National Library Week, April 12-16, 2010

This year’s national theme to Library Week is “Communities Thrive @ Your Library.” We will be highlighting several of our local communities through displays, personal contacts, and opportunities for prizes. Watch for activities throughout the week, featuring:

- Online Communities
- Wyoming Law Review Symposium: Small Towns, Big Values
- Inns of Court
- Pro bono and volunteer efforts
- CALI legal research exercise
- Carrel contest

(Cont. on page 3)

Congratulations to Blair Wardle for his winning entry in the WebHopper Logo Contest. Blair's logo will be featured in the library's catalog, as well as on the web site and perhaps in other official library communications as well.

Thank you to everyone who submitted an entry. We appreciate your interest and involvement in the library!

3L Chocolate and Champagne Prohibition Party
Wednesday, April 14
1:30-3:30

Attention all 3Ls! Watch for your invitations to the law library-hosted Chocolate and Prohibition Party. It is our pleasure to springboard you into your new careers with a festive gathering in the inner sanctum of the library—behind the library circulation desk in the workroom where most of our library work gets done. We certainly hope you can join us before or after class to visit for a few minutes and feast on chocolate fondue, chocolate sushi, chocolate candies, chocolate cookies, chocolate mousse, and, well, cheese and crackers. Until the university administration comes back around to their former interpretation of their alcohol policy, we will soldier through with less-than-champagne punch. Luckily this class of 3Ls can more than make up the difference with their own sparkling presence. We look forward to seeing you there.

Some students have offered to purchase books or DVDs for the library with their remaining Westlaw or Lexis reward points. We do accept donations!
CALI Contest

Brush up on your Wyoming Legal Research skills during National Library Week

Before you start that summer law review article, externship, clinic, or employment, consider brushing up on your legal research skills on CALI. CALI, or the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction, is a nonprofit consortium of law schools which has created over 800 free online lessons for law school students. These lessons cover most content taught in law school and are both interactive and helpful for review (we hope).

If you haven’t run a CALI lesson before, start at http://www.cali.org to register. See a librarian for UW’s authorization code. Once registered, visit http://www.cali.org/lessonlink/1234/LR73/1192/flash to complete the lesson on Wyoming Legal Research created by your librarians. Make sure to save and upload your score to be eligible for a prize. The drawing will be held at 2pm on Monday, April 19th.

IT News

What is new (techwise)?

Since our January newsletter, there has been no major change in the Law School technology infrastructure, software available or access methods. I want only to mention that Microsoft Office 2010 (and 2011 for Mac) is expected on May 12th, but it may not be available campus-wide by the Fall. Let’s now look at the hot topic of the week: iPad.

Is iPad really the game changer?

Apple ‘lovers’ will certainly tell you ‘Yes’, the rest will say ‘iPad is just another new gadget on the market’.

Whether we like it or not, the reality is that we will see it here this coming Fall or before. From what I have read it can do almost the same things as the laptops with a few exceptions. Its browsing capabilities sound to be great, so it is equally good as a laptop or tablet in this respect. It has no problems opening Microsoft Office documents either. The only problem is that Microsoft did not make an iPad version of MS Office, so iPad can’t edit Word or Powerpoint documents. This would be an issue for students who need to send their works to their professors. It is not compatible with Examsoft either. So the students who own it will need to buy an additional laptop. iPad comes with iWork suite that replaces Office but PCs can’t open iWork documents natively (they can be opened after being converted to .docx). iPad has issues with flash videos, too, which are fairly common now. It also has no USB port, lacks multi-tasking capabilities, has low CPU (1GHz) and low memory (256MB).
Reminiscences of National Library Week

Library Week gives us an opportunity to interact more directly with our students. The Chocolate and Champagne Party has become a tradition. Some other past celebrations include:

- Greening our library environment
- Poetry contest
- READ posters and our faculty recommended readings
- Getting Published web sites for students and faculty, available from the law library web site
- Research instruction brown bags
- Class-on-class research competitions

Click on This

WebHopper Grows by Leaps and Bounds

Think for a moment about all the individual titles found in the following electronic resources: CCH Tax Research Network, Hein Online Law Journal Library, LEXISNEXIS Congressional, LLMC-Digital, U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection, United Nations Treaties Series, and Versuslaw. Instead of having to conduct a search in each individual database (http://www.uwyo.edu/lawlib/databases.asp) to find a title, we are making it possible to search just once in WebHopper (http://uwcatalog.uwyo.edu/search–S2). These online titles will appear alongside the library treatises, print journals, and other electronic records. Once in a title, click on “View full text;” you may be asked for your UW username and password if off-campus.

That Time Again—Finals

Well, Law Ball is passed and the semester is winding up. It’s time to remove the dummy and its associated 2 x 4’s from the basement and settle into the run to finals. Because emotions run high at this time of the semester, it’s traditional for us to publish a reminder of general library etiquette.

- Please take phone calls outside of the library.
- Please don’t monopolize study guides and group study rooms.
- Please don’t block outside doors open after the library is closed.
- Please alert library staff when equipment is broken or needs refills.
- And please take care of yourselves so you are healthy for exams.

Library Adds New Study Carrels

The library has added new study carrels to the basement and second floor. Potter Law Club volunteers assisted in the move. We’d like to thank Marianne Kunz-Shanor, Scott Murray, Travis Koch, Gregg Bonazinga, and Zach Chapman for their time and their energy. We could not have made the move ourselves.

Good-Bye to Our Friend and Colleague

Wendy Hatch, the library’s accounting associate, plans to retire this July after nearly twenty-four years with the university. Please join us in wishing Wendy the best, and watch The Docket for a more complete article.