Legal research often begins with a search for relevant law review articles. Thus, students who wish to write about the law of foreign jurisdictions are often told to consult the *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals*, which indexes more than 450 scholarly journals published in countries around the world. It is easily the best known and the most comprehensive index of its kind.

Recently this index became accessible to Library patrons via a very powerful and user-friendly interface on the World Wide Web, located at <http://eureka.rlg.org/tmp/auto.15244.htm>. The user can also link to it from the IU Law Homepage.

The sequence of links is as follows:
1. IU Homepage → IU-Bloomington Homepage →
2. Academics and Research → Libraries → Search IUCAT or Databases →
3. type the term “rlin” in the search box →
4. click on the term “RLIN/Eureka” →
5. click on the URL.

RLIN, the principal database at this site, is a very large collection of bibliographic records that can be searched for reference purposes. It is bundled with a variety of other databases, one of which is the *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals*. Therefore, the researcher must first select the option to change databases, and then select the Index.

The researcher can search the index via a simple keyword search of the author, title, and subject fields. (It is also possible to do a simple search of author, title, or subject fields, but this requires knowledge of exact phrases). Retrieved items can be listed in reverse chronological order, or alphabetically by author or title. Most importantly, subject headings provide hyper-links to other items assigned the same subject heading. Finally, there is also an advanced search option, which allows one to search specific fields in combination, but the RLIN search engine is not powerful enough to support this option adequately.

There are several limitations to the online version of the *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals*, which the researcher should keep in mind. First, it contains nearly 150,000 records, but only goes back to 1985. The printed version of the index, which is shelved in the reserve area, goes back to 1960. Second, many of the articles indexed are in languages other than English. Of course, this is true of the printed version as well.
Despite these limitations, the online version of the *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals* is a wonderful addition to the Library’s resources. It is extremely useful to be able to search fifteen years of periodical literature at once, and keyword access greatly enhances the accessibility of citations in the index. Now researchers have yet another reason to consider undertaking projects that involve analysis of foreign law.

**NEW KIND OF SEARCH ENGINE**

If you haven’t used Google <http://www.google.com> yet to search the web, then you don’t know how much time you’ve been wasting looking at irrelevant search results. The brainchild of former Stanford PhD students Larry Page and Sergey Brin, Google uses complex algorithms (over 400 million variables) to determine first, whether a site is relevant and second, how to rank it compared to other sites. This patent-pending page-ranking technology relies upon the belief that if a web page is important, other sites will point to or link to it. According to a recent article, Google has analyzed 400 million web pages and 3 billion links residing on those web pages.

Officially launched in October 1999, Google already has a faithful following, fielding over 4 million queries a day (it had 2 million a day when it was in beta and relied only upon word-of-mouth promotion). Using Google for about a year now, I am still amazed that often the first search result returned is exactly the site that I wanted to find. The search engine is great for finding companies and associations, because it searches for phrases by default. I use Google almost exclusively to update my web guides and the CD-ROM *Lawyers Desk Reference Plus*. Another nice feature is the ability to view a cache copy of the search result sites. When a site appears to be down for some reason or to have mysteriously disappeared, I can still access information (such as the webmaster’s email address) at that site by viewing Google's cache copies.

Lastly, Google’s Uncle Sam <http://www.google.com/unclesam> restricts searching to U.S. Government and Military sites.

I’d be interested in hearing your comments and experiences with this search engine. Just email me, jcsmit@indiana.edu.

*Juliet Smith,*  
*Electronic Services Librarian*

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**CONTINUED UPDATE: THE CONVERSION OF JX CALL NUMBERS**

The conversion of the JX call numbers continues. We have pulled virtually all books with a JX call number from the stacks (the one major exception is the Reference collection). All of the former JX books on the 2nd floor now have KZ call numbers. We are now working on the books from the 3rd floor, most of which are converting to JZ (some of these books will receive a KZ call number, or possibly one of the other schedules). If you need a book with a JX call number, please see a reference librarian because the item most likely is in the technical services department. If you are looking for a JZ or KZ book and cannot find it on the shelf (and it is not checked out), again please see a reference librarian. The book is probably in the technical services area awaiting processing. We will be glad to retrieve any book you need from these areas.

