INFO: January 2002

Seattle University Law Library

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/newsletters

Recommended Citation

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School Archives at Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Law Library Newsletters by an authorized administrator of Seattle University School of Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact coteconor@seattleu.edu.
New Librarian—Kent Milunovich

The library would like to welcome Kent Milunovich, our new Technical Services/Systems Librarian. Kent comes to us from Washoe County Law Library in Reno, Nevada. He earned his J.D. from Valparaiso University School of Law and his M.L.I.S. from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. If you haven't already met Kent, feel free to stop by and say hello. His office is in Rm. 307D on the third floor of the library.

Cheney Makes ABA Site Inspection

On October 28-31, Kristin Cheney visited the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law as an ABA site inspection team member. Located in Montgomery, Alabama, Jones School of Law was founded in 1928. Cheney indicated that although this application for provisional approval inspection was a lot of work, it was also an opportunity to experience southern hospitality at its best.

Library Donates to PILF Auction

At this year's PILF auction, the library's contribution was weighty-pound-wise, if not penny-wise. Throughout the year, librarians monitor the availability of legal materials that alumni might find useful or attractive. Such volumes usually come from a downsizing firm or retiring attorney. This year a set of Washington Reports, Washington Appellate Reports, and U.S. Reports, Lawyers Edition went up for auction. The library is pleased that their gifts offer numerous benefits: to the environment (saving books from recycling or landfill), to the bidders (who save hundreds of dollars on the price from used book dealers), and to PILF itself.

Library Sponsors Food-for-Fines Drive

The library sponsored a holiday food drive during the month of December to benefit Northwest Harvest. For each donation of food to Northwest Harvest, students could reduce accumulated library fines. Many students took advantage of the opportunity to reduce their
fees while contributing to a worthy cause. Faculty, staff, and even students without fines donated food to make the drive a success. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Hein Online

The law library is now subscribing to a new web database called Hein Online. Hein Online bills itself as "the Modern Link to Legal History," offering a "comprehensive, ever-expanding collection of legal periodicals." Consisting primarily of older law reviews that are not currently accessible online, the database provides access to rich historical legal literature. (Some newer journals are also included.) The articles are exact images of the originals, so that mastheads, charts, graphs, statistical tables and photographs are faithfully reproduced. The Hein Online software interface offers browsing and searching functions. Researchers may browse by journal title, author, or article title. Additionally, users may perform full-text searches across the entire database or search by author, title and citation fields. Hein Online is the winner of the 2001 American Association of Law Libraries New Product Award and promises to be a valuable addition to the law library resource collection. If you would like to try Hein Online, go to the law library databases and click on Hein Online. If you have any questions, please call the reference desk at x4225.

More Online Databases Available

Recent years have seen the rise of several low-cost online legal research services meant to provide a less-expensive alternative to full LexisNexis or Westlaw access. While none of these have the depth, breadth, or sophisticated search capabilities of the "big two," they do have their advantages. For one thing, they can provide a considerable savings for the firm or solo practitioner with an eye on the budget. Also, they may carry decisions and other information unavailable on other online services. Here is an overview of what the library is offering.

Quicklaw America

Law faculty, staff and students can now obtain complimentary passwords for Quicklaw America, the premier provider of legal information services in Canada. In addition to databases covering standard Canadian primary sources at the federal level, this service also has more provincial case reports and statutes than you will find on either Lexis or Westlaw. Regulations, digests, and topical reports fill out the balance of offerings. Selected U.S. resources and a number of titles from other foreign jurisdictions are also available. To get a free password go to Quicklaw America website. You must use your ".edu" e-mail address to complete your registration. Quicklaw America is limited to use for academic purposes only.

VersusLaw
VersusLaw offers access to Seattle University Law School faculty, staff and students for academic research. Users must register by filling out a form on the web site and providing an "edu" e-mail address. Once there, you can find U. S. Supreme Court opinions from 1900-present, Circuit Courts of Appeals decisions, some from as far back as 1930, recent cases from other federal courts, and a variety of state court opinions. The Washington database goes back to 1935, for example. Of particular interest are recent decisions from American Tribal Courts. Sign up for a password online and check it out. If you do sign up, remember to reactivate your account annually.

LoisLaw

LoisLaw continues to offer access to Seattle University Law School faculty, staff and students who register using our institution's access code, obtainable from the reference librarians. Sign on and search U. S. Supreme Court opinions from 1899-present, lower federal courts from 1971-present, current federal statutes and a selection of state codes, and state case law dating back to the 1920s. An added draw for Washington users is the availability of WSBA deskbooks and CLE materials. LoisLaw also offers a real bonus in that summer use is allowed and graduating students may continue to use it free for six months after graduation.

