LOCATING BRIEFS ONLINE

by Peter Hook, Electronics Librarian

A lot can be learned from party briefs. You can find out the arguments used by the parties in order to determine which were accepted and rejected by the court. Party briefs often contain more factual and statistical information than make it into the opinion of the court. A brief filed in one jurisdiction may be used to write arguments for the same fact pattern in another jurisdiction. Additionally, students can use briefs as learning tools to write their own briefs. While the Law Library is fortunate to have an extensive brief collection in both paper and microfiche, it can sometimes be helpful to find briefs online. This is particularly true if the online briefs are full-text searchable. Below are places online that you can find briefs.

(Note: this same information is available as a Library Research Guide on the Law Library’s Webpage.
http://www.law.indiana.edu/library/services/cou_bri.shtml)

United States Supreme Court

Lexis – (GENFED:BRIEFS) - From January 1979 through the present.

Westlaw - (SCT-BRIEF) - Meris briefs from 1990-91 Term;
Amicus briefs from 1995-96 Term; (SCT-BRIEF-EXT) - selective coverage 1976-1990, and more selective from 1970-1975; (SCT-BRIEF-ALL) – all US Supreme Court Briefs on Westlaw; (SCT-PETITION) - Selective coverage begins in 1990 for granted petitions and 1995 or denied petitions. Includes briefs in opposition to the granting of cert.; (SCT-JA) - selected joint appendices, no date range given; (SCT-ORALARG) - Official transcripts of oral arguments in cases heard before the U.S. Supreme Court from the 1990-91 Term to the present.

Yale Curiae Project (older briefs of great historical importance)
http://curiae.aw.yale.edu/

ABA’s Supreme Court Preview Page (recent merit briefs)
http://www.abanet.org/publiced/preview/home.html

Solicitor General’s Office (all briefs filed by the US from 1997 to the present)
http://www.usdoj.gov/osg/briefs/search.html

FindLaw (1999 to present)

United States Courts of Appeal

7th Circuit (1997 to present, not comprehensive)
http://www.ca7.uscourts.gov/briefs.htm

8th Circuit (2000 to present)
http://www.ca8.uscourts.gov/orfs/brFrama.html

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NEW &
NOTEWORTHY: WAR CRIME TRIALS

Recently I've been spending a few hours each week processing the papers of Law School graduate Guy M. Kinman (LL.B., 1911). The Kinman papers pertain to his work as a Colonel in the U.S. Army, Judge Advocate General's Department, and specifically his role as Chief of the Trial Division of the American War Crimes Group at the International Tribunals that followed World War II. Once the papers have been processed and cataloged, I'll write a summary of their contents for Res Ipsa Loquitur.

In the meantime, here are a few titles published within the last five years that the Law Library owns pertaining to what the Library of Congress has classified as "War Crime Trials:"


Richard Vaughan
Acquisitions & Serials Control Librarian

INTERNS VALUE VARIETY OF EXPERIENCE

Right before starting law school in 2001, Joe Boston, 3L, was reading the University’s literature for incoming students and decided that law librarianship could be a good career possibility. The variety of experiences and topics offered by librarianship appealed to Joe, as well as the diverseness of client interaction.

Joe is currently enrolled in a dual-degree program and will graduate in August 2004 with a JD from the School of Law and an MLS from the School of Library and Information Science. During his time in graduate school at IU, Joe has been surprised by the differences between the two programs. “In library school there is a strong focus on group work and frequent periodic assignments.” Joe’s favorite courses at SLIS have been Legal Bibliography and the reference course (Information Sources and Services).

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Legal Bibliography and Law Library Administration (L590) is a SLIS course taught during the Spring semester by law librarians Linda Fariss and Keith Buckley. Law students need not be enrolled at SLIS to take this course (for more information, visit the SLIS web site at http://www.slis.indiana.edu/courses/).

Since the Fall of 2002 Joe has worked as a student intern at the Law Library reference desk. In addition to gaining a thorough knowledge of legal research sources and materials, Joe has had some interesting interactions with patrons. “A surprising number of people apologize for not remembering how to do something they learned in Legal Research and Writing during undergrad,” Joe says. “Patrons expect a lot of themselves.” Some of the patrons whom Joe assists with research include students from other departments. During such an encounter last year, Joe met his future wife. “I met Nancy while she was taking an Environmental Law class for her masters in SPEA,” Joe recalls. “She needed reference help with her term paper.” And romance soon followed.

