Law Library Briefs

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

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Since opening its doors in 1993, the law library has employed many students to work as Library Student Assistants. The students working at the Circulation Desk perform a variety of tasks. They check out and check in library materials, answer the Circulation Desk and Reference Desk telephones, provide directions, file looseleaf materials, shelve books, and take care of problems with the photocopiers. Thelma Dzialo hires, trains, and supervises the library student assistants. Richard Segel shares responsibility with Thelma in hiring, training, and supervising the library student assistants.

“Seasoned veterans” currently staffing the Circulation Desk include third-year students Marcus Jones, Puja Khanna, Tenee McKinley, Naldina Neves, Jenn Rhodus, Rebecca Robinson, Beth Silberman, and Lynn Turner. They are joined by “seasoned veteran” second-year students Stephanie Beitler, Jillian Carpenter, Pam Elia, Justin McCarthy, and Kareem Morgan.

There are bios of the “seasoned veterans” in previous issues of Law Library Briefs. Select “Library Newsletter” from the Library’s pull-down menu on the law school’s home page.

This year several new library student assistants joined the “seasoned veterans” staffing the Circulation Desk. They are Candace Brown, Sara Burke, Maria DiPilato, Jennifer Duperon, Kristin Slack, Sara Sprague, and Amy Van Fossen. So that you might be better acquainted with them, here is some biographical information about each one!

Second-year student Sara Sprague is from Roanoke, Virginia. She is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and has a degree in Film & Media Studies with a minor in Business. Between college and law school, Sara helped run a roofing company, worked in an elementary school library, worked as an instructional assistant teaching math and reading to first- and second-graders, and worked in a social security disability law firm. Working in St. Louis with many illegal immigrants is what prompted Sara to apply to law school and she is extremely passionate about immigration issues. She hopes to practice immigration law in some capacity, perhaps as pro bono work. Her other legal interests include maritime law, art and museum law, and various aspects of international law. She is Social Chair of the Multicultural Law Students Association and Secretary of the International Law Society. She loves Latin dancing, James Bond, football, ...and long walks on the beach!

Second-year student Candace Brown is from Warwick, Rhode Island. She graduated from American University in Washington, D.C. where she majored in Political Science and minored in Communication. Candace worked for two years holding various jobs prior to coming to law school. She also worked for John Kerry’s presidential campaign during the primary in New Hampshire!

Jennifer Duperon is a third-year law student visiting from Cornell Law School. She recently moved to Providence from Ithaca, New York as her husband is pursuing a Ph.D. in Religious Studies at Brown University. Jennifer is originally from Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. She received her B.A. from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia where she double majored in Economics and in Philosophy.
While in law school, she has been a member of the Cornell Law Review and the Constitutional Law Society. Her areas of interest include alternative dispute resolution, constitutional law, and economics of law.

First-year student Sara Burke is from Woonsocket, Rhode Island. She has both a B.A. and an M.A. in History from Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. Prior to coming to the law school, Sara worked in admissions and registrar offices. Sara decided to attend the law school as she has always been interested in the law and thinks law is a good fit with her history background.

Second-year student Maria DiPilato is from Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. She graduated from Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut. She has a B.S. in Business Management with a concentration in Business and Society and a double minor in Economics and in Business Law and Ethics. Her area of interest is corporate law. Prior to coming to the law school, she taught English to sixth graders in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. She is treasurer of the Women’s Law Society.

Third-year student Amy Van Fossen is from Marlton, New Jersey. She is a graduate of Drury University in Springfield, Missouri where she majored in Math and in Criminology with a minor in Global Studies. While here at the law school, she has developed an interest in taxation and hopes to continue her study of taxation by pursuing an LL.M in Tax. Besides attending class and working in the library, she is also a research assistant for Professor Terry.

Third-year student Kristin Slack is from Blackstone, MA. She is a graduate of Bridgewater State College in Bridgewater, Massachusetts where she obtained her degree in Political Science and minored in History. After graduation from college, she spent two years in Washington, D.C. working for a member of Congress and decided to come to law school so that she could change the world! She hopes to run for political office (House of Representatives, eventually) in the future and pen her own treatise, Slack on Patents. In her spare time (when she gets any) she enjoys darts, badminton, and competitive cross-stitch. Her favorite television shows are Arrested Development and The Shield.

Library News

New Publication Series!

The Law Library provides study aids on numerous subjects for you to use in the library or check out for use at home. To better inform you of their existence, there is a new publication series entitled “Study Aids:...” available in the Law Library. This series highlights the study aids on Reserve and applicable Restatements for several subjects. The series also describes how to locate the CALI tutorials on the subjects. There are publications for the first-year subjects: Civil Procedure, Contracts, Criminal Law, and Torts. Other subjects covered are Constitutional Law, Evidence, and Federal Income Tax. A publication on Property will be available in January and others are in the works! You can find them (one page printed front and back on blue legal size paper) on the bookcase located at the entrance to the Law Library. A special thanks to Professor Kuckes who provided the inspiration for this series!

New Online Resource!

International Law In Domestic Courts is a new online subscription service from the Law Division of Oxford University Press. Full text decisions of cases from over sixty-five jurisdictions along with expert commentary are contained in this service. English translations of key passages of all non-English language decisions are provided. One can browse the ILDC by country, key category, or an alphabetical listing by party name. The ILDC can be searched by keyword, date of decision, jurisdiction or ILDC citation. The ILDC can be accessed by selecting “Online Resources” from the Library’s pull-down menu at the law school’s home page.

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