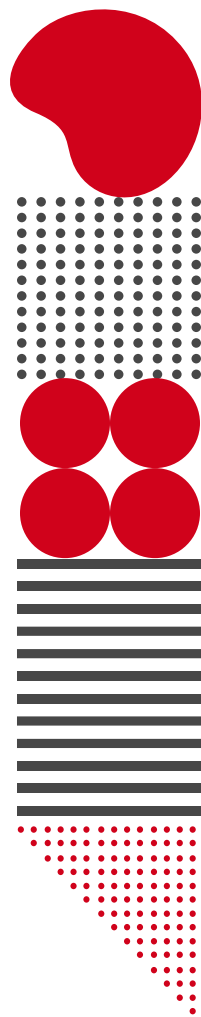


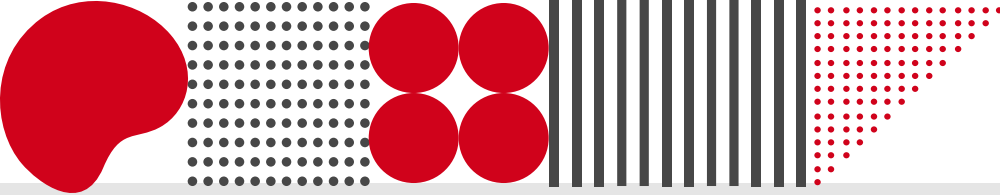
University of Wisconsin Law Library

Strategic Planning & Assessment Report



2021-22





Mission & Initiatives

The University of Wisconsin Law Library regularly engages in strategic planning and assessment to ensure alignment with our mission and to realize our established goals.

Each year, we formulate several strategic initiatives that forward our mission.

This report describes the Law Library's 2021-22 strategic initiatives and our efforts to realize them from July 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022.*

* The assessment period was extended to 1.5 years to transition from an academic to calendar year cycle for the next strategic plan which will be for a period of three years.

Our Mission

To foster research and learning

Short but powerful, our mission provides clear direction and resonates deeply, driving commitment and engagement.

2021-22

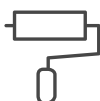
Strategic Initiatives



Expand our nationally recognized Law School scholarly impact and visibility program



Survey faculty about their research & instructional needs to inform our decision-making about library priorities & resource allocation



Review & refresh library spaces to enhance sense of belonging, utility, attractiveness, comfort, & safety

1. Expand our nationally recognized Law School scholarly impact & visibility program



Building on a Strong Foundation

Over the last five years, the Law Library has developed a robust and successful program to increase the impact and visibility of law faculty scholarship.

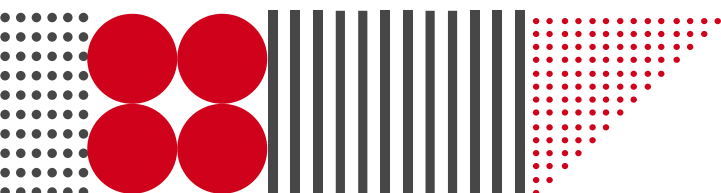
With the encouragement of Dean Tokaji, we chose the expansion of this program as our first strategic initiative for 2021-22.

This initiative supports the Law School's strategic priority 8: *Increase the visibility of our faculty and the impact of their scholarly endeavors.*

The Law Library's commitment to scholarly visibility traces back to 2014 when we assumed stewardship of the UW Law School Research Paper Series on SSRN. Four years later, we launched our open access UW Law School Digital Repository ensuring long-term, stable access to our faculty's scholarly works. The program was further strengthened in 2019 with the introduction of one-on-one "scholarly wellness checks" with faculty. This collaboration with External Affairs magnified the discoverability and accessibility of faculty scholarship.

The "Wisconsin Law in Action" podcast series emerged in the same year, offering a platform for deep dives into new and forthcoming faculty scholarship. With 32 episodes garnering over 8,000 plays to date, its reach continues to grow. Eight new episodes were recorded and posted in 2021-22.

In 2020, we identified an underrepresentation of our faculty's interdisciplinary scholarship in key legal databases. To rectify this, our team collaborated with HeinOnline to develop a system to integrate works via ORCID, a digital identifier system that unambiguously distinguishes and connects researchers with their scholarly activities. Reference and Scholarly Communications Librarian, Liz Manriquez spearheaded the initiative with tenured faculty to curate ORCID author profiles, creating a more complete scholarly portfolio. As more legal publishers adopt ORCID's linked data, the visibility of these works will undoubtedly increase.



