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Seattle University Law Library

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National Library Week

The Law Library will celebrate National Library Week 2002 from April 14-20. First held in 1958, National Library Week recognizes the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and promotes library use and support. There will be a repeat offering of our popular “Amnesty for Food” program, whereby students will have their fines forgiven in exchange for nonperishable food items to be donated by the library to a local food bank. We will also have various items to give away at the Reference Desk.

Ripped Off

Stolen and vandalized books hurt the library and users

A patron recently came to Reference Librarian Bob Menanteaux with a question concerning service of process in Canada. Two books immediately came to mind, but when Bob showed them to the patron, he found that the entire contents of one had been taken, and the relevant chapter in the other ripped out. There were no other resources available in our library that adequately addressed the man’s question.

Theft and vandalism cost the library thousands of dollars a year in replacement costs and staff time incurred in ordering, processing, and following up. The rising cost of legal materials makes it increasingly prohibitive to spend money twice on the same item.

Some materials require multiple attempts to purchase, or are difficult to replace. Unlike the average bestseller, the market for specialized legal materials is relatively small. Many items are produced in low print runs, which makes them more expensive from the get-go and means that they frequently go out-of-print in a matter of months, when the publisher assumes that anyone who would have wanted a copy will have acquired one. Also, the contents of more specialized legal materials are not likely to be found anywhere else. The majority of our print collection is not freely available online due to the economics of publishing. We frequently have to search the out-of-print book market for replacements, which is expensive, time-consuming, and often fruitless.

The upshot is that when something is stolen or vandalized, the information contained in that source is lost to our users. Even if we find a replacement, whoever discovered the problem will most likely be past the point when he or she needs the information, and others who needed it in the meantime will have had to do without. Since part of the value of a collection is measured by its comprehensiveness, no one wants to see a hole on the shelf. Anything taken lessens the value of the collection to everyone.

Our mission as a library is to provide access to resources for all of our patrons. We need your help in making sure we can do that. If you find misplaced or damaged materials, please notify
us. Your help enables us to provide greater access to materials for all library patrons.

At least they left the index: some materials have to be replaced entirely, even when only a small section is removed. Pages are not sold piecemeal, even in some loose-leaf sets. 158 pages, the bulk of this handbook, were stolen and cannot be replaced. It is no longer published.

Gee, thanks: this article was ripped out, then later returned. Some materials turn up after assignments and exams. Usually at that point, however, we have already processed the replacement material and the damage is done.
Points for neatness: 42 pages of this law review were removed with a razor.

Maybe he or she was in a hurry: the missing pages from this old volume of the Harvard Law Review (1891) were torn out so violently that the binding has been ruined, causing the whole volume to fall apart.

Current Awareness Tools

Legal Scholarship Network
The Law Library has a site license for law faculty to access the electronic abstract journals published by the Legal Scholarship Network. Each journal issue, delivered via e-mail, contains abstracts of working papers and articles accepted for publication in a particular area of legal scholarship. Journals are edited by a law professor with expertise in the field covered by the journal. Each abstract is accompanied by an email address for the author, whom you can contact to obtain a full copy of any paper, and often a web site address from which the paper can be downloaded free of charge. (Some full-text papers are not covered by the site license and users will be notified of additional downloading charges).

Current Index to Legal Periodicals (SmartCILP)

The library also has a site license for law faculty to access SmartCILP, a personalized periodical article awareness tool for legal researchers. SmartCILP provides automated personalized e-mail delivery of pre-selected topics and/or journals indexed in the Current Index to Legal Periodicals (CILP). After setting up a SmartCILP profile, subscribers receive an e-mail message each week that containing article citations pertaining to the topics and journals they selected. This e-mail message is clearly marked as "SmartCILP" to allow easy identification and review of results. SmartCILP profiles can be changed each week, allowing subscribers to tailor the delivery of CILP to their changing research needs.

You may obtain the authorization code for Seattle University Law Library by calling the reference desk, x4225.
New and Notable Library Materials

Check out the New and Notable page to see new resources we think might be of particular interest to our users. The page includes synopses, information on the authors, and links to available reviews of the titles shown above.

Newsletter written by law library staff.

Questions? Comments? Please contact Brendan Starkey, editor.

From the publisher: In 1994 a small elite chose genocide to keep power in Rwanda. They used state resources and authority to incite—or force—tens of thousands of Rwandans to kill the Tutsi minority. Within one hundred days, they slaughtered more than half a million people, three quarters of the Tutsi of Rwanda. The major international actors, France, the U.S., Belgium, and the U.N., failed to heed the warnings of coming disaster and refused to recognize the genocide when it began. They withdrew the troops that could have saved lives and made little protest against the genocide, lest condemnation lead to calls for action.

