Welcome

The Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library extends a special welcome to the Class of 2009 and all new faculty members.

We also want to welcome back our returning students and faculty. We are looking forward to an exciting 2006 - 2007 academic school year. We have a number of training opportunities to assist both students and faculty members. We encourage you to stay abreast of current happenings through the Marshall News and the informational postings throughout the law library.

If you have a special request for a research consultation or classroom presentation, the librarians are here to help.

Please stop by the Reference/Circulation Desk to meet our awesome law library staff if you have not done so. While you are there, pick up some of the library’s helpful publications such as the 2006-2007 Library Guide, 2006-2007 Electronic Databases Guide, Location Guide and an abundance of pathfinders, bibliographies and other research guides. They provide a wealth of information. Don’t delay; pick up these guides today.

New law students are encouraged to take a library tour. Library tours will be conducted during first-year computer orientation training and the law library’s open house. If you missed your tour see any librarian.

This newsletter will provide some answers and insights to enrich your law school experience.

Library Tours

Open House
1st Year Students
Aug. 10 & 11, 2006
Returning Students
Aug. 14 & 15, 2006

Regular Law Library Hours
Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. - 12 a.m.
Friday 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Reference Hours
Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Pathfinders/Research Guides/Bibliographies

The library has revised several of its research guides, pathfinders and bibliographies. These materials point you in the direction of useful print and electronic materials. They are located in the library and are made available in classes and library seminars.

Bibliographies are lists that reference material on a specific subject. Our bibliographies include references to articles in journals as well as books.

Pathfinders and research guides provide in-depth information on an area of law or a particular resource.

Why reinvent the wheel? These guides have done most of the work for you. They can save you valuable time and quickly expand your knowledge of how to use a particular research tool.

Nanette Collins, Reference Librarian, and L. Monique Gonzalez, Learning Resource Librarian are available to visit classrooms and discuss ways of expanding and improving your research.

Tracy Timmons, Electronic Services Librarian will teach database classes throughout the school year. The Electronic Database Guide provides the needed usernames and passwords to access these sources.

Return of the Brown Bag Sessions

Back by popular demand, the Brown Bag Sessions are returning for another year. Each session will focus on an area of legal research or the use of an available electronic database. The first session will cover Developing a Research Strategy and available electronic databases at TMSL. A monthly schedule will be posted in the Library on the information display and is available at the Circulation/Reference Desk.

Please note, schedules may be altered to meet student needs. If there is a topic you would like to see covered, please contact DeCarlous Spearman by email dspearman@tsulaw.edu.

If you missed it in legal research; if you have a research paper due; or if you have to draft a legal document, attending a Brown Bag Session can help! Come join us for any or all sessions.
In the meantime, use these helpful hints to get to the right source. To find materials owned by the Law Library, use ALEX the Law Library’s Online Public Access Catalog. Journal articles are not available in the Catalog.

To find law-related articles, cases, codes or administrative regulations, take a look at the Electronic Resources page which can be located from the Law Library’s webpage.

For more information, contact L. Monique Gonzalez, Learning Resources Librarian.

We are pleased to announce a long awaited addition to our Special Collections -- Records of the National Negro Business League (NNBL). This invaluable microfilm collection consists of two parts: Pt. 1 -- Annual Conference Proceedings and Organizational Records (1900-1919) and Pt. 2 -- Correspondence and Business Records (1900-1923).

The NNBL was founded by the late Honorable Dr. Booker T. Washington in 1900 with the express intent to improve the "commercial, agricultural, educational, and industrial advancement" of African Americans during the early 20th Century. Interestingly, his principal secretary-treasurer was Houston native, Emmet J. Scott -- the late uncle of our beloved local resident African American historian Mrs. Thelma Scott Bryant (Mrs. Bryant is now 100 years old and resides in Third Ward). This collection contains numerous correspondences between Mr. Scott and other members of the NNBL. It also has scores of printed materials chronicling key historical and social events impacting various communities throughout the nation, especially Houston and Texas in general. Most of all, page after page divulges the wide range of successful African American business enterprises in spite of the adverse social conditions prevalent at the time.

Another important point of interest is that the NNBL collection provides insight into the elite of black business men and women and an emerging upwardly mobile black middle class. Additionally, the life and times of Dr. Booker T. Washington couldn't be better revealed. The NNBL is an excellent resource for southern historians, social scientists, labor lawyers, African American history majors as well as a superb research tool for those interested in race relations, American politics, American South, southern industries, economic development, educational development, and civic organizations.

For more information about the NNBL Collection, you may contact Karim Rand, Coordinator of Government Documents & Special Collections.
Using ALEX, the Online Public Access Catalog

ALEX, the Law Library OPAC includes books, journals, newspapers, conference proceedings, government documents, microforms, and video or audio recordings in the collection.

HOW TO SEARCH ALEX

AUTHOR Searching

Author searching retrieves any type of author (individuals, organizations, conference names, composers, artists, performers, editors, etc.).

Example: AUTHOR: Calamari John
Example: AUTHOR: American Bar Association

TITLE Searching

Title searching retrieves titles of books, conferences, etc.

Example: TITLE: Contract

Retrieves Contract Act, Contract Cases, Contract Law, etc.

SUBJECT Searching

Subject searching retrieves only the official Library of Congress Subject Headings. If you are unsure of the correct subject heading for your topic, try a keyword search instead.

KEYWORD Searching

Keyword searching uses words in the title and content notes when the exact title, author or Subject Heading is unknown. The search looks for the terms

Library Laws

- **NO FOOD**
- **DRINKS in proper containers ONLY**
- **QUIET PLEASE!**
- **NO TALKING on cell phones**

Marshall News is a publication of the Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library. The newsletter is available in paper and electronic format. Copies are distributed to the law school faculty and staff via email and paper. Students can acquire a paper copy of the newsletter in the law school or from the law library webpage at: www.tsulaw.edu. Please send all comments, contributions or concerns to:

DeCarlous Spearman,
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Houston, Texas 77004

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SPOTLIGHT

L. Monique Gonzalez, Learning Resources Librarian was appointed to the Houston Bar Association, County Law Library Committee for the 2006-2008 term.