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UNM School of Law Library Annual Report 2008-2009

School of Law Library Director

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**University of New Mexico School of Law
Law Library Annual Report
July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009**

Carol A. Parker, Director

During 2008-2009, the Law Library continued to support the curricular functions and legal research needs of the Law School community and citizens of the State of New Mexico. In addition the librarians continued to teach legal research classes within the law school's program of legal education.

PERSONNEL

Faculty

Keeta Harnett was hired as a Visiting Librarian. She is responsible for collection maintenance and development. She joined the other library faculty members, Michelle Rigual, Eileen Cohen, Sherri Thomas, Ernesto Longa and Theresa Strike. Michelle Rigual underwent a tenure-track mid-probationary review during the year. She was retained and promoted to Associate Professor of Law Librarianship. During most of the academic year, all of the Library's faculty positions were filled. However, this happy situation ended when Michelle Rigual announced in May that she had been hired to become the next law library director at Texas Wesleyan. Michelle remained with us through the end of the fiscal year. We threw a big party for Michelle in the King Room before she left. Eileen Cohen began serving on June 1, 2009, as Interim Head of Public Services in Michelle's absence. The entire library faculty participated widely in professional development activities throughout the year.

Staff

Andrea Lujan and Moses Moya settled into their Library Technical Assistants. Jeanette Hennie initiated a new career ladder, seeking promotion to LIS 3. Adam Byrd cut back to 0.75 FTE to continue to pursue his doctoral degree in anthropology. Carolyn Kelly settled into her new role as Technical Services Coordinator. Ramona Garcia initiated and successfully completed a career ladder and was promoted to Administrative Assistant 3. David Myers was hired in January 2009 to serve as Archivist in a newly created position. He started at 0.5 FTE, but moved to 0.75 FTE at the close of the fiscal year due to pent up demand for his services. We hired Ruth Singer to serve as a 0.25 FTE Archivist Assistant. She will work on processing the Prof. Al Utton collection. Her salary will be paid by a donation made by the Utton family. All of the staff participated widely in training and professional/career development activities throughout the year.

PUBLIC SERVICE, INSTRUCTION, AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Library was open to the public an average of 90 hours per week. The Library gate counted 107,015 patron visits, which was consistent with numbers in recent years. The Library checked out or renewed 8,080 items and loaned 234 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. The breakdown of the reference questions taken at the Reference Desk was as follows: 695 Law students (21%), 1,604 members of the public (49%), 507 bar members (16%), and 463 other (14%), for a total of 3,138 questions answered at the Reference Desk.

Services provided to Law faculty away from the Reference Desk were separately counted. The Law librarians completed 183 requests for faculty research assistance. Librarian-supervised Law student research assistants assisted the librarians in this work. The Law Library also delivered 897 books and articles to Law faculty during the year. This work was supported in part by the Law Library interlibrary loan (ILL) team, which placed requests for 234 items for Law faculty and students. When added to the 577 other ILL requests received this year, the ILL team processed 811 requests.

Law faculty assistance, ILL work, and general reference questions totaled at least 5,054 instances of support provided by the Law librarians and the Library staff in 2008-09, not counting instruction.

The Law Library continued to offer a range of research instruction opportunities for Law School faculty and students, and for other groups. The Law librarians taught five sections of the Legal Research I elective classes in the Law School during 2008-09. The librarians also offered separate classes in Legal Research II, Indian Law Research, and Natural Resources Law research. In addition, the Library director taught Wills and Trusts. The law librarians began offering mandatory law student research assistant training to better prepare the RA's to support the faculty. The Law librarians provided research instruction on New Mexico practice and primary materials as part of Law School Clinic orientations. 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 113 distinct training sessions in 2008-09, for a total of 1,157 attendees.

The Law librarians submitted a successful proposal to the Curriculum Committee to begin requiring a one-credit legal research classes for first-year students to take in the second semester. The class will begin January 2010, and it will require nearly all librarians to simultaneously teach, so it is a very ambitious undertaking. However, we want to keep the sections as small as possible which is why there will be five separate sections offered.

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 2008-09 to increase citizen access to legal information. In providing these services, the Law librarians continued 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. As part of this program, Eileen Cohen visited Santa Rosa, and Michelle Rigual and Keeta Harnett visited Tucumcari and Portales, and Sherri Thomas visited Farmington. Between them, they provided five separate training sessions for non-law librarians and community groups in areas outside of Albuquerque and around the state. 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 librarians also continued to participate in the State Bar's Access to Justice Program, which develops standardized forms for pro se patrons to use in the local Metro court system. These forms are available to the public from the Law Library and Court Clerk offices.

TECHNICAL SERVICES, COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

The UNM Law Library continues to house the largest academic legal research collection in the State of New Mexico. In 2008-09, 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 2,473 new volumes in print and microform formats to the collection. At the end of the fiscal year, the Library held 429,385 volumes in print and microform formats, placing it in the "large" library category under ABA accreditation standards.

A loan rules committee worked all summer to come up with new policies that were then implemented. The Technical Services unit and the Access Services unit together worked for the rest of the year to implement location changes brought about by a complete reworking of our loan rules.

The long-planned collection shift to move the current treatises to the upper floor finally started in earnest with the hire of Keeta Harnett. She first oversaw temporary storage of more than 15,000 volumes of law journals that are now available online, in order to clear space for the treatises. She next oversaw the treatise moves. To assist in these endeavors, Marylin Jaramillo-Garcia was tapped to help with special collection projects. These efforts will help alleviate the lack of shelf space on the lower floor, in addition to creating an upper floor collection which is geared toward facilitating legal research instruction and convenience for lawyers and judges who use the library. All print that is updated and kept current will eventually be on the upper floor. The lower floor will house monographs, superseded and historical material, and various special collections such as international law and Indian law.

