



# AMICUS BRIEFS

The University of Georgia Law Library Newsletter

## From the Director

**Prof. Ann Puckett**



*(Ed. note: ongoing projects in the Law Library called for including the following update of a column that ran last year)*

I get a big kick out of folks who assure me I don't need to worry about running out of space in the law library because any day now "everything will be on the Internet." Those folks are dead wrong, but you sure can't convince them of that. One professor from another department actually cited Star Trek as his authority for the proposition that books will disappear! I didn't have the heart to tell him Star Trek is fiction.

**One professor... cited Star Trek as his authority for the proposition that books will disappear!**

The fact is, book collections in academic law libraries are continuing to grow, although the rate of growth has slowed somewhat in recent years. And I do need to worry about space, because our library is already out of space. Lack of space is not just a problem for those of us who work in the library, it affects library users too. Have you ever searched several different locations for a book before giving up and asking a reference librarian to help you find it? [Author's note: you should have asked a reference librarian earlier, but that's a subject for another column.] One reason finding books in our library is so difficult is that keeping them in logical sequence on the shelves requires more staff hours than we can afford to devote to shelving, because the shelvers must move old books, sometimes whole sections and ranges of old books, to make room on the shelves for new books. As a result, over the years the shelving plan of the library has become ever more confused. A KF classified book may be on the balcony or in the basement; state secondary materials are in the basement, while state primary materials are in the Annex; and so on. The student who described our shelving plan as "Byzantine" was right.

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So what can we do? Well, we are already doing it. The last couple of years have been spent in a deaccessioning project. That's "library-ese" for getting rid of books we don't need. About 20,000 volumes of duplicates and superseded materials have been deaccessioned. It's important to note that the deaccessioning project did not remove unique information from the collection; we have added to the total number of titles but reduced the total number of physical volumes. Now that we have some room to maneuver, we are creating a shelving plan that will put materials in more logical relation to each other. In all likelihood, we will move nearly every book in the collection. This reshelving effort will be planned for a time when it will not interfere with classes, and we'll give you plenty of notice, but steel yourself for some frustration until you figure out the new plan. To quote another student, "You need to shelve books in this library so mere mortals can find them." Good advice.

That's just what we're aiming for.

## New Law Library Staff

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**Nancy Keller** recently joined the Law Library in the Binding Assistant position. She has a Masters in Education (Rehabilitation Counseling) and a Bachelors in History, both from UGA. We are fortunate that she also brings seven years of library experience to the position. When not working in libraries, Nancy is an artist, musician and writer who edits and publishes *Headline Georgia*, a newsletter focusing on social and economic news in the state. She can be found on the first floor of the Annex.

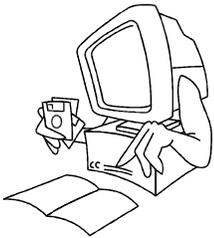
Since last month's issue of *Amicus Briefs*, **Fran Norton** has jumped from looseleaf filing to a permanent, full-time position in the Circulation Office. For more about this 1989 graduate of the law school, please see the August 1997 issue of the newsletter.

## Computer Lab Update

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**Carol Watson**  
Computer Services  
Librarian

### Touch Any Key!!



The computers in the computer lab are not turned off. Touch any key and the power on the monitors will return. As many of you know, we've recently installed several lab computers with 17 inch monitors. The energy saving features of these monitors suspend and turn off the monitor power when the computers are not being used.

### Free Laser Prints

All currently enrolled law students, including LLM students, are eligible to receive 200 free laser prints for Fall Semester and 200 free laser prints for Spring Semester. To receive your prints:

1. Purchase a copycard in the Library photocopy room or use a copycard you have previously purchased.
2. Print your name on your copycard and leave it at the Library Circulation Desk, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
3. Your copycard will be credited with 200 prints. You may pick up your copycard after 12:00 noon the day after you turn in your copycard, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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You must claim your 200 prints before the last day of classes each semester. You cannot obtain prints for more than one semester at a time. In other words, you cannot show up on the first day of classes for Spring Semester and ask to receive your 200 prints from Fall Semester.

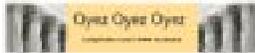
### **Web Site of the Month**

*The University of Georgia School of Law,*  
**<http://www.lawsch.uga.edu>**



If you have ever used Netscape from any of the Law Library computer labs, you have no doubt seen the University of Georgia School of Law Web page. Some of the items that you can find on the Law School web page include: the Student Handbook, links to Internet legal resources, articles from the Georgia Law Review and Journal of Intellectual Property, links to law student web pages, the Law School Bulletin (a calendar of current law school related events), and student organization web pages such as WLSA and the Intellectual Property Club. Pay us a visit if you haven't already.

*Oyez, Oyez, Oyez, A Supreme Court WWW Resource,*  
**<http://oyez.at.nwu.edu/oyez.html>**



As we look forward to the beginning of a new Supreme Court session, you might wish to pay a visit to the Northwestern University's Oyez web site. Oyez provides information about major constitutional cases heard and decided by the Supreme Court of the United States. In addition to details about the questions and opinions in these cases, one of the most unique features of this site is that it provides digital recordings of the Court's proceedings. The recordings include digitized oral arguments and opinion announcements from sources in the National Archives.

### **Lexis Lab Updated**

Stop by the newly updated Lexis Lab and give one of the seven new Compaq 166 MHz Pentiums a try. The new computers are loaded with Windows95 and Lexis/Nexis 7.0 software. Free packets of the new software are available in the lab (please note: requires Windows95).

## Recent Faculty Publications

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The following recent faculty publications have been reported to or discovered by the Law Library staff:

**Walter Hellerstein**, *State and Local Taxation: Cases and Materials*, 6th ed. St. Paul, Minn.: West/Wadsworth, 1997.

**Alan Watson**, "The Origins of the Code Noir Revisited," 71 *Tulane Law Review* 1041 (1997); "Rights of Slaves and Other Owned Animals," 3 *Animal Law* 1 (1997).

## Law Student Assistants

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The Law Library is pleased to welcome this semester's Law Student Assistants. These students man the Circulation Office weekends and evenings. Please do not be afraid to ask them a question: as library users, they may know just where that particular item resides!

Fall 1997 Law Student Assistants:



Kern Autrey  
Lori Brill  
Eskunder Boyd  
Tria Daniels  
Allison Donner  
Alan Gibson  
Justin Hayes  
John Jones  
Brandon Lewis  
Colin McRae  
Bonnie Miller  
Daphne Parker  
Kate Ponsoldt  
Debbie-Ann Ralston  
Lee Shuman  
Krissi Temple

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This newsletter is a publication of the University of Georgia Law Library. Look for it on the Web at <http://www.lawsch.uga.edu/newsletter.html>

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