I have often been asked if the library still gets foot traffic. The answer is “yes.” The library is frequently busy, and usage of the library continues to be evidenced by well-worn carpets and circulation statistics which are on the upward trend. Last winter, our library was featured in Flavorwire as one of the world’s 25 most beautiful college libraries and the Gould Reading Room was beautifully depicted. To further enhance users’ experience in our wonderful space, a designated eating area was added in the spring and planning began to create a comfortable seating area in one of the reading room alcoves. We expanded our virtual presence on social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The latter features videos of faculty book talks and will also host oral histories of the law school in the near future.

On the personnel front, our long-serving Associate Law Librarian, Pat Court, and Head of Research Services, Jean Callihan, retired at the end of the spring semester. We also welcomed new librarians into positions created to respond to rapid changes in library operations prompted by the digital era. The newly created position of Continuations Management Librarian was filled by Jackie Magagnosc in November 2011; a Digital Resources Librarian, Nina Scholtz, was hired in the spring of 2012; and Dan Blackaby joined the professional staff as Technology Services Librarian in early summer.

In the coming year, we intend to revisit our strategic directions and launch a new initiative in e-book lending. It promises to be another exciting and vibrant year, and I extend a warm invitation to visit the library in person or virtually through our website or by following us on social media.

Femi Cadmus  
Edward Cornell Law Librarian & Associate Dean for Library Services
Collections

Collection development trends that began with the financial crisis in 2008 continued in the 2011/2012 fiscal year. Namely, the collections budget was held flat as the price for legal materials and the cost of shipping continued to rise. In response, the Law Library’s collection development policy continued its transition away from a “just in case” model towards a collections policy that is more tailored to the immediate research needs and interests of the faculty and students. This transition has included an emphasis on purchasing more electronic resources for the collection, which is a trend that will continue as the Law Library is slated to lose approximately 40-45 percent of its stack space in the renovation and expansion of Myron Taylor Hall.

From a collections perspective, this past year has also been focused on getting the collection ready for the eventual loss of space. Thus, a good portion of the year was spent on cancelling print materials. Areas of the collection that were most affected include looseleaf services, student-edited law reviews, and most of the National Reporter Services, student-edited law reviews, and expertise about foreign and international law resources, and allows everyone access to the print collections of the entire group. The Law Library has also participated in a broader cooperative endeavor initiated by Harvard Law Library three years ago. This group includes most of the major academic law libraries in the United States and, similar to NEFLLCG, aims to build collaborative relationships across academic law libraries.

In light of the fact that the Dawson Rare Book Room will be closed due to the Myron Taylor Hall construction, the Law Library held a series of open houses in February, March, and April to give students and faculty an opportunity to see highlights from the rare book collection in the grandeur of the rare book room itself. The open houses proved popular and visitors enjoyed seeing documents from the Nuremberg Collection, the copy of the Napoleonic Code presented to Napoleon’s sister, and the Statutes of the Province of Pennsylvania printed and sold by Benjamin Franklin, among other treasures.

In addition to the open houses and classes taught for faculty using materials from the rare book and special collections, a number of projects involving these materials have been helping law reform commissions in Liberia with research conducted in its Liberian law collection, and a new special collection focusing on the American jury system and its influence around the world was begun.

New Popular Reading Collections

During the spring 2012 semester, the Law Library introduced a popular reading collection, which has both nonlegal popular fiction and nonfiction books. Books are chosen from best-seller lists and include such titles as The Litigators by John Grisham, Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson, and Too Big to Fail by Andrew Ross Sorkin. The collection expanded in fall 2012 to include e-books and audiobooks via OverDrive, a digital distributor of downloadable digital resources. Law school students, faculty, and staff are able to download e-books and e-audiobooks via a link on the Law Library’s website.

Electronic resources: the Law Library can subscribe to a resource and pay an annual subscription fee or purchase perpetual rights to an e-resource and pay a much smaller annual maintenance fee. We tend to opt for the second option, even though the up-front costs are greater. Electronic databases the Law Library purchased in the 2011/2012 fiscal year include:

- The International Law module of the Making of Modern Law series
- The American Indian Law Collection (Hein OnLine)
- Congress and the Courts (Hein OnLine)
- Foreign and International Law Resources (Hein OnLine)
- Foreign Relations of the United States (Hein OnLine)
- The History of International Law Collection (Hein OnLine).

