

Marshall News

FEBRUARY 28, 2008

Google Books and Google Scholar:

How will they affect law students and the libraries they use?

No doubt every legal researcher has come across an incorrect citation that has stalled their otherwise productive research process. While looking for a pertinent law review article, students, faculty and librarians are thwarted because either the volume of the journal or the page number is wrong or it's the wrong journal altogether. The same has probably happened with books. There's a citation to what can only be a book. The researcher looks in the online catalog only to discover there is no book with that title. The researcher then wonders if the citation is a reference to a chapter in a book or the title to a book not widely owned by many libraries. Frustrated, the researcher wonders what the next step is.

Google Books and Scholar are two programs that Google is using to carry out its mission to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful. So, theoretically, if that unlucky researcher were to enter an incorrect citation or book title, Google would make life easier by retrieving even remotely relevant scholars or books.

Google Book Search is a search engine that provides full text

searching of books. So, if a researcher only knows the name of one chapter or even one quote from a book, s/he can enter the information and retrieve relevant books. Google Book Search also allows researchers to browse available books. In some instances, researchers may download a

Librarians and patrons can team up with Google to deal with incomplete citations, incorrect citations, incorrect spellings, tip-of-the-tongue questions, and forgotten searches.

**Jill Cisarella, Reference Librarian,
Brooklyn College Library**

free, PDF copy of a book. These books, however, must be either out of copyright, or available under permission of the publisher, or accessible in the public domain.

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Otherwise, researchers may view previews of the book, again depending on the publisher's permission.

Google Scholar is a search engine for scholarly literature focusing on array of disciplines and sources: peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, abstracts and articles, from academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories, universities and other scholarly organizations. Google Scholar offers four main features. First, researchers may search diverse sources from one convenient place. Second, they may find papers, abstracts and correct citations. Third, they may discover whether or not a complete scholarly article is available through their library or on the web. Lastly, researchers can compile a list of the key papers for any subject area of interest.

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Meet the Library Staff Members

My name is Gwen Henderson and I am the Circulation Librarian at the library. I have worked at TMSL library for 8 enjoyable years. A few of the things that I am responsible for are making sure the library is opened and closed on time, overdue books are addressed and the reference/circulation desk is manned at all times by knowledgeable staff. I love working with the students at TMSL. It is a joy to see how the students develop their research skills as they become familiar with the library and all

“I love working with the students at TMSL.”



**Gwen Henderson,
Circulation
Librarian**

it has to offer. I guess the most gratifying thing I have experienced is when a student returns to the library

to inform us of how what he or she has learned from the librarians has made him/her stand out on his/her job before and after graduation. In my spare time I like to bake from scratch and recently I have begun to sell my desserts. My children do not like to see the sweets leave the house, but I sure do, especially when I am gaining more than just inches on my waist!

At TMSL Library, serving our patrons is our greatest joy!

**Elsie Kelley
Administrative
Assistant**

Elsie Kelley is the Administrative Assistant for the TMSL Library where she has been a member of

the staff since August 1996. However, she is by no means a stranger to the University’s workforce as she embraced the campus in August 1976 and has worked in the departments of Human Resources, Vice President for Facilities Planning & Operations, and the Vice President for Student Services. In the capacity of Administrative Assistant she considers herself a “jack of all trades,” which involves all aspects of providing assistance to not only the library staff and librarians in their capacity as legal research professors, but to the law school faculty, students and patrons in the daily office operations, minor equipment repairs, library conference room



Kelley considers herself a “chicken soup for the soul” type of person.

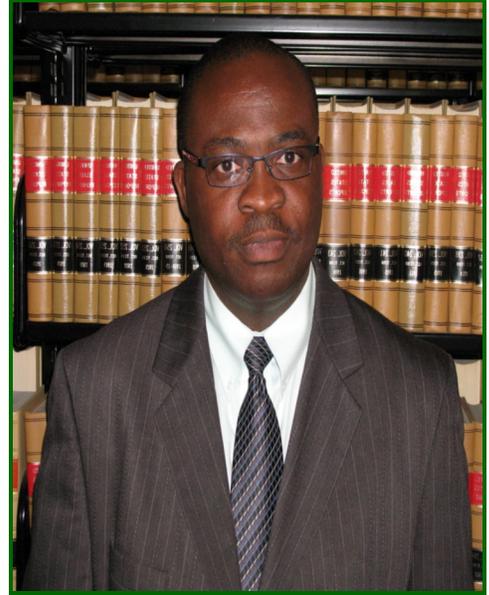
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MEET THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE TMSL LIBRARY

Sola Babatunde, a graduate of the University of Lagos, the Nigerian Law School, Southern Methodist University and the University of North Texas (UNT), is no stranger to the academic world. He cut his teeth in academia as a lecturer in Energy Law at the Lagos State University in Nigeria. And by fortuity, rather than design, he has been working in the academic environment in various capacities over the years. His odyssey into the academic world in the United States started in 2000 with his acceptance of a library specialist III position at Southern Methodist University, Dallas. In 2003, he became Library Specialist IV in the department of Government Information Resources. It was there that he made the decision to attend UNT School of Library and Information Science. He is enthusiastic and passionate about government

and legal information resources digital collection, teaching and research.

