We are working in exciting times at Whittier Law School! Plans for an expanded and renovated moot courtroom are moving closer to reality as we anticipate a summer start date on this project. When completed, the planned courtroom will measure 3,400 square feet and include a proposed jury room of 430 square feet and a 415 square foot judge’s chambers. Space for this project will come from the original Courtroom A and Courtroom B, along with the present Computer Lab in the Law Library.

The new courtroom will be named for distinguished Whittier Law School alum Paul R. Kiesel, a 1985 graduate. Mr. Kiesel is a partner in the Beverly Hills law firm of Kiesel Boucher Larson LLP, representing plaintiffs in personal injury, class action, environmental and toxic tort litigation. He is currently an officer in the Los Angeles County Bar Association. The *Los Angeles Business Journal* recognized Mr. Kiesel as one of the Top 50 Trial Lawyers, and the Daily Journal Corporation named him among the 100 most influential attorneys in California. Law Dragon selected him as one of the top 500 attorneys in the United States. He co-authored two Matthew Bender practice guides published by Lexis Nexis entitled *California Pretrial Civil Procedure* and *California Civil Discovery*, available here at the Law Library, of course.

From the Law Library’s perspective, the loss of the library space to this project is more than made up for by the tremendous benefit this new courtroom will bring to our students. Library Director and Associate Dean J. Denny Haythorn stated, “We have found that the needs of our students for Library-provided computers have changed dramatically since the campus was designed in 1996. To meet current needs we do not need to maintain a lab with 50 computers and that just 10 seem to be enough. There are still situations when students want to use our computers for last minute work or for printing and we will continue to maintain those resources for them.” At this time we have not designated a space for the lab, but we are weighing several options. As with everything we do, our prime goal is to provide resources for students as they prepare for class and engage in research.

Our role as librarians and library assistants is one of support to the faculty and students of the Law School. As such, we are thrilled to share in the excitement about the courtroom project. Please turn the page to see photos of the courtroom, proposed jury room and judge’s chambers.

—Hugh Treacy—

**Got Work?**

**Positions Available:**

**WLS Library Student Assistants**

**Summer & Fall Semesters**

**Contact:** Diane Whitaker

(714) 444-4141, x-478

**Email:** dwhitaker@law.whittier.edu

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Courtroom Project (cont.)

What it might look like....

Courtroom designed for trial or appellate proceedings, with 134 seats in gallery. Judicial bench for 3-judge panel, counsel tables, clerk’s station, SMART podium, witness stand, jury box. Acoustic sound system reduces ambient noise. Stone and slate surfaces, maple and mahogany finishes, 16-foot ceilings. Can also be used for conferences, symposia, and classroom activities.

Jury room equipped for deliberations and review of evidence, with whiteboards and seven-foot projection screen for electronic exhibit review. Internet accessible through wired and wireless networks. Can also be used for seminars, meetings, small receptions.

Judge’s chambers with separate conference space. Office space for anticipated Jurist-in-Residence program, in which judges will be honored guests and teachers at Whittier Law School. Internet accessible through wired and wireless networks, with seven-foot projection screen. Can also be used for seminars, small meetings, and small casual gatherings.
“No soup for you!”

Well, at least no shark fin soup for you. A new law prohibits the sale of newly acquired shark fins after January 1st. Restaurants may use up their supply on hand, but after that, sale and possession will be illegal.

“The practice of cutting the fins off of living sharks and dumping them back in the ocean is not only cruel, but it harms the health of our oceans,” Governor Brown said in a statement after signing AB 376. High profile persons in the Chinese community, such as former NBA star Yao Ming, have supported the bill. The sponsor of the bill, Paul Fong, a Chinese-born Assemblyman from Sunnyvale, stated: “I’m proud of my Chinese roots, and our culture will live and survive without sharks’ fins.” Some Chinese American restaurant owners opposed the ban. State Sen. Yee called the bill “an unfair attack on Asian culture and cuisine.”

About 17 countries have banned shark finning, but the practice continues in unregulated international waters. Hawaii, Washington, and Oregon are the only states besides California to ban shark fin soup. Traditionally, shark fin soup has been considered a delicacy and has often been served at special occasions such as weddings. Shark fin soup was on the menu at Hong Kong Disneyland until pressured with boycotts by international environmental groups. A companion bill (AB 853) allows for the sale of a restaurant’s current inventory of shark fins until July 1st, 2013.

AB 376, AB 853 (Fong, Cupertino)

“Psst! ... Hey, Kid! ... Can I interest you in a cute, playful little puppy?

Have you ever gone to your local discount store and found some folks with a cardboard box full of adorable puppies or kittens? It’s now against the law to sell any live animals on any street, sidewalk, parking lot, boardwalk, carnival or other public right-of-way in California.