Moving towards a narrower, more tailored collection policy has made collaboration with other academic law libraries more important. Thus, the Law Library has continued to maintain and build cooperative relationships with other major law libraries. We are a long-standing member of the Northeast Foreign Law Librarians Cooperative Group (NEFLLCG), along with Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Fordham, NYU, University of Pennsylvania, and Georgetown. This group shares information and expertise about foreign and international law resources, and allows everyone access to the print collections of the entire group. The Law Library also participated in a broader cooperative endeavor initiated by Harvard Law Library three years ago. This group includes most of the major academic law libraries in the United States and, similar to NEFLLCG, aims to build collaborative relationships across academic law libraries.

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The staff in Information Management continued their intense focus on cancellations during fiscal year 2011/2012, nearly doubling the number of titles that were cancelled last year (see Figure A). American law reviews constituted a significant portion of the titles cancelled, and various titles of the National Reporter system were also cancelled this fiscal year. Loose-leafs, treatises with supplementation, and other non-serial continuations were also among the titles cancelled.

Cancellations were driven not only by a need to conserve and reallocate funds, but also in response to a planned renovation of Myron Taylor Hall that will result in a 40-45 percent reduction in the Library's stack capacity. The impact of cancellations is evident in the decreasing number of print volumes added to the library's collection during the past fiscal year, representing a decline of nearly 50% over the past five years (see Figure B).

The projected reduction in stack space means that the Law Library, for the first time, is sending material to Cornell University Library's off-site storage facility. Between January and mid-May 2012, the Law Library transferred 14,095 physical volumes to the Annex. Unneeded duplicate copies are being withdrawn (see Figure C) and recycled or targeted for sale as part of this project, which we expect to last for several years. Also related to the building renovation is a project to relocate all materials from the Rare Book Room, which is scheduled for demolition in November 2012. Most materials will be moved to the Annex until a new rare book room is built. In a collaborative effort between Information Management and Access Services, staff began to inventory and barcode the rare collection in June.

Transitions
In November 2011, Jackie Magagnosc was promoted to the newly created position of Continuations Management Librarian. Jackie was originally hired into a staff position, and her promotion created a need for an additional staff member. This position was filled by Cynthia Lange, who was hired in February 2012 to work half time in Access Services and half time in Information Management. A temporary, part-time employee, Nicole Mormilo, was hired in June to assist with the transfer of materials to the Annex.

Digital repository
In August 2011, a six-month-long process culminated in the launch of the online version of Zambia Social Science Journal, hosted on the Law Library's digital scholarship repository, The repository, Scholarship @ Cornell Law (http://scholarship.law.cornell.edu/), started in 2003 to provide open, global access to the scholarship of Cornell Law School faculty, students, and visiting scholars. It currently hosts nearly 1,000 papers. In January 2012, a staff member was assigned to work part-time on the retrospective population of our digital repository. She was assisted in this work by two law students, who uploaded articles and supplied both descriptive and subject metadata to enhance discoverability. Between January and July 2012, 267 faculty articles were added to the repository. During the fiscal year, the total number of full-text downloads increased by 54%, to 477,838.
The Reference and Research Services Department had another successful year and looks forward to continuing to serve our users in new and innovative ways. Providing excellent research services continues to be a multi-faceted endeavor. We continue to staff the reference desk from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week, and we added weekend desk hours on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. in response to student requests. In addition, we started to offer chat reference so that researchers can get quick and convenient assistance online during the hours that the desk is staffed. The department also uses social media to reach out to our users. Through our blog, InfoBrief (http://infobrief.blogspot.com/), we provide users with research advice and information about new databases and other resources. Our blog is linked to our Facebook and Twitter pages, offering real-time current awareness of research information.

Reference librarians are also heavily involved in orientations and classroom teaching. In August, the reference librarians participated in the L.L.M. orientation program, instructing 75 incoming international students on the basics of researching U.S. law over three two-hour sessions. Reference librarians also provided instruction in new law journal associates and assisted students with research for their journal notes throughout the fall semester.

Moot court competitions are an area that research librarians have expanded their reach, helping teams with research resources and practices moots as they prepare for competition.

During the 2011/2012 academic year, reference librarians taught five for-credit research courses and numerous research sessions in doctrinal courses. The for-credit courses taught by librarians included Administrative Law Research, Business Law Research, Foreign and International Research, Online Legal Research and Resources, and Online Legal Research: Subscription Sources. These courses continue to be popular with students and, according to evaluations, are very practical and useful in preparing students for their academic work and legal careers.

