Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!

I would like to extend a special welcome to the 1L Class of 2018 and all new faculty members. I also want to welcome back our returning law students and faculty. I look forward to an exciting school year.

Navigating the Law School maze will be one of the most challenging experiences you will ever have. The Law Library Staff is here to help you to answer your questions and to provide legal research help throughout the school year. Feel free to stop by the Circulation and Reference Desks to meet the librarians and the rest of our friendly library staff.

Reference assistance is also available by phone at 713-313-1108.

To find books, pathfinders, the law library guide, and Electronic guide, and other materials available from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library, visit the webpage at: library.tsulaw.edu/.

Good luck and remember that the Law Library is a safe haven. Have a great semester!

Basement Closed for Remodeling

Attention all Library Patrons:
The basement of the library will be closed to the public from July 27, 2015 until further notice for repairs. The old carpeting is being replaced with stained concrete. Contractors are working diligently so please excuse any noise that you may hear. The law library would like to apologize for any inconvenience and to thank you for your patience and cooperation at this time.
The 20th Edition of the Bluebook has Arrived at TMSL Library

In June, the 20th edition of The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation was published. The Thurgood Marshall School of Law’s Library has copies of the 20th edition that have replaced its 2010 edition on Reserve. Bluebook users with subscription access to the electronic version at LegalBluebook.com can view the new edition online. (Purchasers of the print edition will also receive a code for a 30-day free trial of the online version; or the book can be purchased as a bundle with online access for up to 3 years.) I know you’re wondering so what’s the difference? Some key differences are that the new edition adds sources and terms to various tables, clarifies rules regarding quotations within a quotation, and Rule 18 includes new material, which governs the citation of electronic resources. Although the Bluebook continues prefer print editions for some citations, such as the date of a statutory code volume, the new edition does allow for the use of online newspapers as a substitute for print, and no longer requires pagination. Law librarian Janelle Beitz compiled a list of differences between the 19th and 20th editions on Google Drive. They can be found at the following link https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2M3mwEaImjcXhFUkk5UDRBN00/view?pli=1.

Class of 1995 20 Year Reunion

On July 10th and 11th 2015, the Class of 1995, celebrated their 20 year reunion. The class was greeted by Dean Dannye Holley and former Dean James Douglass. Law Library Director DeCarlous Spearman gave a memorable tribute to those who were “Gone but not Forgotten,” which included faculty who passed away and or retired since 1995. Next, there was a beautiful solo performed by Felicia Ezell, and Michelle Beck gave a talk on ‘The Year was 1995.” Ysidra Kyles, the keynote speaker gave a poignant speech entitled “Lemons after Law School.” A final DVD presentation was made by Trina Perkins-Mouton. Saturday night, the alum enjoyed dinner at Eddie V’s at The City Centre. The class talked about old times and shared family photographs.
Congratulations

Congratulations to the faculty members who were given tenure and or were given a promotion. From the Law School Professor Michael James, Professor Lydia Johnson, Professor Ana Otero, Professor Rebecca Stewart and the Law Library’s Director Professor DeCarlous Spearman were all recognized at the Texas Southern University’s Fall Opening Meeting.

Congratulations also to Danny Norris for becoming the Law Library’s new Associate Director and for winning the AALL & Thomson Reuters/George A. Strait Minority Scholarship. Danny was formerly the law library’s faculty research librarian. He has published several articles and assisted many faculty members and students with publishing articles. He also is the former president of the Houston Lawyers Association. Danny’s scholarship will help him pay for his MLIS. He is currently attending UNT.

The TMSL Library would like to formally thank you for your service to the school. Congratulations again!

"#WhatHappenedtoSandraBland?" Forum

On Tuesday August 4, 2015, the Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy, Inc., hosted a forum entitled "#WhatHappenedtoSandraBland?", discussing the controversial “alleged suicide of Sandra Bland while in police custody. Sandra Bland was a young woman who was recently arrested in Prairie View, Texas after being stopped by police while driving. She was later found dead in a Waller County jail cell. The forum consisted of representatives from the US Congress, the Texas Legislature, the Texas Organization Project, Texas Southern University, the US Department of Justice Community Relations Service, and a member of the review committee for the Bland case.

The purpose of the forum was to: foster collaborations that would formulate specific policy recommendations, devise mechanisms for highlighting incidents everywhere, establish research priorities for issues needing further development and lastly, to receive public comments on prioritizing strategies and soliciting persons interested in further developing these strategies.

There were more than 300 attendees. Additionally, the forum was broadcast online live via LiveStream. The forum was highly energized and at times the discussion became a bit difficult. The resolve was that there was still much left to do on this matter and that this forum would not be the last on addressing the issue of the police interaction with the community.
**Library Food and Beverage Policy**

Beverages are permitted in a pre-approved, non-spill containers. Patrons with drinks in unapproved containers will be asked to remove such items.

Food will be permitted in the form of individual snack size containers of dry foods like chips, cookies, candy, granola bars, and other relatively non-messy, individually packed snack foods.

Please discard all food containers in the trash cans near the study rooms, basement elevator and at the main library exit.

All library staff members are authorized to enforce this policy.

Food is considered acceptable as long as it meets the following conditions:

- It’s not a liquid, frozen or wet.
- It is not meant to be eaten with a fork or spoon.
- Food from vending machines like the one pictured are generally acceptable in the library.
- Drinks and food are NOT allowed in the computer lab and photocopy area.

Let’s work together to ensure our library is a place where you can study and research effectively.

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**Law Library Mission Statement:**

To promote excellence in academic achievement and the dissemination of legal information to the TMSL students, faculty, staff, and the community. The Law Library seeks to bolster the professional and scholarly undertakings of its faculty, and students as well as support the research and reference needs of the law students, alumni, the university, legal, and local communities. The Law Library is committed to strengthening the academic and professional skills of the students and faculty by integrating technology while supporting the law school curriculum, programs, and organizations. This support encourages research and programs that promote learning, scholarship, and familiarity with new and innovative research products and techniques.

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**Contributions:**

Karim Aldridge-Rand, Technical Services Director
Daniel Brackmann, Electronic Resources Librarian
Richard Clark, Government Documents Librarian
Nanette Collins, Reference Librarian
Patrina Epperson, Circulation Librarian
Danyahel Norris, Associate Director
DeCarlous Spearman, Director
Editor: Itunu Sofidiya, Learning Resources Librarian

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**Library Telephone Numbers:**

Circulation: 713-313-7125
Reference: 713-313-1108