Digital Repository Redesign & Developments

In 2021-22, the Law Library built upon its foundational success in scholarly impact and visibility. Central to these endeavors was the comprehensive redesign of the digital repository. Guided by the diligent efforts of the Repository Committee in Fall 2022, which was composed of Liz Manriquez (chair), Emma Babler, Jarrod Bogucki, Katie Dunn, Eric Giefer, and Kris Turner, we optimized user experience and amplified content discoverability.

To make scholarship more discoverable, we have committed to enhancing our collection’s metadata by ensuring the accuracy of citations and exploring the addition of subject indexing and creation of digital object identifiers (DOIs). In addition, we have integrated principles recommended by the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) into our workflows.

The library made substantial progress on several major repository collections in 2021-22. Of these, the Herman Goldstein Collection stands out. This collection of over 850 historical documents from Goldstein’s archives illuminates his seminal interactions with the Chicago Police Department during the 1960s and his pioneering contributions to problem-oriented policing. Before his passing in January 2020, we collaborated closely with Goldstein, safeguarding and immortalizing his scholarly legacy. We eagerly anticipate launching this collection for public access in early 2023.

Curation of the AALS Faculty Scholarship List

For the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) review in conjunction with the American Bar Association (ABA) site visit in Fall 2022, the Law Library undertook the significant task of compiling a comprehensive list of faculty scholarship. Beginning with data from our digital repository, we expanded this list with previously unknown scholarship, particularly from clinical faculty. Where feasible, the repository provided full-text access to these works. Ultimately, this consolidated list showcased roughly 250 scholarly publications from UW Law School faculty spanning 2019 to 2022.



Professor Herman Goldstein

Herman Goldstein & Problem-Oriented Policing Collection

[Search the Collection](#)

[Browse the Collection](#)

Over 850 historic documents from Herman Goldstein’s personal collection, including many items related to Herman’s work with the Chicago Police Department in the early 1960s and his creation of the concept of problem-oriented policing.

Prof. Goldstein joined the University of Wisconsin Law School faculty in 1964 after spending four years in Chicago as the executive assistant to the Chicago Police Department superintendent O.W. Wilson. Many documents authored by Prof. Goldstein or O.W. Wilson form this portion of the collection, as well as many internal Chicago Police Department items which are not available anywhere else.



Faculty Engagement & Collaborative Efforts

In 2021-2022, the Law Library expanded its collaborative efforts with faculty to elevate scholarly visibility and impact. A notable collaboration was with Professor David Schwartz and the External Affairs team on the launch of his new publication, the *Journal of American Constitutional Law*. Librarians provided expertise on a range of issues, from fair use and licensing to enhancing discoverability in research databases and creating digital object identifiers (DOIs). The implementation of DOIs not only enhances article discoverability and long-term accessibility but also aids in citation tracking, database integration, publication standardization, and linking supplementary materials.



"I'm so grateful to be able to work with these wonderful folks, and for their and your ongoing support for this project."

- Professor David Schwartz on the launch of the *Journal of American Constitutional Law*

Professor Schwartz acknowledged the library's instrumental role in an email to the Law School leadership: "There were a ton of moving parts to getting this all together (even more than I imagined), and I want you to know that these came together only as a result of the patient, diligent and skillful efforts of our awesome team of media and library professionals... I'm so grateful to be able to work with these wonderful folks, and for their and your ongoing support for this project."

Building on the success with the *Journal of American Constitutional Law*, we reached out to the law school's trio of student-edited journals, proposing the addition of DOIs to their articles. The positive reception from the *Wisconsin Law Review* and *Wisconsin International Law Journal* led to ongoing collaborative efforts. While DOIs are commonplace in many academic disciplines, they remain novel in law journal publishing. The Law Library's initiative in DOI integration underscores our leading role among law schools and bolsters the visibility of UW Law School publications.

Faculty Scholarly Visibility Workshops

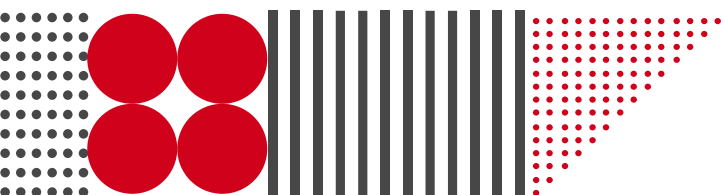
As part of the Wednesday Workshop series, librarians offered several well attended scholarly visibility workshops for faculty. The first session in Summer 2021 focused on the online distribution of scholarship and curation of author profiles. In a second session that summer, executed in collaboration with the External Affairs team, we delved into strategies for enhancing discoverability and establishing a robust social media footprint.

In Summer 2022, law librarians collaborated once more with External Affairs to provide insights into leveraging recently published scholarship and amplifying its influence through both social and traditional media channels. These sessions earned praise from attendees, including Dean Tokaji: "Thanks so much for this. You and the rest of our Library/EA team did a fantastic job presenting. I... learned a lot. Really appreciate your work on this, which I think will pay big dividends in the future."



