Museletter   Muse Law Library

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Museletter

Help us respond to student complaints!

Please lower your voices in common areas of the library.

UNIVERSITY WILL IMPLEMENT NEW INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM BY SUMMER

The University is in the process of moving to a totally new integrated library system. Director Timothy Coggins and Gail Zwirner represent the Law School on the project team. The current system has been in place since 1990, and with the technological advances that have occurred in the last few years, we will see many more "bells and whistles" in the new system.
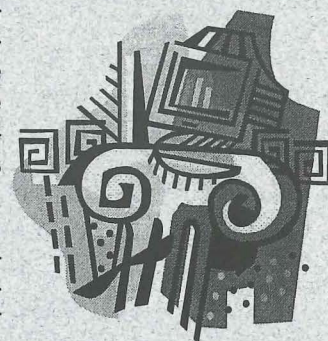
A committee of librarians from all UR libraries — undergraduate, music, science, and law — evaluated several systems last year, and selected Endeavor's Voyager package for our upgrade. Opinions varied in the selection process. Each system had different appealing aspects, but UR's "Banner" system, and the fact that the University uses Oracle to power its database access, were both systems decisions that persuaded the team to select Endeavor.

The project team now has the responsibility to "map" the data currently in the Dynix system and create codes for items, vendors, patrons, and status. Because our current system and the new system work so differently, the process is as complicated as it was moving from the card catalog to online ten years ago. Each library in the UR system has its own policy quirks, which we've attempted to make more uniform campus-wide. For example, undergraduate students have a shorter borrowing period than law students. The undergraduate library has decided to increase the borrowing period to make the policy consistent.

The Law Library's technical services librarians have been busily reviewing various files to streamline the data. We recently made a decision to purchase our journals through one vendor, which allowed us to reduce our vendor records from 1100 to under 200 vendor records.

So what will all this mean to the students and faculty? One interesting aspect of Voyager is the interactivity among databases. You will be able to select and search multiple databases at one time. For example, Voyager will allow you to choose the UR catalog, other library catalogs, journal indexes, and online databases, and do a simultaneous search instead of individual database searches. Another application in the Voyager system is an application called Encompass. This will allow us to create special collections digitally or web access. We intend to target the Law School's *Sutton* collection of staff papers of the World War II war crimes tribunal as an early candidate for this application.

We will unveil the new system in May. Stay tuned for more information.
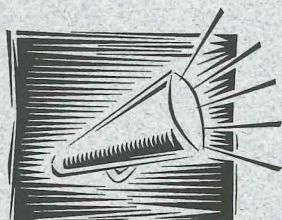
Library Thefts:

"Being aware of those around you, reporting immediately any suspicious activity to library administration or student staff, and securing property at your carrel in the locked compartment, may reduce incidents like those we have recently experienced."

—D.B.

Recent Library Thefts Prompt Reenforced Security Measures
By Deborah Barlett

Recent thefts of a laptop computer and a backpack, as well as miscellaneous supplies from carrels, are a very unfortunate reminder that the law school library is a public environment. We know that the loss of property, and something as valuable as a computer, can interfere tremendously with law school workflow.

Certain safety measures on the staff's and students' parts can assist in making this a more secure workplace. Being aware of those around you, reporting immediately any suspicious activity to library administration or student staff, and securing property at your carrel in the locked compartment, may reduce incidents like those we have recently experienced.

The library administration is reviewing security measures with University Police and facilities personnel. We will be making recommendations to the Dean, and will update you on any policy or changes to the library security system.

At the Movies:
Finding Forrester, Antitrust, and *Traffic*
By Gail Zwirner

Three movies with a legal twist are still showing in local movie theaters. *Finding Forrester* was a delight, but perhaps this editor thinks anything with Sean Connery can't be bad. He played a Salingeresque novelist, whose novels stopped at one, and he's been holed up in a lavish old building in the Bronx ever since. A young man, who scored phenomenally well on standardized tests, and is recruited by a prominent Manhattan prep school, is taken under Connery's wing. The boy is played by Rob Brown in his first role. The tale tangles with accusations of plagiarism by an English professor (F. Murray Abraham) and a relationship with a classmate (Anna Paquin). The legal twist occurs at the end of the movie when Matt Damon shows up as a probate attorney.

Antitrust was an entertaining thriller with a talented group of young actors who played college computer geeks drawn by mega-salaries to major software creators (not surprisingly located near Seattle). One company whose CEO was a Gates-like character (played effectively by Tim Robbins), fought constantly with his attorneys to come up with "something creative" to get the Justice Department off his back. Unrealistic self-imposed deadlines for a new product release pushed the CEO to take drastic measures to eliminate potential competition. Examples of computer hacking and other security breaches were intriguing.

