LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING RESOURCES: RECENT PUBLICATIONS

COMPiled BY DONALD J. DUNn

Donald J. Dunn is Law Librarian and Professor of Law at Western New England College. He is a member of the Perspectives Editorial Board. This bibliography includes references to books, articles, bibliographies, and research guides that could potentially prove useful to both instructors and students and includes sources noted since the previous issue of Perspectives.

A partially annotated listing of primary, secondary, online, and Internet sources for use in researching the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Using codes of ethics as the focus, this article describes how accountability should be measured in legal research, particularly with respect to negligence and professional malpractice.

Points out that technology has not replaced the book and that libraries require a blending of the various media. Space must be reorganized to accommodate changing media, and librarians are the most-qualified people to manage the information. Originally published in the January/February 1996 issue of The Washington Lawyer.

"[I]ntended to facilitate the publication of ideas which add to our [law librarians'] body of knowledge." Introduction at ix. Describes the various types of professional periodical literature in which law librarians' contributions might be published.

An unannotated listing of articles, books, U.N. documents, and miscellaneous legal materials that accompany a symposium issue on "International Criminal Law."

A survey of "the published works of historians who have examined the development of law in the Virginia colony during the seventeenth century."

"[F]ocuses on the steps to be taken after obtaining CD-ROM search results, including analyzing the initial results, modifying the search request when necessary, deciding when to conclude research and documenting results." Id. Part I was published in The Tax Adviser, Oct. 1995, at 583.

"[P]rovides guidance for a practitioner formalizing a representative agreement [and] highlights the paucity of English language sources concerning commercial representation agreements in foreign jurisdictions." Id. at 468.

Discusses the state of legal bibliography in Canada, focusing on "secondary literature, and specifically on that form of secondary literature which interprets or criticizes law or the legal system." Id.

Describes how the improper or poor use of computers and computer networks, especially in the areas of calendar arrangements, docket management, conflicts checks, billing and accounting, and CALR, can potentially lead to legal malpractice.

Both provocative and enjoyable, "[t]his article presents some of the administrative and organizational questions that technology poses for legal education, describes the solutions developed at one law school [Duke], and discusses possible new roles for library directors in managing and planning the growing integration of information technology into all aspects of legal education." Id.
Describes how CD-ROM products, in this instance AccessLaw’s CalDisc Library, can save money for those conducting California statutory and case law research.


Contains the background, full report, and dissents of the task force that studied and made recommendations with respect to the way sources should be cited in an electronic environment.

A thoughtful, sophisticated, and extensive examination of the impact that technology will have on access to international law information. Sounds a cautionary note. Discusses the various electronic systems and what the author sees as the fundamental changes to international law as a result of the information age.

Following a survey and analysis of the literature relating to potential legal liability arising at the reference desk, the author concludes that fears about such liability are a myth.

This guide “identifies and describes 163 books, periodicals, reference tools, databases, electronic discussion groups, organizations, and U.S. agencies useful to the elder law practitioner and the legal researcher.” Id. Includes numerous useful appendixes.

Focuses on how to best use CALR in the context of researching judicial opinions. Stresses the importance of proper use of terms and connectors. Emphasis is on West materials and their editorial enhancements.

Consists of 51 topically arranged articles written by women about various areas of maritime law. The articles were gathered from four journals devoted to maritime law.

A collection of legal writing advice from the author’s 10 years in preparing the “Legal Writing” column for the *Texas Bar Journal*. Wide-ranging, covering both the basics and the finer points of legal writing.

“[F]ocus[es] on the recent recognition of legal writing expertise and professionalism given to teachers at the many schools that, by elevating legal writing teachers to tenure-eligible status, have acknowledged the legitimacy of the field, the legitimacy of those teaching and writing within it, and the need for the continued presence of a legal writing expert on the faculty.” Id. at 533.

An annotated bibliography arranged under 20 topics and covering five years, prepared to accompany a special issue devoted to “Representing Children.”

"[P]rovide[s] basic information about what international organizations are, how they work, and what they publish... also covers what is published about international organizations, in what format, by whom, and how to access and acquire publications of international organizations." Introduction at ix. Composed of papers from the American Association of Law Libraries' "Introduction to International Organizations" Institute held in the summer of 1993.

Provides instruction in the daunting task of researching all aspects of Congress. Discusses both primary and secondary sources and how to develop a research strategy to attack a particular topic.

Designed as a hands-on tool to enable students to develop legal research competency. Covers numerous types of legal research sources and includes an "Instructor's Manual."

Serves as a practical guide to efficient and cost-effective research using LEXIS. Includes the basics as well as fine-tuning and money-saving search tips and strategies.

Somewhat the life story of a person who has devoted many years to teaching legal writing at various institutions. Demonstrates the author's strong commitment to the need for these courses.

An eclectic compilation prepared for National Library Week in which students and faculty at the University of California at Berkeley were asked to name the book, movie, or song that influenced them most.

A revision of one of the foremost texts for use in locating government information. This new edition incorporates extensive discussion of non-print media as a means for providing public access to information from federal government sources.

Posits that the belated entry of legal research teaching into the curriculum, professors' low opinions of the courses, students' lack of appreciation of the importance of such courses, and the onset of databases contribute to a decline in student research skills. Argues that these courses should be taught by law librarians.

"[A]ddresses those areas of international and foreign law often asked about at academic law library reference desks." Id. at 420. Covers background resources, foreign material, Internet resources, the United Nations, the European Union, GATT and the World Trade Organization, unification of laws, and treaties.

"[A]ddresses the legal aspects of maritime pollution through oil" and "discusses international treaties, references to national and international legislation, treaties, and periodicals." Id. at 115-16.

An unannotated listing of books and monographs, legal and nonlegal periodical literature, related bibliographies, and dissertations on the topic of surrogate motherhood.

A bibliographic essay that describes the sources to consult to ensure that international services of process can be correctly accomplished.

Begun in 1980 in *Law Library Journal* and updated four times in the *Southern California Law Review* (1982, 1984, 1987, and 1991), this new 148-page update lists “citations to books, reports and articles focusing on legal, public policy and other law-related topics pertaining to or otherwise associated with the elderly or the aging process.” *Id.* at 288.


Consists of 11 bibliographies, seven by speakers at a Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL) program on “Legal Issues in Health Care” and four by SCALL members, that have been organized and edited to provide extensive coverage of various issues relating to health care.


Following an overview of the legal history of California before its acquisition by the United States, the article concludes with “Spanish and Mexican Legal Institutions in Provincial California: A Selective Bibliography of English-Language Sources.”


An extensive listing of books and essays on natural law written over the last 50 years, with most in English or English translation. Includes references to some French, German, Italian, and Spanish sources.


Offers 10 suggestions for good trial briefing in one federal district court in Louisiana. These “briefing tips” have broad applicability.


A selective listing of Idaho legal materials covering primary sources, treatises, and CLE publications used in Idaho practice.


A brief, unannotated bibliography covering the issues in a symposium on “The Intersection of Tort and Criminal Law.”


A guide to cost-effective acquisitions and collection maintenance and a reference source to 44 specific legal subject specialties, with substantive reviews and cost-saving tips. Also includes a state-by-state practitioner’s guide. Contains numerous useful appendixes.


This manual contains citation forms and reference materials relating to federal taxation. A joint undertaking by the ABA Section of Taxation and the *Virginia Tax Review* and the *Tax Law Review* (NYU).

© 1996 Donald J. Dunn