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Notes From the Underground, May, 1995

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Notes from Underground . . .

Golden Gate University Law Library's New Acquisitions List & News May 1995

CIRCULATION ASSISTANT USES INTELLIGENCE AND CUNNING TO WIN ALL EXPENSE PAID CARIBBEAN CRUISE

Mohamed Nasralla, a seven-year veteran of the Law Library Circulation Desk, has won an all-expense-paid Caribbean cruise for two, set to sail from San Francisco in September.

He accomplished this feat by submitting the winning idea for GGU's new mascot, the Griffin. (A Griffin is a mythological being with the body and hind legs of a lion and the head and wings of an eagle. It is a symbol of strength and excellence.)

President Stauffer has invited Mo to be honored at a ceremony, Friday, March 19, where the formal announcement will be made.

The University Community was solicited for mascot ideas, and three were submitted for a vote of students, faculty and staff. The Griffin received the most votes.

Actually, two of the three potential mascots were the brainchildren of Mo. He also submitted the seal. (This was described on the ballot as a "popular sea mammal; common to the Pacific coast, friendly and fun.) (*Perhaps that would be an appropriate mascot for the law library.*) The third entry was the pioneer. (This was described on the ballot as, "One who goes into the unknown to prepare the way for others; a figure in California history reflecting the era of the founding of GGU.)

Congratulations Mo!

THE SECRET TO PAYING LESS TAXES

Now that we have your attention, we urgently request that you return all materials on loan from the Law Library now. We must have

every book in its place by May 22 so that we can barcode our entire collection.

Our staff is working feverishly to barcode each and every one of the 100,000-plus paper volumes we own. In fact, every full-time staff member from the Director on down is putting in 35-50 hours of active barcoding to accomplish this huge task. During the period of May 22-30, we intend to do THE BIG BARCODE PUSH, during which we will unleash crews within our stacks to finish up the job.

This work is necessary for us to automate our catalog and services. Once we get all of the books and patrons barcoded, borrowing will be a breeze. Just watch!

SUMMER HOURS (May 19 - July 27)

MTWTh	8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
F	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat/Sun	noon to 5 p.m.

FACULTY SURVEY REVEALS HIGH LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH LAW LIBRARY

The 1995 Law Faculty Survey respondents were very positive in their assessment of the law library, while revealing a significant irony. Fourteen completed surveys were returned of the 40 which were distributed.

The theory of the electronic library fared much better than the reality. Some 86% agreed or agreed somewhat that President Stauffer's concept of the *electronic law library* should be implemented, where feasible. However, 64% disagreed with the elimination of Faculty Library print materials which are available on CD-ROM,

LEXIS or Westlaw. This response is ironic, since implementation of the electronic law library will bring about the elimination of exactly these types of printed materials.

Other new technology didn't fare much better. Only 28% feel we should continue offering CALI (Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction), with 57% having no opinion. The interactive videos fared slightly better. While 43% had no opinion on its continuation, 50% agreed or agreed somewhat that it continue to be offered. Several faculty did, however, request a demonstration of these, though the most interest was shown for a demonstration of CD-ROM research on the network and the library's new online catalog.

A substantial majority of 64% think that leaving the library in its present location while relocating all other law school functions to 62 First Street will not meet the needs of the law school. Faculty responses concerning the physical space of the library mirrored the student survey respondents in identifying the library's space/size and lights as being the least satisfactory. A full 79% agree or agree somewhat that the law library should continue to restrict access to mostly law and tax students during law exam periods, with no dissents.

A unanimous 100% finds the full-time staff accessible and helpful and believes that the library is important to the law school curriculum. Some 93% agree or agree somewhat that the library has the materials they need, with no one disagreeing. While 57% say the Faculty Library collection is sufficient, 35% disagree.

Services offered also meet with a high degree of approval, with positive responses ranging from 78-93% in rating our delivery of materials, photocopies, tables of contents for specified areas of interest, and interlibrary loan.

Thanks to all faculty who took the time to complete the survey. For a copy of the detailed breakdown of the survey results, contact Monica Fong, x6688.