The goal of the bill is to end the cycle of animal breeding in unsanitary and overcrowded conditions, where sick animals are not spayed Continued
New California Laws (cont.)

or neutered. These animals are often added to the tens of thousands of homeless dogs and cats that are euthanized in California each year.

According to the bill analysis of the Office of Legislative Counsel, the Humane Society found that 41% of all cases of animal cruelty involve animal neglect. The ASPCA claims that the type of animal abuse this law addresses is far more common than the type of animal abuse that usually make the news headlines. The new law will also make the misdemeanor penalties for animal cruelty and neglect more consistent by providing for a maximum jail sentence of up to one year as well as a fine up to $20,000.

The California Outdoor Heritage Alliance opposed the bill, arguing that reputable breeders of sporting dogs often meet buyers halfway between the rural location of the breeder’s kennels and the buyer’s location. Other groups opposing the bill were PetPAC and The Animal Council.

SB 917 (Lieu, Torrance)

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Have a low credit score? — Looking for a job?

Anxious because you’ve heard employers are increasingly turning to credit scores in order to screen potential hires? Worry no longer. Now a new law bars employers from using credit reports to decide whether to hire someone. Employers can no longer request credit reports for Californians unless they are working or seeking work in a financial institution, law enforcement or the state Justice Department. The sponsor of the bill assemblyman Tony Mendoza states that “Sixty percent of U.S. employers currently conduct credit checks on job applicants, according to a 2009 survey conducted by the Society for Human Resource Management. Nearly 80 percent of credit reports contain some sort of error in the information they present (US PIRG 2004).

Other supporters cite the rise of identity theft, data breaches, and the improper sale of credit information as concerns. They argue that a person’s credit may be easily damaged through no fault of their own. Opponents of the bill argued that the credit report provides valuable information regarding an applicant’s overall responsibility reliability and integrity, which can help employers reduce future litigation and loss. They argued that employees in many industries, such as in-home care, hospitals, restaurants, and retail stores have access to assets and financial information of their employers and the public.

The law exempts anyone who: (1) has access to a person’s bank or credit card account information, SSN number and date of birth, (2) has access to an employer’s proprietary information or trade secrets, (3) signs a check, credit card, financial contract, or transfers money for an employer, (4) has access to more than $10,000 cash, or (5) is a manager in certain industries.

AB 22 (Mendoza, Artesia)

—John O’Donnell—

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Library Staff News of Note...

Whittier Law librarians Hugh Treacy, John O’Donnell, Curtis Jones, Bill Nazarro, and Margot McLaren attended the 4th All-California Joint Institute in San Diego, March 9-10, 2012. While President of SCALL last year, Hugh Treacy served on a committee tasked with site selection details for this event. The theme of the Institute was The State We’re In: California Law Libraries in Unprecedented Times.

During week 9 of the Spring 2012 semester, WLS librarians Hugh Treacy, John O’Donnell and Curtis Jones lectured all sections of first-year Legal Writing II classes on administrative law and legislative history resources and their use.
Law librarians from all over California gathered in beautiful San Diego for the 4th All-California Joint Institute, held March 9-10, 2012. Members of three organizations—the Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL), the Northern California Association of Law Libraries (NOCALL), and the San Diego Area Law Librarians (SANDALL)—gathered at the Crowne Plaza San Diego-Mission Valley Hotel to hear speakers and panelists address issues and topics on a theme entitled The State We’re In: California Law Libraries in Unprecedented Times. Among the special guests was Deborah L. Rusin, Secretary of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) national organization.

In her keynote address, Administrative Presiding Justice Judith McConnell of the California Court of Appeal for the 4th District presented an informative view of the impact of budget cuts within the California court system. Earlier successes from the 1970’s forward, including a reduction in case settlement time from five years to one year for 90% of the cases, even after enactment of the Three Strikes law, may soon be dismantled and damage the effectiveness of our courts. Operating budgets for the California Supreme Court and appellate courts have been cut deeper than those of the trial courts. Adding to this economic disaster is a dramatic drop in the number of civil and criminal cases filed, perhaps requiring a significant increase in the filing fees assessed to provide access to the civil courts.

Marcia Koslov, Director of the L.A. Law Library, indicated that her law library is doing well financially primarily because its parking structure is generating significant revenue, offsetting a decline in filing fees. This law library is faring much better than most of California’s 52 county law libraries. Rural county law libraries, like the El Dorado County Law Library in Placerville, are much more dependent upon filing fees to drive their operating budgets. Vanessa Christman, El Dorado County’s Law Librarian and only staff member, must close the facility on days when she is ill or takes a well-deserved vacation.