"Really appreciate your work on this, which I think will pay big dividends in the future."

- Dean Daniel Tokaji on the scholarly visibility workshops



Achievements & Impact: SSRN & HeinOnline Metrics

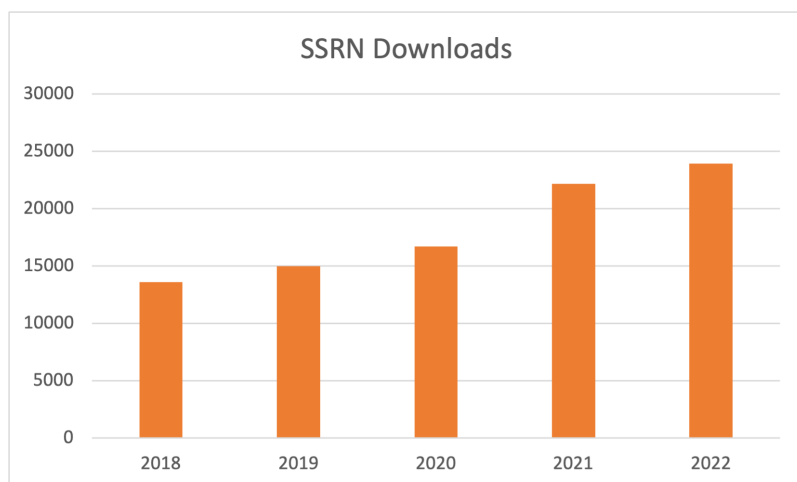


"I'm just so grateful for the library's wonderful efforts here."

- Associate Dean Susannah Tahk on the library's scholarly visibility support

Our scholarly visibility initiatives have borne significant fruit.

On SSRN, we've seen a formidable growth in our scholarly impact: **downloads of UW Law School faculty scholarship have increased 76%** since 2018.



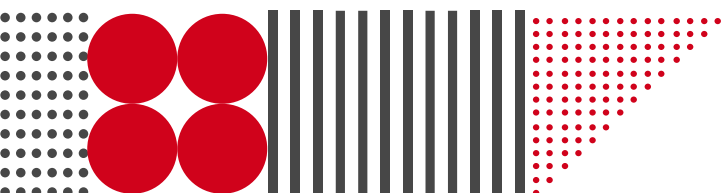
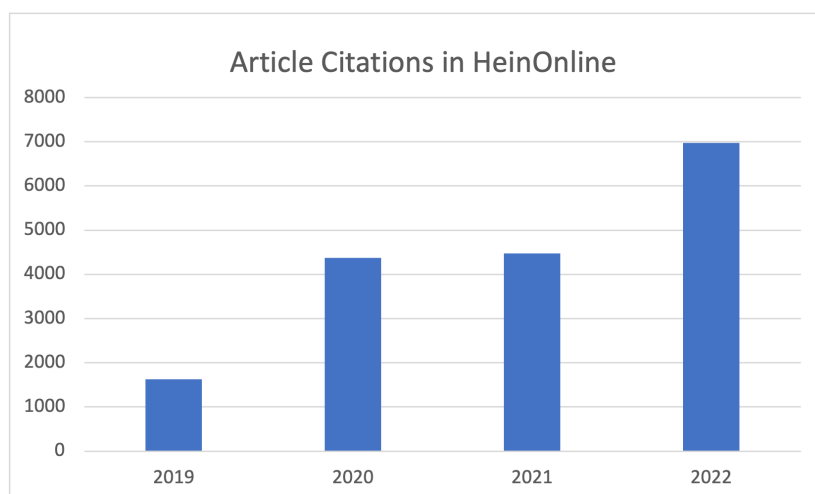
HeinOnline further illustrates our strides: between 2019 and 2022 **citations to UW Law faculty articles soared by over 325%.**

A pivotal catalyst for the impressive increase between 2019 and 2020 was the library's initiative of scholarly wellness checks and meticulous curation of faculty author profiles. The jump between 2021 and 2022 is due to an increase in the size of the faculty.

Feedback from our faculty reaffirms the success of our endeavors. A 2022 survey revealed that two-thirds of the responding law faculty either agreed or strongly agreed that the Law Library has improved the visibility of their scholarship.

Reflecting this sentiment, one faculty member noted, "I appreciate the library's help with ORCID IDs and similar tools, and with managing SSRN submissions." And another, "The work they've done to ensure our citations are counted is also valuable to us as an institution."

Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development, Susannah Tahk added, "I'm just so grateful for the library's wonderful efforts here."



