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Law Library Briefs

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

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In this issue, we profile the third-year students who work in the computer labs (look for the sign at the Circulation Desk indicating when a Computer Lab Monitor is on duty) and the second-year students who work at the Circulation Desk.

Ashley Barringer started working as a Computer Lab Monitor during Fall, 2002. She is from Midland, Michigan, and attended Central Michigan University. She holds a B.S. in Business Administration and may pursue an M.B.A. Ashley liked the business law courses she took at CMU and decided to combine her interest in business with law. Upon graduation, Ashley will join the law firm of Cline Close Dyer Gambrell & Wilson PLC in Midland, Michigan. Ashley has worked at the law firm for the past two summers. She is a member of the Multi-cultural Law Students Association.

Sandra Ferreira began work as a Computer Lab Monitor in the fall of 2002. She also worked for two months that semester at the Circulation Desk. Sandra is from Cumberland, Rhode Island, and graduated from Rhode Island College with a B.S. in Marketing and in Computer Information Systems. Sandra is in the Criminal Defense Clinic and is a member of Phi Alpha Delta. She has been selected to be a member of one of the law school’s trial teams. She attended the law school’s summer study abroad programs in Lisbon and in London. Sandra is fluent in Portuguese and in French. She assists Professor Rice in the Portuguese-American Comparative Law Center. In addition to her law school activities, Sandra is a BarBri/PMBR student rep. Sandra wants to practice law in a foreign country. Her areas of interest are constitutional law, employment law, civil liberties, criminal law, and immigration law.

Richard Foster has been a Computer Lab Monitor since the fall of 2002. He also worked at the Circulation Desk this past summer. Richard is from Montville, New Jersey. He attended Seton Hall University, where his major was Political Science and his minor was English. Richard participates in the RWU American Inn of Court and is clerking with the R.I. State Labor Relations Board. Richard wants to work as a labor relations lawyer. Richard is a past officer of Phi Alpha Delta and a former student ambassador for the Office of Admissions. The benefits of working as a Computer Lab Monitor for Richard are the extra cash and learning about all the little quirks of the library PCs and how to use the library’s collection.

Gina Ramacciotta has been working as a Computer Lab Monitor since her first semester of law school two years ago. Gina is from Buffalo, Minnesota. She received a B.A. in English and in Sociology from Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota. Gina is interested in assisting indigent individuals with their legal problems through a career in public interest law. She aspires to be a Public Defender and currently volunteers her time with the Office of the Public Defender in Providence in which she handles bail and recognition hearings in Superior Court. She also participates in the Street Law Program. A benefit of working as a Computer Lab Monitor for Gina is that she has acquired the ability to fix her own and other students’ PC problems by watching Barb Pahlow troubleshoot PC problems. She also appreciates the time available to do her own work when she is not busy helping other students.

Bianca Collins has been working
in the law library since January, 2003. Her shifts this semester are Tuesdays from 4:00 to midnight; Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.; and Thursdays from noon to 1:30 p.m. Bianca is from the Washington, D.C. area. She holds a B.A. in International Politics from Penn State. She worked as a paralegal for almost 3 years prior to coming to the law school. After doing some of the same work as the attorneys in her firm for less pay, she decided to become an attorney. Bianca is a Research Assistant for Professor Nnona. She is a member of the Multi-cultural Law Students Association, the International Law Association, and Phi Alpha Delta. Working at the Circulation Desk is very social for Bianca as she is able to meet and talk with a lot of people.

Jackie Marro started working at the Circulation Desk in September, 2003. Jackie works every other Wednesday from 7:30 to midnight and Saturdays from noon to 10:00 p.m. She is from Stratford, Connecticut, and is a graduate of Franklin Pierce College where she earned a B.A in Criminal Justice. While attending college, Jackie worked in the library. She tended bar for a year prior to coming to law school. She finds criminal law and criminal procedure interesting and aspires to become a judge. She has been selected to be a member of one of the law school’s trial teams. She is Clerk (secretary) of Phi Alpha Delta and participates in the Women in Transition Program. For Jackie, working in the law library is a relaxing job and she enjoys seeing the people with whom she doesn’t attend class.

David Polgar began working in the law library this summer. David is at the Circulation Desk Mondays from noon to 2:00 p.m.; Tuesdays from 6:00 to midnight; and Sundays from 6:00 to midnight. David is from Oneonta, New York, and attended Hartwick College. He majored in Business Management. David toured and did migrant farm work in Australia for a year before coming to law school. He wants to pursue a career in public interest law and is a member of the Association for Public Interest Law and the law school’s chapter of the A.C.L.U. David writes for The Docket. While working at the Circulation Desk, David breathes a sigh of relief when he sees the “deer in the headlights” look and enjoys the relief of no longer being in that position.

Aperna Sherman has worked in the law library since May, 2003. Aperna’s shifts are Mondays from 4:15 to 6:00 p.m.; Wednesdays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.; Thursdays from 6:00 to midnight; and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Aperna is from Oxford, Pennsylvania and attended Lafayette College where she received her B.A. in English and in Government. Her career goal is to be a law librarian! She is a member of the Multi-cultural Law Students Association. Aperna enjoys the interaction with the students she meets while working at the Circulation Desk.

John Russell started working at the Circulation Desk in August, 2003. John’s hours are Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. He is from Old Saybrook, Connecticut. He graduated from Gettysburg College with a B.A. in Political Science. Prior to attending law school, he worked for a federal court performing a variety of administrative tasks. He wants to practice corporate law and pursue an M.B.A. He is Research Assistant for Professor Simpson. According to John, he has had worse jobs than working in the law library!

Wendy Smith began working in the law library in August, 2002. Wendy’s at the Circulation Desk every other Wednesday from 7:30 to midnight and Sundays from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Wendy is from Philadelphia. She attended Albright College. She received a B.S. in Political Science and in Business Management. She worked as a paralegal in Philadelphia from 1999 to 2002. Wendy always wanted to be a lawyer and knows that there is a lot one can do with a law degree. She is Justice (president) of Phi Alpha Delta and a member of the Women’s Law Association and the Multi-cultural Law Students Association. Wendy has been selected to be a member of one of the law school’s trial teams. According to Wendy, the benefits of working at the Circulation Desk include getting to know people, assisting students when the Reference Librarians are unavailable, becoming familiar with where materials are located in the library, and time to do homework when all is quiet at the Circulation Desk.

Marianne Tinnel started working at the Circulation Desk in August, 2003. She works Saturdays from noon to 6:00 p.m. Marianne is from Columbus, Ohio and attended Ohio State University. She has a B.A. in Chinese! For her, attending law school is the “right thing to do” as she wants to give back to the community by doing pro bono work. She is a Research Assistant for Professor Nnona and serves on the S.B.A. community service committee. For Marianne, working in the law library is fun. She enjoys meeting the varied members of the law school community.

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