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Law Library Blog (August 2019): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

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Legal Beagle's Post

August 2, 2019

Jump Start Your Law School Studies



August 2, 2019

Jump at the chance to jump ship on this summer and jump start your law school studies! Don't jump the gun, jump down my throat, or jump through hoops! Don't even jump to conclusions. Just jump for joy, jump around, and jump up, jump up, and get down (to your studies)!

As we start the new school year, here are some resources to help you jump in to things. Our [study aids guide](#) collection is replete with helpful resources, both in print and online, for your use.

The library's guide on [Stress Management, Mindfulness, and Wellness](#) is a resource for self-care and for learning about wellness resources on campus.

Another way to get a jump on the semester is by following the library on social media! The library has a [website](#), a [blog](#), a [Facebook](#) page, a [Twitter](#) account, an [Instagram](#) account, and

a [Pinterest](#) page. We communicate our information in many ways to connect the library with our students, faculty, and alumni.

If you want to jump rope, the [RWU Recreation Center](#) is a great place to burn off some energy or join a group exercise class!

Jump on in the library and stop by the reference desk to speak with a librarian or email us at lawlibraryhelp@rwu.edu.

August 9, 2019

Emotional Intelligence (EI)



August 9, 2019

Daniel Goleman, a New York Times science reporter, is largely credited with developing the concept of emotional intelligence. In 1990, [he found the phrase in an academic journal article written by two psychologists](#) and subsequently wrote a book about the topic. As stated by Ronda Muir in her book, *Beyond Smart: Lawyering with Emotional Intelligence*, since 1990 emotional intelligence has been more broadly defined as having four critical components: emotional perception, emotional empathy, emotional understanding, and emotional regulations. Muir's book is about emotional intelligence in the practice of law, generally, but she makes a strong case for the advantages emotional intelligence brings to the practice of law. In fact, in one study, "...lawyers who score higher in emotional intelligence, as well as in other attributes that

indicate EI, are more successful practitioners than their colleagues with lower EI.” (See Muir, *Beyond Smart*, at 81-82.)

This month’s library book display is devoted to resources on emotional intelligence. See the display in the library and its companion guide online at <https://lawguides.rwu.edu/emotionalintelligence>.

For a short, free emotional intelligence assessment, see [McGraw Hill Education’s EI quiz](#) and see [IHHP’s EQ Quiz](#). Both of these assessments are mentioned and Muir’s book some free apps related to emotional intelligence like [Yale’s Mood Meter](#) and [Insight Timer](#).

Finally, if you don’t have time to read a whole book, here is an article called [5 TED Talks to Increase Your Emotional Intelligence](#).

August 16, 2019

Here’s To New Beginnings!



August 16, 2019

On behalf of the [RWU Law Library staff](#), welcome (back) to RWU Law. To our 1L students, we are eager to get to know and support you as you begin your law school journey with wide eyes and curious minds. MSL students, we are looking forward to supporting your legal studies as you enhance your existing careers. To our 2Ls and 3Ls, we are excited to have you back as you

begin your second and third years, a little wiser with legal knowledge and ready for new challenges.

As Rev. Timothy Healy, former president of the New York Public Library, famously said “the most important asset of any library goes home at night – the library staff.” The RWU Law Library has a phenomenal staff of 5 librarians and 3 support staff ready, willing, and able to help students navigate our print and digital collections, library services and technology, and more. It is my pleasure every day to work with these professionals, four of which have served RWU Law for over 25 years, and to see them connecting with you and supporting your legal education at RWU Law.

Mr. Healy also said about his library that “[this is a house where learning matters](#),” and that is also true of the RWU Law Library. To this end, the library offers an impressive array of services and resources to support your learning and research:

- Research assistance: in-person, via [Ask a Librarian](#), by [email](#), or by calling 401-254-4547; as well as [legal research and technology instruction](#) by our librarians, including Bloomberg Law, Lexis Advance, and Westlaw training;
- LawGuides to help you navigate your studies: annotated guides to [Study Aids](#) for the 1L and upper-class curriculum and other [RWU LawGuides](#) covering a wide-variety of topics;
- Services to aid and enhance law study: [Study rooms](#), [printing, copying](#), and [wireless access and printing](#);
- Access to research resources at RWU, online, and beyond: [Digital resources](#) on and [off campus](#); our [WebCatalog](#) to locate items in our collection and online; and the [interlibrary loan](#) service to obtain an item not held at the [RWU libraries](#).

