

## LIBRARY HOURS



The library will be open from 8:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M. through Sunday, August 5. During intersession, from Monday, August 6 through Sunday, August 12, the library will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. On Monday, August 13, regular library hours will resume—Monday through Thursday, 7:00 A.M. until midnight; Friday and Saturday, 8:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M.; and Sunday, 8:00 A.M. until midnight. We look forward to welcoming back our students and faculty for the fall semester.

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

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## A FAMILIAR FRIEND AND A BRAND NEW LIBRARIAN AT THE REFERENCE DESK



Those who have been “citizens” of USD for more than 15 years will have recognized a familiar face at the reference desk for the past six months. Brent Bernau, former Associate Director of the LRC from 1988 to 1992, has been filling in part time. Beginning on August 1, Brent will be joining the reference staff full time, as well as assuming the duties of documents specialist and oversight of interlibrary loan operations.

Before his first stint at USD, Brent was the documents librarian and then the public services librarian at Golden Gate University Law Library in San Francisco. He returned to Golden Gate as its director from 1992 to 1997. He has also worked at the Thomas Jefferson and County Public law libraries in San Diego.

On August 15, Melissa Fung, a 2007 graduate of the highly esteemed law librarianship program at the University of Washington in Seattle, will be joining Brent, John Adkins, and Judith Lihosit as the newest member of the LRC reference staff. Melissa’s specialty will be foreign and international law.

Melissa is a graduate of UCSD, where she majored in biology. She received her law degree from Lewis and Clark Law School, where she worked as a Westlaw student representative and at the library circulation desk.

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**REFERENCE  
DESK (cont.)**



**WELCOME  
E-CEM**

In addition to our two new reference librarians, we welcome to public services our new collection maintenance assistant, Izabela Aleksieva. Izabela is a graduate of the University of Veliko Turnovo in Bulgaria, where she studied history and archaeology, as well as library science. She is responsible for the appearance and condition of the entire library collection, including the stacks and microform areas.

Please introduce yourself to our new colleagues and help us welcome them to USD.

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**GOVERNMENT  
SECURITY**



According to DAVID BANISAR, GOVERNMENT SECURITY: DECISIONS WITHOUT DEMOCRACY (July 12, 2007),

<http://www.openthegovernment.org/otg/govtsecurity.pdf>, a report written for OpenTheGovernment.org and People for the American Way, the current "administration has routinely withheld information that should be made public, thereby insulating itself from democratic accountability." The exercise of executive privilege with regard to public information is a hot topic today. The Congressional Research Service has just issued a report titled CONGRESS'S CONTEMPT POWER: LAW, HISTORY, PRACTICE, AND PROCEDURE, which "examines the source of the contempt power, reviews the historical development of the early case law, outlines the statutory and common law basis for Congress's contempt power, analyzes the procedures associated with each of the three different types of contempt proceedings, ... and discusses limitations both nonconstitutional and constitutionally based on the power." This report is available on the Federation of American Scientists Web site at <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL34097.pdf>.



Two recent books by Louis Fisher, Senior Specialist in Separation of Powers with the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress, will intrigue those interested in government security. THE POLITICS OF EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE/JK468 .S4 F57 2004 covers congressional subpoenas, GAO investigations, testimony by White House officials, and national security claims. IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL SECURITY: UNCHECKED PRESIDENTIAL POWER AND THE REYNOLDS CASE/KF228 .R485 F57 2006 is a fascinating review of a 1953 case formalizing the state secrets privilege.

Also of relevant interest are ROBT. PALLITTO & WM. WEAVER, PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY AND THE LAW/JK468 .S4 P35 2007 and MARK ROZELL, EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE: PRESIDENTIAL POWER, SECRECY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY/JK468 .S4 R67 2002.