Legal Beagle Blog (April 2011)

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

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Best Brief Winners and HeinOnline!

Posted by Library Blog on 04/08/2011 at 12:00 AM

The Law Library staff congratulates 3Ls Amy Broderick, Robert Cavanagh, and John Meara for receiving the Harrison Tweed Award for the best brief at the National Moot Court Competition. In addition to writing the best brief in the nation, the team also advanced to the round of eight! The team wrote for the respondent in the case of *The City of New Amsterdam v. New Amsterdam Business Leader’s Association*.

The winners took advantage of the Law Library’s offerings of LexisNexis/Westlaw access, quiet study areas, and books to research the issues for their brief.

Here are the questions presented from their brief:

1. Whether a court should apply the serious questions. standard to motions for preliminary injunctions when the record does not permit the court to determine with certainty that the movant is more likely than not to prevail on the merits of the underlying claim?

2. Whether the Healthy New Amsterdam Program, which mandates minimum employee healthcare spending requirements for certain employers in New Amsterdam, is preempted by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 given that the purpose of ERISA is to provide a national, uniform, regulatory regime over employee benefits plans?

Their winning brief will live on via the Law Library’s subscription database HeinOnline! HeinOnline’s National Moot Court Competition library contains the national moot court participants’ briefs. The briefs are available from 1950 to 2010 with 2011 competition briefs being added in the near future!

For more details about the competition and photos of the winners, check out the *Dean’s Blog*!

LGBT Resources!

Posted by Library Blog on 04/15/2011 at 12:00 AM

The Law Library offers numerous print and online materials for researching LGBT law. Use the Law Library’s WebCatalog to search by keyword or by subject. Some subjects are civil unions, gay rights, lesbianism, homosexuality, and same-sex marriage. Take a stroll and browse the stacks with the call numbers HQ1034 and KF539 to find books.
In addition to the Law Library’s collection, other resources of note include:

**ACLU Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Project**

“The LGBT Project fights discrimination and moves public opinion through the courts, legislatures and public education across five issue areas: Relationships, Youth & Schools, Parenting, Gender Identity and Expression and Discrimination in Employment, Housing and other areas.”

**Gender and Sexuality Law Blog**

Bloggers Katherine Franke and Suzanne Goldberg are professors at Columbia Law School and directors of its Gender & Sexuality Law Program.

**hunter of justice** blog

Blogger Nan Hunter is a professor at Georgetown University Law Center and legal scholarship director at the Williams Institute, UCLA Law School. She is the co-author (with Bill Eskridge) of the casebook *Sexuality, Gender and Law*.

**Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund**

The nation’s oldest and largest legal organization working for the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, and people with HIV/AIDS.

**Lavender Legacies: Guide to Sources in North America**

The first formal and comprehensive guide to primary source material relating to the history and culture of lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender people held by repositories in North America. Sponsored by the Lesbian and Gay Archives Roundtable (LAGAR) of the Society of American Archivists.

**New York Public Library Gay and Lesbian Studies Research Guide**

Research guide to the NYPL’s extensive LGBT collection in multiple disciplinary areas.

**GLBT History Museum**

Opened in January, 2011, the GLBT History Museum is the first of its kind in the United States and second in the world (the Schwules Museum opened in 1985 in Berlin).
Oxford University Press Databases

Posted by Library Blog on 04/21/2011 at 12:00 AM

The Law Library’s Oxford University Press databases allow you to access a wealth of world-class scholarship and foreign and international court opinions at your finger tips!

*Oxford Reports on International Law* offers access to the International Courts of General Jurisdiction and International Law in Domestic Courts databases. Full text judgments are available in their original language and any official English translation or translations of key passages of non-English judgments into English. Expert commentary is provided.

*Oxford Dictionaries Online* includes fully searchable content from their renowned English dictionaries and thesauri.

*Oxford Scholarship Online* contains full text e-books on various subject areas, many of which are European and international law titles.

For assistance with using any of these databases, do not hesitate to "Ask a Librarian!"

Going to miss the library this summer?

Posted by Library Blog on 04/28/2011 at 11:21 AM

Don’t worry, you can call us, visit us, or chat with us on-line!

The reference librarians at RWU Law Library are available and eager to help students and recent graduates with legal research, especially during the summer. A librarian can be reached:

- via e-mail at LawLibraryHelp@rwu.edu.
- via chat on-line through the Ask A Librarian feature on our website,
- via telephone at (401) 254-4547.

While the students of Roger Williams University School of Law are clerking, interning, studying, taking classes, and enjoying the beach, reference librarians will continue to be available at the library for assistance with any legal research needs. While we prepare for the start of the next year, there is always time to help you do your best. Our summer hours will be posted on our website. Enjoy the summer and call with any questions!