Law Library Blog (August 2015): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

Roger Williams University School of Law

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The RWU Law Library extends a warm welcome to our incoming 1Ls and returning 2Ls and 3Ls.

Our collection and services are here to complement and advance the scholarship, practice skills education, and intellectual life at RWU Law. We have a website, a blog, a Facebook page, a Twitter account, and a Pinterest page and hope our information connects with our students, faculty, and alumni.

There are the many ways in which the RWU Law Library can help you have a successful academic year. The knowledgeable, friendly, service-oriented staff are available to assist you in using our various services and resources that include:

- Legal and non-legal research assistance in-person, via Ask a Librarian, by email to LawLibraryHelp@rwu.edu, or by calling 401-254-4547;
- RWU LawGuides covering a wide-variety of topics;
- Guides on Study Aids for the 1L and upper-class curriculum;
- The interlibrary loan service to obtain an item from another library;
- Study rooms;
- Printing and copying;
- Wireless printing;
- The WebCatalog and Law Journal Finder to locate items in our collection and online;
- Access to digital resources on and off campus;
- Instruction on legal research and technology by our librarians in the classroom, in the library, and remotely. (Check the Law Library Computer Lab/Events Schedule for programming dates and times.)
• WestlawNext, Lexis Advance, and Bloomberg training offered by trainers Kimberly Kenneally, Steve Albro, and Eric Malinowski, respectively. (Check the Law Library Computer Lab/Events Schedule for programing dates and times)

The library is a great place to research and study. It is also a great place to relax and meet friends. If you have any questions, need any help, or just need a helping hand in the first few weeks, stop by and say hi.

Legal Beagle's Post

Success in Law School: The Collection

Posted by Library Blog on 08/20/2015 at 03:09 PM

If you have been in the library in the last two weeks you may have noticed the collection of books being featured atop the Reference shelves. You may have been too busy with the start of classes to pay much attention to these books, but this is your chance to rectify that!
The Success in Law School Collection was curated to help new and returning students transition from Summer to Fall. These books will help you discover resources in the library’s collection about all things related to law school success, from time management tips to study planning suggestions. While some of the resources focus on how to maintain a healthful work/life balance, others are more traditional canonical texts about the law school experience itself.

The books included in the collection contain information about note-taking, outlining, and exam-taking. The library’s LawGuide titled “TimeSaver: Introduction to the Study of Law” contains a list of the books on display in addition to online resources to promote law student success. In addition to the LawGuide, the library has a Pinterest page which features the collection.

Finally, the books featured in this collection are just one small step to a successful law school experience. RWU School of Law’s Academic Success Program hosts many events and workshops to encourage and support law student success. The objectives of the Academic Success Program include “helping law students discover their particular needs and learning styles, equipping them with the academic tools they need to meet the challenges of law school with self-assurance, and encouraging them to monitor their own progress as they adjust their study practices to achieve their personal goals.” For more information on RWU School of Law’s Academic Success Program, email Kathy Thompson, Director.

Legal Beagle's Post

Who invented the FAQ page?

Posted by Library Blog on 08/28/2015 at 11:11 AM
We are all familiar with website FAQ pages. According to the Oxford English Dictionary’s website, “The term was originally associated with the Usenet discussion system, and has been attributed to Eugene N. Miya, a researcher at NASA, who is said to have coined it around 1983 in documents relating to the history of the space programme.” However, this has not yet been proven to the satisfaction of the researchers at the OED.

The Law Library has two pages that fall in this category. The “How Do I…” page which can be found on the left side navigation on the library’s homepage. This page provides helpful information about how to do some basic library-related tasks such as printing, downloading an ebook, and using the scanner. While this page may not have the answer to every question about the library, it is a good place to start when looking for answers to common library questions.

One of the most helpful links on the How Do I… page is to the Off-Campus Access to Digital Resources webpage. Off-campus access to the majority of the Law Library’s digital resources is available to Roger Williams University School of Law faculty, students, and staff through the Law Library’s proxy service. To learn more about these resources and how to access them from off-campus, check out that page.

The library also has a Digital Resources A-Z: FAQs page which provides quick answers to the most common questions about the library’s vast list of digital resources.

As always, if you have a question about any of the library’s resources Ask a Librarian!