National Leadership & Recognition

Our commitment to scholarly visibility has not only benefited our institution but has also become a national model for law schools. Bonnie Shucha's seminal article, "Representing Law Faculty Scholarly Impact: Strategies for Improving Citation Metrics Accuracy and Promoting Scholarly Visibility," published in *Legal Reference Services Quarterly* in October 2021, garnered accolades, winning two awards from the American Association of Law Libraries the following year. Beyond publication, our librarians took to the stage, disseminating insights at numerous conferences.

Such endeavors didn't go unnoticed. Teresa Miguel-Stearns, Associate Dean and Law Library Director at the University of Arizona College of Law, exemplified the appreciation from peers, stating, "Congratulations and *thank you!* for your research and scholarship -- which together are an immensely important contribution to law librarianship. Your willingness to share your strategies and best practices is incredibly generous and so very much appreciated. Here at Arizona Law, we have started implementing some of those strategies to help increase the accessibility and visibility of our faculty's scholarship... You and your team have definitely made a huge impact!"

Our efforts to bring attention to the exclusion of interdisciplinary scholarship in the rankings of law faculty scholarly impact caught the attention of the Law and Society Association (LSA). They not only recognized Bonnie's contributions by inviting her to present at an LSA conference but also enlisted her expertise as an advisor to their committee, examining responses to the U.S. News scholarly impact ranking proposition. In light of the subsequent retraction of this ranking by U.S. News in 2021, LSA underscored the pivotal role played by law librarians.

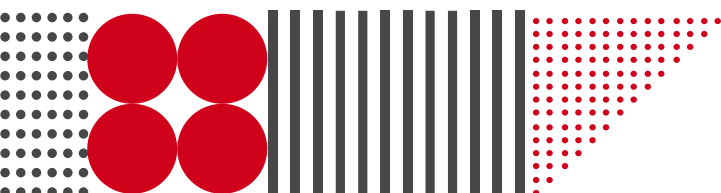
Professor Emerita Elizabeth Mertz, a member of the LSA committee, offered additional testament to our contributions, noting, "Because the announcement didn't mention all the people involved, you may not know that our own Bonnie Shucha played an important role in advising the LSA committee -- as well as serving as one of the national leaders among law librarians in responding to this and other developments in the legal academy."



"Congratulations and *thank you!* for your research and scholarship -- which together are an immensely important contribution to law librarianship...."

You and your team have definitely made a huge impact!"

- Teresa Miguel-Stearns, Associate Dean and Law Library Director at the University of Arizona College of Law on UW Law Library's leadership in scholarly visibility and impact



2. Survey faculty about their research & instructional needs to inform decision-making about library priorities & resource allocation



Faculty Insights on Library Collection

In March 2022, UW Law School conducted a survey of law faculty to determine what resources would best help improve the quality and quantity of faculty scholarship. Twenty-five faculty members responded.

This survey was developed in response to Law School's strategic priority 7: *Provide an intellectual environment and resources that will enable our faculty to be productive scholars.*

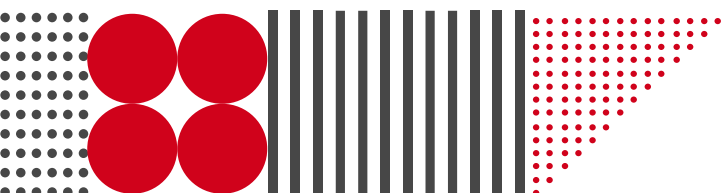
Several survey questions invited faculty to comment on how the library might *further align its priorities and resource allocation with faculty research needs* which was an action item under strategic priority 7.

Collection Content

Several survey questions aimed to discern faculty perspectives on the library collection, focusing on essential subject areas and preferred formats.

Faculty identified over twenty-five crucial subject areas for their research, including Constitutional law, criminal law, and international law. They also expressed a need for numerous databases including LexisNexis, Westlaw, HeinOnline, Bloomberg Law, RIA Checkpoint, JSTOR, and others. One faculty noted, "The research databases and ability to borrow books from the Law Library's collection and throughout the UW system are the most valuable resources I use."

We also asked faculty if there were any resources that they felt the Law Library should no longer collect. Most expressed no opinion, but 15% indicated the diminishing need for print reporters and journals, suggesting that the library emphasize unique books and monographs. They noted, "The library should focus on books and monographs that are otherwise difficult to obtain electronically and/or that would be burdensome and costly to have faculty printing out."



Collection Format

Regarding materials format, the Law Library attempts to take maximum advantage of electronic access to information and does not maintain information in both paper and electronic formats unless a substantial need or benefit to do so is demonstrated. Faculty preference is a strong factor in format selection, so we asked whether they preferred print or electronic materials.

