

3-1996

Notes From the Underground, March, 1996

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/lawlibrarynewsletters>

 Part of the [Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

"Notes From the Underground, March, 1996" (1996). *Newsletters*. Paper 51.
<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/lawlibrarynewsletters/51>

This Newsletter or Magazine is brought to you for free and open access by the Law Library at GGU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newsletters by an authorized administrator of GGU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jfischer@ggu.edu.

Notes from Underground . . .

Golden Gate University Law Library's New Acquisitions List & News March 1996

EARLY BIRDS GET A BREAK

Due to student requests for longer law library operating hours, we will push back our opening time to 7:30 a.m., Monday through Friday, on a trial basis. We will begin this experiment Monday, April 1, and continue throughout the summer while school is in session. Enjoy!

Preliminary Survey results:

WHAT STUDENTS REALLY THINK ABOUT THE LAW LIBRARY

*by John W. Adkins,
Asst. Director/Head of Public Services*

The statistical results of this year's patron survey are not yet officially compiled, but here are a few preliminary comments.

General Dissatisfaction With Group Study Space: There was an overwhelming disagreement with the statement "[T]he Group Study Room [is] sufficient for my needs." We plan to conduct some focus group questionnaires to determine what the main reasons students are dissatisfied and how we can improve the space.

Students Welcome Comfortable Seating For Reading: Not surprisingly, many students commented they would like to have a few couches and other comfortable seating as a change from the world of study carrels.

More Computer Lab Staff Recommended: Students recommended that the Computer Lab be staffed more often so that service would be enhanced. Currently we have coverage most weekdays between 8:30 and 7 p.m., with no staff on the weekend. We will look into extending lab

assistance on the weekend.

Law Library Staff Is Commended: Once again, the staff was commended for being helpful and knowledgeable.

Library Sets Its Goals For 1996 And Beyond: Our goal is to improve service, the quality of the physical and procedural operations of the library and address this patron's pointed comments: "We need a new law library. The current library is small, poorly lit, lacks computers, needs to be upgraded, doesn't have enough seats, and needs longer hours." Looks like we have our work cut out for us!

PLEASE, HAVE A SEAT!

The Law Library Director is presently putting together a proposal for the purchase of new chairs, carrels and tables throughout the library study areas. Your valuable input is sought to help us choose a chair style.

Three sample chairs have been placed near the phone booth. Please try the chairs, complete the survey (one per customer, please!) and put the completed survey in the box near the chairs. The chairs will be on display through April 5.

Be assured that chairs fitting under the tables is NOT an issue. New tables and carrels will be high enough to accommodate this.

Thanks in advance for your input!

ONLINE LIBRARY CATALOG ACCESS EXPANDS TO FACULTY DESKTOPS

*by Joyce C. McLean,
Systems Administration Librarian*

Yes, the rumor is true. GGU's Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) can now be

accessed outside of the Law Library. Law School Faculty can search the OPAC from their offices or homes. The following accounts and equipment are required:

- 1) 486 PC or MacIntosh
- 2) Access to the Internet
- 3) GGU Internet/UNIX account and
- 4) INNOPAC account

All faculty members may request an INNOPAC account by calling Joyce McLean (x 6695) or sending her an e-mail message via GGU Online or cc:Mail.

Students can access the OPAC from the Law Library Lab PC's. We are continuing to work with OIT to extend lab access to the MacIntoshes and the other GGU computer labs.

Access to Other Catalogs

The OPAC also provides online access to the catalogs of other libraries in the area. The following catalogs are currently available for searching: GLADIS (University of California, Berkeley); MELVYL (University of California System-Wide); San Jose State University; Stanford University; University of California, San Francisco; University of San Francisco; Boalt Hall Law Library; Santa Clara Law Library and UNCOVER (University of Colorado and Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries).

LegalTrac Desktop Access

In addition to accessing catalogs of other institutions, the OPAC also provides access to LegalTrac, an index to legal periodicals from 1980 to the present. Contact Director Brent Bernau to arrange individual training on using this valuable resource.

Plans for the future include providing World-Wide Web access to the OPAC from the GGU Web Page and making the catalog searchable with Netscape and Mosaic.

ELECTRONIC DISSEMINATION OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION ON VERGE OF BECOMING A REALITY

*by Cathy A. Hardy,
Government Documents/Reference Librarian*

Proposed changes in the Federal Depository

system to make the program completely electronic within the next two years was the focus of a February 23 meeting of the Bay Area Documents Network (BADNET), hosted by the Law Library.

The Government Printing Office has been given a mandate from Congress to convert to electronic distribution of documents. It is anticipated that there will be some documents which will always be produced in paper, such as the *United States Reports* and *United States Code*, but since these are also among the most expensive to produce they may not be available to all depositories. Clearly these changes will have an impact on libraries.

Fate of "Have-Nots" Raises Concern

A concern of BADNET members is that the average citizen, who is not hooked up to the internet, and relies on their local public library for access to government documents, will become part of the information have-nots. Many of the public librarians in the group do not have access to the Internet and some do not even have adequate computer equipment to use the CD-ROM products produced by the government.

Monetary Savings Questioned

Access to older files, the archivability of electronic databases and the responsibility for maintaining those electronic archives are all issues which have not been addressed by Congress in their rush to save money. In fact, there is some question that money will be saved by making the GPO all electronic. Currently much of their material for printing is received in camera-ready format. GPO must scan these documents to convert them to an electronic form, requiring a large number of staff to do the scanning and correct mistakes.

