

FROM THE STAFF
OF THE TEXAS
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD
MARSHALL
SCHOOL OF LAW
LIBRARY



Marshall News

Volume 5 Issue 1

August 18, 2008

Marshall News is the newsletter of record for the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library. It serves the campus of Texas Southern University and the surrounding community. TMSL Library boasts a staff of 9 professional librarians and 7 support staff.

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Welcome to Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall Law Library

If you are new to the law library, or just need a refresher, here are some important things to know about our services: Ask a Librarian! Law Librarians are ready to help with reference and research questions. Assistance is available at the Circulation & Information desk or by phone at 713-313-7125. Reference assistance is available seven days a week.

The computer workstations are available for research and access to law library materials. However, use of the computer lab is restricted. Only students who are enrolled at Thurgood Marshall School of Law and Texas Southern University and have valid Tiger One cards may enter the lab. As always, TMSL students have first priority.

Laptop access is also available by connecting to one of the library's network jacks. See the IT Department, between 8a -5p, should you have questions.

To find books, pathfinders, videos, and other materials available from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library, visit the webpage at: library.tsulaw.edu/. Note: Academic journals are not available in Law Library Catalog. See a picture of the webpage on page 3.

To find scholarly articles, cases, codes, administrative regulations, and other legal or interdisciplinary materials, check out the library's collection of electronic resources available from our home page www.tsulaw.edu/library/index.asp/. Navigate the library's website using the left toolbar.

First year law students will be given full access to Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw in the middle of the Fall Semester. Please see your legal research syllabus for more information. Or feel free to contact your Lexis and Westlaw reps.

Have a great semester!

SURVEYING THE STUDENTS: THE RESULTS ARE IN

by Nannette Collins, Reference Librarian

In April of 2008, the library conducted its annual Library Satisfaction Survey. The 184 responses we received helped the library staff determine library policies and make decisions regarding the collection. We received an equal amount of responses from each of the three law school

classes and 12 responses from undergrads.



We were pleased to find that a large percentage of you spend many hours studying in the library and also using the computer lab to check email and print assignments. We also received compliments regarding the front

Continued on page 3

The Making of Modern Law Comes to Thurgood Marshall School of Law by Jennifer Collins, Acquisitions Librarian



Starting this fall semester, Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law makes available its newly acquired database, Making of Modern Law (MOML). Thomson Gale Publishes this mammoth database, which was derived from an essential reference collection of both historical and contemporary legal studies of 19th century and 20th century legal treaties microfiche collection. MOML's many features include a fully searchable

database of over 10 million pages of legal history from the United States and Great Britain. It also provides researchers with a logical, interdisciplinary approach to the study of modern law and allows a vast segment of law to be quickly searched via keyword access by any faculty member or student anywhere. This unique collection provides the researcher the tools to trace the evolution history of legal studies. The database features valuable text from key legal writers and thinkers of the time.

Some of the works covered are: case books, local practice manuals, form books, works for lay readers, pamphlets, letters and speeches, all separated into 99 subject areas.

This newly acquired database keeps Thurgood Marshall Law School competitive with our law school neighbors: the University of Houston, University of Texas and Southern Methodist University. We in the library invite students and faculty to come to the library and experience our latest acquisition.

**TMSL
Library
acquires
state of the
art
database,
Making of
Modern Law.
Ask a
Librarian for
details.**

Get a Head-Start on Law School with these Library Resources

The first year of law school can be the most daunting and demanding academic experience of one's life. The library has a collection of books devoted to success at law school. Below is a list of the most recent materials:

Acing Your First Year of Law School: The Ten Steps to Success You Won't Learn in Class.
Location: Classified.
KF283 .N69 1999

Bridging the Gap between College and Law School :

Strategies for Success.
Location: Classified.
KF283 .S77 2001

How to succeed in law school.
Location: Classified.
KF283 .M86 2001

The JD Jungle law school survival guide.
Location: Classified.
KF285 .J3 2003

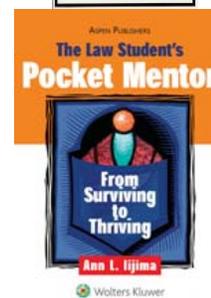
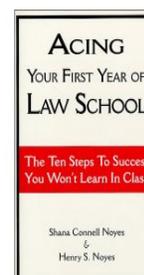
Law school insider : the comprehensive 21st century guide to success ... for prospective students and their loved ones.

Location: Classified.
KF283 .H67 2002

Strategies & tactics for the first year law student : maximize your grades.
Location: Classified.
KF283 .W35 2004

The law student's pocket mentor: from surviving to thriving.
Location: Classified.
KF283 .I35 2007.

