

2005

Notes From The Underground, vol.4#4, April, 2005

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NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND

Volume 4, Number 4

April 27, 2005



Notes From the Underground has changed from a trimester, faculty newsletter to a bi-monthly law school-wide newsletter which is distributed electronically. We hope you find our newsletter useful and informative.

LAW LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday
7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Friday
7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday
10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

EXTENDED HOURS EFFECTIVE 4/25-5/11

M-F 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday
10:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SUMMER HOURS EFFECTIVE MONDAY, MAY 16

Monday-Thursday
7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Friday
7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

OUR VIRTUAL LIBRARY

by Steve Feller, Reference Librarian

Golden Gate University Law Library has launched a new "Virtual Library" featuring various "Resources Freely Available on the Web." I suggest you consider the Virtual Library the starting point for "virtually" any research project. The websites were chosen and vetted by several professional librarians and will be found conveniently arranged in the following categories:

- The Reference Desk*, including legal search sites, dictionaries, newspapers, current legal news;
- Federal Sources*, including Executive, Legislative, & Judicial;
- California Sources*, including Executive, Legislative, Judicial, & local.
- Web sites for specific areas of practice*, such as immigration, labor, criminal law, etc;
- Other Law Libraries*, for easy access to other library catalogs;
- Freedom of Information Resources* including the USA Patriot Act;
- Congressional Research Service Reports*;
- Jessup Moot Court Competition* information;
- Specific sites to support LLM programs*, including Environmental Law, Intellectual Property Law, & International Legal Studies, Taxation;
- and a special selection of *online databases*.

For utmost convenience, I suggest that you arrange for the Virtual Library to appear automatically as your home page each time the browser opens. With Internet Explorer open to the Virtual Library page = <http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/virtual>

Go to Tools, Internet Options, under "Home Page" click the "Use Current" icon.

Now the "Virtual Library" will automatically appear as your personal web portal.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY — BAR REVIEW

Great news! The Rod Fong lectures on "Advance Preparation for the Bar" were recorded on videotape. The Law Library is holding the 4 hours of special bar review materials for student use. These lectures are quite valuable as Rod Fong has lectured extensively on test taking techniques as part of the BarBri program, and has successfully coached numerous bar candidates. Don't miss this special opportunity to gain special insight into the challenge of the bar exam. Just ask to borrow the videotape(s) at the Circulation Desk.

OMNITAX

by Michael Daw, Head of Reference

Commerce Clearinghouse publishes a number of well-respected tax resources to which we have access via GOLDPAC (<http://library.ggu.edu>), the law library's online public access catalog. CCH's Internet Tax Research Network (Omnitax) ties together most of what a tax researcher would need to consult in most areas of tax practice. In addition to the Internal Revenue Code, case law, tax regulations, letter rulings, and Revenue Rulings, (which appear on CCH's opening screen), the secondary material CCH is known for can be found beyond various tabs.

Using the Federal tab, scroll down to the CCH Explanations and Analysis section. It is here that most tax research will begin, often with either the *U.S. Master Tax Guide* or the *Standard Federal Income Tax Reporter*. The *U.S. Master Tax Guide* is a single-volume, annual deskbook, full of concise answers to many tax questions. Citations are to legal authority, but for considerably more detail, its footnotes refer to paragraph numbers of the *Standard Federal Income Tax Reporter*.

(Continued on page 3)

Jennifer Smythe (3L) Wins Prestigious National Writing Award

If you go to the web site for the annual Burton Awards for Legal Achievement at <http://www.burtonawards.com/>, you will read the tag line: "The Standard by Which Others Are Measured." This year, Jennifer Smythe, a 3L student of Golden Gate University School of Law, was one of fifteen law student writers from across the nation selected to receive the prestigious Burton Award. According to the Burton academic committee, this year marks the highest number of applications received for consideration in the award's six-year history. For Jennifer to be selected is an extraordinary honor. She will receive her Burton Award at a formal ceremony hosted by Chris Matthews of *Hardball With Chris Matthews* in the Great Hall at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. on June 6.