On Saturday, March 9th, attendees heard David McGowan, Professor of Law at the University of San Diego Law Center, discuss the changing picture of law firms as they strive to remain viable, in a presentation entitled Big But Brittle: Law Firm Survival in the New Economy. Rather than the familiar behemoth law firms of past years, today’s law firm is streamlined, small in size and heavily dependent on technology to make onerous work—such as document review—doable by fewer new associates. Electronic legal research costs must be strictly regulated at a time when clients are increasingly unwilling to pay for expensive, imprecise electronic research. New associates must be trained effectively in the latest iterations of electronic databases provided by Thomson Reuters (Westlaw Next), LexisNexis (Lexis Advance and Lexis Office), and others.

In any workplace we find colleagues, clients and coworkers who, because we all have different personalities, may be challenging to work with. Christy Cassisa, founder of Logical Harmony Consulting, Inc., offered helpful insights into personality types and discussed current research in the field of personality assessment, based primarily on Myers-Briggs personality type indicators. Her thesis is that if we recognize and understand our own and others’ personality types, we will be more effective in our efforts to work and coexist harmoniously with them.

Other programs included an extensive presentation by Raymond Hom, J.D., Vice President, Patent Counsel at Qualcomm, Inc., who offered us a look into the Brave New World of Patent Law, where new developments such as the post-grant challenge are impacting new patent filings. Michele Finerty, Assistant Director for Technical Services at McGeorge School of Law, moderated a very interesting program on the Uniform Electronic Legal Materials Act (UELMA), designed to designate, authenticate and preserve official electronic legal information.

Roundtable discussions coordinated by Ellen Platt, Senior Reference Librarian at Santa Clara University School of Law, allowed participants to discuss a variety of interesting topics with expert colleagues who served as discussion leaders. I attended a discussion led by Sandra Dawson, Research Librarian at DLA Piper LLC, San Diego, who offered an opportunity to comment on Bloomberg Law’s decision to offer free access to their database to law students. Another roundtable discussion focused on a topic suggested by my Whittier Law Library colleague Hugh Treacy: how to transition effectively from staff to faculty status library appointments requiring previous teaching and scholarly research experiences. That discussion was led by Ron Wheeler, Director at the University of San Francisco Law Library, who himself successfully made the transition and offered those present valuable insights into that process.

Pre-Institute workshops on teaching legal research from first-year law students to first-year associates, and Resource Description and Access (RDA) cataloging presentations brought large numbers of law librarians to the University of San Diego Law Center to interact with several outstanding speakers.

—Curtis Jones—
February 2012 marked the 70th anniversary of the infamous Executive Order 9066 issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt that resulted in the internment of about 120,000 Japanese-Americans from their West coast homes for the duration of World War II. The executive order established “military areas” from which any persons might be excluded by the local military commander at his discretion. It also established curfews and, eventually, removal of Americans of Japanese ancestry to inland locations.

The War Relocation Authority led first by Milton S. Eisenhower was authorized in March 1942 by Executive Order 9102 to move 110,000 Issei and Nisei (first and second-generation) Americans of Japanese ancestry to inland states, and to confine them in ten camps within California, Idaho, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, and Arkansas. The U.S. government also moved over 1,000 additional internees of Japanese ancestry to these camps from Peru.

The relocation centers featured barracks-type housing. Family units were housed in “apartments,” but partitions did not reach the ceiling, making complete privacy between families impossible. The barracks did not have running water, but eventually all had electricity. Toilet stalls had side partitions but no front doors. Individual cooking facilities were not provided, so all residents of the camps ate in large mess halls three times daily. The camps were not officially known as prisons but nevertheless were surrounded by barbed wire and guard towers. Communications were censored, and use of the Japanese language was banned at public meetings.

President Ronald Reagan formally apologized to surviving internees and their families in 1988; redress of grievances in the form of compensation authorized by Congress was made to survivors of the internment camps in the 1990’s, the last payment made in 1999 during the Clinton administration.

—Chris Osborne—

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY


Passing the Bar: How the Law Library Can Help

For most of us who have graduated from law school, there is one oh-so tiny hurdle left to overcome—the bar exam. Fortunately, at Whittier Law School you had excellent study habits, determination, solid coursework and an outstanding faculty to prepare yourself for what comes next. You plan to participate in Whittier Law School’s Bar Pass services and take one of the best bar prep courses your money can buy. Excellent!

One more resource is available to you. Remember that cavernous room with the book-stacks and the genetically-helpful staff in Building 4? Yes, that’s right, I’m talking about the Law Library. Your friend in time of need.

First, we recommend you take advantage of our nearly 400-seat facility and choose a location that suits your study style….long tables and chairs, study carrels, and small table seating in various alcoves within the book stacks, or conference rooms, where you’ll find quiet time to get reacquainted with all the torts and contracts you forgot since your first year.