The other big change affecting technical services was the implementation of a Library Maintenance Agreement (LMA) for all print serial subscriptions purchased through Thomson West Publishing. This program significantly simplifies our payment processes.

The work on the Desert States inventory of pre-statehood and primary legal materials continued. This project is now being managed by our archivist, David Myers. Rea Winters was tapped to assist with this special project as well. Processing and indexing the Utton collection got underway when Ruth Singer was hired to help with this project. In addition, David Myers set up and coordinated a panel presentation which discussed the legacy for former first lady, Alice King. The King family subsequently donated Mrs. King's personal papers to the King Archives. Processing and indexing will commence next year.

TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

The Law Library continues to be a leader among academic libraries nationally in spending on electronic legal information licenses, making 95 separate licenses available to library patrons in 2008-09. The Library continues to offer many public licenses for legal research databases, which are accessible via eight PCs for public access, in addition to providing word processing and Internet access for the public. Many of the Law Library's licenses are also listed in the University Libraries'

database management system to ensure campus-wide—and in some cases branch library—access to these resources.

The Law librarians also continued to use their Faculty Research Requests Database to manage the faculty research and document delivery work reported in the Services section above. The database is an integral tool in these efforts.

The Law Library continued to promote the use of UNM's institutional repository (DSpace) as a means of preserving electronic scholarly and teaching materials created by the Law and Library faculties. The Law Library and Law School together now have a total of 844 digital items archived in this repository. A growing number of faculty members are archiving their scholarship in the repository. Librarian Ernesto Longa has been instrumental in encouraging faculty to use repositories. In 2008-09 he began helping the law faculty promote readership for their scholarship via repositories in SSRN and bepress. In total he archived nearly one hundred publications in UNM's DSpace, SSRN and BePress in 2008-09. He will also help the law school track all faculty publications for the law school's archives, annual reports and future self studies.

FACILITIES

The library undertook a risk self-assessment and mitigation strategy to ensure eligibility for FEMA aid in the event of a natural disaster. The librarians also began working with a disaster recovery planning consultant to update our disaster recovery and business continuity plans. These efforts will continue into the next academic year. As a result of these efforts, a flood alarm was installed on the basement level of the library. It will be monitored by the Physical Plant department 24/7. Bracing for the library shelving will be installed in the coming year.

LIBRARY FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Librarian, Ernesto A. Longa, entered a publication agreement with Scarecrow Press to publish a book entitled *Anarchist Periodicals in English Published in the United States (1833-1955): An Annotated Guide* which is projected to be published November, 2009.

LAW SCHOOL SERVICE ACTIVITIES OF LIBRARY FACULTY

Director, Carol Parker, served on the Art Committee, the Assessment and Teaching Committee, the Development Advisory Committee, and chaired the Library and Information Technology Committee. Associate Director, Michelle Rigual, served on the Academic Support Committee. Librarian, Eileen Cohen, served on the Natural Resources Committee. Librarian, Sherri Thomas, served on the Indian Law Faculty and Indian Law Certificate Committees; Ernesto Longa served on the law school's Library and Information Technology Committee, and Michelle Rigual's Mid-Probationary Tenure Review Committee. Theresa Strike served on the Building and Safety Committee, and the law library's archivist search committee.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES OF LIBRARY FACULTY

The Law librarians continued to collaborate with the librarians at the Health Sciences Library and Informatics Center and University Libraries System, and served on various University committees. Carol Parker and Librarian, Ernesto Longa, served on the Scholarly Communications committee.

OUTSIDE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF LIBRARY FACULTY

Carol Parker and Michelle Rigual co-chaired the local arrangements committee for the Southwest Association of Law Libraries (SWALL) annual meeting which was held in Albuquerque in March 2009. This meant that the two of them, plus Administrative Assistant Ramona Garcia, essentially planned the entire three-day conference except for the program. Michelle Rigual also served on the SWALL program planning committee. During the conference, everyone who works in the library pitched in to help. The law library also hosted a reception on the Friday evening of the SWALL meeting and the attendees commented on how nice the library looked, they admired the King Room, and were treated to a spectacular sunset overlooking the Sandias.

Carol Parker attended the AALL meeting in Portland, OR in July 2008, where she received an award from ALL-SIS for her last article. She also attended the Desert States Law Library Consortium meeting in Tucson in November 2008, and the CALI Conference in Boulder in June 2009.

Associate Director, Michelle Rigual, attended the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) annual meeting in Portland, OR. She continued to serve as both Secretary/Treasurer and Newsletter Editor of AALL's Research, Instruction, and Patron Services Special Interest Section.

Librarian, Eileen Cohen, attended and presented at the SWALL Annual meeting on the Law Library's Outreach Program. She continued to serve as a member of the Desert States Resource Sharing Committee, the New Mexico AARL Document Delivery Committee, and the New Mexico AARL Resource Sharing Committee.

Librarian, Sherri Thomas, continued to serve on the Federal Indian Bar's State Bar Exams Committee. She also continued to serve as the Chair of the American Association of Law Libraries' Native Peoples Law Caucus. Sherri Thomas presented a work-in-progress called, "Continual Existence: Enrollment Disputes and the Demise of Tribal Self-Determination" at the 2009 American Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting for the Law and Anthropology Panel, "Origins and Solutions to the Indian Freedmen Disputes". She was also the presenter of "Federal Indian Law: A Trip Through Indian Country" at the 2009 SWALL Annual Meeting.

Librarian, Theresa Strike, attended the AALL meeting in Portland in July 2008.

10/23/09