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April 27, 2017

Raquel Ortiz's Post

Deepening Connections Between RWU Law and the State Bench and Bar: Library Edition

Posted by Raquel Ortiz on 04/27/2017 at 12:46 PM

The RWU Law Library has welcomed members of the Rhode Island bench and bar to access its collections from day one in 1993. Now, almost 24 years later, we are happy to announce a new collaboration between the law library and the Rhode Island State Law Library for the benefit of the entire legal community of Rhode Island.

Starting on Wednesday March 29, attorneys, judges, law faculty, law students, and the public will be able to search the law library collections of both libraries simultaneously through the new Rhode Island Law Libraries Consortium Catalog site, <http://law-encore.rwu.edu>, as well as from the individual library webpages.

This new site provides access to Encore, a sophisticated search interface with a single search box, easy ways to refine search results, and "Did You Mean" functionality. Enhancing the improved search functionality, the new catalog provides easy ways to create book lists, email titles, and even share titles online via Facebook or Twitter. RWU Law faculty and students will also be able to add materials to [RefWorks](#), an RWU licensed bibliography management database. RefWorks "allows you to create your own personal database by importing references from text files or online databases and other various sources".

An additional benefit of this collaboration will impact RWU Law students, faculty, and administrators that spend significant time at the RWU Experiential Campus in Providence. Through this collaboration, they now have borrowing privileges at the State Law Library. Present your RWU ID at the State Law Library, complete their registration form, and they will create a record for you in their system, allowing you to borrow circulating materials.

One important change resulting from this collaboration is the introduction of personal identification numbers (PIN) to patron records. Patrons may create or change their PIN when they access a digital resource off-site. Follow the on screen instructions to create a 6 character PIN. The PIN will also allow users to access the mobile catalog app. Coming soon, the MyLibrary! mobile app will provide expanded functionality to the catalog for smartphone and tablet users. Using MyLibrary!, patrons can access their library accounts, search for materials by title/author/barcode, renew books, access the RWU Law Library's social media accounts, and much more.

These new products and features are the result of nine months of intensive systems work by staff at the RWU Law Library and the Rhode Island State Law Library, led by [Lucinda Harrison-Cox](#) and [Colleen Hanna](#) at the respective libraries. Congratulations to both teams on a job well done!