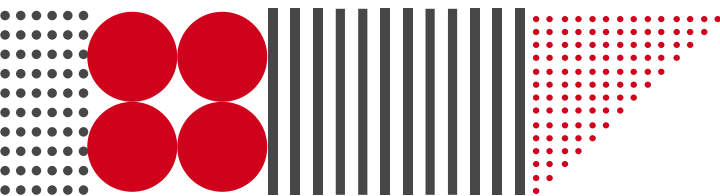
When discussing books, faculty appeared divided, with 29% favoring print and another 29% electronic. A significant portion (42%) expressed their preference hinged on usage context. "Sometimes it is better to have the book in your hand, other times it is so handy to have it immediately online, esp. if you are just looking for something in particular."

Concerning journals, faculty leaned towards email alerts (29%) over print notifications (8%) although several indicated that either format was acceptable (13%). The other half were not interested in journal alerts.



"Sometimes it is better to have the book in your hand, other times it is so handy to have it immediately online, esp. if you are just looking for something in particular."

- Anonymous faculty feedback

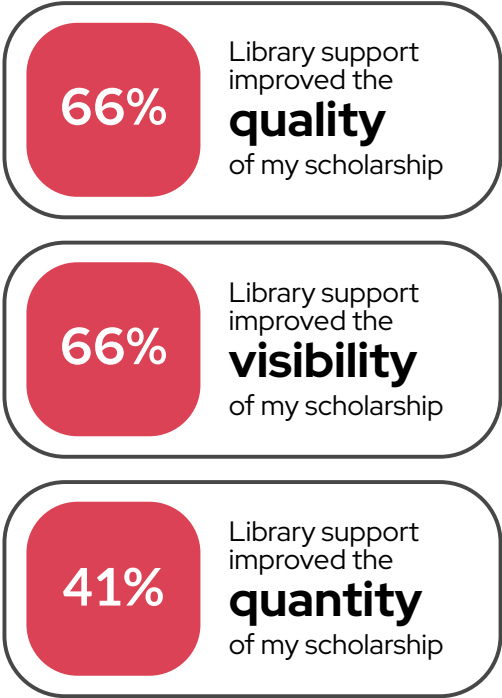


Faculty Assessment of Library Services


The Law Library prides itself on its comprehensive support program, enriching both faculty and student scholarship through research assistance, publication guidance, and enhancing scholarly visibility.

A significant portion of the faculty acknowledged this support's positive influence on their scholarship. Specifically, 66% agreed or strongly agreed that our support improved the *quality* of their work, with another 66% agreeing or strongly agreeing that it improved the *visibility* of their scholarship.

Furthermore, 41% agreed or strongly agreed that library support led to an increase in the *quantity* of their scholarly output.



Several librarians garnered specific praise: “Whenever I cannot find something, I email Sunil Rao, and then within a day it is in my hands.” The expertise in specialized research, especially with complex legislative history, was also noted: “Elizabeth Manriquez is great. And probably having more staff that is great at that kind of specialized and tedious legal research is very helpful.”



"The library has been very helpful to me in terms of locating obscure articles / books and requesting ILL or electronic ILL delivery. I really appreciate this service."

One of the action items under Law School's strategic priority 7 encouraged the library to consider positioning a reference librarian nearer to faculty offices, specifically in Lubar Commons. However, 71% of the faculty didn't see the need.

Faculty feedback painted a clear and positive picture of their interactions with the Law Library and its staff. Every comment remarked how helpful the library has been to them.

Commendations such as, "The staff are consistently helpful and welcoming," "They are extremely willing to help. I can't praise them enough for that," and "They are really professional, proactive and wonderful to work with," were recurring themes.

A word cloud constructed from faculty comments further visualizes these sentiments. Strikingly, the term "helpful" stands out as the most frequently used word to characterize the library and its dedicated staff.



Action Steps based on Faculty Feedback

The preferences expressed by the faculty confirmed that our collection development policy and selection decisions are well aligned with faculty research and curricular needs. While we continue to procure both print and electronic materials aligned with faculty preferences, the insights bolstered our decisions on cancellations and withdrawals to optimize budget and space.

Consequently, we have canceled many print materials including most journals, government documents, statutes, and case reporters. This excludes materials produced by the Law School, Wisconsin primary sources, and titles preferred in print or not available/cost prohibitive online. Simultaneously, we are intensively weeding duplicate and no-longer-relevant print titles, contributing many to digital consortial repositories for preservation.

