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Touring the Lilly Library

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Submission Instructions

Please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words to LRSQ editor Michael Chiorazzi at $\underline{\text{mchi-orazzi@law.miami.edu}}$. Please be sure to include your name, institutional affiliation (if any), and contact information in your cover email. Selected proposers will be invited to present at the symposium and publish their papers in a special double issue of LRSQ. //

TOURING THE LILLY LIBRARY

Kimberly Mattioli
Jerome Hall Law Library

hen I began my job in January 2015, I was the first person to be officially designated as the Student Services Librarian at Indiana University Maurer School of Law's Jerome Hall Law Library. One could argue that almost all the functions of a librarian at an academic law library are indeed "student services," but I was given the exciting, and at times overwhelming, task of making the students happy on a full-time basis.

What makes students happy? Does anything (short of free food) make law students excited about the law library? I took it as a personal challenge to find out. Using existing programs, new ideas from my colleagues, and new ideas of my own, I set out to make the law library a welcoming and comfortable place for our students.

I chose to think of the broad topic of student services as being divided into two different categories: academic support and fun. On the academic side, our law library offers brownbag workshops, moot court and journal trainings, and summer job preparation sessions. For fun, we have a monthly newsletter in the bathroom stalls, coloring books and games during exams, and a "Welcome Week" event with plenty of free food that takes place at the beginning of the academic year. I wanted to try to explore the "fun" category more and come up with a program that would make the students forget about their work for at least a short period of time. I also came to the realization that this "fun" did not have to happen in the law school, and that it might in fact be good for the students to get out of the building. Law students (and law librarians) are often so caught up in the day-to day happenings at the law school that they tend to ignore what is around them in the greater campus. With that in mind, I thought about potential activities on campus and settled on what I consider to be one of Indiana University's greatest assets—the Lilly Library.

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The Lilly Library is a rare books and manuscripts library in the heart of IU's campus. It looks small, but actually contains 6 floors of more than 400,000 books, 130,000 pieces of sheet music, and 7.5 million manuscripts. The collection is truly amazing. The Lilly Library has a copy of Shakespeare's First Folio, a Gutenberg Bible, Audubon's *Birds of America*, a collection of items having belonged to Abraham Lincoln, and the personal papers of Sylvia Plath, among many, many other priceless items. Unfortunately, many students at IU are unaware of the treasure trove that is available to them, free of charge and only a ten-minute walk from the law school. What a shame it would be for these law students to be in town for three years and miss out on seeing materials unavailable anywhere else in the world! I contacted the Education and Outreach Librarian at the Lilly Library and scheduled a class.

In addition to the more famous materials, the Lilly Library also has an extensive collection of rare legal materials. The director of the library, Joel Silver, is not only a rare books librarian but a lawyer as well, and he has a special interest in cultivating the collection. Joel agreed to lead the class and show the materials he

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affectionately. However, before the show ends, the mother Sofia asks Cleo to make tea for her husband. Through these scenes, *Roma* gives a glimpse into Mexico's history of class and race relations.

The movie, which is in black and white, is composed of a series of intimate portraits of the family that unfold in gorgeous detail. The children act out adventures on the roof. Cleo's boyfriend, Fermin, demonstrates a sequence of martial arts poses for her, and the children's mother awkwardly lunges for an embrace from her distant husband.

Soon, Cleo's life is disrupted by a number of personal, domestic, and political events. Her life is upended by an unwanted pregnancy, familial betrayals, and a forest fire, all of which take place in the midst of political instability that climaxes into violence, with consequences for everyone, including Cleo.

Roma was released by Netflix in 2018. It is available via streaming on Netflix and Amazon Prime. It was released on DVD and Blue-ray by the Criterion Collection. //

Welcome to *A Law Librarian in the Dark*! This column reviews movies for law libraries and law library feature film collections. Movies about lawyers, law schools, litigation, famous trials, crime and punishment, or movies that contain "legal themes" are all possible topics. If you have a title that you would like me to review, e-mail me at yasmin.harker@law.cuny.edu.//

thought would be interesting to law students. Wanting the session to be intimate, I limited the session to 15 students. I also invited the other law librarians and the Dean of the law school, thinking that this would be an extra incentive for law students to attend. The Dean was happy to join us, and even touted the trip in a faculty meeting. I sent out an email to all the students telling them about the field trip and explaining what the session would include, and informing them that the first 15 students to respond would get a spot on the trip. To my utter delight, the session filled up in about 20 minutes, and I was even able to populate a small waitlist before I managed to email the students back telling them the session was filled.

We made the ten-minute walk to the Lilly Library as a group, giving students the chance to chat with the librarians and the Dean. The session took place in the Slocum Room, which is home to 400 of the Lilly Library's 30,000 puzzles. The puzzles are from the collection of Jerry Slocum, and it is the largest collection of its kind in the world. We had the opportunity to handle some of the puzzles while we waited for the session to begin.

The session lasted for about an hour and was as fascinating as I could have hoped. Everyone in attendance was enraptured as Joel showed us a first edition of Blackstone's Commentaries on the Laws of England, owned by Patrick Henry; formbooks from the 16th century; a copy of the first printed draft of the Constitution, owned by Pierce Butler; a copy of the first printing of the Declaration of Independence (printed July 4, 1776); the first law book that was owned by Abraham Lincoln; and a miniature "pocket" version of the Magna Carta, printed on parchment and beautifully illuminated.



