Choosing the Type of Search in IUCAT

by Nonie Watt

The new IUCAT allows for a variety of searches. What’s the difference between them? When is one type of search better than another? The following guidelines explains the differences between the types of searches and offers suggestions on when one type of search may be preferable to another depending on what you are trying to locate.

Keyword

Use the Keyword search option when you are unsure of the exact title, author, subject heading, etc. The Keyword search is the default search, it will be selected when you first access IUCAT. The search results will include a list of library materials that contain the word(s) you entered in the search box. Because a Keyword search can locate a search term anywhere in a record, it may not always be obvious why you got some of the hits you did. Lengthy hit lists may be sorted alphabetically by author or title or arranged in forward or backward chronological order.

Advanced

Use the Advanced search when you want to combine keyword search terms from more than one field, or when you want to limit your search. Searches may be limited to a shelving location within a library, publication year or range of years, format, or language.

Browse

Use the Browse search to search an alphabetical list of authors, titles, subjects or series that begin with or most closely match the first term(s) entered. Click on any of the headings to see the catalog records associated with that heading. Browse searches are particularly useful if you would like to see a list of books written by a specific author or a listing of all the books on a particular subject.

Exact

Use the Exact search to find term(s) exactly as typed—in that order and in a precise letter-for-letter match. Use this search to find known authors and titles. Exact search is especially effective for one-word periodical/journal/newspaper titles or titles that contain very common words.

Call Number

Use the Call Number search to scan titles in call number order in a specific library, and to find books on a similar topic.

Should you encounter any problems while searching IUCAT, please consult a reference librarian for assistance.
NEW & NOTEWORTHY:
WHAT WAS ONCE OLD, IS NOW NEW


In the early 1990’s, CD-ROM technology was booming. Publishers, especially legal publishers, seemed to think that any good product would be made better if it was made available in CD format. Some products were better when they appeared as a CD-ROM, but the majority were not and as the decade closed, CD-ROM publications were being replaced by Web-based products. Still, the CD-ROM (and now the DVD-ROM) has its place and the University of Illinois Press may have discovered just exactly where that place is. What makes The Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln so appropriate for DVD-ROM is that it never was a book. Instead it is a “publication” that was designed specifically around digital technology and, given today’s publishing world, realistically would never have been published in paper.

So what is it? The main body of the disks consists of more than 210,000 pages of documents that pertain to more than 5,000 cases handled by Lincoln’s three law offices between 1836 and 1861. In addition to court records (i.e., clerk, judge, execution, and judgement dockets, court summaries, fee and memorandum books, etc.), newspaper articles, public notices, advertisements, unpublished reminiscences, journals, diaries, and memoirs of contemporaries in Lincoln related litigation matters, the collection is complimented by summaries and annotations written by contemporary legal historians and Lincoln scholars. The materials come from a variety of repositories including the Illinois State Historical Society, the Illinois State Archives, the Illinois State Library and Illinois Supreme Court Library. In addition to these organizations, the Abraham Lincoln Association and the University of Illinois Center for Legal Studies served as consultants, while an impressive group of scholars in Lincolniana, legal history, bibliography, and documentary editing served as the Editorial Board.

What makes this “publication” different from traditional collections of papers (usually made available as microfilm sets) are the indexing and search capabilities offered by the DVD-ROM technologies. Anyone who has worked with a collection of papers, either in paper or microform, knows the frustration of not being able to find what you know (or think you know) exists. With a digital collection you are able to not only view the materials, but quickly search the collection, save your results, printout your results, and create your own annotations.

Of course, there are always a few down sides to using a new technology. In this case, the fact that the product is a DVD-ROM means that it will only work on computers with a DVD drive (something that is only recently becoming standard.) Another down side of such a specialized publication is its cost -- $2,000.00. Thankfully, the William Nelson Cromell Foundation has presented copies of The Law Practice to 150 U. S. law schools, including ours. If your computer has the capabilities and you would like to take a look at this high-tech version of 150-year-old documents, you can checkout The Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln at the Circulation Desk.

