

**University of New Mexico School of Law
Law Library Annual Report
July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007**

Carol A. Parker, Director

During 2006-07, the Law Library continued to support the curricular and research functions of the Law School community and citizens of the State of New Mexico.

PERSONNEL

Faculty

In July 2006, Michelle Rigual was promoted to Associate Director. During 2006-07, one-half of the Law library faculty turned over due to the resignation in August 2006 of Ron Wheeler, who took a new position at Georgia State University, and the retirement on June 30, 2007 of Lorraine Lester and Barbara Lah. Searches to fill the vacant positions were undertaken. Offers were extended to and accepted by Marcia Baker and Ernesto Longa, who will start in August and September of 2007; a search to fill the third vacancy will occur in the fall of 2007. All of the Law librarians participated widely in training and professional/career development activities.

Staff

In September 2006, the Law Library created a new staff position to assist with various digital preservation initiatives and other technological needs. Adam Byrd was hired to fill the position. In mid-year, the Law Library promoted Ramona Garcia from LIS I to Administrative Assistant II to reflect new responsibilities within the Library Administrative unit. The need for an Administrative Assistant in part reflected increased event planning and support occurring within the Law Library as a result of the April 2006 opening of the Gov. Bruce King Archives and Reading Room. The Room has proved to be a very popular space for law school and alumni meetings and events. The Law Library staff participated widely in training and professional/career development activities. The process for revising individual Law Library job descriptions and developing written standard operating procedures that reflect reorganization undertaken in the previous two years also continued in 2006-07.

SERVICE, INSTRUCTION, AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Library was open to the public an average of 90 hours per week. The Library gate counted 128,068 patron visits, which was very similar to the number counted the previous two years. The Library checked out or renewed 9,753 items and loaned 128 items to other libraries around the country. The Library Circulation Desk continued to be staffed by a mix of permanent Library staff and part-time Law student employees.

The Law librarians provided reference service from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays, for a total of 49 hours. Law student employees also assisted patrons with their research requests. A program to provide reference service once weekly from within the Law School Clinic was continued throughout the year. The breakdown of the reference questions taken at the Reference Desk was as follows: 631 Law students (16.68%), 1,753 members of the public (46.35%), 772 bar members (20.41%), and 626 other (16.55%), for a total of 3,782 questions answered at the Reference Desk.

Services provided to Law faculty away from the Reference Desk were separately counted. The Law librarians completed 351 requests for faculty research assistance. Librarian-supervised Law student research assistants continued to assist the librarians in this work. The Law Library also delivered 1,047 books and articles to Law faculty during the year. This work was supported in part by the Law Library Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Department, which placed requests for 410 items for Law faculty and students and received 623 requests from other libraries. Overall, the ILL Department processed 1,033 requests.

Law faculty assistance, ILL work, and general reference questions totaled at least 6,213 instances of support provided by the Law librarians and the library staff in 2006-07, not counting instruction.

The Law Library continued to offer a range of research instruction opportunities for Law School faculty and staff and for other groups. The Law librarians taught four sections of Advanced Legal Research classes in the Law School during 2006-07. The librarians also offered classes in Indian Law and Natural Resources Law research. In addition, the Law Library provided research instruction on New Mexico practice and primary materials as part of the Law School Clinic orientation. Training sessions also included tours and informal classes for paralegal students from CNMCC and for undergraduate and graduate students from other programs at the University. In their role as educators, the Law Library faculty provided a total of 120 training sessions in 2006-07, for a total of 1,170 attendees.

In August 2006, the Law librarians held a legal research instruction retreat. It provided the Law librarians with a forum to exchange teaching ideas and to discuss ways in which legal research instruction services could be improved. The librarians typically hold at least one such meeting each year.