14th Century Pocket Magna Carter from the Lilly Library

The highlight of the presentation came when Joel showed us a printing of the first Acts of Congress. It contained the first proposed amendments to the United States Constitution—the first-ever printing of the Bill of Rights. This would be fascinating enough in itself, but the real significance of the book was in its provenance; it was given as a gift to Thomas Jefferson by George Washington. Jefferson had a habit of leaving his mark on books by putting a small "T" in front of page markers with the letter "I" (which is "J" in the Latin alphabet), and there were many instances of his initials throughout this copy of the Acts.

Students at IU are fortunate to live in a place that has a gem like the Lilly Library. However, you do not need access to a world-class rare books library to make the decision to get your students out of the law school. When I first set out to plan a law student "field trip," I did so only with the hope that it would be a good time. In the process of planning and implementing the session however, I discovered that there were many unexpected benefits to coordinating an outing such as this one.

Student Engagement

Many of the library events in the Jerome Hall Law Library are instructional. These workshops are great opportunities for our students to learn, but the setting is formal and not always conducive to chatting. We put on fun events like "Welcome Week," and we talk to our students a lot at that time. However, during the course of our three day "Welcome Week" we interact with literally hundreds of students, which puts a limit on any meaningful conversations. Limiting a session to a maximum of 15 students allows the librarians to take real advantage of a manageable group size. Our group was even smaller at ten students, and I found myself chatting extensively with students and learning more about their backgrounds than I ever would have at a larger event. Having students know us on a more personal level could potentially make them more likely to come to us with

research questions, attend our workshops, or tell their friends that the library is a great place to be.

Marketing

A faculty member at the law school told me his students came to him after I advertised the event and told him how great they thought it was that I was organizing such a fun outing. In addition, some students who could not attend responded to my email and thanked me for planning the session. I was touched by the kindness of these students, and was also struck by how I had unintentionally cast the library in a very positive light to the student body. The students (at least those who opened the email!) seemed to recognize that the library was trying to do something nice for them outside the normal confines of the law school. It was an inadvertent marketing campaign that paid off quite nicely.

The session also gave us the opportunity to market the library through our social media accounts. Our Educational Technology Librarian live-Instagrammed the session and had the pictures pushed to both Twitter and Facebook. In addition, the Dean of the law school posted a picture of the session on his personal Twitter account. In all, information about the field trip was potentially viewed by hundreds of people. Hopefully, our social media followers will remember this in the future and feel inclined to participate in other events.

Inter-Departmental Relationships

I invited the Dean to the session at the Lilly Library thinking that students would be more likely to attend if they thought they would have a chance to get to know him. I believe this was the final result; however, an even greater benefit was that the Dean was very encouraging and enthusiastic about the trip. Student engagement has been an important goal at our law school, and the Dean seemed to agree with me that planning a fun outing was a good way to achieve that goal. He even mentioned the Lilly Library session at the first faculty meeting of the year when he was describing exciting upcoming events at the law school.

Having the Dean's endorsement of this session helped to raise the profile of the library. My hope is that it put the library into the minds of faculty members, who then, in turn, may be more likely to consider the library when they have research needs or want to utilize research librarians to teach their students research skills. In today's legal education market, it is important to take every opportunity to remind the administration how important the law library is to both students and the law school as a whole. I believe that this session achieved that objective.

Fun

In the midst of all these unintended benefits, my one original goal for the session was still accomplished: we all had a lot of fun. The session was fascinating, it was wonderful to get to know some of the students, and it was great to get out of the law school for an afternoon. We even stayed at the Lilly Library after the session and looked around the exhibits instead of rushing back across campus. I wanted this event to feel like a field trip—a break from the monotony of reading cases and going to class. In that, I think the trip was a resounding success. The session was about legal materials, but it did not feel like we were stuck in the world of law. Instead, we were learning about history, bookbinding, novels, and more. It was such a refreshing break from the daily grind, and I am sure the students appreciated the escape. In the end, this would have made the session a success, even without the unintended benefits.

Planning a Law Student Field Trip

LILLY LIBRARY

Students (and librarians) at Indiana University Maurer School of Law are extremely fortunate to have the Lilly Library just a ten-minute walk across campus. While not everyone has a world-class rare books library, it is likely that every law school in the country is located near an attraction that would be of interest to law students. Libraries located in metropolitan areas or college towns probably have a plethora of museums, libraries, and more within walking distance. Even if a library is located in an area that is less populated, there may be beautiful outdoor areas to visit that are near the law school. It is helpful if there is a legal twist to an outing, but it is not necessarily a requirement. After planning and completing a law student field trip, I would highly recommend that law librarians at other schools try the same. The benefits are numerous, and you likely will have fun in the process. //

TIPS FOR PLANNING A LAW STUDENT FIELD TRIP:

- Limit the group size. The group should be small enough that you can spend some time talking to each student.
- Pick a date and time that are not stressful for students. Early in the semester is better since students should not yet be worrying about exams. It may also be helpful to choose a time when the weather is likely to be nice.
- Use an online registration tool like LibCal and have the registration open on a specific date and time. This makes the process easier for you and also gives every student an opportunity to sign up.
- Try to involve your law school dean or other member of the administration. You may also considering
 inviting some faculty members who you think would be interested in spending more time with the students.
- Try to include a legal element, but do not give up if you cannot find one. The idea is to have fun, not to focus too much on the law.
- Use social media to advertise the event. This will help you get publicity for the library as well as serve as an advertisement for future sessions.
- Repeat the trip each year or each semester. Word will spread about successful events, and students will be eager to sign up in the future. //