



**Law Library**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL

# Strategic Planning & Assessment Annual Report, 2017-18



## Contents

---

Page 1	2017-18 Highlights
Page 3	Assessment of our Annual Strategic Initiatives
Page 11	Resource Savings
Page 13	Future Directions

## Highlights:

- New Law Library leadership team
- New staff hires, roles & opportunities
- Full Digital Repository launch

## 2017-18 Highlights

**New Law Library Leadership Team:** After twenty-three years as Law Library Director, Steve Barkan retired this spring. Steve is highly respected in the Law School, campus and in the legal community. As library director and professor, the Law School and the Law Library were richer and stronger through his leadership. We will miss him.

This winter, the Law School conducted a search for a new library director. The position was changed from a faculty to an associate dean academic staff appointment with a 3-year rolling horizon. As an associate dean position, the library director was also invited to the Dean's leadership team. In February 2018, Bonnie Shucha, former Deputy Director, was selected as Associate Dean of Library and Information Services and Director of the Law Library.

One of Bonnie's first tasks was to reexamine the library's organizational structure and staffing needs. This resulted in several changes. In May, Vicky Coulter, formerly Associate Director of Collections and Administration, took on broader responsibilities as Associate Director of the Law Library. In August, Kris Turner, formerly Head of Reference, was appointed Assistant Director for Public Services.

**New Staff Hires, Roles, & Opportunities:** The library also made several additional staffing changes this year. Anticipating a drop in print journal subscriptions within the next 5-10 years and knowing that the Law School was in need of building support, CJ Ullrich, who has an aptitude for and interest in building-related matters, transitioned from full time Serials Assistant into 50% Building Manager / 50% Serials Assistant in July 2017. Several other library staff took on some of his duties to facilitate this change.

Also in July, Emma Babler joined the Law Library staff as Reference & Technology Librarian taking on some of the duties previously held by Kris Turner. In December, Jay Tucker, formerly Daytime Circulation Supervisor, was selected as the new Stack Manager, replacing a former staff member who resigned in October to pursue other opportunities. In April, Christy Meuzelaar was appointed as our new Daytime Circulation Supervisor.

In addition, we switched two staff positions to different departments this year. Since Jay Tucker works closely with the circulation staff as Stack Manager, we moved that position from Technical Services to Public Services under the supervision of Head of Circulation, Mary Jo Koranda. Conversely, we moved Margaret Booth's Government Documents Assistant position, which includes acquisitions and cataloging work, from Public Services to Technical Services under the supervision of Shawn King, Head of Cataloging and Metadata.

**Full Digital Repository Launch:** Another Law Library highlight this year was the full launch of the UW Law School Digital Repository.<sup>1</sup> We provide easy online access to our faculty scholarship and student-edited journals, working closely with authors and editors to ensure that their works are fully and accurately represented. While many other schools' repositories begin and end with these published works, our repository reaches deeper, highlighting and preserving the unique and special collections that embody the UW Law School's scholarly legacy. We're committed to keeping this rich content open and accessible to all. See Strategic Initiative #1 below for more on the digital repository.

---

<sup>1</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/>.

## Assessment of our Annual Strategic Initiatives

In advancement of our mission to foster research and learning, the Law Library staff identified four strategic initiatives in 2017-18.

### 2017-18 Strategic Initiatives

1. Expand our institutional repository collections to promote the visibility of Law School research, publications, and collections
2. Enhance the Law School's anniversary celebrations by curating & highlighting distinctive historical collections and information
3. Increase law student and faculty awareness of library resources, collections, and services
4. Enhance our information management systems and assess data to make more informed decisions about library processes, collections, and services

### Strategic Initiative #1:

***Expand our institutional repository collections to promote the visibility of Law School research, publications, and collections***

The UW Law School Digital Repository promotes the Law School's scholarly legacy by providing online access to faculty research and publications and highlighting our rich history and unique collections. Developed from scratch using open source tools, the repository was designed by Kris Turner who spearheaded content creation and organization and Jarrod Bogucki, Assistant IT Director, who designed the database infrastructure. Metadata support is provided by Katie Dunn, Electronic Resources Librarian.

Although many other law schools have digital repositories, we believe that ours is exceptional in several ways: the depth and uniqueness of our collections and our commitment to ensuring free, open access.

