



# Strategic Planning & Assessment Annual Report 2018-19



**Law Library**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL

# THE UW LAW LIBRARY engages in regular strategic planning and assessment

of its effectiveness in achieving our mission and realizing our goals. Each year, we establish several strategic initiatives designed to help us forward our mission. This report describes the library's efforts between July 2018 and June 2019 to realize those strategic initiatives.

The Law Library's mission, vision, and key priorities statements reflect our core purpose and guide our future direction.

**Our Mission:** To foster research and learning

**Our Vision:** To provide valued service to the UW Law School & University communities using our unique skills as information professionals

**Our Key Priorities:** To foster research and learning we:

- Enhance the discoverability & accessibility of information
- Help patrons locate relevant information & optimize their use of research & learning technologies
- Enhance the visibility of Law School research, publications, & collections
- Offer attractive, comfortable, & welcoming space for study, collaboration, & learning
- Effectively manage library resources to maximize impact & efficiency

With these core principles in mind, the Law Library identified three strategic initiatives on which to focus our efforts this year.<sup>1</sup>

## Our 2018-19 Strategic Initiatives:

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

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix for UW Law Library's one page 2018-19 Strategic Plan. An archive of our strategic plans and assessment reports is available at <https://library.law.wisc.edu/strategic-plans/>.

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVE #1:

Expand our institutional repository collections to promote the visibility of Law School research, publications, and collections<sup>2</sup>

Over the past year, the Law Library has developed and expanded a wide variety of repository collections that support faculty scholarship and showcase the UW Law School's rich history and strong connections to the Wisconsin legal community. In June, we welcomed Liz Manriquez as our Scholarly Communications and Reference Librarian. Liz will help promote faculty scholarship through our repository.

### Scholarship

This year, the Law Library added a new Scholarly Supplements repository collection.<sup>3</sup> These supplements, which contain materials compiled by faculty in the development of their scholarship, allow interested readers to connect more deeply with their work. There are currently two Scholarly Supplements collections: a collection of interviews conducted by Professor William Clune for a symposium on the history of the UW Law School presented on March 8, 2019 and a collection of materials relating to Professor Louise Trubek's history of the Center for Public Representation and Economic Justice Institute.

In February, *U.S. News & World Report* announced that they were considering expanding their law school rankings to include an assessment of each law school's scholarly impact based the number of faculty publications and citations available in *HeinOnline*. This led to an increased interest on faculty scholarly visibility. To assess where our law school might fall in this type of ranking, our librarians compared the number of UW Law faculty publications in *HeinOnline* against the actual number of known publications in our faculty scholarship repository collection.<sup>4</sup> We found that a significant number of our faculty articles were missing from *HeinOnline* due to errors and omissions in the data. Without the repository as a dependable baseline, such a comparison would have been impossible. See Strategic Initiative #2 for a description of the library's efforts to correct these errors.

In conducting this assessment, librarians uncovered additional faculty scholarship that we will add to the repository including conference proceedings, reports, and newspaper and magazine articles. Professor Keith Findley provided his entire collection of self-authored briefs to add to the repository and Professor Mark Sidel provided a large amount of material to add as well. The meetings also provided an opportunity to uncover and correct metadata errors thereby improving discoverability of faculty scholarship.

---

<sup>2</sup> The report for Strategic Initiative #1 was drafted by Kris Turner.

<sup>3</sup> The Scholarly Supplements collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/Scholsupp>.

<sup>4</sup> The Faculty Scholarship collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/faculty-scholarship>.

In addition to the scholarship reviews, there were other law school efforts to improve scholarly visibility this year. A key initiative was the creation of a cross-departmental scholarly visibility working group led by Associate Dean Susannah Tahk with representatives from the Law Library, External Affairs, the Research Centers, and IT. Our growing repository collection of faculty scholarship provides a foundation for this important work.

## Historical Collections

Following the Law School's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year, the Law Library has continued to develop several historical collections in the repository. All collections are fully accessible and metadata enhanced for increased discoverability.

- Alumni photos (over 12,000 images)<sup>5</sup>
- Oral histories (6 oral histories now available, including an 18 hour history with James E. Jones Jr. requested by the Law School to be part of the LEO Banquet)<sup>6</sup>
- Archived web pages from the Research Centers (featuring years of speaker bios, videos, and brochures)<sup>7</sup>
- Videos and transcripts of the Fairchild<sup>8</sup> and Kastenmeier<sup>9</sup> lecture series (highlighting the distinguished speakers that have appeared at UW Law over the past thirty years)

## Special Collections

The Law Library expanded and explored several special collections this year.