*Michael Maben,*  
*Cataloging Librarian*
Due to some technical problems, the connections to library catalogs from locations other than IU (e.g., Purdue, Michigan, Notre Dame) have been removed from the IUCAT menus. Most of these catalogs are now available over the Internet. To search the Big Ten Combined Catalog, which includes the online catalogs of the University of Chicago and the Center for Research Libraries as well as Big Ten institutions, you may connect from the Web at <http://www.indiana.edu/~libcic>.

It is hoped that direct connections to Big Ten and other Indiana libraries through IUCAT will be re-established in the near future. As always, if you experience any problems, please consult a reference librarian.

Nonie Watt,  
Head of Technical Services

UNITED STATES V. MICROSOFT

In August 1998, various news organizations intervened in US v. Microsoft to obtain public access to the depositions that were being taken. On January 29, 1999, the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit held that such depositions should be open to the public, and on April 7th, the District Court entered an order to provide public access to the portions of the transcripts of depositions previously taken that do not contain confidential information. The Library has received these redacted transcripts in CD-ROM format, and it is available for check-out at the Circulation Desk.

This CD contains the transcripts of depositions taken from 93 individuals by the parties in United States v. Microsoft and State of New York, et al. v. Microsoft, the government antitrust lawsuit against the Microsoft Corporation. Transcripts may be viewed by selecting them from an index organized alphabetically by the deponent’s last name, or by entering a search term. Searches are performed against a full-text index of all depositions. Some of the deposition transcripts have been edited to remove confidential information. The transcripts on the CD-ROM are presented in Adobe Acrobat PDF.

Marianne Mason,  
Documents Librarian

The Suggestion Box

(Each month in this space Associate Director Linda Fariss replies to suggestions received by the Library)

Come on guys! I haven’t had a suggestion for weeks! I’m sure you all have something to say or is everything in the Library really that good?!! We can’t always follow through on your suggestions but we always appreciate hearing what you have to say. And don’t forget, you can use either the Suggestion Box on the Circulation Desk or send one via the Law School’s website. Just choose the Law Library button and click on “Suggestion Box” Remember, if you want a reply, include your email address. I look forward to hearing from you.
WORKING THE HALLS

Happy November Birthdays to:

Prof. Jost Delbrück on the 3rd
Frank Burleigh, Systems Analyst, on the 10th
Prof. Dan Conkle on the 10th
Prof. Doug Boshkoff on the 11th
Dick Vaughan, Acquisitions Librarian, on the 12th
Laura Winninghoff, Circ. Supervisor on the 17th
Mark Hilycord, Asst. Dean, on the 17th
Prof. Tom Schornhorst on the 18th
Prof. Cathy Crosson on the 21st
Asst. Dean Angela Lieurance on the 28th

Welcome! New staff:

Denise Holaday, Senior Faculty Secretary
Deborah Westerfield, Senior Faculty Secretary

Congratulations! New baby:

Sandra Perry, 3L, and her husband, Phil are the proud parents of a new daughter. Alexandria Marie was born on October 29, and was 8 lbs., 7 oz. and 20 in. at birth.

TURKEY SUPPORT ON THE WEB

Food Network: Let’s Talk Turkey
This site offers a complete guide to a successful and delicious Thanksgiving Dinner. Fear your dinner will resemble a Charlie Brown Thanksgiving? Food Network’s Turkey Calculator and Kitchen Disaster 911 to the rescue.

Epicurious Food: The Full Bounty
<http://food.epicurious.com/e_eating/e04_thanks98/fullthanks.html>
An abundance of Thanksgiving recipes and techniques can be found here. There is even a video demonstrating how to stir gravy like a pro.

Butterball
<http://www.butterball.com/>
Butterball, your Turkey Headquarters on the web, invites you to attend Butterball University, where each week a variety of turkey topics are discussed and lesson plans are available to help you master techniques for preparing a picture perfect turkey.

Juliet Smith,
Electronic Services Librarian

Law Library Thanksgiving Hours
November 23 - 28, 1999

Tuesday, Nov. 23 ................................................................. 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 24 ......................................................... 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 25 ............................................................... CLOSED
Friday, Nov. 26 ................................................................. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 27 ............................................................. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 28 ............................................................... Resume Regular Hours