Babatunde pursued a specialization in Legal Informatics and Law librarianship at UNT. Partly because of his background and interest in law and partly because of his passion for government information and digital collection, Sola applied to Thurgood Marshall School of Law for the position of Government Documents Librarian when that position became vacant. He saw in this position the opportunity to serve the academic community and the public. The job, he surmised, would also provide the opportunities to pursue his interests in legal research, scholarship and ultimately build a digital collection. He is looking to the future with TSU with excitement.



Mr. Babatunde desires to share his enthusiasm and passion about government and legal information resources with TMSL faculty, students and staff.

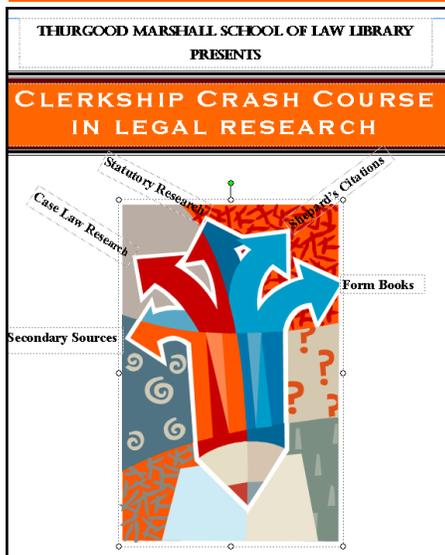
BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES

The Brown Bag Sessions are back. Each session focuses on how to effectively use a legal resource or electronic database. The first session covered Developing a Research Strategy, while previous sessions have covered the Bluebook, Texas Rules of Form, Legal Periodicals & Indexes, Federal Statutory Law, and Case Law. Handouts for the sessions are available on the Circulation/Reference Desk's media rack. Weekly reminders are posted throughout TMSL, emailed via TWEN and made available at the Circulation/Reference Desk.

Please note, by popular demand schedules may be altered to address more pressing needs. If there is a topic you need or would like to see covered, please contact the Learning Resources Librarian, Taciana Williams, at tawilliams@tmslaw.tsu.edu.

If you didn't get it in legal research; if you have a research paper due; or if you have to prepare a petition due for class, these sessions can help! Come join us for Brown Bag Sessions.

Clerkship Crash Course in Legal Research



The Law Library will host its Third Annual Clerkship Crash Course in Legal Research Workshop on Saturday, April 5, 2008. The purpose of the Clerkship Crash Course in Legal Research is to help 2L and 3L students brush up their research skills in preparation

for their summer clerkships and jobs.

The Clerkship Crash Course in Legal Research will review previously taught research skills and give more detailed analysis of specific legal research strategies. The Course will present a Texas legal research problem; unlike the first-

year legal research course, which focuses on federal legal resources.

The Clerkship Crash Course will be open to 100 students on a first-come, first-serve basis.

“Legal research prowess is as important to a lawyer as marksmanship to a soldier.”

- Rod Borlase, Attorney-Mediator

Interested students will sign up at the Circulation Desk.

The Clerkship Crash Course will be a half-day presentation covering secondary sources, case law research, citators, and statutory research. Each subject area will include the following: a PowerPoint presentation, pathfinder/handouts, and question/answer sessions.

The sign-up sheet will be made available during the month of March at the Circulation Desk. Please be on the look-out. Space is limited.

Elsie Kelley Administrative Assistant

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reservations, monitoring equipment and supplies usage, and any other duties as assigned.

Ironically, all of Kelley's formal education was done in the then considered Third Ward Area, from elementary to college. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Education from Texas Southern University. She is a member of the Revolution Worship Center where she devotes her time, energy and motherly wit by volunteering to work with the children's ministry (ages 2 -5), a proud member of the Brown Sugar Book Club, and an enthusiastic lover of the theatre and arts and all genres of music; along with being extremely passionate about dancing from solo to line to ballroom (imaginings of entering a professional ballroom dance competition). For solitude and comfort she watches movies and delights in the indulgence of culinary treats. She truly enjoys people, attains a special gratification in serving those that she comes in contact with, and considers herself as a "chicken soup for the soul" type of person.

Google

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In addition to covering scholarly literature, it also covers non-scholarly works. Google Scholar has been criticized by academicians because it makes no distinctions as to what it considers scholarly and non-scholarly.

The history of Google Book Search may very well go back to 1996 with the inception of Google.com. In December 2004, Google officially announced the beginning of the "Google Print" Library Project, made possible by partnerships with Harvard, the University of Michigan, the New York Public Library, Oxford and Stanford. This partnership will eventually be digitized into over 15 million, full-text searchable volumes. Similarly, Google released Google Scholar in beta in November 2004.