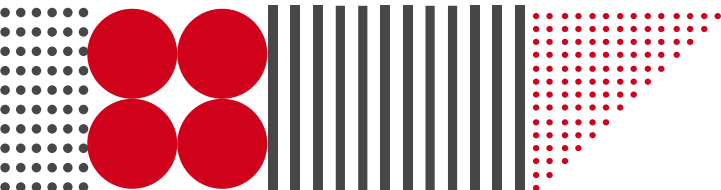
Such strategic moves have downsized our print collection's physical space. Space for collections will be further reduced in 2023 as the library vacates the 4th floor, including 2225 linear feet of occupied shelving, to create a new Legal Research and Writing Center in fulfillment of a recent Law School strategic priority.



In June 2022, we presented the survey results to the faculty. During this session, we highlighted the changes we had already implemented based on faculty input.

In December 2022, we consulted with the Academic Planning Council (APC) and presented at a faculty meeting our plan for clearing all materials from the 4th floor east wing to make space for the new Legal Research and Writing Suite. Materials included print federal and state case reporters and digests/indexes, Landmark Supreme Court Briefs, U.S. treaties, and some foreign & international case reporters.

In keeping with feedback from the faculty survey, we proposed withdrawing most of these print materials and making space elsewhere for select materials not available electronically. This faculty-endorsed plan has now been set in motion.



3. Review & refresh library spaces to enhance sense of belonging, utility, attractiveness, comfort, & safety

For our third strategic initiative, the Law Library aimed to elevate its spaces to foster law students' sense of belonging, utility, attractiveness, comfort, and safety.

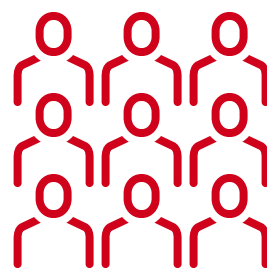
This initiative aligns with the Law School's Strategic Priority 2: *Cultivate an inclusive community that supports the success, well-being, and belonging of all our students, staff, and faculty, dedicating resources to help them thrive.*

Furthermore, this initiative complemented our preparations for the ABA site visit in Fall 2022.

Law Student Use of Library Spaces

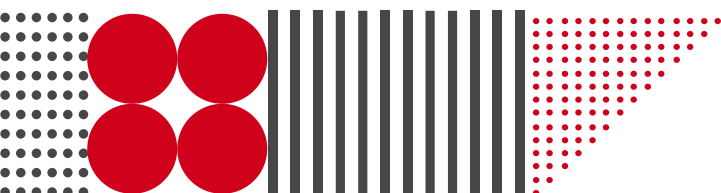
The Law Library is a comfortable and attractive facility with 613 seats, four large reading rooms, eight private study rooms, and three conference rooms. With a fall 2021 student enrollment of 797, the library has enough seats to accommodate 77% of all law students simultaneously.

With its floor-to-ceiling windows and warm natural light, the library is a very popular location for law student study and collaboration. On average, the library received 457 visitors per day during the 2021-22 fall and spring semesters.



457

average number of
**daily visitors to
the Law Library**



The library's eight study rooms are available exclusively to law students, faculty, and staff. Several of the rooms have large monitors, whiteboards, mirrors, and other equipment.

In addition to serving as a space for study and collaboration, students and student organizations routinely use the rooms for mock negotiations, speaking practice, and interviews, as well as for ADA accommodation space for exam takers. Study rooms are also used for special class assignments or projects upon the request of law faculty or staff.

Two former computer labs provide spaces that allow for quiet talking and collaboration. These rooms are dedicated for law student use, but no reservations are required. One of the two labs also serves as a teaching lab and is equipped with an instructor computer and projection equipment. The library's three conference rooms provide group meeting space for law faculty, staff, and student groups.

Student Feedback Mechanisms

The Law Library Executive Committee, consisting of the director and two associate directors, maintains regular engagement with the Student Bar Association (SBA) to address library-related concerns. In March 2022, the library hosted a Town Hall to directly gather student opinions about library space. This was followed by a survey circulated through the SBA email newsletter.

Feedback is also continuously gathered via a suggestion box, a dedicated webpage, as well as the Law School Survey of Student Engagement (LSSSE) conducted in 2022.

Addressing Student Feedback on Library Infrastructure

Lighting

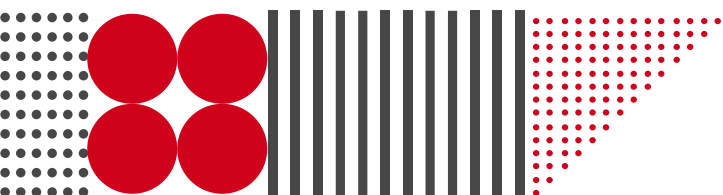
Many students voiced their preference for the naturally lit Habush, Habush, and Rottier Reading Room with its floor-to-ceiling windows. As a consequence of its popularity and the influx of daily library visitors, seating capacity is quickly reached. We are strategizing the addition of extra tables, with projects slated for 2023 and beyond.

