

LIBRARY HOURS



Finals study period continues through the first week of May; the library will be open from 7:00 A.M. until midnight 7 days a week through Thursday, May 8. From Friday, May 9, until Sunday, June 8, the library will be open from 8:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. 7 days a week.

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

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH GETS A BIG BOOST



The LRC has just acquired access to the LexisNexis Congressional Research Digital collection, thus providing easy access to over 175 years of Congressional Committee Prints and Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports that have previously been difficult to locate and retrieve. The prints date back as far as 1830, and the reports start with materials from 1916. Approximately 5,000 documents are added each year to keep the collections current.

In these materials, researchers of legislative history, public policy, politics, and social science will readily discover reports of the debates and analyses issuing from the hearing rooms and offices of hundreds of Congressional committees and subcommittees. By considering both the impartial CRS reports and the partisan viewpoints set forth in the Committee Prints, researchers will achieve a broad view of the context of policy decision-making.

The link to this database (<http://www.lexisnexis.com/congcomp>) has been added to the Research Databases section of the LRC Web site. The link brings you directly to a Lexis search template. All documents are available in PDF format.

LRC REFERENCE LIBRARIAN RECEIVES NATIONAL ACCLAIM



An article by Instruction and Outreach Librarian Judith Lihosit has been awarded the prestigious American Assn. of Law Libraries Call for Papers Award for 2008. The paper is entitled "Research in the Wild: CALR and the Role of Informal Apprenticeship in Attorney Training." It is based on a study by the author of how electronic resources affect how attorneys do legal research.

As a winner, Ms. Lihosit will be given the opportunity to present her paper in a program at the Annual Meeting of the Association in July.

**CLEAN, GREEN,
AND MEAN**



At the same time that USD was celebrating sustainability last month and hosting a Green Living Expo, clean technology law was featured in the April 21 issue of the SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL as a profitable area for law practice. Clean tech is defined as “economically competitive and productive technology that uses less material and/or energy, generates less waste, and causes less environmental damage than the alternatives.” The JOURNAL highlighted Heller Ehrman’s Southern California Energy and Clean Technologies practice group, which combines venture law with energy, technology, project, intellectual property, tax and corporate practices to help its clean-tech clients commercialize technologies, finance and build projects, and accelerate their growth.

As environmental protection receives more and more attention as an advantageous practice option, readers may wish to check out some of the following:

ROBERT J. GOLDSTEIN, ED., ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS AND LAW/K3585 .E58 2004

ANTHONY HEYES, ED., THE LAW AND ECONOMICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT/K3585 .L39 2001

ALEXANDRE KISS & DINAH SHELTON, GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW/K3585 .K5695 2007

VED P. NANDA & GEORGE PRING, INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FOR THE 21ST CENTURY/K3585 .N36 2003

JOHN R, NOLON, ED., NEW GROUND: THE ADVENT OF LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW/KF572 .E6 N39 2003

HOT LINKS



The April 28, 2008, U.S. Supreme Court decision in Crawford v. Marion County Election Board, the case upholding Indiana’s requirement that voters present a government-issued photo ID before casting a ballot at the polls on Election Day, may be found at <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/07pdf/07-21.pdf> . An explanation for voters is available on the Indiana Secretary of State’s Web page at <http://www.in.gov/sos/photoid/> .

**GAO
LEGISLATIVE
HISTORIES
AVAILABLE ON
WESTLAW**



The federal General Accountability Office has entered into a contract with Thomson West in which West is digitizing GAO’s collection of compiled legislative histories. As of April, Westlaw researchers can retrieve legislative histories for most U.S. Public Laws enacted from 1985 to 1995, including the text of laws, bills, committee reports, Congressional Record documents, transcripts of hearings, and other documents, in PDF format . Over the next four years, the collection will be retroactively scanned until coverage goes back as far as 1915.

Citizens who do not have access to Westlaw will have to go to the GAO to request copies of these materials. Copying costs are 20 cents per page. Information rights advocates argue that this arrangement denies most citizens of their right to free access to government information.