- The Bhopal Collection, the first special collection added to the repository, continues to grow.<sup>10</sup> A new addition includes eighty Hindi newspapers with added English titles and synopses. The majority of the work on this addition is complete.
- The Wisconsin Briefs Collection, previously available on a separate server, is being moved to the Repository website. This collection contains briefs for Wisconsin Supreme Court and Court of Appeals published and unpublished cases from 173 Wis.2d (November 1992) through 317 Wis.2d (approx. July 2009). We are working closely with the Wisconsin State Law Library to migrate this collection of over 100,000 documents. It should be available in fall 2019.

<sup>5</sup> The Alumni Photos collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/Alumni-Photos>.

<sup>6</sup> The Oral History collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/law-school-oral-histories>.

<sup>7</sup> The Archived Web Pages collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/law-school-archived-web-pages>.

<sup>8</sup> The Fairchild Lectures collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/fairchild>.

<sup>9</sup> The Kastenmeier Lectures collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/kastenmeier>.

<sup>10</sup> The Bhopal collection is available at <https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/bhopal-collection>.

- We also explored the creation of several other special collections with community partners this year. They included a Dane County Bar Association oral history collection, a Madison Equal Opportunities Commission Decisions collection, and a Wisconsin Tribal Code collection. See Strategic Initiative #2 for more on these community partnerships.

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVE #2:

Foster connections with the Law School and broader legal communities through partnership and outreach

To foster connections with our community, this year the Law Library embarked on a multi-pronged outreach effort. Within the Law School, we deepened engagement with faculty and students through one-on-one consultations and group instruction. We also partnered with several legal community groups and organizations to share information and knowledge. Finally, we worked to make our web presence more attractive and accessible to our users.

### Law School

Last year, the Law Library launched a successful series of faculty workshops in partnership with the Institute for Legal Studies. In these sessions, librarians introduced faculty to new resources and provided guidance to improve research and writing effectiveness. We continued the series this year with four well-attended sessions:

- Artificial Intelligence and Legal Research presented by Emma Babler
- Plagiarism Checking Resources by Jenny Zook
- Repository Update by Kris Turner
- Current Awareness Tools by Kris Turner

The increased interest in scholarly visibility following the *U.S. News* scholarly impact rankings announcement led to increased faculty outreach. This spring and summer, librarians met individually with each tenured and tenure-track faculty member to review the accuracy of their scholarly profiles in *HeinOnline*, *Google Scholar*, and our digital repository. We worked with faculty to correct errors and add missing content to those databases and discussed ways to make scholarship more visible online. Bonnie Shucha and Kris Turner also presented information on scholarly impact metrics at an Executive Committee Meeting and a Faculty Meeting.

Librarians connected with law students this year through individual research consultations, group instruction, and casual drop-in sessions. In addition to guest lectures in Legal Research and Writing,

International Trade, International Commercial Arbitration, librarians also provided customized research training to students in partnership with the Academic Enhancement Program, Graduate Programs, Admissions, the Remington Center, Economic Justice Institute, and the law journals.

Finally, librarians continued the casual drop-in “lightning session” series begun last year. In these short instructional sessions, librarians reached out to students in the atrium during lunch time. With a white board announcing the lightning sessions, librarians engaged students with a quick instructional tip, such as searching the catalog or using *PowerNotes* for research and writing. While the instruction provided was helpful, the primary goal of these sessions was for librarians to connect with students one-on-one and encourage them to contact us for help in the future.<sup>11</sup>

## Legal Community

In the spirit of the Wisconsin Idea, the Law Library developed partnerships with several community groups and organizations to share knowledge and information. In collaboration with the Office of Career and Professional Development, librarians traveled to several county bar association meetings this year to offer free CLE training on the use of Free and Low Cost Legal Resources. Through these sessions, we fostered learning and generated good will for the Law Library and the Law School.

Our UW Law School Digital Repository is also a powerful tool for connecting with the legal community. The repository provides free online access to our faculty scholarship, student edited works, and unique research and historical collections. In the first few years of repository development, our work primarily focused on making internally created content publicly available. As the repository has grown, our focus has expanded. This year, we worked with several community partners on projects to host their content in our repository. Although these projects do require staff time to develop, the benefits are great: they forward our library mission of fostering research and learning, they help our partners distribute and archive their content, they benefit the public by providing free and easy online access to valuable legal materials, and they create goodwill for the law school. These community collections, which are described below, are still in development.

As previously mentioned, our librarians worked closely with colleagues at the Wisconsin State Law Library to migrate over 100,000 Wisconsin Supreme Court and Court of Appeals briefs to our repository. This collection, used regularly by Wisconsin attorneys and pro se litigants, provides important access to legal materials that are not otherwise available online.

---

<sup>11</sup> For more information about our outreach efforts with law faculty and students, see Kris Turner’s article, *Aggressively Helpful: A Case Study of Innovative Outreach to Special Library Patrons*, 15 PUBLIC SERVICES QUARTERLY 74 (2019).