According to the Burton Foundation, the national awards program was "established and dedicated principally to rewarding effective legal writing. The program honors partners in law firms and law school students who use plain, clear and concise language and avoid archaic, stilted legalese." This past February, deans from all ABA-accredited law schools were invited to submit one article written by a student who was enrolled at their school and who published during the preceding calendar year. Dean White selected the well-crafted and timely piece authored by Jennifer in the spring of 2004. Published in three separate legal journals, her article, "*I Came to the United States and All I Got Was this Orange Jumpsuit: Age Determination Authority of Unaccompanied Alien Children and the Demand for Legislative Reform*," appeared first in the top-rated immigration journal, *Interpreter Releases*, then in Loyola University of Chicago's and the ABA Center for Children and the Law's *Children's Legal Rights Journal*, and most recently, in *Immigration Daily*, an on-line immigration newsletter.

Jennifer wrote this article as a two-unit directed study with **Maryanne Gerber, Electronic Services Librarian**. Each semester, **Michael Daw** and Maryanne take one or two students with writing projects and guide them through the process. We take great pride in the our students' accomplishments and join the rest of the law school in congratulating Jennifer on this stellar achievement. You may read her article on Westlaw using FIND: 81 No. 23 Interpreter Releases 753 or at <http://www.ilw.com/lawyers/articles/2005.0328-smythe.shtml>

**[http://www.ggu.edu
/lawlibrary](http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary)**

Comments or questions about our newsletter?
Email Janet Fischer at jfischer@ggu.edu

NEW ONLINE TITLES

We are constantly on the lookout for online resources that can be added to our collection. Just conduct a title search in our OPAC (<http://library.ggu.edu/>) for any of these recently added items:

Official Journal of the European Union

Direct access to the Official Journal from 1998 onwards.

Public Works Contracts Arbitrations; Arbitrations of State Contract Act Contracts, 1997-2005.

The Bush Regulatory Record: A Pattern of Failure, from OMB Watch.

A list of new titles may always be found at <http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/new/newacquisitions>.

OMNITAX, Continued from page 1

CCH's *Standard Federal Income Tax Reporter* in looseleaf consists of about 26 compilation volumes, consisting of a thorough and detailed Topical Index, a Citorator, and a New Matters volume, plus about 20 volumes covering most of the income tax matters. Topical Index references are to CCH paragraph number. In both its looseleaf and online versions, the *Standard Federal Income Tax Reporter* follows the Internal Revenue Code in code-section order. Each tax topic begins with a brief overview of the subject to be covered, is followed by full text of the pertinent Internal Revenue Code section and relevant tax regulations, then features CCH's lucid explanation of the tax laws. Following the CCH explanations are notes of tax cases, Revenue Rulings, Revenue procedures, letter rulings, and other authority bearing on the subject. If there were only one resource a tax practitioner could have access to, CCH's *Standard Federal Income Tax Reporter* is it. Online searching is either by keyword, table of contents, or both.

Other important CCH Omnitax databases include the *Federal Excise Tax Reporter*, the *Federal Estate and Gift Tax Reporter*, *Tax Treaties Reporter*, and the *Federal Tax Service*. CCH Omnitax also offers a number of calculation tools, newsletters, and sales tax resources. If the issue is a matter of state income tax, CCH Omnitax is the tax resource to use – simply click on the "state" tab, and check the boxes next to the states to be researched and use the table of contents or keywords to search.

To access CCH Omnitax, visit <http://library.ggu.edu>, and type "omnitax" as a title search. Click on the "Omnitax Online Li

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FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

We maintain a list of full-time faculty publications at <http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/specialcollections/facultypubs>. Please contact Janet Fischer at jfischer@ggu.edu if you want to change or update your listings.

Staff News

Several librarians attended the Northern California Association of Law Libraries' Spring Institute held in Palo Alto April 15-16: *The Future of Legal Research – Legal Resources and Access Today and Tomorrow*. Michael Daw, Steve Feller, Maryanne Gerber and Marisa Diehl attended. Sessions focused on the challenge of the inter-generational workplace, technology presentations, and a presentation on the County Law Library system in California.

Janet Fischer attended the Depository Library Council meeting in Albuquerque, NM, held April 17-20. The conference discussed future changes to the Federal Depository Library Program. We'll update you on these changes in future issues of our newsletter.

brary" link, and click where instructed. Or, from <http://library.ggu.edu> click on "Search Law Library Electronic Resources," scroll down to CCH Internet Tax Research Network (Omnitax), and click there. If you access this from off campus, you will be prompted for your GGU ID number.