NEW ELECTRONIC FORMATS LIBRARIAN PROMISES TO SHOW US THE WAY

Please join me in welcoming Michael Daw to our staff as our new Reference/ Electronic Formats Librarian. We expect Mike to be very instrumental in helping us move from a paper-based

library toward an electronic library. In addition, he provides reference services, supervises the computer lab and computer-assisted legal research, and will market our membership program.

Mike practiced law for 15 years in Ohio and then San Francisco, after receiving his J.D. from Valparaiso University. Through his practice, he brings an expertise in taxation. He began work on his Master of Library Science degree in 1993 at San Jose State University, and will complete his degree this month.

At SJSU, Mike received extensive training in several databases and software packages, use of the Internet, and DOS and Mac computer applications. He interned at our Reference Desk during the spring 1994 semester through a cooperative arrangement we maintain with SJSU, and was one of our weekend reference librarians since August.

Welcome aboard, Mike!

Same old story . . .

STUDENTS LOVE THE STAFF AND SERVICES, BUT PAN THE FACILITIES

Each year the Law Library conducts a survey to solicit patron input on library services. This year's survey brought satisfying responses on the quality of our staff, but common complaints focused on the library's physical plant and/or equipment.

For example, 91% of those responding agreed that the library staff is generally accessible and helpful, with only 1% disagreeing (the rest had no opinion). 85% of survey respondents felt that the library has the materials they need, and 80% found our maps and research guides to be helpful.

On the negative side, there was an outcry for more computer workstations, better functioning photocopiers, a bigger and more pleasant group study facility, and more laptops!

For a detailed breakdown of the survey results, contact John Adkins at x6681 and he will send you a copy.

BOALT RAIDS LAW LIBRARY STAFF

The Boalt Hall Law Library, our esteemed colleagues to the east, has once again raided our

staff by hiring away Acquisitions Assistant Georgiane Lansing.

Georgiane ordered all the materials for the library for the past three years. Many of you may be familiar with her, since a big part of her job was handling faculty requests. She also maintained the faculty library.

Georgiane's warm and congenial personality will be missed, not to mention the top-notch way she did her job. Congratulations, Georgiane!

She joins other GGU Law Library veterans who may be familiar to you: Bill Benemann, former Technical Services Librarian and sometimes Acting Director, is now Head of Technical Services at Boalt Hall. Debby Kearney, former Public Services Librarian, is now a Reference Librarian there.

LAW LIBRARY ACCEPTS LOAN OF EQUIPMENT FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The Human Resources Department recently made a long term loan of a piece of equipment to the Law Library which is designed to help people who have a problem with visual acuity.

ClearView is a closed circuit television system that magnifies the printed page. A single sheet of paper or an open book is placed on a movable base. The image is enlarged and projected through a color monitor that is at eye level.

Patrons can simply read the book off the monitor, or use the device to complete forms, particularly those with fine print. It is presently housed in the law library computer lab.

ClearView was purchased by the university several years ago for an employee who had a problem with visual acuity. When this employee left the university, the equipment was returned to Human Resources. It will be housed in the law library until such time as it is needed for a future employee.

OIT BALKS

Much to the chagrin of the Law Library staff, OIT has lately balked at making the online catalog available over the network to computer workstations in faculty offices, dial-in access for law firm members and to consortium schools (Hastings and USF).

This type of access to our catalog is regarded by our staff as one of the basic premises of an automated system. We will continue to work

diligently to resolve these problems with OIT.

THIS MONTH'S SUBJECT HEADINGS FOR NEW BOOKS

Administrative Law
Alternative Dispute Resolution
Antitrust
Art Law
Banks & Banking
Church & State
Civil Rights
Comparative Law
Conflict of Laws
Constitutional Law
Contracts
Copyright
Corporations
Courts
Criminal Justice
Criminal Law
Criminal Procedure
Environmental Law
Evidence
Family Law
Freedom of Speech
Health Law
Human Rights
Immigration Law
Industrial Relations
Intellectual Property
International Law
Jurisprudence
Labor Law
Land Use
Law & Ethics
Law & Literature
Legal Research or Writing
Libraries
Philosophy of Law
Practice of Law
Professional Responsibility
Real Property
Securities
Sex Discrimination
Sexual Harassment
Social Justice
Social Movements
Study & Teaching of Law
Supreme Court
Taxation
Torts
Trial Practice
Trusts
Women