Some of our community connections have arisen through referrals from Law School faculty and administrators who recognize the value of the repository as a tool for outreach and access to law. In January, Dean Raymond connected us with the Dane County Bar Association who was looking for a home for their collection of oral histories which document the lives and experiences of influential local attorneys. The DCBA was eager to work with us to explore options for hosting their collection.

This fall, we received a referral from Mitch regarding the City of Madison's Equal Opportunities Commission (MEOC) decisions which are no longer available online. Believing that this important public information should be available in multiple, public locations, he connected the Law Library with the City of Madison's Equal Opportunities Commission to investigate hosting the decisions in our repository.

Professor Richard Monette also approached the library to partner with Great Lakes Indigenous Law Center, along with the non-profit Open Law Library, and several Wisconsin tribes on a grant project to host tribal codes in our repository. The project seeks to develop a library platform that will empower our library and others to improve public access to tribal laws published in the public domain using the Open Law publishing platform. In October, the Open Law Library submitted an application for the "Collections As Data" grant funded by the Mellon Foundation but, it was unsuccessful. Fortunately, we identified another potential funding source, the Institute of Museum and Library Services "National Digital Infrastructures and Initiatives" grant. A preliminary proposal was submitted in October 2019.

## Web Presence

This year, the Law Library worked to make our online presence more attractive, usable, and accessible. Our first project was the creation of a series of short videos that highlight the ways that we foster research and learning at the Law School.<sup>12</sup> The videos, coordinated by Reference & Technology Librarian, Emma Babler, each highlight a different facet of the Law Library:

- The first video is an introduction and welcome to the UW Law Library
- The second video focuses on the library's broad collection of resources
- The third video highlights the variety of research assistance that we provide
- The fourth video features our beautiful library space where students gather for study and collaboration

This spring and summer, our Web Committee redesigned the Law Library website to align more closely with the Law School and UW Madison campus sites. While most of the content carried over, the design

---

<sup>12</sup> A playlist of all the videos is available at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LgtcSjwyR0&list=PL2GQdC-j-Sx7HsdsP77mSj8k4VO\\_9naZ2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LgtcSjwyR0&list=PL2GQdC-j-Sx7HsdsP77mSj8k4VO_9naZ2). List appears at the top right.

was simplified and some pages were consolidated for improved usability. We migrated the new site to the campus WordPress template allowing us to keep pace with campus design trends and best practices and to receive training and support from DoIT. The newly redesigned website launched in September 2019. The Web Committee was led by Reference and Technology Librarian, Emma Babler. Other members of the committee included Vicky Coulter, Carrie Doyle, Shawn King, Kris Turner, and Bridget Whelen from External Affairs. Jarrod Bogucki and Katie Dunn consulted and advised.

In addition to the website and videos, the Law Library also revitalized our Facebook page.<sup>13</sup> By consistently posting engaging and informative content, Emma created new and stronger connections with our patrons. We received positive comments on our posts from law students and faculty, both online and in person. With our Facebook presence well-established, the Law Library is now working to curate the same personality and unique branding on Twitter.<sup>14</sup>

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVE #3:

Promote community well-being by providing materials, programs, and services that encourage wellness, diversity, and inclusion<sup>15</sup>

The Law Library is committed to promoting a healthy learning community for both staff and patrons where individuals feel welcome and supported and are able to reach their full potential. In the fall of 2018, the Law Library formed a four-member Community Well-Being Committee with two subcommittees: Equity, Inclusion and Diversity (Katie Dunn and Jay Tucker); and Mental Health and Wellness (B.J. Ramsay and Sunil Rao).

The Community Well-Being Committee began by reviewing relevant programs and resources available on the UW campus, at other libraries, and through library and legal professional organizations. The committee also met with Assistant Dean Emily Kite (Law Student Wellness Committee chair) and the Law School's LEO Committee to learn about their activities and priorities and discuss areas where the library could contribute.

<sup>13</sup> The UW Law Library Facebook page is available at <https://www.facebook.com/UWLawLibrary>.

<sup>14</sup> Our Twitter page is available at [https://twitter.com/UW\\_LawLibrary](https://twitter.com/UW_LawLibrary).

<sup>15</sup> The report for Strategic Initiative #3 was drafted by B.J. Ramsay and Katie Dunn.

## Mental Health and Wellness

Providing support to law students in the areas of mental health and wellness is particularly poignant considering the findings of a recent survey of law student well-being. The authors describe law school culture as one “that fosters excessive drinking and drug use, that causes stress and triggers mental health issues, and yet discourages the students (and lawyers) who need help from seeking the help they need.”<sup>16</sup>

The Mental Health and Wellness subcommittee provides leadership and guidance to the Law Library on issues of mental health and wellness as they relate to our services, collections, and space. More specifically, the subcommittee’s first goal was to complement and support the Law School’s initiatives for Law Student Wellness.