## Repository Collections

- **Scholarly Work**

- *Faculty Scholarship* (currently available<sup>2</sup>)

Our faculty produce excellent and impactful research. Getting it into the world to be read, cited, and used has been a consistent goal for the Law School according to Dean Margaret Raymond. This year, the library took a major step toward realizing that goal by providing easy, online access to our faculty's scholarship - over 3000 articles, chapters, etc. – so that readers worldwide may discover and cite their work. All documents are full-text PDFs with accompanying descriptive and citation metadata.

- *Student-Edited Journals* (currently available<sup>3</sup>)

The Law Journal collection, also new this year, includes the full text runs of all four UW Law School journals: the Wisconsin Law Review (1920-present), the Wisconsin International Law Journal (1982-present), the Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender, and Society (1985-present), and the Wisconsin Environmental Law Journal (1994-2002). To increase discoverability, library staff created metadata for each article.

- **Unique Legal Materials**

- *Bhopal Collection* (currently available with more content in development<sup>4</sup>)

The Bhopal collection, which launched in 2016, continues to grow. More documents were added this year and an additional series of newspaper articles in Hindi is under development. The Hindi articles will include metadata and synopses in English to increase discoverability. The collection currently contains over 3,500 documents.

---

<sup>2</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/faculty-scholarship>.

<sup>3</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/law-reviews>.

<sup>4</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/bhopal-collection>.

- *J. Willard Hurst Collection* (in development)

This collection documents the career of UW Law School professor, James Willard Hurst, commonly identified as the father of modern American legal history. This collection of Hurst's correspondence and scholarship has been separately available on our website for a number of years,<sup>5</sup> but we now are working to bring it into the repository for a more unified research platform.

- *Wisconsin Briefs Collection* (in development)

Developed in collaboration with the Wisconsin State Law Library, this collection contains briefs for Wisconsin Supreme Court and Court of Appeals cases from 1992 to 2009. This collection of over 100,000 documents was launched separately around 2005 and has been an important resource for the Wisconsin legal community.<sup>6</sup> As with the Hurst Collection, we're currently working to bring the briefs into the repository.

- *Center for Public Representation Collection* (in development)

In coordination with Professor Louise Trubek, the Law Library digitized a collection of documents relating to the Center for Public Representation and the Economic Justice Institute. This collection of newsletters, minutes, and reports is coming soon.

- *South African Constitutional Law Collection* (in development)

Professor Heinz Klug's South African constitutional law collection featuring documents tracing the development and ratification of the South African Constitution is another collection under development. Nearly 1,600 items have already been added to this one-of-a-kind research collection.

---

<sup>5</sup> The Hurst Collection is currently available at <http://library.law.wisc.edu/hurst/>.

<sup>6</sup> The Wisconsin Briefs are currently available at <http://library.law.wisc.edu/eresources/wibriefs/>.

- **Law School History**

- *Oral Histories* (currently available<sup>7</sup> with more in development)

In conjunction with the Law School's 150<sup>th</sup> celebration, we launched a collection of oral histories featuring prominent faculty and administrators. See Strategic Initiative #2 for more information about this collection.

- *Alumni Photo Collection* (currently available<sup>8</sup>)

Also in conjunction with the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration, the Law Library created an extensive digital collection of law student exit photos dating back to 1873. See Strategic Initiative #2 for more information about this collection as well.

- *Law School Publications* (in development)

Library staff are gathering and digitizing many Law School publications for the repository including *The Advocate*, *The Gargoyle*, graduation programs, and more. Full text searching will be available.

- *Photographs and Recordings* (in development)

The Law Library is currently collecting photographs and recordings of Law School events, including the Fairchild and Kastenmeier Lectures, for the repository. We are adding descriptive metadata to make the materials more accessible and discoverable.

### **Open Access Commitment**

In the tradition of the Wisconsin Idea, where the knowledge and ideas developed by the University are shared for the public good, the Law Library is committed to ensuring that our repository collections remain open and accessible. Most law schools who use the commercial repository platform, bypass Digital Commons. We developed our repository using open source tools, giving us complete control over our content and continuing ability to provide free access to all.

---

<sup>7</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/law-school-oral-histories>.

<sup>8</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/Alumni-Photos>.

## **Strategic Initiative #2:**

### ***Enhance the Law School's anniversary celebrations by curating & highlighting distinctive historical collections and information***

The Law Library played an important role in the Law School's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration this year. Under the direction of Kris Turner, we gathered archival documents, provided research support, and developed collections that highlight and preserve the school's rich history. Two of these digital collections, oral histories and alumni photos, feature prominently on the Law School 150<sup>th</sup> website.<sup>9</sup>

#### **Oral Histories**

The Law School oral history collection offers a unique, personal look at the lives and experiences of influential faculty and administrators. We launched the collection with five oral histories: Daniel Bernstine, Willard Hurst, Stewart Macaulay, Carin Clauss, and Herman Goldstein.<sup>10</sup> These histories have been fully tagged, indexed, and transcribed allowing users of all abilities to enjoy the content and to quickly locate portions of most interest. We also created full catalog records for each oral history in the WorldCat library catalog, enhancing discovery by researchers worldwide.