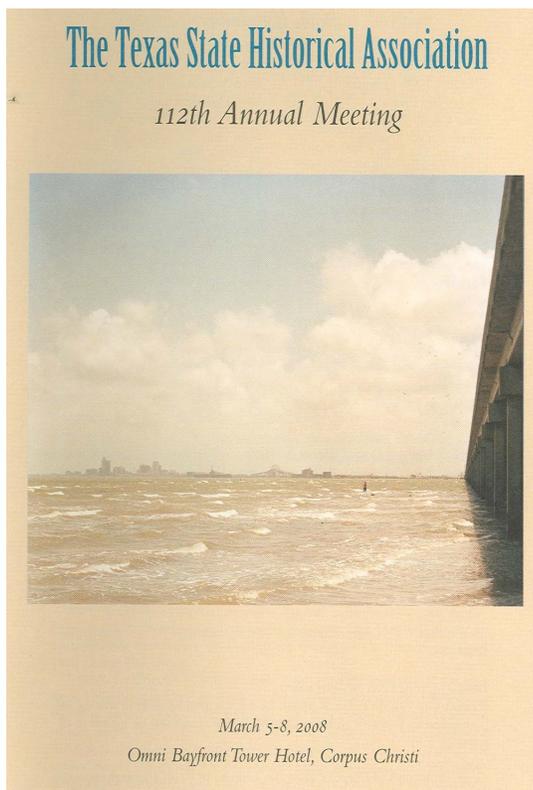
Law libraries are free to partner with Google in both these endeavors. However, they must make their collections available to Google to be digitized.

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TMSL Faculty and Library Staff in the News

Marshall News is pleased to announce that three TMSL faculty will be presenting at the Texas State Historical Association's 112th Annual Meeting. The three distinguished faculty members are: Virgie Mouton, Assistant Dean for Student Development And Academic Support Instructor; DeCarlous Spearman, Interim Director of the TMSL Library; and Marguerite Butler, Associate Professor.

Dean Mouton's presentation, entitled "And So He Rose Alone," focuses on the legacy of Judge Henry Eman Doyle, TMSL's first graduate. Professor Butler chronicles the



history of TSU and TMSL by analyzing the Sweatt v. Painter case, a matter on which she published in the TMSL Review in 1997. Professor Spearman will preside over the forum: "Remembering Our Past: Celebrating 60 Years: Thurgood Marshall School of Law 1947-2007." She will also present a historical account of Lois Prestage Woods, TMSL's first female graduate.

The annual meeting will take place at the Omni Bayfront Tower Hotel in Corpus Christi, TX, March 5—8, 2008.

Google

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Many libraries are wary of turning their collections over to Google and to worldwide, electronic availability. The liabilities of making copyrighted works electronically available appear too costly for many libraries that may be trying to stay within the ever shrinking boundaries of fair use.

Still, Google contends that there are many potential advantages to partnering with Google Book Search and Google Scholar. For one, libraries can reach a broader group of patrons by making their collections universally available. And law students or faculty can boost the worldwide visibility of their publication by making it available to Google. Lastly, the sophisticated algorithms with which Google performs searches make it easier for law students, faculty or librarians to find precisely the article or book they need, even with an imprecise citation. Jill Cirasella, Reference Librarian at Brooklyn College Library wrote in her article, *You and Me and Google Makes Three: Welcoming Google into the Reference Interview*, "librarians and patrons

can team up with Google to deal with incomplete citations, incorrect citations, incorrect spellings, tip-of-the-tongue questions, and forgotten searches."

Library Laws

- ***NO FOOD***
- ***DRINKS IN PROPER CONTAINERS ONLY***
- ***QUIET PLEASE!***
- ***NO TALKING ON CELL***



Marshall News is a publication of the Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library. A copy of the newsletter may be retrieved from the Law Library web page at: www.tsu.edu/academics/law/library/index.asp. Please send all comments to: Taciana Williams, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library, tawilliams@tmslaw.tsu.edu

TMSL Library's Upcoming Events

Each year in celebration of James Weldon Johnson's skills as a lawyer and a poet, the anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1866, and National Poetry Month, the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library sponsors a Civil Rights themed poetry contest for all Thurgood Marshall School of Law students. The poem must be related to the Civil Rights struggle.

Pick-up the guidelines and entry forms from the Law Library Administrative Office Room 139 starting April 1, 2008. Entries will be accepted through April 11, 2008. All entries must be submitted by April 11, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. to the Law Library Administrative Office.

Winners will participate in a Poetry Contest Open Mike Affair on Thursday April 17, 2008.

Also in April, we will celebrate National Library Week. Part of this celebration involves evaluating the library's services to TMSL. The law library hopes that we offer facilities, materials and services that ease your law school journey. To do so, we need your help. From April 14-18, a student survey will be conducted asking how you use the library, how well you are served by our collections and assistance, and what you think we can do to change or improve our service. Your insights and opinions will help us make the law library even better.

Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library Staff

Administration

DeCarlous Spearman	Interim Director Law Library	713-313-7328	dspearman@tmslaw.tsu.edu
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Gwen Henderson	Circulation Librarian	713-313-7125	ghenderson@tmslaw.tsu.edu
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