Although the Law Library provides many services for citizens who come to the building to use the collection and databases, the Library also continued its community outreach program in 2006-07 to increase citizen access to legal information. Librarians provided eleven training sessions for non-law librarians and community groups in areas outside of Albuquerque and around the state. Communities visited in 2006-07 included: The Raton Public Library, Highlands University in Las Vegas and also Rio Rancho, Aztec Public Library, Bloomfield Public Library, UNM-Los Alamos, Los Alamos Public Library, Chama Public Library, Dona Ana Community College, Lordsburg Public Library and Silver City Public Library. All but one of these outreach presentations were provided by Law Library Professor Eileen Cohen. In September 2006, the Law librarians also agreed to work together with the Law librarians at the Supreme Court Law Library in Santa Fe, who also have an outreach program, to maximize the effectiveness and impact of both programs. These efforts maximize the State's investment in the Law Library by making its resources and services available to greater numbers of New Mexico citizens.

The Law Library also continued to provide access to licensed legal databases for the Native American Access to Justice Practitioner Network. Under this program, which began in July 2005, volunteer attorneys and tribal court advocates provide pro bono or reduced-fee representation to Native American clients whose cases the Southwest Indian Law Clinic cannot accept. In return, Network volunteers receive free access to Loislaw (an Internet-based database of federal & 50-state primary law), and four Aspen Publishing online libraries with forms (family law, elder law, personal injury, and general litigation).

In 2006-07, the Law librarians also continued to participate in the State Bar's Access to Justice Program which is developing standardized forms for pro se patrons to use in the local Metro court system. These forms are made available to the public from the Law Library and court clerk offices.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND PRINT PRESERVATION

The UNM Law Library houses the largest academic legal research collection in the State of New Mexico. In 2006-07 the Law librarians continued their collaborative development of the collection, and the Library staff continued to maintain the collection and make it available to legal researchers. The Library added 4,925 new volumes in print and microform formats to the collection. At the end of the fiscal year, the Library held 433,064 volumes in print and microform formats, placing it in the "large" library category under ABA accreditation standards.

The librarians continued to work with the Desert States Law Library Consortium to plan for cooperative collection development on a regional basis. The Desert States group continued to pledge to share collection resources among the Desert States libraries. In addition, the Desert States group initiated a plan to preserve print copies of primary legal materials from the states represented by Desert States: Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. The UNM Law Library plans to participate in this initiative in the coming year.

Processing and indexing of the documents in the Gov. Bruce King Archives continued. The processing is being done under a contract with the archivists at UNM's Center for Southwest Research and the project is expected to be completed in June 2008.

FACILITIES

In December 2006, the carpeting on the upper level of the Law Library was replaced after the University Physical Plant Department committed to covering 90% of the installation costs. In the Spring of 2007 the Law Library also remodeled its 35-year-old Reference and Access Services desk and the front entrance area to better accommodate computer equipment and provide ergonomic work space for staff. The area also added new shelving for the Reference, Reserve and Pro Se collections, upgraded lighting, new carpeting, and new patron furniture and PCs. Two of the patron work stations are adjustable to accommodate wheelchairs. In addition, the Law School collection of class photographs were restored and reframed for display near the front desk. These upgrades have dramatically improved the overall appearance of the Law Library. New chairs for the Law Library are

planned for 2007-08 and carpet replacement for the lower level of the library is planned for 2008-09 which should complete renovations for the foreseeable future.

TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

The Law Library purchased several online collections of U.S. government publications online from Lexis in 2006-07. The Law Library is a leader in spending on electronic legal information licenses, making 78 separate licenses available to library patrons in 2006-07. In the most recently released ABA ranking of academic law library spending, the UNM Law Library was in the top 6% of libraries in this category. The Law Library now owns more than 22,000 electronic books and in 2006-07 added catalog records for 1961 electronic treatises that are available through licensed electronic resources. The library also continued to offer public licenses for Westlaw and Shepards online, both of which can be accessed from within the Law Library. The Library continues to provide eight PCs for public access to its legal research databases, for word processing, and for Internet access. The Law Library's licensed databases are also listed in the University Libraries' database management system to ensure wide access to these resources.

The Law Library staff continued to maintain and add to its web page, and continued to use it to provide remote access to databases for Law faculty and students. In 2006-07, the Law Library home page had 131,278 visits.

The Law librarians also continued to use its faculty research requests database to manage faculty support work. This tool gives all librarians access to information about pending faculty requests, facilitates work sharing, and generates statistics on the processed work requests. In 2006-07 the librarians uses the database to track and count the faculty research support work described in the Services section above, and the librarians report that the database continues to be an integral part of their work process.