Faculty research support is another important focus of the Reference and Research Services Department. Each reference librarian works with 10 to 12 members of the law faculty to provide them with research and course assistance. This includes training student research assistants, conducting research for individual faculty members, and research instruction in doctrinal courses and seminars. These activities expanded collaboration between the Law Library and faculty and increased the number of requests from students for further research assistance. After receiving research instruction in a course, students often seek out reference librarians for one-on-one discussions of effective research strategies for papers and other course projects. This year, reference librarians also provided research consultations on a broad range of topics ranging from tax to animal law to jury nullification.

Recently, the Law School has been welcoming a growing number of visiting scholars, who spend anywhere from a month to a full year in residence. The Reference Department supports this constituency, as well.

Specifically, visiting scholars need assistance with Westlaw, Lexis, and other online research databases. Because most of the scholars are from abroad, they typically request both a basic overview of American legal resources in the Law Library’s collection and training on using the U.S. versions of the major legal databases.

Student Research Prize

The 2011/2012 academic year was the second year for The Cornell Law Library Prize for Exemplary Student Research. The winners from the 27 submissions received were:

- First place to Steven Madrid (2L) for “Annexation of the Jury’s Role in Res Judicata Disputes: The Silent Migration from Question of Fact to Question of Law”
- Second place to Louis Guard (3L) for “Targeted Killing and Just War: Reconciling Kill-Capture Missions and the Combatant Civilian Framework”

Funding for the prizes is provided by an endowment given to the Law Library by Barbara Cantwell in honor of her late husband, Robert Cantwell, a 1956 graduate of Cornell Law School.
The Access Services Department experienced a year of significant growth in the 2011/2012 academic year. We expanded our services, hired new staff, and began planning to redesign portions of the library to better accommodate the needs of our users. The fall started with a library open house to introduce our services and staff to the entering first-year class and others in the Law School community. The entire Law Library staff took part in various talks and demonstrations in the Reading Room, which attracted over 150 students, faculty, and staff.

Traffic at the circulation desk has seen a steady increase over the past three years (see Figure A) as students continue to borrow books, pick up interlibrary loan materials, and check out material on course reserve. Interlibrary loan activity through traditional interlibrary loan, Borrow Direct (with other Ivy League Schools), and Rapid (for articles sent electronically) has also held steady over the past three years. (See Figure B)

Over the past year, the type of material available for check out at the circulation desk has also expanded. Students, faculty, and staff can now check out a variety of electronic devices, including iPads, Kindle Fires, flashdrives, Mac-Book chargers, and digital recorders. For fun, the Law Library also offers a variety of board games and sports equipment for loan.

The Reading Room remains the center of activity in the Law School and continues to provide the aesthetic and functional environment for which it is well known. Patrons passing through the Reading Room are informed of library news and events on an LCD screen located near the circulation desk. In the spring, a state-of-the-art scanner with a book cradle and touchscreen was added to one of the research alcoves. The scanner allows users to produce high-quality scans and save them to a flash drive or email them to their accounts.

Planning also began in the spring to improve space in the Reading Room in response to a student survey and focus groups conducted by the law library. An alcove in the Reading Room will be furnished with comfortable seating to provide a place for library users to relax and read or visit quietly with a colleague. Just outside the Reading Room, a designated eating area now offers library users a convenient place to enjoy a snack without endangering books. Also in response to feedback provided by student focus groups, every library carrel is now equipped with modern, wheeled chairs and, starting in the fall 2012 semester, use of the carrels will be restricted to law students only.

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In July 2011, the Law Library, along with the Cornell University Library’s preservation and digitization departments, started work on conserving and digitizing the Law Library’s Trial Pamphlet Collection. The Library received a $155,700 grant from the federally funded program Save America’s Treasures, which is part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The collection, purchased in 1927, consists of more than 450 pamphlets ranging in date from the late 1600s to the late 1800s, with the majority dating from the late 1700s to the late 1800s. The pamphlets vary in length from as little as 20 pages to more than 200 pages.

Trial pamphlets are contemporary accounts of trials that involved prominent citizens or that dealt with especially controversial or lurid topics. These pamphlets were produced quickly and inexpensively, and then sold on the street soon after the trial to a mass audience. The pamphlets were printed on low-quality paper and they were not bound, because they were not meant to survive long past their initial use.

The content of the individual pamphlets varies widely. They were sold to an eager public as both a form of entertainment and as cautionary tales. Some include the details and illustrations of scandalous crimes and others include “execution sermons,” which were meant to serve as moral examples to the readers. Most of the pamphlets also have valuable information that is not available anywhere else, such as verbatim transcripts of testimony and arguments of counsel, depositions of parties, and illustrations or copies of evidence used in the trial.