Before the formation of the Community Well-Being Committee, the Law Library actively supported student wellness by:

- Creating a guide to Law Student Wellness to promote campus, community, and online resources to support students’ mental and physical health.<sup>17</sup>
- Creating a circulating collection of Law student wellness-related books located in a highly visible and browsable shelving area with comfortable seating.
- Creating a collection of equipment supporting mental and physical health including standing desks, lumbar support cushions, frisbees, ping pong paddles, and more.

This year the Mental Health and Wellness subcommittee built upon that foundation by:

- Decorating the Circulation Desk with lights and flowers at the end of each semester to enhance the area and lift the spirits of law students.
- Sharing the Madison Homeless Resource guide with reference and circulation staff in order to provide needed information as the weather grew colder and the need for resources increased.
- Creating a National Library Week display promoting wellness items in our collection, including mental and physical health equipment, Law Student Wellness guide, and wellness books.
- Creating and displaying signs informing law students of the mental health resources available to them both at the Law School and on campus.
- Arranging an afternoon tea/hot chocolate and snacks for law students during the exam period.
- Providing stress relief activities, such as puzzles, origami, and mandalas for law students during the exam period.

---

<sup>16</sup> Jerome M. Organ, David B. Jaffe & Katherine M. Bender, *Suffering in Silence: The Survey of Law Student Well-Being and the Reluctance of Law Students to Seek Help for Substance Use and Mental Health Concerns*, 66 J. LEGAL EDUC. 116, 156 (Autumn 2016), <https://jle.aals.org/home/vol66/iss1/13/>.

<sup>17</sup> The Law Student Wellness guide is available at <https://researchguides.library.wisc.edu/lawstudentwellness>.

## Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity

The Libraries at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are dedicated to the practices of social justice, diversity, and equality among our staff, students, collections, and services. Like other campus libraries, the Law Library is committed to creating an inclusive environment for both staff and patrons where individuals are actively included and respected, diverse perspectives are valued and encouraged, and staff respond respectfully and effectively to people of many cultures, languages, classes, races, ethnic backgrounds, religions, abilities, and other diversity factors.

The Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity subcommittee provides leadership and guidance to the Law Library staff on issues of equity, inclusion, and diversity as they relate to our services, collections, and space, as well as staff development and recruitment.

The Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity subcommittee's activities this year included:

- Improving inclusiveness of Law School space by working with Law School administration to post signage near all Law School bathrooms informing people of locations of single-stall gender-neutral restrooms.
- Participating in a campus libraries group exploring bias in library descriptions, such as the library catalog.
- Developing a plan for library promotional displays for 2019-2020 that celebrate achievements of diverse alumni and other people in the law profession, expanding on previous Black History Month displays.
- Making plans to promote the UW-Madison General Library System's Information Specialist Internship Program (ISIP) to our student workers. ISIP is a paid internship for juniors and seniors who are interested in information specialist professions and could contribute to the diversity of the field.

In addition to work done through the Community Well-Being Committee, the Law Library's Aesthetics Committee reviewed some of the Law Library's way-finding signage. Led by Jay Tucker and Mary Jo Koranda, several new signs were added using text, graphics and braille to make the Library's space and collections more accessible to library patrons of diverse abilities.

# 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 2019-20.

1. Enhance our online presence to promote content accessibility and visibility and to broaden engagement with law students, faculty, and the community
2. Expand connections with the Law School and broader legal communities through partnership and outreach

Fall 2019, updated January 2020  
UW Law Library Assessment Committee

Bonnie Shucha (chair), 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

# APPENDIX



**Law Library**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL

## Strategic Plan 2018-2019

### Our Mission

To foster  
research & learning

### Our Vision

To provide valued service  
to the UW Law School &  
University communities  
using our unique skills as  
information professionals

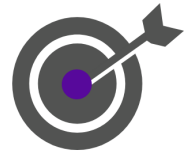
### Ongoing Key Priorities



To foster research &  
learning, we:

- Enhance the discoverability & accessibility of information
- Help patrons locate relevant information & optimize their use of research & learning technologies
- Enhance the visibility of Law School research, publications, & collections
- Offer attractive, comfortable, & welcoming space for study, collaboration, & learning
- Effectively manage library resources to maximize impact & efficiency

### Annual Strategic Initiatives



This year, we aim to:

- Expand our institutional repository collections to promote the visibility of Law School research, publications, & collections
- Foster connections with the Law School & broader legal communities through partnership & outreach
- Promote community well-being by providing materials, programs, & services that encourage wellness, diversity, & inclusion