In addition to interning at the reference desk, Joe has also worked as a desk attendant at the Law Library circulation desk. Desk attendants are law students hired by Rebecca Bertoloni Meli, Head of Circulation, whose duties include circulating and discharging materials, assisting patrons with course reserves, conference rooms, and copy machines.

Though he envisions for himself a reference librarian position at an academic law library, eventually working with international materials, Joe is currently open to all the possibilities of either the legal or librarian profession. Joe plans to take a bar exam and to maintain his license to practice.

In contemplating how his education and student work experience have prepared him for the future, Joe says, “Now I’m very comfortable with electronic and paper research both in law and generally. Also, a lot of SLIS classes involve finding interesting tidbits of info from various sources, so hopefully I’m better prepared for Jeopardy and Who Wants to be a Millionaire...ha ha, just a joke for you, don’t put that in the article!”

Jennifer Bryan,
Documents Librarian

EXPANDED ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC JOURNALS

Is the journal you need checked out? Perhaps it is off to the bindery. Before you give up, try searching IUCAT to see if the issue you need might be available electronically. With the implementation of HeinOnline almost a year ago, access to the full-text of over 400 law reviews in electronic format became readily available both through IUCAT and the Library’s webpage. In recent weeks, the Library has added links from the online catalog to the electronic counterparts of almost 200 additional journals not contained in HeinOnline and will continue to do so as more titles become available.

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THE SUGGESTION BOX

Every month in this space Associate Director Linda Fariss responds to a suggestion from the Suggestion Box.

Suggestion: 15¢ for copies is theft. Buy our own copiers and charge less.

Response: After many years of charging the same price, the University Copy Machines Department has raised the cost of making copies twice in recent memory. You are correct that the current price is 15¢ per copy. However, if you use your student ID card, you can save money. I believe it is 10¢ per copy using your carc. You do have to put money on your card in order to do this, but you can also use it for many services. You can find information about this at the Campus Access card website (http://www.indiana.edu/~cacard/). I don’t think it is feasible for us to buy machines because we would have to pay for paper, toner, maintenance, additional staff time, etc.
LEXIS ACHIEVES 3 MILLION DAILY SEARCH MARK & CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Last month, for the first time, LexisNexis had three million searches of its online databases in a single day. It took 26 years, from the company’s inception in 1973 to 1999, to break the mark of one million searches in a single day. However, it took only 27 additional months for the company to reach the 2 million daily search plateau in February 2002. Undoubtedly, this meteoric increase in the level of use will continue and that Lexis’s competitor, Westlaw, is seeing similar increases. (West publishing launched its first online service two years later than Lexis in 1975). For information as to the history of LexisNexis, including a timeline and a photo gallery see:

http://www.lexisnexis.com/anniversary/

Peter Hook
Electronic Services Librarian

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**Law Library Thanksgiving Hours**
**Nov. 25 - 30, 2003**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday, November 25</th>
<th>7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 26</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 27</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 28</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, November 29</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, November 30</td>
<td>Resume Regular Hours</td>
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**Law Library Final Exam Hours**
**December 6-19, 2003**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 6</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>6:00 a.m. - Midnight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 8 - 12</td>
<td>Mon.-Fri.</td>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 13</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - Midnight</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 14</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 15 - 19</td>
<td>Mon.-Thurs.</td>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 19</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.</td>
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**WORKING THE HALLS**

Welcome to the Law School:

Congratulations to the Library’s Jennifer Bryan on her marriage to Larry Morgan, we wish them the best!!

Happy November Birthday to:
Professor Amy Applegate on the 6th
Frank Burleigh, Systems Analyst, on the 10th

Professor Dan Conkle on the 10th
Professor Douglass Boshoff on the 11th
Librarian Richard Vaughan on the 12th
Lesa Petersen, Communications Coordinator on the 16th
Bruce Farrand, Career Services Coordinator on the 19th
Professor Cathy Crosson on the 21st