#### **Alumni Photos**

The alumni photo collection features law student exit photos spanning 1873 to the present.<sup>11</sup> Library staff assembled nearly 12,000 alumni portraits from the framed photos on display in the library along with those from more recent graduating classes on file in the External Affairs office. We organized and digitized the photos, cropped and edited each student image, added metadata, and created a searchable website with high resolution downloads. Response to this collection has been very positive. Over the years, many alumni and their families have visited the library to reminisce over the framed photos. We are now able to make that experience accessible to those unable to visit in person and more meaningful by offering additional photos of more recent graduating classes, a searchable interface, and high resolution digital downloads.

---

<sup>9</sup> See <https://150.law.wisc.edu/>.

<sup>10</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/law-school-oral-histories>. In addition to the five currently available, twenty-five more oral histories are in development.

<sup>11</sup> See <http://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/Alumni-Photos>.



## Research Support

The Law Library also provided research support for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Through a series of “photo parties,” librarians worked with External Affairs to select historical images from our print collection to enhance the celebration. Eric Taylor, our Evening Reference Librarian undertook a large research project to locate interesting quotes from our thirteen law school deans. These quotes, which are featured on the 150<sup>th</sup> website’s timeline, provide insight into the leadership philosophy of our UW Law School deans over the last one hundred and fifty years.<sup>12</sup>

## Strategic Initiative #3:

### ***Increase law student and faculty awareness of library resources, collections, and services***

This year, the Law Library made a concerted effort to increase awareness of our resources, collections, and services. We encouraged awareness in numerous ways including offering more instructional sessions, adding thousands of new title level records to our library catalog, creating displays highlighting interesting and unique content, and increasing our marketing efforts.

## Instructional Outreach

Under the leadership of Reference & Instructional Services Librarian Jenny Zook, reference librarians significantly increased the number of instructional programs offered this year. We designed several new programs including four drop-in lightning sessions held in the Atrium during the lunch hour, a research assistant training workshop, and technology training & database demonstrations for faculty. As a result of these new programs, we significantly increased attendance, almost doubling the number of students and faculty we reached compared to last year.<sup>13</sup>

---

<sup>12</sup> See <https://150.law.wisc.edu/150-timeline/>.

<sup>13</sup> In 2016-17, we offered 37 instructional programs with 628 attendees. We increased our outreach substantially in 2017-18, offering 69 total programs with 1201 attendees.

## Improved Content Discovery

The Law Library also worked to increase awareness of our collections through improved database content discovery in our library catalog. Katie Dunn added over 18,500 title-level records for content contained within our subscription databases.<sup>14</sup> This enables researchers to discover relevant content that would otherwise be buried deeply across numerous electronic platforms, thereby maximizing money spent on these subscriptions.

## Social Media

The Law Library increased our marketing efforts this year, especially via social media. Reference and Technology Services Librarian Emma Babler revamped our Law Library Facebook presence. With weekly posts using specific memes or hashtags such as “#MemeMonday” or “#WorkHardWednesday,” she created a consistent and friendly “voice” that has attracted more likes, interaction and praise from law faculty and students.

## Displays & Signs

To promote services and collections within the library space, Emma Babler and BJ Ramsay, Evening Weekend Supervisor created a series of digital and print signs and banners. We also created engaging exhibits in our Quarles & Brady Reading Room display case featuring legal and law school history, reading recommendations, and upcoming events. These displays, coordinated by Head of Circulation, Mary Jo Koranda and the Law Library Aesthetics Committee, were the creative work of numerous staff members.

---

<sup>14</sup> Our catalogers loaded title-level records for the following databases: Making of Modern Law: Trials (10,011 records), Making of Modern Law: Foreign, Comparative, and International Law (2,739 records), Making of Modern Law: Primary Sources (3587 records), HeinOnline History of Capital Punishment (998 records), and HeinOnline Reports of the US Presidential Commissions (1231 records).

#### **Strategic Initiative #4:**

##### ***Enhance our information management systems and assess data to make more informed decisions about library processes, collections, and services***

The Law Library frequently analyzes data to make informed decisions about our services, spaces, and collections. This year, we implemented two new systems to further enhance our decision making.