This study, based on Rwandan government records, dissects the deceptive discourse of genocide and shows how ordinary administrative structures and practices were turned into mechanisms of murder. It describes opposition to the killing campaign and how it was broken. In the words of survivors, it relates how they resisted and escaped. Using diplomatic and court documents, the study details the transformation of international indifference into tardy criticism. By showing how even feeble censure caused changes in the genocidal program, the study suggest what might have been the result had the world promptly and firmly cried "Never Again."


From the publisher: "Networks" and other artifacts of institutional life, such as documents, funding proposals, newsletters, and organizational charts, are such ubiquitous aspects of the information age that they go unnoticed to most observers of late modern society. In this new kind of work in the ethnography of legality, Annelise Riles takes a sophisticated theoretical approach to the aesthetics of such artifacts by analyzing the experiences of a group of Fijian bureaucrats and activists preparing for and participating in the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.

In describing and theorizing this aspect of transnational existence, Riles enacts a new ethnographic method for apprehending the network from the inside out. Working with
the premise that anthropologists are inside the network—that they are producers, consumers, and aesthetes, not simply observers, of the artifacts of late modern institutional life—she produces a fascinating study of institutional knowledge practices and makes an important contribution to the anthropology of transnational phenomena.

Annelise Riles is Assistant Professor, Northwestern School of Law, and Research Fellow, American Bar Association.


From the publisher: a step-by-step guide for planning a law career, preparing and executing a job search, and moving into the market. Whether you're considering a solo career, examining government or corporate work, joining a medium or large firm, or focusing on an academic career—this book is filled with practical advice that will help you find your personal niche in the legal profession. It's perfect for students currently choosing a career path, or simply deciding if law school is right for them.

Also, this book is a valuable resource for legal career services professionals.

By reading this book you'll:

• Learn how to analyze your skills
• Understand how to evaluate the market and rank your own priorities
• Discover how to "package yourself" for prospective employers
• Learn the best ways to research employers and build a network
• Find the ways to sell yourself and the best ways to reach a final decision

With this book you can make sure you make the right choices, make the best career decisions you can, and take the first step toward your future happiness.

Gary A Munneke is a Professor of Law at Pace University School of Law where he teaches Torts, Professional Responsibility, and Law Practice Management.


From the publisher: Lawyers mired in long and costly litigation, under intense pressure to produce billable hours, may wonder if there is a better way. There is, according to a new book, Mediation: A Path Back for the Lost Lawyer.

John Van Winkle, the book's author, is a former trial lawyer turned full-time mediator. He is a former Chair of the American Bar Association's Section of Dispute Resolution.

Van Winkle believes that changes in the legal culture starting in the 1980's have had
a negative impact on the profession of law. One of the worst culprits, he says, is the
system of billable hours; law firms are intensely focused on generating revenue,
placing partners and associates alike under pressure. Van Winkle cites other negative
developments, such as changes in evidentiary rules that dramatically increase time
and energy spent in discovery and postpone the real evaluation of the merits of the
case until the lengthy discovery period is over. Van Winkle says that the entire trial
process resembles a long and expensive train ride—one that goes only where the
tracks lead. By its very nature, the process often precludes a real "interest based"
analysis of a client's problem, so much so that if a client obtains any relief that meets
his real interest, it is probably only coincidental.

These cultural and legal changes have led to the abandonment of law as a profession
and the embracing of law as a business. For the public, the consequence has been an
erosion of their trust for lawyers; for the profession, it has meant diminished career
satisfaction, and even a loss of pride in their work as lawyers.

According to the book, mediation and a focus on problem solving are not only viable
alternatives to the trials, they also can "promote or act as a silent catalyst for a sea
change in the way in which trial lawyers resolve disputes." Jerome J. Shestack,
former President of the American Bar Association in his introduction to the work
states, "John Van Winkle, is a convert from the cult of litigation to the religion of
mediation. His writing is lucid, concise, sprightly, and blessedly without footnotes. For
the novice, his exposition will educate and train. For the veteran, it will recall,
highlight, emphasize, and solidify. For all of us his vision of the lawyer's role as the
high priest of mediation inspires."

Chicago: American Bar Association, Law Practice Management Section. Reserve
KF300.F59 2001

From the foreword: Knowing the law is not enough to become a Top Gun. A
successful lawyer must be able to manage finances, staff, clients, life out of the
office, and technology in addition to knowing the law in order to become a Top Gun.

Flying Solo, Third Edition contains much new information to help the solo regardless
of his or her length of time in practice and regardless of whether solo practice was
chosen by choice or circumstance. Whether one is starting from ground zero, leaving
a larger firm, or coming from a corporate or government position, the transition will
be much easier with the help of the information in this unique compilation.

With more than 50 chapters written by more than 40 contributing authors, [Flying
Solo] will take you on an exciting flight from the birth of a solo practice through the
maturity of a solo practice to the end of a solo practice.