Dick Vaughan
Acquisitions & Serials Control Librarian

JOIN US IN WELCOMING OUR VISITORS FROM KAZAKHSTAN

Please join us in welcoming Larissa Ashanina and Anatoly Didenko, two professors visiting from the Adilet Law School in Kazakhstan. They were able to travel here thanks to a grant awarded to our law school for exchanges between our faculty and the Adilet faculty. Professor Joe Hoffmann directs the exchange program.

Adilet Law School is located in Almaty, which is no longer the capital of Kazakhstan but still remains the largest and most commercially important city there. Kazakhstan is a former republic of the Soviet Union. It is located in Central Asia and is roughly half the size of the continental United States. Kazakhstan has a great deal of oil and gas reserves and has therefore attracted many business people and attorneys from the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia.

Larissa and Anatoly arrived in Bloomington on February 15th and will be staying until mid-April. At Adilet, Larissa teaches English, and Anatoly teaches Civil Law, with emphases on Mortgages and Torts. You might see them in their office (Room 202), the library, the halls, or sitting in on one of your classes. They both speak English rather well and are happy to answer any questions you might have about Kazakhstan and/or their impressions of the United States so far.

Liz Larson
Reference Librarian
The extremely popular "Jump Start" research program will return to the Law Library later on this spring. The program, designed by the reference librarians, will again work towards preparing law students for summer clerkships and the first year of practice. During last year's sessions, a number of students learned the necessary research skills for dealing with materials such as legislative history, administrative law and the regulatory process. Designed to address students' individual needs and prospective practice goals, the "Jump Start" classes are informal, small-group, research refresher and information sessions. The research sessions will begin meeting in the Reference Office Conference Room during the first two weeks in April. Students will be able to sign up for sessions in the Reference Office during the first week after spring break. Notice of the "Jump Start" sessions will be posted around the Law School.

Following the formula established in previous years, each of the "Jump Start" sessions will begin with a brief review of the basic legal resources so that every student has a complete grasp of the legal research process. The librarians will also provide information about more specialized types of reference books, including practice aids and form books, which are not covered in the first year Writing and Research classes. The "Jump Start" sessions will then focus on individual student problems and questions about legal research, with an emphasis on the type of practice student participants will be seeing in the summer. The reference librarians will also describe how the Law Library can continue to serve alumni through research assistance and the copying of hard-to-locate cases, briefs, articles, documents, etc..

If you have any questions about the "Jump Start" programs, be sure to drop by the Reference Office and speak to a reference librarian. We'd especially like to hear from those of you who already know in what jurisdiction you'll be working this summer and any special areas of law with which you'll be dealing. We plan to tailor the "Jump Start" sessions to your particular needs in order to make the program a continuing success.

Keith Buckley
Collections Development Librarian

INTERNATIONAL LAW UPDATE

This month’s column brings you several news items of note related to international and foreign legal publications.

First, we recently received notification that the courts of England and Wales are now moving to a different system of case reporting, whereby citation will be to paragraph numbers rather than to page numbers. Under this system, a pinpoint citation would be to a volume of decisions identified by number or year, a case number within that volume, and a paragraph number within that decision. For example, beginning in 2001 one would now refer to 81 P. & C.R. 1 at [51], to cite the first case in volume 81 of Property and Compensation Reports. It appears that the only courts that will make the transition in 2001 are the High Court and the Court of Appeal, whose decisions are reported in The Law Reports and the All England Law Reports. However, at least one major commercial publisher, Sweet & Maxwell, has already announced that it plans to begin paragraph numbering for all of its published reports, regardless of which court they emanate from.