This editor need never apply to the motion picture academy that selects the Oscar nominations. One of this year's top contenders is *Traffic*. I think that Michael Douglas should be embarrassed for his performance. He played a judge who was nominated to be the nation's chief drug czar. The nominations process was one of the few interesting parts of the film. Americans don't need a movie like this to let them know there's a major drug problem in the United States. It was a very "in your face" style. Some reviews portrayed it as "artsy" because of the photography in the Mexican scenes. The constant use of a yellow filter I frankly found to be ethnically insensitive. did agree wholeheartedly with the Academy's choice of Benicio del Toro for supporting actor. He stole what show there was to be had, and I suspect we'll be seeing a lot more of him in future films.

Gesundheit! : Colds and Flu Can Interfere with Law School Work Flow

Every spring semester, the librarians cross their fingers and hope that a blizzard or ice storm—or general power outage for that matter — doesn't interfere with the first-year's Lexis and Westlaw training classes. But what about the general malaise that seems to have wrecked holidays and gnarled busy law school careers? The *Museletter* Editor can testify that this season's "ick" was unpleasant, and symptoms lingered, lingered, lingered! It made preparing for a legislative history class seem joyous.

Several websites outline the symptom and treatment differences between the common cold and influenza (commonly known as the flu). The National Institute of Health's site at www.niaid.nih.gov describes the differences as follows:

Symptoms	Cold	Flu
Fever	Rare	Characteristic, high (102-104 degrees); lasts 3-4 days
Headache	Rare	Prominent
General aches, pains	Slight	Usual; often severe
Fatigue, weakness	Quite mild	Can last up to 2-3 weeks
Extreme exhaustion	Never	Early and prominent
Stuffy nose	Common	Sometimes
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes
Chest discomfort, Cough	Mild to moderate; hacking cough	Common; can become severe
Complications	Sinus congestion or earache	Bronchitis, pneumonia; can be life-threatening
Prevention	None	Annual vaccination
Treatment	Only temporary relief of symptoms	Antiviral drugs within 24-48 hrs. after onset of symptoms

The Centers for Disease Control site at www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases provides a discussion of the clinical features of influenza and the natural history of human influenza, going back to the 1918 "Spanish flu" pandemic, that caused the highest known influenza-related mortality — approximately 500,000 deaths occurred in the U.S., 20 million worldwide.

The FDA recommends NOT taking antibiotics for a cold or flu. They won't work, unless some complications develop beyond the virus.

The commercials we've been hearing for years to help you feel better while you are sick remain true according to the FDA: drink plenty of fluids; get plenty of rest (try convincing a law student); use a humidifier; and use an over-the-counter cough and cold medicine to relieve symptoms.

Try Avoid Getting a Cold

- Wash your hands often. You can pick up cold germs easily, even when shaking hands
- Avoid people with colds when possible (tough in law school!)
- If you sneeze or cough, do it into a tissue and then throw it away
- Clean surfaces you touch with a germ-killing disinfectant
- Avoid touching your nose, eyes or mouth. Germs can enter your body easily by these paths.

Source: NIH

Stay Away from "Anna" and the Likes of Her
By Kim Wiseman

Anna Kournikova, sweetheart of the tennis circuit, played havoc with many computers the week of February 12th. Do you think she goes on the road without protection? Neither should you?

On March 6th, Computing Services will be presenting a brown bag lunch seminar entitled "Ensuring Your Computer Is Safe from Viruses," and "What Do I Do with This Zip Drive Again?" You will learn how to scan effectively your hard drive for viruses, learn why it is important to keep your antivirus software up and running at most times, and how to back up important data files on a regular basis in case of a virus outbreak or computer hard drive crash.

Practice safe computing. Don't let your computer run amok or hang out with riff-raff. Become disciplined and keep a firm upper hand to prevent disaster. You, too, can be a responsible computer user.

Date: March 6
Time: Noon
Location: Room 114

Spring 2001
Library Hours

Regular Hours (Sunday, Jan. 14 to Thurs. April 26)

Sunday:	10:00 am to Midnight
Monday to Thursday:	7:30 am to Midnight
Friday:	7:30 am to 9:00 pm
Saturday:	9:00 am to 9:00 pm

Exceptions:

Spring Break (Fri., Mar. 9 to Sat., Mar. 17)

Fri., Mar. 9:	7:30 am to 6:00 pm
Sat., Mar. 10 to Sun., Mar. 11:	CLOSED
Mon., Mar. 12 to Fri., Mar. 16:	7:30 am to 6:00 pm
Sat., Mar. 17:	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Spring Exam Period (Fri., Apr. 27 to Thurs., May 10)

Fri., Apr. 27:	7:30 am to Midnight
Sat., Apr. 28:	9:00 am to Midnight
Sun., Apr. 29:	10:00 am to Midnight
Mon., Apr. 30 to Thurs., May 3:	7:30 am to 1:00 am
Fri., May 4:	7:30 am to Midnight
Sat., May 5:	9:00 am to Midnight
Sun., May 6:	10:00 am to Midnight
Mon., May 7 to Thurs., May 10:	7:30 am to 1:00 am

Spring Inter-Session (Fri., May 11 to Sun., May 13)

Fri., May 11:	7:30 am to 6:00 pm
Sat., May 12:	9:30 am to Noon
Sun., May 13:	CLOSED