We hope that you will also come to see the library as a place for community and where you can practice [stress management, mindfulness, and wellness](#), whether using our [coloring book collection](#), the Kent Student Lounge, or talking to the librarians. Come see us if you have any questions or just need a helping hand!

Raquel M. Ortiz, Assistant Dean for Library and Information Services

August 23, 2019

ResearchFest: Fill Your Research Toolbox!



August 23, 2019

Wednesday, August 28

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Law Library – Bristol Campus

Efficient, effective research is one of the most valuable skills you can develop for your professional career. Legal Practice courses introduce all law students to the leading legal research platforms, Lexis and Westlaw, but these are just two of many tools available. A professional selects the best tool to use for each project from the full assortment of tools available.

ResearchFest provides an opportunity for students and faculty to discover several alternative research platforms and resources to add to their toolbox of research resources. During the event, you can visit informally with representatives for these resources as they show you how to use their tools for legal research.

Resources represented include:

- [Bloomberg BNA](#), the third major legal research platform;
- [Fastcase](#), one of the largest online legal research libraries;
- [Lexis Digital Library](#), the service by LexisNexis and OverDrive® that offers access to the largest collection of authoritative legal eBook content on all major mobile devices and desktop platforms;
- [ProQuest](#), a key source for locating Congressional materials;
- [Social Law Library](#), one of the largest and most respected membership based, legal-research institutions in the country;
- [Proview](#) by Thomson Reuters, the eBooks collection from Thomson Reuters (the folks who bring you Westlaw);

- [Rhode Island State Law Library](#), the library serving the reference and research needs of the bench, bar, and public (when you are Providence, it is available for your research needs); and,
- Roger Williams University Library, librarians from the University Library will be there to explain and demonstrate how to access a variety of campus-wide resource subscriptions provided by the University Library.

You may even grab a slice of pizza and see demos from the Law Library's librarians on tools for law study, career research, tax research, and current awareness. You don't want to miss it!

Participation allows you to sign up for prizes and giveaways!

August 30, 2019

Artificial Intelligence & Law Practice



August 30, 2019

According to computer scientist [Andrew Moore](#), “artificial intelligence is the science and engineering of making computers behave in ways that, until recently, we thought required human intelligence.” There are a number of ways that artificial intelligence (AI) does and will exist in the practice of law. According to a [Law Technology Today](#) article, there are (at least) three ways firms can use AI: for legal research and due diligence; to review documents and contracts; and to predict legal outcomes.

In 2017's [*Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Legal Practice*](#), author Gary E. Marchant states, "the use of AI in law will thus be an evolution, not a revolution. But make no mistake, AI is already transforming virtually every business and activity that attorneys deal with, some more quickly and dramatically than others, and the legal profession will not be spared from this disruptive change." A recent article in [*The American Lawyer*](#) explains that AI isn't coming, it is already here. The article's author, Rhys Dipshan, said, "today, AI is the unseen engine behind a host of off-the-shelf legal technology tools. It is so embedded in products from e-discovery to e-billing and contract analytics to legal research that it's not hard to see a day when AI becomes unavoidable."

As described, one area which has been, continues to be, and will be influenced by AI is legal research. For an in depth review see [*How Artificial Intelligence Is Transforming Legal Research*](#) by David Lat. While this article is presented by and focuses on Westlaw/TR products, there is [similar use of AI in other legal research](#) and legal technology products.

[Artificial intelligence is everywhere](#) in life and especially in law. It's hard to describe it all in a simple blog post but it's also hard to imagine what the future holds. For that, talk to [Richard Susskind](#). (We have several of Susskind's books in our library. Specifically, see [*Tomorrow's Lawyers: An Introduction to Your Future*](#).)