Under the Crystals: The Year at Gallagher Law Library

Just how much can change can one law library take on in a single year? Let’s take a look:

Facilities
The School of Law desperately needed more space, and in order to free up room upstairs, part of the lower floor of the library will be remodeled. The entire south side where the non-compact stacks have been located will become student organization space by the end of the summer. This has meant an enormous effort of weeding the collection of duplicates, and shifting every book (over 460,000) in the library, with short- and long-term space planning led by the dynamic duo of Alena Wolotira and Sherry Leysen. Jonathan Franklin is in charge of the project for the School of Law. As of June 17, the space is clear and ready for construction to begin June 24.

Technology
The transition to an integrated library system shared with 38 Orbis-Cascade Alliance member schools is well on its way. With Ex Libris as our chosen vendor, we are in the first cohort, along with the UW libraries, to develop the new system. The staff has been submitting requests and providing input, participating in training sessions, and making preparations for this exciting and groundbreaking change.

Bottom line: “Everyone is set back to zero” as we rethink every policy and procedure (former students: who said this?).

Staff
Whew! The Sherry shuffle, performed by Sherry Leysen (2011) is over. We are so glad to have her back after we were sure we had lost her to Southern California, a good job, and her husband. Fortunately for us, she agreed to come back, and she has been here since January.

K & L Gates added

Trinnie Thai-Parker to their reference staff, while she continues as part-time lecturer at UW Law. Gallagher feels the loss as she joins Emily Smith (2011) at our neighbor library downtown, but we are happy for Trinnie as she enjoys her new role.

To restore our reference staff after these departures, we welcomed Anna Endter and Grace Feldman, both 2012 grads, in December/January. Their enthusiasm and excellent work have been appreciated over these months!

Jessica Anderson (nee Moskowitz), our circulation library technician and UW MLIS 2011 grad, now commutes by ferry to her first job as a professional librarian at Everest College in Bremerton. She left in the fall, and her job duties have been ably performed by the rest of the circ staff, Vickie Northington, Patty Roberts, Kaden Mack and Judy Davis, with the support of Sherry Leysen.

Crystal Alberthal has been enjoying her first year of the UW MLIS program and she is planning to continue toward her goal of graduating in 2014.

Another change that we’re anticipating (but not looking forward to) is Theresa Chemnick’s retirement at the end of July. Theresa will be at the alumni & friends reunion to see everyone before she starts the next chapter of her life.

Publications
Gallagher has added another publication to its table, Specialized Legal Research. The June 2013 supplement was just distributed. Thanks to the chapter authors and Theresa’s tireless work, we published on time, cut the price by 1/3, and have a much higher quality product. Next, the world of law school textbooks....

Class of 2012: off to a super start

Last year’s class was one of our largest with 14 grads. Checking in with them in June 2013 we find:

Neel Agrawal is FCIL reference librarian at LA Law Library.

Indiana at Bloomington welcomed Michelle Botek as electronic services librarian, assistant librarian, and lecturer in law.

Two 2012 Gallagher Law Library interns transformed into reference librarians. Anna Endter and Grace Feldman have joined the team.

Mariah Ford is sharing her skills with the University of Pennsylvania Biddle Law Library as a reference librarian.

Nick Harrell is reference/instructional services librarian for the University of Miami Law Library.

Michele Knapp is enjoying her role as reference and interlibrary loan librarian at the University of San Diego Law Library.

Christina Luini has joined the staff at the 9th Circuit Law Library in San Francisco as associate circuit librarian.

Ohio State is the new home of Ingrid Mattson, reference librarian at Moritz Law Library.

Mike McArthur joined the University of Michigan Law Library as reference librarian.

The University of Florida Law Library has added Michael Moore as a reference librarian.

The College of William & Mary Law Library has hired Michael Umberger as a reference librarian.

Jason Giesler and Frank Ott are involved in job searches at the time of this newsletter.
We are delighted to welcome Mary Ann Hyatt as visiting professor for the Law Library Administration course—the third year in a row. We are experimenting this summer with condensing the course into six days of class meetings.

Currently director of the University of Oregon Law Library in Eugene, Mary Ann is also the former Gallagher Circulation Librarian.

A big thank you to all the other law library administration teachers who have helped train the students to be our next law library leaders over the years. See the complete list at http://lib.law.washington.edu/lawlibrarianship/hiVisitingProfessors.asp.

What's New @ Alumni Website

Thank you, Fieldwork Hosts! The students gain a wealth of knowledge and experience from the expert training and supervision they receive as part of this graduation requirement.

Student | JD Earned at | Fieldwork Host | Supervisor
---|---|---|---
Sonal Desai | Northwestern | Aeon Law Firm, Seattle | Heather Schmidt
Cassie DuBay | Tulane | San Diego County Public Law Library | John Adkins
Jennifer Haire Gonzalez | Pace | United Nations Law Library | Susan Kurtas
Wendy Lamar | Tulane | Law Library of Congress | Luis Acosta
Andrew Martineau | DePaul | Alaska State Court Law Library | Susan Falk
Ryan Metheny | UCLA | San Bernardino County Law Library | Larry Meyer
Kara Noel | Cornell | U.S. Courts Library, Seattle | Tim Sheehy
Rebecca Sherman | William Mitchell | Multnomah Law Library, Portland, OR | Jacque Jurkis and Martha Renick