means of incorporating technology into a library design.

Many law librarians complain about recent price increases by legal information vendors. Ryan isolates an unmentioned type of price increase, page reductions in serial volumes, implemented by West Publishing. Between the end of 1997 and 2000, West reduced the number of pages in their reporter volumes by in some cases as many as 200 pages per volume. Many U.S. law libraries may not be aware of this article as it appeared in a British publication.


Schanck argues that the law library profession should take greater care in its dealings with vendors. He proposes that accepting gratuities or serving as paid consultants for vendors violates the AALL Code of Conduct. In addition, Schanck argues against vendor support of AALL events sponsored by vendors.


Slinger discusses how to use changing research patterns and technologies as an opportunity to integrate the academic law library and its services into the law school infrastructure. The article uses the Notre Dame Law School Library as an example of such a successful integration.


Smith, Dean of the Suffolk University Law School, offers practical tips for law library directors on how to contribute to the priorities of their dean. This article is a must-read for newly appointed academic law library directors.


The author details the benefits of annual job evaluations for law library directors. After discussing the wide variety of evaluation instruments and the advantages of each, Studwell considers the most effective evaluation methods for a law library director.


This article provides an introduction to the literature on faculty culture. Thompson brings together works from the fields of higher education and sociology to give readers grounding in faculty culture as a means to improve legal research instruction to faculty.

Tice examined job data samples for the years 1989 to 1999. The findings indicate that the job market remained stable for law librarians through the time period and that the overall quality of law librarian job applicants is not suffering a steep decline. Tice’s research on law library job data is unique and few other articles on the topic exist.


This article provides a concise annotated bibliography of literature published from 1990 to October 1998 dealing with distance education in law. The bibliography provides citations for such distance education issues as accreditation, copyright, law schools, and library services.


Triffin and McKenzie cover the basic implications of the ADA in the law library setting. They treat all facets of the topic from defining disability to specific accommodations. This article provides readers with pertinent, practical information about a library’s access obligations under the ADA.


Turpening provides a review of the fundamentals required to establish a preservation program in a law library. Focusing on practicality and efficiency, the article discusses the institutional hurdles to implement a preservation program and the educational requirements to preserve books appropriately.


Turpening visited and surveyed thirty academic, private, and government law libraries in four states about their preservation activities. The author has spoken at numerous AALL annual meetings on the topic of preservation and her article is followed by an appendix detailing current preservation efforts at the libraries surveyed. Turpening gives a check list of preservation issues that must be considered in the building and renovation process as well as recommendations for AALL to increase preservation awareness among the association membership.

This article describes the challenges faced by the technical services department of the Pritzker Legal Research Center of Northwestern University School of Law over a three year period. These challenges included staffing, name changes for the department and the law school, and a new library management system. In describing these challenges, Vondruska provides unique insight into the technical services department of an academic law library.

**Audiotapes**


This 30 minute program at the 2003 AALL Annual Meeting discusses the progress of the ALL-SIS task force on creating a resource for academic law libraries to use in developing procedures and policies in serving law reviews and journals.


This program presented at the 2000 AALS Annual Meeting discusses how to handle organizational change and redesign in the academic law library. Maureen Sullivan, Joan Howland, and Sharon Hamby O’Connor address how to deal with change within the library organization from the perspective of administrators, employees and library patrons. Boston College Law Library is used as an example of successful changes implemented in the library.


Janis Johnston and Anne Matthewman discuss how to secure funding for a law library and how to manage funding once it is obtained. In this hour long program from the 2002 AALL Annual Meeting, Janis Johnston informs the audience on how to lobby and market for funding and how to make budget requests. Anne Matthewman provides information on how to manage money and deal with a budget.


Within this AALL session, librarians demonstrate innovative strategies and teaching pedagogy in the context of an advanced legal research class. This program also gives a list of tips for
designing effective legal research exercises.


This program gives an overview of the ABA reaccreditation process and the law library’s role. Librarians recently completing reaccreditation share their experiences and offer helpful hints.


Academic law libraries face new challenges resulting from the increasing number of electronic materials. This 2002 AALS presentation explores issues surrounding access, consortial purchasing, copyright, licensing, ownership, and usage statistics.

**Internet Resources**

http://www.loyno.edu/~bhuddle/cst/top.html (last date accessed 01/13/04)

http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub_salary_survey.asp
(available only to members; requires login) (last date accessed 01/13/04)

http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub_fair_practices.asp (last date accessed 01/13/04)

http://www.aallnet.org/members/price_index.asp (last date accessed 01/13/04)

American Association of Law Libraries (Drafted by the Committee on Public Relations). *Statement on the Value Added to Organizations by Law Librarians.*
http://www.aallnet.org/committee/pr/resources/valuestmt.htm (last date accessed 01/13/04)

American Bar Association: Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. *Standards for Approval of Law Schools and Interpretations: Library and Information Resources.*
http://www.abanet.org/legaled/standards/chapter6.html (last date accessed 01/13/04)


http://www.arl.org/stats/lawmed/lawindex.html (last date accessed 01/13/04)

McCabe, Mark J. *Law Serials Pricing and Mergers: A Portfolio Approach.*
http://www.prism.gatech.edu/~mm284/bepress.pdf (last date accessed 01/13/04)

Rush, Mila. *What Do ABA, ARL, and NCES Want to Know; a Crosswalk.*
http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/statxw.html (last date accessed 01/13/04)

http://www.rilawpress.com/orall_presentation.ppt (last date accessed 01/13/04)