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In This Issue
August 2008

Law School Archives Update

The Seattle University Law Library has made significant progress in establishing an institutional archive this summer by inventorying its holdings and obtaining copies of key documents held by other institutions. Under the direction of Reference Librarian Robert Menanteaux, volunteer Julia Vinson inventoried the library’s holdings of historical material, including student newspapers, early law school publications, photographs, slides, and correspondence. This team also located and copied relevant material from the holdings of the Tacoma Public Library.

In addition to gathering materials from the Tacoma Public Library, we also sought access to materials held at the University of Puget Sound. The institutional archive of the University of Puget Sound has a rich collection of documents about the law school. After extensive negotiations, the University of Puget Sound agreed to allow the photocopying and/or digitization of nearly all documents related to the law school. Librarians Bob Menanteaux and Stephanie Wilson are currently copying and scanning this material for our institutional archive.

Obtaining copies of the material held by the University of Puget Sound will provide a solid foundation for our institutional archive. Materials include documents about the law school’s formation, early catalogs, faculty meeting minutes, law school dedication, first ABA inspection reports, building fund raising materials, architectural drawings, board of visitor correspondence and reports, and much more.

Day in the Life Photo Contest
In February, the law library participated in the “A Day in the Life of the Law Library Community” photo contest. 129 photos were entered from law libraries across the country. This year, the law library won honors in three different categories. "At the Speed of Reference" placed first in the Librarians as Teachers and Trainers category. Additionally, "Preparing the Asynchronous Lecture" placed second in the Librarians as Trailblazers in New Technology category, and "Warhol Inspired Law Librarians" placed third in the Artistry of Librarianship category. All photos were taken and submitted by Reference Librarian Tina Ching and Circulation Assistant Supervisor Charity Braceros.

The photos were framed and on display at the Public Relations Showcase in the Exhibit Hall at the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. The contest winners were also featured in the July 2008 issue of AALL Spectrum and will be used for future AALL publications and brochures.

Comings and Goings

Dominique Bourg, the law library’s Administrative Assistant, has received five years of full funding to attend the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Dominique, who graduated from Seattle University in 2006 with a B.A. in English literature (with minors in philosophy and women’s studies) will be working towards her PhD in English Literature. Her specific area of interest is postcolonial and postmodern British fiction. During
her first year of PhD studies, Dominique will work as a project assistant, and the next four as a teaching assistant. When she graduates, she plans to become a professor at a smaller liberal arts university like Seattle University. We wish her the best and hope that someday, she will return to Seattle University as a professor!

13th Annual Bridge the Gap a Success

A joint production by law librarians from the Seattle University Law Library and the University of Washington Gallagher Law Library, Bridge the Gap is a program designed to give students a refresher course on key research skills needed for summer legal employment. This year marked the 13th annual Bridge the Legal Research Gap program. As in previous years, the program was presented twice in order to best accommodate the two law school schedules. This year had almost 200 attendees from law schools across the country. Subjects covered included Administrative Law Research, Legislative History and Lawyers’ Practice Materials. Tina Ching, Bob Menanteaux, Kerry Fitz-Gerald, and Barbara Swatt Engstrom presented.

One of the most popular programs was a panel discussion with SU alumni David Ko ('06), Jake Bernstein ('07) and Dan Crowner ('05) on Legal Research in the Real World. The panelists discussed how they use their research skills in their day to day practice. David Ko is clerking for the Honorable Ricardo S. Martinez in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington, Jake Bernstein is the primary lawyer for the newly created Manufactured Housing Dispute Resolution Program in the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General’s Office, and Dan Crowner is a first year associate with Patterson Buchanan Fobes Leitch & Kalzer, Inc., P.S.

Law Library Subscribes to U.S. Congressional
Documents Collection

The Seattle University Law Library has expanded its offerings to the Congressional Record through Hein Online. We now have access to the U.S. Congressional Documents Collection featuring the bound and daily versions of Congressional Record and its three predecessor titles (Annals of Congress (1789-1824), Register of Debates (1824-1837) and Congressional Globe (1833-1873). The U.S. Congressional Documents Collection can be found on our databases by title listing under Hein Online. For assistance, contact your library liaison or the reference desk: lawreference@seattleu.edu (x4225).

Law Library Celebrates Grant Recipients

Circulation Assistant Supervisor Charity Braceros and Reference Librarian Tina Ching each received grants to attend the 101st American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting held from July 12-15 in Portland, Oregon. Charity received her grant from the Law Librarians of Puget Sound. Tina received a grant from the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL).

Cataloger Nancy Minton received a continuing education grant from the Washington Library Association (WLA) to attend the Oregon Library Association/Washington Library Association (OLA/WLA) joint conference last April in Vancouver, Washington.