The desire for more natural lighting led to students suggesting the opening of blinds in the Quarles and Brady Reading Room. However, due to the UV sensitivity of the historic *Freeing of the Slaves* mural, this was not possible. Traditional UV filters, unfortunately, are inadequate in preventing mural damage. Issues with the previous blinds, which often tangled and left the mural exposed to harmful UV light, have been resolved by installing modern blinds that don't pose this risk.

In areas without natural light, the library acquired light therapy lamps in Fall 2022, which have found favor among the students and are available at the Circulation Desk.

To improve overhead lighting, Vicky Coulter, Building Manager and Library Associate Director for Administration and Collections, coordinated the replacement of old lights with brighter LED bulbs in various parts of the library including the Habush, Habush, and Rottier Reading Room, the fifth floor's Circulation and Reference Desks, and the Bunn Reading Room on the third floor.

Additionally, under Vicky's direction, the lighting in the book stacks was revamped by replacing not only the bulbs but also the nicotine-stained diffusers, a remnant from the era of permissible smoking, leading to a brighter study environment.



Power Outlets & Chargers

Student feedback also echoed the need for increased electrical outlets. In response, additional tabletop tower outlets were integrated into the library. The historic Quarles and Brady Reading Room posed a challenge for electrical expansions. Consultations with architects highlighted the exorbitant cost of adding more outlets.

The library's answer to this challenge came in the form of portable Omnichargers, introduced in October 2022. These devices, which are available for check out at the Circulation Desk, can charge multiple devices (like laptops, phones, or tablets) at once. And they offer increased flexibility since they can be used anywhere.



Portable Omnicharger available for check out at Circulation Desk

Lack of Rooms for Study & Quiet Conversation

Another recurring theme from the feedback was the scarcity of rooms for study and quiet conversation. The library's eight study rooms, despite being a valuable asset, fall short in catering to the rising student demands, especially with the increasing number of ADA exams and study accommodations. The crunch is most palpable during the lead-up to and during finals. Reservation requests are often unfulfilled owing to the high demand.



Light therapy lamp available for check out at Circulation Desk

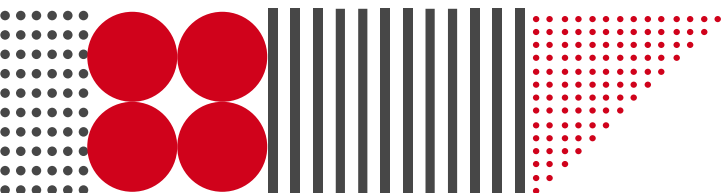
Responses from the Spring 2022 library study space survey and the 2022 LSSSE survey mirror this sentiment. Some comments included: "There are merely a handful of study rooms available for group work to satisfy a student body of around 750," "If possible, I would like to have more spaces to quietly talk while studying in the library," and "More group study spaces that aren't the atrium, more places to take calls that aren't the library study rooms (or more such rooms)."

Associate Dean and Law Library Director Bonnie Shucha raised this issue with Dean Tokaji and the Law School Leadership Group. To address the need for more private space, the Law School has identified space that may be suitable to create additional study / multipurpose reservable rooms for student use in the future.



"There are merely a handful of study rooms available for group work to satisfy a student body of around 750."

- Anonymous student feedback



Wellness & DEI Initiatives for Library Spaces

In our endeavors to improve study spaces, we actively considered students' holistic needs, intertwining wellness with the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion. We recognize that the design of study space is intrinsically linked to supporting the mental and emotional wellness of all students, regardless of their backgrounds.

In addition to surveying students about their space needs, we also collaborated with members of the Student Affairs Team, including Michael States, Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Lauren Devine, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, and John Schneider, Mental Health Counselor.

Wellness

The Law Library is committed to the well-being of our law students, recognizing the need to nourish their mental, emotional, and physical health along with their academic studies. Lighting, as previously discussed, emerged as a critical component impacting student wellness. Actions such as maximizing study areas near windows, enhancing overhead lighting, and introducing therapy lamps were well received.