In January of 2007 the Law Library purchased a new server to ensure adequate storage space for digitization projects and web page files, as well as to provide adequate shared storage space for the library faculty and staff. At the beginning of 2006-07, the Law Library also fully deployed its new server-based public copier and printer system.

The Law Library continued to promote use of UNM's institutional repository, DSpace, as a means of preserving electronic scholarly and teaching materials created by the Law faculty. In 2006-07 the Law School and Law Library began publishing their annual reports in DSpace. The Law Library and Law School now have 709 digital items archived in this repository.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE LIBRARY FACULTY

Library Director, Carol Parker's, new article was accepted for publication: *Institutional Repositories and the Principle of Open Access: Changing the Way We Think About Legal Scholarship*, forthcoming in 37:2 New Mexico L. Rev. (2007). She also became a Contributing Editor to the, *Law Librarian Blog*, writing primarily about the impact of the open access movement and institutional repositories on legal scholarship. Associate Director, Michelle Rigual, published, "OCLC: WorldCat Collection Analysis Service and the Desert States Law Library Consortium," 32(2) TECHNICAL SERVICES LAW LIBRARIAN (April 2007).

Professor Eileen Cohen published an article in the AALL Research Instruction and Patron Services section newsletter, *"New Mexico Collaborative Law Library Outreach"* (Fall 2006). Visiting Librarian and Lecturer III, Sherri Thomas, published with Law Professor Gloria Valencia-Weber, *"When the state bar exam embraces Indian law: teaching experiences and observations,"* 82 N.D. L. REV. 741 (2006). She also published an article in the AALL Research Instruction and Patron Services section newsletter, *"Developing specialized legal research Instruction in Indian law,"* (Spring 2007); authored *"Letter From the Chair,"* in the AALL Native Peoples Law Caucus Newsletter, Summer 2007, at 1; and *"Indian Law on State Bar Exams,"* Native Peoples Law Caucus Newsletter, Summer 2007, at 4.

UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES OF LIBRARY FACULTY

The Law Library continued to collaborate with the University Libraries System and other libraries in the LIBROS consortium. Law librarians served on various University and Law School committees. Law librarians, Michelle Rigual and Sherri Thomas, served as members of the LIBROS Advisory Board.

The Law Library Director served as the Law School representative on the Faculty Senate, and continued to serve ex officio on the Faculty Senate Library Committee. She also served on search committee for the Dean of the University Libraries, and the Planning Committee for the 5th annual UNM Scholarly Communications Symposium, which the Law Library co-sponsored with the University Libraries System and the Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center.

OUTSIDE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF LIBRARY FACULTY

Library Director, Carol Parker, attended the Annual Meeting, Southwestern Association of Law Libraries, Tempe, AZ (April 2007) where she presented on *"Open Access Principles, Institutional Repositories, and Legal Scholarship."* She also served on the Supreme Court Law Library's Director Search Committee, and continued to serve on the Board of the Association of Academic Research Libraries of New Mexico, co-organizing the August 2006 Association of Academic Research Libraries of New Mexico Summit Meeting, held at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, NM

Associate Director, Michelle Rigual, presented, *"Find it Free and Fast on the Net: Advanced Internet Strategies for the New Mexico Legal Professional,"* Continuing Legal Education for Attorneys, Albuquerque, NM (December 2006). She also served as editor of the AALL Research Instruction and Patron Services section newsletter; treasurer and secretary of the AALL Latino Law Librarians Caucus; Chair of the SWALL Publicity Committee.

Law librarian, Sherri Thomas, attended the Federal Indian Bar Conference in the past year, and served on its State Bar Exams Committee. She presented, *"When the State Bar Exam Embraces Indian Law: Teaching Experiences and Observations,"* at the University of North Dakota Law Conference: The Pedagogy of American Indian Law, October 13-14, 2006. She also presented at a Southwest Intertribal Court of Appeals Meeting and Workshop (April 2007). She also served on the State Bar of New Mexico's Access To Justice Committee and

served as the Chair of the American Association of Law Libraries' Native Peoples Law Caucus.

10/30/07