"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 cover: Legal Blame sheds new light on how jurors interpret justice in the wake of accidents. It also reveals much about the psychology of jury decision making in general. Using case materials, the author analyzes both the words lawyers use to help jurors assign blame and the works jurors themselves use as they make decisions. With minimal use of jargon, the author discusses the relevant social and cognitive literature and shows how jurors' everyday habits of thought and feeling inform their deliberations. Neal Feigenson's thesis is that jurors use legal facts and rules, in combination with common sense, to process what he calls "total justice." Contrary to stereotypes about jurors, both emotion and reason appear to be central in reaching a decision that feels right to the jury.

Neal Feigenson is Professor of Law at Quinnipiac College School of Law in Hamden, CT, as well as a research affiliate in the Yale University Department of Psychology.


From the publisher: Since 1958, twenty-five men and two women have forced the Supreme Court to consider whether the Constitution's promises of equal protection apply to gay Americans. Here former Washington Post editor Joyce Murdoch and her partner, celebrated lesbian columnist Deb Price, reveal how the nation's highest court has reacted to these cases—from the surprising 1958 victory of a tiny homosexual magazine to the 2000 defeat of a gay Eagle Scout.
A triumph of investigative reporting, Courting Justice draws on interviews with justices' friends, relatives, and former clerks to offer an inside look at individual rulings and the often surprising context of those decisions. Murdoch and Price's careful research and passionate advocacy give us an inspiring new perspective on the unfolding of the gay rights movement in America.

Joyce Murdoch is a former editor and reporter at the Washington Post. Deb Price is the first nationally syndicated columnist on gay and lesbian issues. She has served as an editor at the Washington Post and the Washington bureau of the Detroit News.


From the publisher: Is liberal democracy a universal ideal? Proponents of "Asian values" argue that it is a distinctive product of the Western experience and that Western powers shouldn't try to push human rights and democracy onto Asian states. Liberal democrats in the West typically counter by questioning the motives of Asian critics, arguing that Asian leaders are merely trying to rationalize human-rights violations and authoritarian rule. In this book—written as a dialogue between an American democrat named Demo and three East Asian critics—Daniel A. Bell attempts to chart a middle ground between the extremes of the international debate on human rights and democracy.

Bell criticizes the use of "Asian values" to justify oppression, but also draws on East Asian cultural traditions and contributions by contemporary intellectuals in East Asia to identify some powerful challenges to Western-style liberal democracy. In the first part of the book, Bell makes use of colorful stories and examples to show that there is a need to take into account East Asian perspectives on human rights and democracy. The second part—a fictitious dialogue between Demo and Asian senior statesman Lee Kuan Yew—examines the pros and cons of implementing Western-style democracy in Singapore. The third part of the book is an argument for an as-yet-unrealized Confucian political institution that justifiably differs from Western-style liberal democracy.

Daniel A. Bell is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public and Social Administration at the City University of Hong Kong.

From the publisher: One out of five people in the world today lives subject to Islamic law, but stereotypes of rigid doctrine or harsh punishment obscure an understanding of the values and style of reasoning that characterize everyday Islamic adjudication. By considering its larger social and cultural context, this book shows Islamic law to be a kind of common law system: justice is sought through a careful assessment of persons, more than facts, and justice resides not in equality but in a quest for equivalence.

Laurence Rosen is Professor and Chair of Anthropology at Princeton University.


From the cover: The 2000 Presidential election ended in a collision of history, law, and the courts. It produced a deadlock that dragged out the result for over a month, and consequences—real and imagined—that promise to drag on for years. In the first in-depth study of the election and its litigious aftermath, Judge Posner surveys the history and theory of American electoral law and practice, analyzes which Presidential candidate "really" won the popular vote in Florida, surveys the litigation that ensued, evaluates the courts, the lawyers, and the commentators, and ends with a blueprint for reforming our Presidential electoral practices.

The book starts with an overview of the electoral process, including its history and guiding theories. It looks next at the Florida election itself, exploring which candidate "really" won and whether this is even a meaningful question. The focus then shifts to the complex litigation, both state and federal, provoked by the photo finish. On the basis of the pragmatic jurisprudence that Judge Posner has articulated and defended in his previous writings, this book offers an alternative justification for the Supreme Court's decision in Bush v. Gore while praising the Court for averting the chaotic consequences of an unresolved deadlock.

Posner also evaluates the performance of the lawyers who conducted the post-election litigation and of the academics who commented on the unfolding drama. He argues that neither Gore's nor Bush's lawyers blundered seriously, but that the reaction of the legal professoriat to the litigation exposed serious flaws in the academic practice of constitutional law. While rejecting such radical moves as abolishing the Electoral College or creating a national ballot, Posner concludes with a detailed plan of feasible reforms designed to avoid a repetition of the 2000 election fiasco.
Richard A. Posner is a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and a Senior Lecturer at the University of Chicago Law School.