Please visit the display in the elevator lobby for more helpful resources rich in information on succeeding in law school.



Success in law school hinges on your preparation. You absolutely must hit the ground running. The law library can help.

Survey: Your Opinion Counts (continued from page 1)



desk personnel doing a great job helping students with their research needs. Students found the Crash Course and the Brown Bag Research Training sessions very helpful and actually requested more training. The library staff is gratified that students are pleased with the training we offer and we will be happy to schedule more training in the future.

When asked for comments and suggestions

for improved service, many students indicated that there is too much noise in the library. In response to this concern shared by many students, the library has instituted a new noise control policy.

Also in the comments and suggestions portion of the survey, many students criticized the “no food policy.” See the new library policies on pages four and five.

Librarian Reaches Professional Milestone



Williams teaches Legal Research during the Fall.

Congratulations to Taciana Williams on recently receiving her Master’s in Library and Information Science (MLIS) from the University of North Texas. She is the third librarian to attain dual degrees—both the Master’s and the J.D. Ms. Williams is the Learning Resources Librarian here at the law library.

Library Director Makes Local & National News

The Houston Chronicle featured TMSL Library Director, DeCarious Spearman, on August 1st. Dubbing her a “moneymaker,” the story followed Spearman’s love for research

and reading from childhood to her directorship of our library. An electronic version of the story may be obtained at: www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/5920268.html.

The ABA Journal also picked up the story, where it has generated much discussion from others in the field. It is available at: abajournal.com/. Congrats to Mrs. Spearman.

Welcome: Exploring the Library’s Webpage (continued from page 1)

LIBRARY RULE CHANGES

BEVERAGES are permitted in an approved, non-spill container. Patrons with drinks in unapproved containers will be asked to discard or remove such items from the Library.



ACCEPTABLE



UNACCEPTABLE

FOOD

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, individual snack foods. Please discard all food containers in the trash cans near the study rooms, basement elevator lobby and at the main library exit. All library staff members are authorized to enforce this policy.

Please Note:

- If you can buy it in a vending machine,
- It's not a liquid, frozen or wet
- It's not meant to be eaten with a fork or spoon
- It should be acceptable.

Please help us make this new Rule work. Continuous violations may result in the reinstating of the original *NO FOOD RULE!*

Drinks and food are **NOT** allowed in the computer lab and photocopy area.



Noise in the Library

In an effort to better control the volume of noise in the library, the library has revised its Noise Policy. There will be two different noise zones in the library, the “Quiet Zone” and the “No Talking Zone”.

In the “Quiet Zone” low whispered conversations will be allowed. While in the “No Talking Zone” talking will be totally prohibited.

We are reserving this location for serious studying.

Absolutely no talking will be allowed in this area, no exceptions.

“QUIET ZONE”

Most of the first floor will be a “Quiet Zone” with whispered conversations being allowed.

“No Talking Zone”

The entire Law Library Basement is now a “No Talking Zone.” In addition, one area of the first floor, the tables and carrels in the Classified Sections around Aisles 120 – 136 will also be a “No Talking Zone.”

The following box is on the door entering the basement ...

WARNING

Please cease all conversations before you open
this door.

Violators of the Library Noise policy
may be subject to loss of library privileges.

Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library Staff

Administration

DeCarlous Spearman Director Law Library 713-313-7328 dspearman@tmslaw.tsu.edu

Law Librarians

Olusola Babatunde	Government Documents Librarian	713-313-1978	obabatunde@tmslaw.tsu.edu
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Gwen Henderson	Circulation Librarian	713-313-1157	ghenderson@tmslaw.tsu.edu
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Tracy Timmons	Electronic Resources Librarian	713-313-1108	ttimmons@tmslaw.tsu.edu
Taciana Williams	Learning Resources Librarian	713-313-1009	tawilliams@tmslaw.tsu.edu

Support Staff

Denise Cebrun	Cataloging Assistant	713-313-1148	dcebrun@tmslaw.tsu.edu
Cynthia Davis	Office Manager	713-313-1008	cdavis@tmslaw.tsu.edu
Patrina Epperson	Loose Leaf & Update Service Clerk	713-313-1011	pepperson@tmslaw.tsu.edu
Maia Ford	Government Documents Clerk	713-313-4472	mford@tmslaw.tsu.edu
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Mosetta Moy	Acquisitions Clerk	713-313-4481	mmoy@tmslaw.tsu.edu

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/ 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Schedule of Events

- August 15— Library Orientation for First Year Law Students
- August 18—Classes begin
- August 18—Library Orientation for Second and Third Year Law Students
- August 19—First Class Meeting for Legal Research Sections

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