

OBITER DICTUM

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 1
AUGUST 1, 2005

LIBRARY HOURS



During the intersession between the summer and fall semesters, from Sunday, August 7, through Sunday, August 14, the library will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. seven days a week. On Monday, August 15, regular operating hours will resume.

For details, check the Legal Research Center web site at <http://www.sandiego.edu/lrc/about/hours.php>.

PROJECT B.O.O.T.



Have you noticed that library growth space, *i.e.*, empty space on the shelves for new materials, is disappearing? Librarians typically address the no-more-room phenomenon by undertaking “de-selection” or “weeding” projects. Ours is called Project B.O.O.T., Best Option: Oust & Toss! This is a “first phase” weeding. LRC librarians are combing the Reading Room and the California, Tax, and Office (librarianship) collections to identify the most obvious and painless candidates for removal from the collection. Only items that do not impact teaching or scholarship and do not raise involved questions of collection philosophy will be discarded. Certain of these items will be offered to resale vendors or to other libraries in the region.

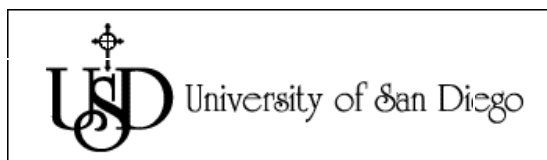
FIND WHAT YOU NEED GUIDES



LRC librarians are preparing for the start of classes by creating one-page research guides on the subject matter of each course. Part I of the guide is a generic listing of basic Web resources such as the LRC home page and LegalTrac; Part II lists treatises, databases, periodicals, and primary sources dealing with the particular course topic. Copies of the guides for your classes will be delivered to you for distribution to your students at the beginning of the semester. If you do not receive yours by the second week of classes, please contact John Adkins at ext. 4766 or by e-mail at adkins@sandiego.edu.

Librarians are also available to give classroom lectures on research tools and methods, including electronic resources. Contact John Adkins to schedule a session.

The newsletter section of OBITER DICTUM may be found at <http://www.sandiego.edu/lrc/catalogs/news.php>



STRATEGIZING IN SAN ANTONIO



Five LRC librarians attended the 98th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) in San Antonio, Texas, last month. The theme of the meeting was Strategize! Values Visions Vistas. Although a lot of the strategizing was about how to avoid the San Antonio heat and humidity, our librarians also had opportunities to put USD in the spotlight and to attend some valuable programs.

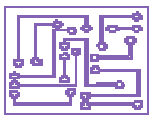
Reference librarian Judith Lihosit hosted a program on electronic archiving of digital materials, called "'Don't Throw That Away!': Ensuring Future Access to Legal Information in an Age of Digital Media." She presented the results of a survey she conducted of the digital conversion practices of California county law libraries, showing increasing reliance on online resources. The program materials are slated to be posted on the LRC Web site at <http://www.sandiego.edu/lrc/aall.html>.

LRC Director Nancy Carol Carter was honored at the annual Awards Ceremony for the endowment she received to pursue the project "A Research Template for Building Indian Nation Archives."



Associate Director Ruth Levor continued her work on the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section Program Planning Committee and Sub-Committee for Program Development and began work as a member of the AALL Diversity Committee, which plans and publicizes each year's Annual Meeting Diversity Symposium.

Head of Technical Services Loren Stamper attended many programs relating to new initiatives for enhancing the library catalog's records and search capabilities. One such program was "The ABCs of TOCs: Enhancing your OPAC [Catalog] with Tables of Contents." The LRC has already begun adding the tables of contents of selected books to SALLY records. For example, search the title "A Guide to Judicial and Political Review of Federal Agencies," and then click on the [Table of contents](#) link, which will take you to a complete contents listing for that book. This meeting session discussed various products and methods for streamlining, increasing, and improving the table of contents feature.



PerC

Cataloger Jane Bentley accompanied her colleagues to an exciting and impressive plenary lecture by UCLA Law School's 1998 Professor of the Year, Jerry Kang, on "Pervasive Computing: Embedding the Public Sphere." Kang's Institute for Pervasive Computing and Society (iPerCS) conceptualizes a society embedded with a "digital nervous system," and his talk illustrated visions of the impact on information access and retrieval as well as on societal values and beliefs about privacy, publicity, and the public sphere.

Professor Kang's web site is at <http://www.law.ucla.edu/kang/index.html>, and the amazing visuals used in his lecture can be viewed at <http://www.law.ucla.edu/kang/gigs/perccivociety04/map.htm>.

The newsletter section of OBITER DICTUM may be found at <http://www.sandiego.edu/lrc/catalogs/news.php>