As many of us have experienced, scanning a paper document to convert it to a computer readable format is not trouble-free. The general consensus, one shared by the American Library Association, is that a change to the all-electronic library can be realistically managed in 5-7 years.

And Who Will Control the Information?

The concern for scholars and citizens alike must be who will control the information? Who will maintain the integrity of these files and ensure that they are preserved in a usable form for generations to come?

(BADNET is an informal group of librarians who work in Federal Depository libraries. The primary purpose of BADNET is sharing information

and resources. Approximately 26 libraries in nine Bay Area counties participate in this group, including the depository libraries at GGU, USF, Hastings, UC-Berkeley, Stanford, Santa Clara University, SFSU and SJSU.)

AIN'T NO RICH FOLKS ON DEATH ROW

by Donna Hughes-Oldenburg,*
Sr. Law Librarian for Technical Services

. . . . and that's about all you'll be able to say with any certainty after screening *Dead Man Walking*, a movie directed by Tim Robbins and starring Susan Sarandon and Sean Penn. No matter where you may stand -- pro or con -- on the issue of capital punishment, *Dead Man Walking* will definitely do a tap dance on your convictions.

The screenplay, also written by Tim Robbins, is based on the book (HV8699.U5 P74 1993, McDaniel Collection of Law and Literature) by Sister Helen Prejean, C.S.J. Sister Helen was a social worker in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1982 when she was asked by another social worker affiliated with the Louisiana Prison Coalition to become a pen pal to an inmate on Angola State Penitentiary's death row.

Thus began her journey, she said, "into one of the most explosive and complex moral issues of our day, the question of capital punishment." The result of her journey was the book and eventually the movie, both of which explore the moral perspectives of the issue in gut-wrenching emotional and spiritual terms.

Dead Man Walking is a must read book/must see movie for any law student or practitioner who is concerned with the moral dimensions of our profession.

(*Donna Hughes-Oldenburg is in charge of collection development for the McDaniel Collection of Law and Literature.)

THREE STRIKES REPORT AVAILABLE

The Governor's summary report on the effects of Three Strikes is available in the Law Library. It's entitled, *Three Strikes You're Out: Two Years Later* and is located on the Plaza level at KFC 1172.T33 1996. Faculty may contact Librarian Cathy Hardy at x6683 for a copy.

THIS MONTH'S SUBJECT HEADINGS FOR NEW BOOKS

Abortion
Administrative Law
Antitrust
Bankruptcy
Banks & Banking
Capital Punishment
Civil Procedure
Civil Rights
Constitutional Law
Copyright
Contracts
Corporations
Courts
Criminal Justice
Criminal Law
Criminal Procedure
Drugs
Environmental Law & Policy
Estate Planning
Evidence
Family Law
Freedom of the Press
Health Law
Human Rights
Immigration
Insurance
Intellectual Property
International Law
Judicial Opinions
Jurisprudence
Land Use
Law & Literature
Legal Research & Writing
Libraries
Philosophy of Law
Practice of Law
Professional Responsibility
Real Property
Sexual Abuse
Sexual Harassment
Social Justice
Social Movements
Study & Teaching of Law
Supreme Court
Taxation
Telecommunications Law
Torts
Trade Regulation
Trial Practice
Trusts
Women

Edited by Brent Bernau

**SELECTED NEW ACQUISITIONS,
DECEMBER - FEBRUARY, 1996**

ABORTION

1. The imaginary domain : abortion, pornography & sexual harassment / Drucilla Cornell. -- New York : Routledge, 1995. K644.C67 1995
2. Arguments on abortion [sound recording] : live recordings and transcripts of Supreme Court oral arguments on reproductive rights / edited by Stephanie Guitton and Peter Irons. -- New York : New Press, c1995. KF3771.A73 1995
3. Abortion politics in the federal courts : right versus right / Barbara M. Yarnold. -- Westport, Conn. : Praeger, 1995. KF3771.Y37 1995

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

4. BNA's directory of state administrative codes and registers : a state-by-state listing. -- 2nd ed. / compiled by Judith A. Miller and Kamla J. King with the BNA Library staff. -- Washington, D.C. : BNA Books, 1995. KF2.M54 1995

ANTITRUST

5. Antitrust adviser / Irving Scher, editor. -- 4th ed. -- Colorado Springs, Colo. : Shepard's/McGraw-Hill, 1995- KF1649.A75 1995
6. A Primer on the law of information exchange : a general review of the law of benchmarking and information exchange for business managers. -- Chicago, Ill. : Section of Antitrust Law, American Bar Association, c1995. KF1610.P74 1995

BANKRUPTCY

7. Bankruptcy practice handbook / by Rosemary E. Williams. -- 2nd ed. -- Deerfield, IL : Clark Boardman Callaghan, c1995- KF1527.W54 1995

BANKS & BANKING

8. The law of bank deposits, collections, and credit cards / Barkley Clark, Barbara Clark. -- Rev. ed. -- Boston, Mass. : Warren, Gorham & Lamont, c1995- KF974.C562
9. Truth in lending / Kathleen E. Keest, Gary Klein ; Gary Klein, contributing author for chapter 9. -- 3rd ed. -- Boston, MA : National Consumer Law Center, 1995. KF1040.K44 1995

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

10. The Martinsville Seven : race, rape, and capital punishment / Eric W. Rise. -- Charlottesville : University Press of Virginia, 1995. KF224.M29 R57 1995