Tina Becomes Secretary of LLOPS

Reference Librarian Tina Ching has been elected to the Law Library of Puget Sound (LLOPS) Executive Board as Secretary for 2008-09.
Conferences and Workshops

AALL
On July 12-15, several of the law librarians and library staff attended the 101st American Association of Law Libraries annual meeting in Portland, Oregon. The theme of this year’s meeting was “Energize, Explore, Evolve.” More than 66 sessions were given on such topics as the Library’s Role in Educating Lawyers, the Workings of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, Electronic Titles and the Library Catalog, Beer and the Law, and Harry Potter and the Law. Kelly Kunsch was a featured author at CALI's "Meet the Authors" booth, having recently published a CALI lesson on Washington Legal Research. Additionally, Tina Ching coordinated and moderated a session on Oregon’s Initiative and Referendum Law. Prior to the meeting, Tina wrote for a blog about the meeting for AALL. When you next meet one of the attendees, take a moment to see if they are energized or evolved.
Barbara Swatt Engstrom attended the Special Libraries Association (SLA) conference, which was held on June 16-18 at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center. SLA brings together librarians who work at corporate, government, academic or other specialized libraries. The program highlights included a discussion of disinformation in the media by Brooks Jackson, founder (in conjunction with the Annenberg Foundation) of FactCheck.org, a preview of the Washington State Library’s digital preservation program for state agency documents as well as sessions on knowledge mapping and environmental law research in China by the founder of chinadialogue.net.

Newsletter written by law library staff.
Questions? Comments? Please contact Editor Kent Milanovich
Web Administrator

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The Practice of Human Rights: Tracking Law Between the Global and the Local

Edited by Mark Goodale and Sally Engle Merry

Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007

K3240.P72 2007

From the Publisher
Human rights are now the dominant approach to social justice globally. But how do human rights work? What do they do? Drawing on anthropological studies of human rights work from around the world, this book examines human rights in practice. It shows how groups and organizations mobilize human rights language in a variety of local settings, often differently from those imagined by human rights law itself. The case studies reveal the contradictions and ambiguities of human rights approaches to various forms of violence. They show that this openness is not a failure of universal human rights as a coherent legal or ethical framework but an essential element in the development of living and organic ideas of human rights in context.

About the Author
Mark Goodale is an anthropologist who specializes in legal anthropology, human rights and culture, comparative ethical practice and epistemology, the anthropology of morality, and conflict studies. His PhD is from the University of Wisconsin—Madison (2001).

Sally Engle Merry is a Professor of Anthropology, Law and Society at New York University. Her PhD is from Brandeis. Prof. Merry’s research interests range from anthropology of law, human rights
and colonialism, to transnationalism and gender as well as issues of race in the US and Asia/Pacific region.

The Origins of African-American Interests in International Law

By Henry J. Richardson III


KF4757.R53 2008

From the Publisher

This book explores the birth of the African-American international tradition and, particularly, the roots of African Americans’ stake in international law. Richardson considers these origins as only formally arising about 1619, the date the first Africans were landed at Jamestown in the British North American colony of Virginia. He looks back to the opening of the European slave trade out of Africa and to the 1500s and the first arrival of Africans on the North American continent. Moving through the pre-Independence period, the American Revolution, the Constitutional Convention, and the Westward Migration, the book ends around 1820.

This historical period also roughly corresponds to two other key historical phenomena greatly affecting the Atlantic Ocean basin: the rise of international law as a modern legal system (including European states and their Atlantic colonies) and the rise and flourishing of the international slave trade in African slaves to the Americas by European and New World governments and merchants. Only by placing African slavery in the British North American colonies in the context of the international slave system encompassing and linking the New World can the voices, struggles, demands, claims, and decisions of slaves and Free Blacks in North America towards freedom, relative to their evolving interests under international law, be properly understood.

About the Author

Henry Richardson is a professor of law at Temple University Beasley School of Law
Harry A. Blackmun: The Outsider Justice

By Tinsley E. Yarbrough


KF8745.B555Y37 2008

From the Publisher

When appointed to the Supreme Court in 1970 by President Nixon, Harry A. Blackmun was seen as a quiet, safe choice to complement the increasingly conservative Court of his boyhood friend, Warren Burger. No one anticipated his seminal opinion championing abortion rights in Roe v. Wade, the most controversial ruling of his generation, which became the battle cry of both supporters and critics of judicial power and made Blackmun a liberal icon.

*Harry A. Blackmun: The Outsider Justice* is Tinsley E. Yarbrough's penetrating account of one of the most outspoken and complicated figures on the Supreme Court. As a justice, Blackmun stood at the pinnacle of the American judiciary. Yet when he took his seat on the Court, Justice Blackmun felt "almost desperate," overwhelmed with feelings of self-doubt and inadequacy over the immense responsibilities before him. Blackmun had overcome humble roots to achieve a Harvard education, success as a Minneapolis lawyer and resident counsel to the prestigious Mayo Clinic, as well as a distinguished record on the Eighth Circuit federal appeals court. But growing up in a financially unstable home with a frequently unemployed father and an emotionally fragile mother left a permanent mark on the future justice. All his life, Harry Blackmun considered himself one of society's outsiders, someone who did not "belong."

Thoroughly researched, engagingly written, *Harry A. Blackmun: The Outsider Justice* offers an in-depth, revelatory portrait of one of the most intriguing jurists ever to sit on the Supreme Court. Relying on in-depth archival material, in addition to numerous interviews with Blackmun's former clerks, Yarbrough here presents the definitive biography of the great justice, ultimately providing an illuminating window into the inner-workings of the modern Supreme Court.

About the Author
Tinsley E. Yarbrough is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Political Science at East Carolina University. He is the author of ten books, including *David Hackett Souter: Traditional Republican on the Rehnquist Court*, *The Rehnquist Court and the Constitution*, and *Judge Frank Johnson and Human Rights in Alabama*, for which he won an ABA Silver Gavel Award. He lives in Greenville, North Carolina.