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GUGU GNUS - Newsletter of Golden Gate University Law Library - June 1988

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GUGU GNUS

NEWSLETTER OF GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY LAW LIBRARY

Vol. 1, no. 1

June 1988

WELCOME BACK!

This is the first issue of the GUGU GNUS, newsletter of the Golden Gate University Law Library. We hope to keep you informed of what's happening in this place which each of you hold so dear to your hearts.

SUMMER HOURS

Our Summer Session hours are in effect until July 29, the day instruction ends. They are as follows:

MTWTh	8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
F	8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
S/S	noon to 5 p.m.

The Law Library will be closed Sunday and Monday, July 3-4.

REFERENCE HOURS

Our reference librarians are generally available to respond to your questions, this summer, during the following hours:

MTWTh	8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
F	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The reference librarians' offices are located behind the Circulation Desk. Please don't hesitate to come directly to a reference office with any questions you may have. That's what they're there for. They will almost always be involved in some project at their desk, but will be glad to take the time to help.

Feel free to use the "Reference Help Request" form located in the "Free Materials" rack facing the Circulation Desk for questions which come up when no reference librarian is available. The librarians will make every effort to give you the help you need at a mutually agreeable time.

Gnus Editor Brent Bernau

COMPUTER AVAILABLE FOR WORD PROCESSING

The Law Library has recently made a computer available to law students for word processing. Reference Librarian Joy Tennison has loaded public domain software onto the hard disk which include PC Write, PC Outline, and PC File III. Instructions for accessing the programs appear on the screen once you turn on the terminal's power. Joy is working on printing the manuals for the programs and making them available for two-hour checkout from the Reserve Room.

Use of the computer is first-come, first-serve, for now. We will start using sign-up sheets in the future, if needed. Just hand your ID to the Reserve Attendant, who will then give you a key to the Lexis room. Please bring your own paper.

USE OF LEXIS AND WESTLAW DURING THE SUMMER

GGU law students not currently enrolled in the Summer Session, but who plan to continue their education here in the fall, are welcome to use Westlaw and Lexis for academic research over the summer. In fact, you're encouraged to use whatever free time you have to enhance your skills with practice.

The only restriction is that you cannot do research for your clerking projects. In other words, if you're getting paid by somebody or something other than GGU, you cannot use the computers to do it. Our contract with each company sets this limit. The rationale is that the firm you're working for can acquire and pay for the service itself. We pay substantially lower rates than a commercial enterprise, and we have to make sure the services aren't abused.

A tutorial for each system is available for two-hour checkout from the Reserve Room. By reading the tutorial and working through it at the terminal, you can refresh your memory and enhance your skills at the same time. Handbooks for each system are available for free from the Circulation Desk. Please pick one or both up to read before tackling the tutorial. A quick review of the handbook will enable you to get more out of the tutorial.

If you need more help or you have some special issues to research, don't hesitate to contact a reference librarian.

Use of the computers is generally on a first-come, first-serve basis. However, you may reserve two nonconsecutive hours per week for your exclusive use. This can be done by either stopping by the Reserve Room and writing your name on the sign-up sheets or by calling the Library and asking the Reserve Attendant to do the same.

FREE LIBRARY USE FOR RECENT GRADUATES

The Law Library offers two years of free library use to law school graduates. May 1988 graduates should not delay in applying for their alumni privileges. Simply ask for an alumni application at the Circulation Desk. Your application will be processed and a non-transferable access card mailed to you.

The two-year offer begins the month you graduate, so if you don't start using it right away, you'll lose the opportunity. Once two years have passed since your month of graduation, alumni are eligible to use the Law Library upon making a \$25 minimum contribution to the Law School. This entitles the alumn to one non-transferable access card for a year.

EXPANDED LEXIS HOURS

Lexis has expanded its hours of availability for law schools, effective immediately. Students are now able to access the database at all times the Library is open, except 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday.

GRIPES? SUGGESTIONS? COMPLAINTS?

We're always happy to learn of any comments you have concerning the Law Library (though we may not always be so happy to answer them). Place any of these in the "Suggestion Box" directly across from the Circulation Desk. Public Services Librarian Brent Bernau will post the Library's response near the card catalog, across from the Message Board.

EMPLOYMENT

Any student desiring employment as a Student Assistant in the Law Library, this fall, is encouraged to stop by Brent Bernau's office to leave a resume and discuss possibilities. Law students on Work Study are preferred for our desk positions, though we do hire law students on our regular payroll, too. We also consider non-law students who have had experience or classes in legal research.

Student Assistants on Work Study start at \$6.75 per hour, while students on the regular payroll begin at \$5.35.

STAFF GNUS

Lester Hanson, our Circulation Assistant for three years and a familiar face to many of you, left the staff last spring to tour and study in Europe. Postcards from Lester indicate he's spending most of his time in Italy and is doing well.

Lester was replaced by another familiar face, Mo Nasralla. Many of you may know Mo, a 1987 graduate of this law school and former Student Assistant at this very place. Mo brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position, having worked the desks as a Student Assistant for almost three years. We doubt that there is very little he doesn't know about this library, the law school, or even the entire University. We expect great things from him in answering your inquiries. He is currently pursuing a Master's degree at GGU in International Management.

Dana James, the individual in charge of our Reserve Room most of the past academic year, also left the staff last spring to pursue a career in nursing. He is now saving lives and making a difference in the lives of the sick and infirm at the Alpha Bates Hospital in Berkeley. He's working full-time in the General Medical Surgical Unit, attending classes full-time at Cal State Hayward, and reports that he is learning a lot and has no social life.

Dana was replaced by Kirstin Jensen. Kirstin earned a BA in Economics from UC-Berkeley in December of 1987. She gained library experience at Cal's Anthropology Library and as a Library Assistant at the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia, Brazil. She's quite used to dealing with shifty characters, having worked as a "21" Dealer at a Tahoe casino for about two years.

Cataloging Assistant Steve Walter left the staff last spring to move onto bigger and better things in UC-Berkeley's libraries. He's still working with cataloging over there and enjoys being able to walk to work. He doesn't miss BART at all.

Steve was replaced by David Walden-Berg. David brings over 10 years of library experience to his cataloging position from such places as San Francisco's Taylor and Associates, the University of Texas Law Library and the University of Kansas Libraries. Having received his BA in Political Science from Kansas in 1983, we may soon see David in GGU law school classes.

Three staff members will be attending the national convention for law librarians sponsored by the American Association of Law Librarians. The convention will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, the last week in June. Those attending are Arturo Flores, Director of the Law Library, Brent Bernau, Public Services Librarian, and Joy Tennison, Documents/Membership Services Librarian. In their absence, the library will be left in the capable hands of Bill Benemann, Technical Services Librarian.