#### **Purchase Order & Fund Structure Improvements**

Carrie Doyle, Head of Acquisitions and Serials, significantly overhauled our purchase order and fund structures to help our selectors make quicker, more informed decisions about selecting new materials for our collection. Under the new fund structure, she generated lists for selectors to make more informed renewal decisions. In addition, Carrie improved procedures so that selectors can easily review subject growth areas, enabling the library to make more efficient use of our collection funds.

#### **Internal Analysis & Benchmarking**

The Law Library also implemented ALLStAR, a new tool for internal analysis and comparison to other academic law libraries. ALLStAR (Academic Law Libraries: Statistics, Analytics and Reports) compiles law library-related data from numerous required reports (ABA, ARL, USNWR, etc.) and presents it in a single powerful database. Law Library Director Bonnie Shucha has begun using this tool to analyze our library's operations and gain insight from other academic law library programs.

## Resource Savings

The Law Library strives to be an effective steward of Law School resources.

This year, we realized savings in several areas, including acquisitions, workflow improvements, and space maximization.

### Collaborative Purchasing

With our strong campus library and consortial partnerships, we realized significant savings through collaborative purchasing. This fall, Vicky Coulter worked with General Library System Associate University Librarian Doug Way and consortial partner BTAA to negotiate a 60% discount on several Gale Making of Modern Law database collections. As a result, we acquired these collections at a cost savings of over \$67,700.

### Savvy Negotiations

Our librarians have also cultivated relationships with our information vendors and are skilled at obtaining favorable pricing. Earlier this year, a law professor needed short-term access to the Oxford Handbook of Islamic Law to support her research. The content was not available in print or via interlibrary loan. Because of our positive relationship with Oxford, Katie Dunn was able to negotiate free online access to the content for a limited time.

## Resource Savings Through:

- Collaborative Purchasing
- Savvy Negotiations
- Staffing Efficiencies
- Space Maximization

## Workflow Improvement

Our library staff continually looks for ways to improve processes and workflows. For many years, we have published a list of recent acquisitions to alert faculty and others about new materials available in our collection.<sup>15</sup> Compiling this list was quite labor intensive because it involved manually entering information about each title. This fall, Shawn King worked with Jarrod Bogucki to automate the production of the list saving about 40 hours per month of staff time.

## Space Maximization

According to recent measurements, over 81% of the Law Library shelves are in use leaving little room for collection growth.<sup>16</sup> To maximize space, we periodically engage in weeding, shifting, and negotiating materials transfer to off-site campus library storage.<sup>17</sup> Led by Documents Assistant Margaret Booth, we are undergoing a multi-year weeding project of duplicate federal hearings in print.<sup>18</sup> This year, Margaret withdrew 1,224 documents, bringing the total number withdrawn to 10,724 since beginning the project in 2012. We're also working to reduce duplication across our whole collection, proactively collaborating with other campus libraries on purchasing decisions and retroactively withdrawing duplicate titles that may be more appropriately housed elsewhere on campus.

---

<sup>15</sup> Our recent acquisitions list is available at <http://library.law.wisc.edu/services/reacq/>.

<sup>16</sup> Of the Law Library's 49,980 linear feet of shelving space, 40,758 linear feet, or 81.55% is currently in use as measured by Law Library Stack Manager, Jay Tucker this year. A library's shelves are generally considered to be full at 75-80% of capacity.

<sup>17</sup> Currently, 25,565 Law Library volumes are held at campus off-site storage. These volumes are retrievable upon request.

<sup>18</sup> These print hearings are also available on microfiche at the Wisconsin Historical Society. Weeding is a slow process because per FDLP policy we must confirm that Historical does indeed have the fiche before we withdraw our print copy.

## Future Directions

The Law Library will continue to foster research and learning next year and into the future. We have identified the following strategic initiatives to guide our efforts in 2018-19.

### 2018-19 Strategic Initiatives

1. Expand our institutional repository collections to promote the visibility of Law School research, publications, and collections (continuation of 2017-18 initiative)
2. Foster connections with the Law School and broader legal communities through partnership and outreach
3. Promote community well-being by providing materials, programs, and services that encourage wellness, diversity, and inclusion

Fall 2018  
Report prepared by  
UW Law Library Assessment Committee

Bonnie Shucha, Associate Dean & Director of the Law Library  
Vicky Coulter, Associate Director of the Law Library  
Kris Turner, Assistant Director for Public Services  
Jenny Zook, Reference & Instructional Services Librarian