Is this change a harbinger of things to come for U.S. courts as well? Probably so, since the purpose of the change, of course, is to provide a citation format that will be "neutral," and thus work equally well for both printed and electronic publication. A similar format has been recommended by the Wisconsin Bar Association, and incorporated in the American Association of Law Libraries’ Universal Citation Guide, based upon the report of its Citation Task Force (available at http://www.aallnet.org/committee/citation/taskforce.html).

Also of interest, we have recently been notified that UNESCO’s Copyright Bulletin will cease publication in printed format as of 2001. Henceforth, it is to be available only at the UNESCO website, http://www.unesco.org. As of this writing, no issues of Copyright Bulletin have been made available at the UNESCO site, but the changeover is apparently imminent.

And speaking of electronic periodicals, patrons interested in European Union law should be aware of the web-based newsletter, EU News Online. As a subscriber to the Encyclopedia of European Union Law, the Library used to receive a monthly newsletter, entitled European Union News. Now available only through the publishers web site (http://www.smllawpub.co.uk), this newsletter is an excellent source for discussion of matters of current political and legal concern within the European Community. It is particularly recommended for those seeking a note or seminar paper topic related to European Union law. Once you arrive at the web site, you must enter a username (Archimedes) and a password (eureka). Then you can read the current issue, browse several months’ worth of prior issues, or search by keyword.

Ralph Gaebler
Foreign and International Librarian

Volume 11, Number 6
NEW ADVENTURES ON THE HORIZON

April 13th will be my last day in the Law Library. I have been offered and have accepted the position of Federal Documents Collection Librarian at the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Although I will continue to be a government documents librarian, the experience will be in a larger library with a collection of great subject depth and a broader clientele. As the administrator of the only Regional Federal Depository Library in the State of Iowa, I will serve as “trouble-shooter” for smaller libraries participating in the depository program and will serve as reference librarian for U.S. government information for citizens of Iowa as well as the University community.

I’ve been with the I.U. Law Library for almost thirteen years and have enjoyed working with you (O.K., most of you). However, I look forward to continued professional growth in learning new aspects of librarianship and government information and hope that I never lose my sense of adventure.

Best wishes to you all in each of your endeavors.

Marianne Mason
Documents Librarian

WORKING THE HALLS

Please join us in welcoming Betsy Ringrose who has joined us as the new Director of Annual Reunion Giving.

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO:

- Prof. Joe Hoffmann on the 1st
- Debbie Eads on the 4th
- Prof. Charles Geyh on the 6th
- Asst. Dean Kevin Robling on the 14th
- Prof. John Applegate on the 20th
- Prof. David Fidler on the 29th
- Librarian Liz Larson on the 30th

FEDERAL JURY SERVICE

In the October issue of Res Ipsa Loquitur I discussed my summons for jury duty in United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana in Indianapolis. I was informed that I was in the jury pool for the months of October, November, and December. In my article I stated that I was looking forward to the prospect of serving on a federal jury, since my previous jury service had been at the county level. As it turned out, I was never summoned to appear in U.S. District Court for jury service. Thus my career as a federal juror is over, at least for now.

I regret not having the opportunity to serve, in spite of the necessity of having to drive up to downtown Indianapolis, but that is the way it goes. It would have been interesting to witness and be a part of a federal trial, but maybe someday in the future I will have that opportunity.

Michael Maben
Cataloging Librarian

SUGGESTION BOX

(Every month in this box Associate Director Linda Fariss selects a suggestion from the comment box and replies to it)

Unfortunately, no comments were made to respond to in the last month. The student body seems to have been fairly quiet recently. If you have a suggestion for us, please write it down and place it in the Suggestion Box on the Circulation Desk.

Law Library Spring Break Hours
March 9 – 18, 2001

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Mar. 9</td>
<td>7:30 am – 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar. 10</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Mar. 11</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>Mon.-Fri., Mar. 12-16</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar. 17</td>
<td>9:00 am – 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Mar. 18</td>
<td>Resume Regular Hours</td>
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Res Ipsa Loquitur