



# OBITER DICTUM

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## LIBRARY HOURS

The library will be closed on Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day.



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

## LRC FOOD & DRINK POLICY RELAXED



Packaged snack food is now allowed in the LRC as long as it does not make a mess or bother other patrons. Beverage containers must have secure lids. No food or beverages are allowed in computer labs or the lower level of the library. Please take your trash with you or dispose of it before you leave. If you spill or see a mess left behind, let a staff member know right away. The LRC reserves the right to interpret this policy on a case-by-case basis if food consumption is noisy, smelly, or messy. *John Adkins, Head of Public Services.*

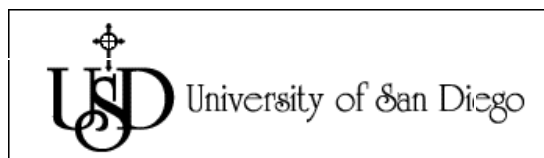
## NEW LRC COMMONS POPULAR WITH PATRONS



The move of the microforms cabinets that was previewed in last month's issue has taken place. Most of the microforms cabinets that stood for many years just west of the circulation desk on the main level of the library have been moved to the lower level, leaving only the CIS congressional materials, California resources, and selected legal journals in the Information Services area. In place of these cabinets, nine study tables seating four patrons at each one, are now in use in the vacated area, much to the delight of the students, many of whom have quickly settled on this area as their new preferred study site. Ear plugs in place, silenced cell phones propped up before them, and laptops blinking away, these students are happy to research and study in this brightly lit area that is within easy access of the reference librarians, the rest rooms, and a quick break outside.

Researchers seeking microforms that have been relocated will find that the new location, LRC Lower Level Microforms, has already been assigned to these materials in the SALLY catalog records. LRC reference librarians are available to those patrons needing further assistance in locating these items.

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



**CELEBRATE  
AMERICA'S  
HISPANIC  
HERITAGE**

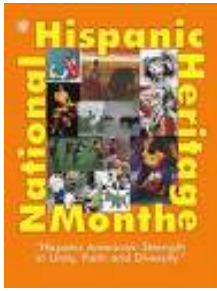


Photo of Hector García from U. of Texas Web site at <http://www.utmb.edu/drgarcia/>

In 1968, Public Law 90-498 was enacted, and later amended by Public Law 100-402, to establish September 15 to October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month, with the proviso that "the people of the United States, *especially the educational community*, ... observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities." According to Fact Monster, Sept. 15 was chosen as the kick-off date for celebrations because it is

the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence on September 16, and Chile on September 18.

The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. On the 2000 Census form, people of Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." More than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino on the 2000 Census. Hispanic Heritage Month,

<http://http://www.factmonster.com/spot/hhm1.html>.

Patrons at the LRC will have an easy time engaging in "appropriate activities" during Hispanic Heritage Month. Start in the Popular Law section at PS3570.R23 T73 2001 with the light novel "The Roll Call Vote" by San Diego author Richard Trackler, concerning a Republican president's nomination of the first Hispanic to the U.S. Supreme Court. Then move to the Reserve Room for the latest issues of law reviews with a Hispanic focus. The Berkely La Raza Law Journal Fall 2005 issue addresses social change in America's cities; the Spring 2005 issue of UCLA's Chicano-Latino Law Review commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hernandez v. Texas; and the Spring 2006 issue of the Texas Hispanic Journal of Law & Policy includes *An Overview of U.S. Immigration Law and Policy Since 9/11*.

In the Reading Room, patrons will find STEVEN W. BENDER, *GREASERS AND GRINGOS: LATINOS, LAW, AND THE AMERICAN IMAGINATION*/KF4757.5.L38 B46 2003, dealing with the stereotypes that plague Hispanic Americans. HECTOR P. GARCÍA: *IN RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF JUSTICE* by Ignacio M. García tells the story of a decorated WWII veteran who encountered discrimination and segregation upon his return from the war, and who founded the American G.I. Forum to create a safe space for Mexican American participation in the political process. Other recommended reading includes GILBERT G. GONZALEZ & RAUL A. FERNANDEZ, *A CENTURY OF CHICANO HISTORY: EMPIRE, NATIONS, AND MIGRATION*/E184.M5 G645 2003 and DAVID MONTEJANO, ED., *CHICANO POLITICS AND SOCIETY IN THE LATE TWENTIETH CENTURY*/E184.M5 C447 1999.

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