Last year, the Law Library Well-being Committee, led by BJ Ramsay (chair) and Sunil Rao, introduced several wellness-focused initiatives. One notable project was "The Wellness Pitstop," an interactive installation aimed at promoting short wellness activities like deep breathing, laughter, and fostering connections. Additionally, they adorned bathroom mirrors with motivational stickers, set up coloring stations, and provided puzzles for leisure. Catering to student requests, spaces were allocated for activities like weekly mindfulness meditation sessions led by students.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging

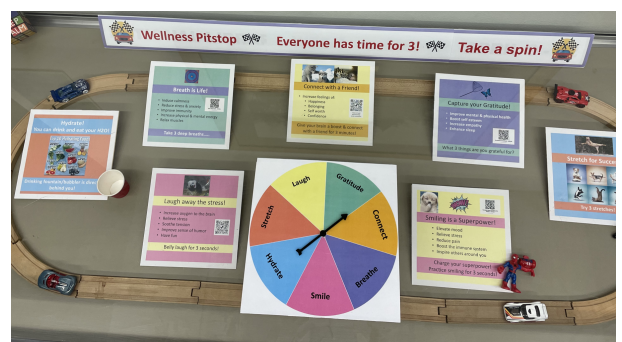
Promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and a sense of belonging is integral to the Law Library's vision. We are dedicated to crafting an environment where every individual feels acknowledged and welcomed.

The Law Library Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, led by Jay Tucker (chair), Katie Dunn and Scout Slava-Ross, made significant contributions last year. They set up two distinct displays: one for Women's History Month honoring pioneering women from Wisconsin and UW Law, and another spotlighting Professor Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, highlighting her invaluable contributions to Critical Race Theory and intersectionality.



Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson Display

The library was honored to host "Justice for All: The Legacy of Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson." This traveling exhibit, lent by the Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson Legacy Committee, chronicled the remarkable journey of Wisconsin's first female justice, emphasizing her contributions to women's rights, civil rights, and more.



The Wellness Pitstop

Lastly, to further our commitment to inclusivity, we upgraded our entrance security in July 2022. The new Sentry security system, in contrast to the previous setup, offers a wider, more inclusive entry and exit pathway, ensuring easy accessibility for everyone.

Preparations for the ABA Site Visit

In anticipation of the November 2022 ABA Site Visit, the Law Library took on a multitude of improvement tasks throughout the year. Many of these projects were coordinated by Vicky Coulter including the notable enhancement of overhead lighting in the Habush, Habush, and Rottier Reading Room as well as the library stacks.

Another project was to re-envision wall space on the 3rd floor Bunn Reading Room which formerly showcased a haphazard collection of emeritus faculty and staff photographs without clear context or dates. After the photos were digitized for archiving in the UW Law School Digital Repository, we revitalized the wall with a fresh coat of paint, opening up possibilities for future displays.

A thorough inspection in early Fall 2022 highlighted areas requiring immediate attention. From bubbling paint caused by water leaks and marked walls to elevators, restrooms, and windows, we systematically addressed each concern. Over the subsequent weeks, we repaired or resolved the problem areas so that the library would look its best.

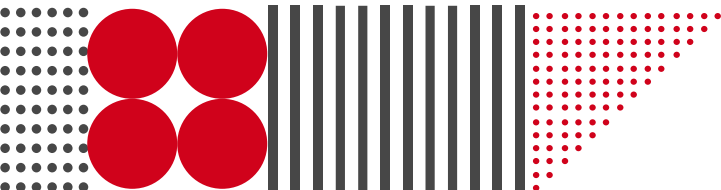


New Law Library security system

Ahead of the ABA visit, a professional cleaning team was commissioned to undertake a comprehensive cleaning of the library’s main spaces. Their meticulous efforts, covering areas like carpets, wood finishes, window frames, and panes, combined with the work of the library staff, ensured that the library was in top condition for the visit.

Our staff diligently cleaned their workspaces, tended to the bookshelves, sanitized public areas, and made certain communal spaces, like the break room, were spotless.

Though we aspired to introduce new carpeting and revamp the reference desk on the 5th floor prior to the 2022 visit, it was not achievable within the time frame. These projects will carry over to Summer 2023.



From the Director

The 2021-22 assessment period marked a significant chapter for the Law Library, with pivotal initiatives underscoring our commitment to academic excellence and community inclusivity.

The expansion of our nationally recognized Law School scholarly impact and visibility program showcased our dedication to elevating the prominence of our faculty's scholarship on a wider stage, ensuring it reaches audiences both near and far.

With the faculty survey, we harnessed insights to shape our library priorities and resource allocation, further tailoring our services to faculty research and instructional needs. This alignment not only aids Law School faculty in producing higher-quality research but ensures that library resources align with their ever-evolving needs.

Through thoughtful redesign and refurbishment, we elevated the library's aesthetic appeal, utility, comfort, and safety. This commitment to space rejuvenation accentuates our dedication to cultivating a sense of belonging for every library patron.

Reflecting upon these achievements, we remain steadfast in our commitment to support the needs of the UW Law School students, faculty, and staff.

As we move forward, our guiding principle remains clear: to foster research and learning, ensuring every endeavor aligns with this foundational mission.



Bonnie Shucha

Associate Dean & Director
University of Wisconsin Law Library

ChatGPT was used to refine the content of this report.



Law Library

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL