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## Notes From the Underground, November, 1998

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# ***Notes from the Underground...***

## **Golden Gate University Law Library's New Acquisitions List and News November 1998**

### **Law Library Unveils its New Web Site**

*By Melodie Frances, Head of Technical Services\**

The Law Library has officially launched its new web site at: <[http://internet.ggu.edu/law\\_library/index.htm](http://internet.ggu.edu/law_library/index.htm)>. The Library hopes to use the web site both as a source of information about the library itself and as a tool for legal research.

To learn more about the library, browse the links under the Information, Collections, and Services columns on the home page. These links will provide you with information ranging from a staff roster and related departments to a list of materials in the Law and Literature collection to information about the various services the library has to offer.

To access other legal web sites such as the American Bar Association's law links, click on Law Links on the Library's home page. The ABA site can then connect you to an extensive list of sites, including numerous government reports and publications (*Today in Court*, *US Supreme Court decisions*), and other law related sites. More government web sites can be accessed from the Government Documents link under the Services column of the Library's home page.

The web page also features access to full text guides to researching legislative histories, using the *ALR*, or other kinds of legal information. Click on the Guides link under the Resources column to access the guides which can be downloaded or printed out to aid in research.

Other links on the web site include a link to the Library's online catalog, and a list of the Library's New Acquisitions.

If you have suggestions for or questions about the web site please contact either Kristine Ogilvie ([kogilvie@ggu.edu](mailto:kogilvie@ggu.edu)) or Melodie Frances ([mfrances@ggu.edu](mailto:mfrances@ggu.edu)).

### **WEBPAC--Web-based Online Patron Access Catalog**

The GGU Libraries online catalog is now available in a web version. In addition to providing a web interface for searching the online catalog, the web version of the catalog allows the use of hot links within the catalog itself. For example, the web sites for journals to which we subscribe have been added to the journal record in our database, thus allowing you to go from our catalog to the journal's site with one click.

Also, some titles listed in our database are available in full-text on the web as links to the titles have been added. Lastly, certain web sites, such as the ABA's web site, have been added to our database and the user can click on these to get to the respective web site.

The webpac can be accessed either through the Law Library's web page or at: <<http://library.ggu.edu>>.

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### **ABA Site Evaluation Preparations**

With the ABA site visit scheduled for November 16-18, the Law Library is getting a "spring cleaning in the fall". Preparations for the visit include painting on the lower level of the library and in the Reserve Room, new signage throughout the library, carpet and window cleaning and some weeding of outdated materials in the collection. We plan to schedule these activities during low library use hours so that library users will be minimally impacted by the work. Thank you for your patience.

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*\* Melodie Frances was recently promoted from Database Management Librarian to Head of Technical Services.*

## New Staff

The Golden Gate University Law Library welcomes four new staff members.

Sarah Hooke Lee joined Golden Gate University in March 1998 as the Director after more than seven years' experience directing academic law libraries. During her six-year tenure as library director at Massachusetts School of Law, she planned and oversaw the building of a new 19,000 square-foot law school library. Most recently, Sarah was Associate Director and Head of Public Services at the William Mitchell College of Law Library. Before turning her expertise to libraries, she worked as legislative counsel to the Maine Legislature, legal counsel to the Massachusetts Cable TV Commission, and assistant legislative counsel to the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Robert Davis also came on board as our new Reserve Assistant. Rob is a graduate of GGU Law School, and he is also currently enrolled in the LL.M. Tax program here at GGU. Rob worked in the library as a law student and we're now happy to have him here as a full-time employee.

In September, Margaret Arnold joined the Law Library as the new Assistant Director/Head of Public Services. Margaret previously worked as the Law Librarian for the California State Automobile Association, Office of the General Counsel. She has also worked as a law librarian in other academic and law firm libraries for a number of years.

Most recently, Stephanie Hess became our New Materials Assistant. Stephanie is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College and she recently relocated to the Bay Area from the east coast.

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## BUZZ Speaks On Library Etiquette

BUZZ has been busy responding to a number of complaints that have been registered in the library's suggestion book concerning breaches of proper library etiquette. To help spread the word, we have reprinted below some of BUZZ's basic rules of proper library "comportment." Your compliance with the rules is, as always, greatly appreciated.

## Remember BUZZ says:

- Please be as quiet as possible while in or just outside the library. This is a place of study, so unnecessary distraction should be kept to a minimum. There is a Group Study Room in the basement near the elevator for group discussions.
- NO FOOD is allowed in the library. Please pay particular attention to the "NO FOOD " clause in the "No Food in the Law Library" rule.
- Use what you need such that others may use what they need: reshelv your books properly by returning them to their proper places, no matter where you may have found them. If you're not sure how to do this, return the book to the Circulation Desk.
- Do not hide or damage books. When evidence comes to light that books have been intentionally harmed or hidden, such tasteless concepts as "embezzlement" and "crimes of moral turpitude," with the unpleasantness that can result therefrom spring immediately to mind.

## New Library Guides

Copies of our new library guides on treatises and federal taxation are now available on the guide rack as you enter the Law Library.

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## REMINDER

### Law Library Schedule Nov. 25, 1998 - Jan. 4, 1999

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Wed, Nov. 25                    | 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.   |
| <b>Thurs/Fri, Nov. 26-27</b>    | <b>CLOSED</b>           |
| Sat, Nov. 28                    | 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  |
| Sun, Nov. 29                    | 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. |
| Mon/Fri, Nov. 30-Dec. 4         | 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.  |
| Sat, Dec. 5                     | 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. |
| Sun, Dec. 6                     | 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. |
| Mon/Fri, Dec 7-11               | 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.  |
| Sat, Dec. 12                    | 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. |
| Sun, Dec. 13                    | 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. |
| Mon/Thurs, Dec 14-17            | 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.  |
| Fri, Dec. 18                    | 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.   |
| <b>Sat/Sun, Dec. 19 - Jan 3</b> | <b>CLOSED</b>           |
| Mon, Jan. 4                     | Regular Hours Resume    |



## Federal Government Information On The Internet

By Kris Ogilvie, Government Documents Librarian

Government publications provide a wealth of information on a range of topics. Until recently, that information was available only by visiting a government depository library; however, now government information abounds on the Internet. This article will highlight some of the top sites on the Internet to find Federal information.

### **GPO Access and Federal Bulletin Board**

There are quite a few places on the Internet where you can find federal information, but one of the best is GPO Access. A service of the Government Printing Office, GPO Access can be found at the following URL: [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/index.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html).

The information provided on the GPO Access page is to the official, published version of documents and the information retrieved from the site can be used without restriction unless otherwise noted.

If you click on Popular Products from the GPO Access home page, you can link to many publications including the *CFR*, the *Congressional Record*, and the *Statistical Abstract of the United States*. In addition, you will find the full-text of select hearings and reports for the current Congress. You can also search by subject using the Pathway Indexer. The Indexer is somewhat buried in the page, but it is worth finding. You find it by clicking on Locator Tools then on Search for Government Information on Select Internet sites.

Another handy site is the Federal Bulletin Board (Fedbbs), where you can find over 4,500 individual Federal agency files. The Fedbbs is found at the following URL: <http://fedbbs.access.gpo.gov>. Here you will have access to most government information including the publications of White House organizations, federal agency materials, Supreme Court decisions since 1992, and the *Commerce Business Daily*.

### **Legislation on the Internet – Thomas**

The Library of Congress' Thomas at <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas2.html> is an excellent source of legislative information. Through Thomas you can track legislation for the current Congress and locate summaries of the legislative histories for bills going back to the 101<sup>st</sup> congress for any public law. Recently, Thomas started including links to a limited number of congressional reports and hearings. In

addition, you will find links to many historical documents including the Declaration of Independence, the Federalist Papers, and the Constitution.

### **Courts on the 'Net**

For judicial branch information, visit the Federal Judiciary Home Page at <http://www.uscourts.gov>. This page is maintained by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. You will find court publications, directories, links to the various district and appellate courts, and a fairly detailed section on understanding the court system.

For information about the Supreme Court, one of the best sites is Cornell Law School's <http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/>. This page contains Supreme Court decisions from 1990 forward as well as select older major decisions and provide links to other Internet sites that contain older Supreme Court decisions. In addition, you can find out about the history of the court, find Supreme Court Rules, and see what present and past Justices looked like. Overall an excellent site.

### **Government Document Pages on the Web**

My all around favorite site for government documents is the one created by Grace York for the University of Michigan's Document Center. It can be found at the following URL: <http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Documents.center/>. Grace has done an outstanding job of pulling together those documents and government sites that are useful, noteworthy, and newsworthy. It is certainly worth a visit and a bookmark.

This may not be the best site on the Internet, and admittedly it still needs work, but it will lead you to a number of worthwhile places to locate federal, state, and local government documents on the Internet: <http://internet.ggu.edu/~kogilvie>.

If you have any question or want more information, please contact Kris Ogilvie, your Government Documents Librarian at extension 6683.



U.S. Government Information...  
ELECTRONICALLY