As a collection, these trial pamphlets are a unique resource that captures a formative period in American history from the early years of the republic through the turmoil of the Civil War to the emergence of the United States as a leading industrial nation in the late 1800s. The pamphlets mirror the political, social, and economic transformation of the country during this period. While each individual trial pamphlet is a valuable snapshot of a period in American legal and social history, by tracking the changes in their content over time, researchers can trace the evolution of the United States as it was reflected in the courts.

The collection contains a wealth of information about the daily lives of ordinary people of the period, with a special focus on the treatment of women and minorities. They also reflect society’s attitude towards issues such as capital punishment, the institution of marriage, and abortion, issues that American society still struggles with today. The collection also contains numerous accounts of trials involving important events and figures in American history. From the Civil War period, the collection includes pamphlets on the trial of John Brown for the raid on Harper’s Ferry, the trial of John Surratt for the murder of President Abraham Lincoln, and the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson. Examination of these pamphlets shows how information of keen interest to the general public was packaged and presented via these unofficial sources.

Because cases were not officially reported until the 1830s, the collection is one of the few ways to research trials from the 18th and early 19th centuries. In addition, the pamphlets document the transfer of legal traditions, and the biases within that system, from Great Britain to the United States. Thus the collection is of immense value to legal historians, and it serves as an important resource for sociologist, criminologists, and other scholars.

Programs
A Faculty Technology Workshop in February featured Professors Clermont, Eisenberg, and Barceló presenting the technologies they use for research and in the classroom. Professor Clermont demonstrated how he has successfully incorporated the use of clickers to track student responses during classroom discussions. iPads and special apps were central to Professor Eisenberg’s presentation, and Professor Barceló provided an overview of software (other than PowerPoint!) that he uses for class presentations. Barbara Friedman from Cornell Academic Technologies rounded out the workshop by presenting some of the useful academic technologies and services that her department provides in support of instruction.

The Law Library also hosted three workshops for library staff. In the fall, Agata Gluszek (B.A. ’05, PhD) of Parlez Consulting led a workshop on cross-cultural communication. In the spring, we had an information sharing visit with Julian Aiken, Access Services Librarian from the Lillian Goldman Law Library at Yale Law School. Mr. Aiken provided the library staff with an overview of the operations of his department at Yale. The visit also gave him an opportunity to learn about Cornell Law library’s operational model. Finally, at the Law Library’s annual retreat in June, Linda Bryan, Associate Director for Organizational Development for Cornell University Library, led a workshop and discussion on communication styles.
Professional activities

Dan Blackaby
“From Library Catalog to Discovery Search Tools.” Presentation, annual meeting of the Southwestern Association of Law Libraries, San Antonio, TX, March 2011.

Legal History Column Editor, LIBRARY NEWSLETTER OF THE LEGAL HISTORY & RARE BOOKS SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES.

Member, Innovations in Technology Awards Committee, American Association of Law Libraries.

Senior Member at Large of Board, American Association of Law Libraries Computing Services Special Interest Section.

Femi Cadmus


Jean Callahan
Chair, Public Relations Committee, American Association of Law Libraries Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section.

Member, CUL Academic Assembly Steering Committee.

Member, CUL Promotion Review Board for Associate Librarians.

Pat Court
Chair, Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section Breakfast and Business Meeting program, annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries, July 2011, Philadelphia.


Amy Emerson
“Using the Internet to Do Legal Research.” CLE seminar presentation, Tompkins County Bar Association, Ithaca, NY, October 2011.

Co-Chair, International Legal Research Interest Group, American Society of International Law.

Member, Shelfer Grant Fundraising Committee, American Association of Law Libraries Foreign, Comparative & International Law Special Interest Section.

Member, Instruction Committee of the CUL Public Services Executive Committee.

Member, CUL Academic Assembly Steering Committee.

Member, CUL Fuerst Award Selection Committee.


Jackie Magagnosc

Member, Serials Standing Committee, American Association of Law Libraries Technical Services Special Interest Section.

Thomas Mills


Co-Chair, Instruction Committee of the CUL Public Services Executive Committee.

Member, CUL Collection Development Executive Committee.

Member, CUL Information Literacy Taskforce.

Member, Northeast Foreign Law Libraries Cooperative Group.


Matt Morrison
Chair, CUL Economic Status of Librarians Committee.

Member, Awards Committee, American Association of Law Libraries Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section.


Jean Pajerek


Co-Chair, CUL RDA (Resource Description and Access) Training Committee.

Member, Cataloging and Classification Committee, American Association of Law Libraries Technical Services Special Interest Section.

Nina Scholtz
UC/SC Department of Information Studies


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