Second, ask for the California bar exam questions and selected answers we have available in print at the Reference/Reserve desk. We are in the process of filling in gaps within this collection, but you are welcome to make photocopies of what we have. The State Bar of California maintains a web page with links to previous California bar exams; look for them at http://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/Examinations/PastExams.aspx. Our plan is to digitize all of the California bar exam materials available since 1980.

Third, if you are taking another state’s bar exam, note that the Law Library maintains a collection of past bar exam questions [alas, no answers!] for all states in microfiche format. You’ll find them all in Microforms Cabinet #28, Drawer G.

One last item…. We know bar exam preparation is a very stressful time for you, just as it was for those of us who have endured that 3-day marathon in the past. It’s not easy, but try to maintain a positive attitude, get plenty of rest, and visualize a successful result!

Good luck! We wish you great success this July!

—Hugh Treacy—

Farewell to Library Student Assistants

Ah, Spring! When a young law student’s thoughts turn to finals and, in the case of thirteen student assistants at Whittier Law School Library, graduation. We’re very happy for their success, though we will surely miss them after they leave Whittier Law School and the Library.

Kaitlyn Bailey-Findley is a third-year student who has worked for the Law Library since the summer after her first year. She grew up in Anaheim and has worked at the carnivals at the Orange County Fairgrounds when she wasn’t in school. She graduated from Santa Clara University with a B.A. in Classical Studies and a B.S. in Political Science. Her hobbies include reading (anything but law books) and swing dancing. After she passes the California bar exam, she hopes to run away with the carnival!

Shamim Akhavan started with the Law Library in the fall semester of his second year. A native of Valencia who grew up in Calabasas, Shamim earned a B.A. in Political Science at UC Berkeley. He also spent time in his senior year doing tax preparation work. At the law school, he enjoyed his bankruptcy class best and likes the work environment at the Library. After graduation and tackling the California bar exam, Shamim wants to find work doing estate planning, tax, and business transactions.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER....

The Library conference study rooms are for two or more students only, except for law grads studying for the bar, even if the rooms are all unoccupied—think car-pool lane! Please keep your voices down as these rooms are not sound-proof. Food and drink are not allowed in the conference rooms.
Farewell (cont.)

Katelyn Knapp has been with the Law Library for two years. Originally from Sacramento, she attended UC Santa Cruz and spent a year working in a law office. She enjoyed her Intellectual Property classes at Whittier and has appreciated the chance to get to know a lot of people in the Library. She likes to hike when she isn’t working or studying, and after she passes the bar, she hopes to work in environmental law.

Geoffrey Cruz is another full-time student who’s been with us for over a year. He grew up in the San Gabriel Valley and attended USC, where he majored in biology and minored in psychology. He enjoys chemistry and worked as an analyst for the Metropolitan Water District before coming to law school. When he isn’t working or enjoying his Criminal Procedure or Evidence classes, he likes watching independent, vintage, and foreign (especially French and Japanese) films. Geoff hasn’t quite decided when he wants to do vocationally after the California bar, but he’d love the chance to direct a film.

Sarah Overly has been with the Law Library since the first semester of her first year. Born and raised in Las Vegas, she studied Criminal Justice at UNLV. At Whittier, she has enjoyed her Criminal classes the most, worked as a research editor for the law review, and she appreciates her time in the Library for learning about research and reference sources. Sarah plans to return to Nevada to take the bar there and wants to work as a prosecutor. “I really appreciate my time working here,” she said. “It kept me sane and motivated.”

Josh Harrer has been working in the Law Library Serials Department since June 2011. Last summer he participated in the Library collection shifting project, where 75% of our Library book collection was moved after new shelving had been installed. A large part of his job has been to update our looseleaf subscriptions. Josh has become very familiar with the Library collection as a whole. Originally from Mason City, Iowa, Josh now lives in Torrance, California. He graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a B.S. in Criminal Justice and Philosophy. His favorite law school classes have been pre-trial litigation and criminal trial advocacy. Josh would like to develop a career in criminal defense and serve as an associate in the United States Air Force JAG program.

Nick Pomponio (not pictured) started with the Library in the second semester of his first year. He grew up in Michigan, but because of his passion for ice hockey, he’s traveled across the U.S., Canada, and Europe, even playing professional hockey in Europe between university and law school. Nick earned his B.A. in Communications from Merrimack College in Boston. In addition to playing hockey, he also enjoys painting. After he passes the California bar, he hopes to find work locally, perhaps at the firm where he now works as an intern.

We also wish to acknowledge the time spent and contributions made by the other graduating student library assistants (not pictured here) at the Law Library, and we thank them for their service: Celena Cardenas, Sabrina Lee, Randilyn Nordstrom, Peter Roble, Michelangelo Tatone, and Vincent Uberti.

Congratulations to all our graduates!

—Petrina Walker & Margot McLaren—