

THE REPORTER

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Valparaiso University School of Law Library

Looking Back and Facing the Future

On November 11, 1879, Colonel Mark L. DeMotte delivered the inaugural lecture opening the new School of Law in Valparaiso, Indiana. This was a bold step, considering that the Indiana Constitution of 1850 stated that “every person of good moral character, being a voter” was entitled to practice law in Indiana. (This provision remained part of the state’s constitution until 1932.) However, there was much pressure after the Civil War for a better-qualified bar. This resulted in a proliferation of law schools, few of which would ultimately survive. By enrollment standards of the day, the law school in Valparaiso got off to a good start with 19 students and three instructors.

Educational reform was widespread after the Civil War. The returning veterans were mature men, often married, with immediate vocational aims. DeMotte was himself a former colonel in the Union Army, as well as a graduate of the law school at Asbury College in Greencastle, Indiana, and a senior partner in one of the most respected northwestern Indiana law firms. The Valparaiso School of Law was soon to become a unit of the Northern Indiana Normal School (later Valparaiso University), which was already gaining renown as the no-nonsense success story of Mr. Henry Baker Brown. Mr. Brown’s school offered “to both the rich and the poor a thorough, practical education in as short a time, and with as little expense, as possible.” By 1878, the enrollment of his Northern Indiana Normal School had climbed to 1050, most of whom were students from the Midwest. Both Colonel DeMotte and Professor Brown were committed to a policy of reducing

the expense of professional education without reducing standards.

In the early days, the law school was justly criticized for being “too easy to enter, and too hard to get through.” Valparaiso offered a legal education at the bargain price of \$10.00 per term and provided a demanding curriculum. The catalog boasted that its students would receive *more* than the equivalent of most three-year schools in just two and a half years. (It said nothing about treatment for extreme exhaustion.)

At the turn of the century, the Valparaiso School of Law was the largest in the state, with an enrollment of 150 students. When Milo Jesse Bowman became



125th ANNIVERSARY

SCHOOL OF LAW

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dean of the School of Law in 1907, he shortened the academic year from 50 weeks to 40. But those 40 weeks encompassed 1200 hours of instruction, with Christmas Day being the only holiday. Classes began at 6:30 a.m. and continued until 9:00 p.m. The demanding student workload was matched by the tireless efforts of the dean and many other professors. A few pioneering women entered the legal field by the early part of the 20th century. In 1907, Vadae Harvey-Meekison was one of the first women students to graduate from the School of Law.

At this point, Valparaiso law graduates were becoming leaders in the legal profession. By 1910, at least ten of them had become chief justices of their respective state supreme courts. Others were elected to be governors or U.S. senators, including George Norris of Nebraska.

Following the trend in legal education, the school continued to raise its admission standards. The student attrition rate at that time was very high—some years more than 50 percent. In 1917, Dean Bowman expanded the program to three years of 36 weeks each, bringing it into conformity with accrediting association standards.

The First World War and the death of Valparaiso University president Henry Baker Brown brought hard times to the School of Law. In 1917, there were 50 law graduates, but by 1923, there were only nine. One notable graduate of the class of 1925 was Frances Tilton Weaver. She went on to a career of many “firsts,” which included being the first woman attorney in Porter County. She was also the youngest woman to be admitted to practice before the Indiana Supreme Court and the Illinois Supreme Court.

In 1925, phenomenal sacrifice and dedication were shown by a group of Lutheran pastors who took over the failing university “with a great deal of faith, a few thousand dollars, and no idea what

they were getting into.” In 1928, Dean Bowman resigned; his successor was John Morland. Under Dean Morland’s leadership, the School of Law received approval by the American Bar Association in 1929 and, within a year, was accepted as a member of the Association of American Law Schools. Despite this accomplishment, enrollment figures at this time were troubling and took another downward turn during World War II. In 1943, with only four students registered for the year, there was serious talk of closing the school. But the faith and determination of President O. P. Kretzmann prevailed to keep it going. With the return of soldiers from the war, enrollment rose to 158 by 1949.

Through the next fifty years, Valpo Law reached a number of milestones, including the graduation of the first African-American law student, Hilbert L. Bradley, in 1950; the appointment of the first woman professor, Rosalie Levinson, in 1974; and the addition to the law faculty of the first African-American law professor, Warren Bracy, in 1988.

Throughout its history, the Valparaiso University School of Law has continuously offered its focused and demanding program of legal education. We can be proud of our law school—125 years and going strong!

[Note: This article is a revised version of one written by Elaine Moore, formerly a librarian at the Law Library. It is reprinted with permission. In its original form, it appeared in *The Reporter* in 1999, on the occasion of the school’s 120th anniversary. The author acknowledges historical accounts written by School of Law Professor Emeritus Louis Bartelt and Valparaiso University Professor Emeritus John Strietelmeier as the sources of much of her information.]

SHELF LINERS

by Michael Bushbaum

Welcome back, my friends, to the show that never ends.

Come inside, come inside.

— Emerson, Lake & Palmer

For those of you coming back to law school, this classic rock lyric may seem like what is going on here once again. If you are a first-year student, don't get discouraged before you start. Law school is what you make it, and this year we have some new and some improved things that should make it even better.

You may have noticed some changes in the second floor computer lab. All the old Gateways and Compaqs have been replaced by new Compaqs. Boot time is much quicker, the processor speed should make your work faster, and all the monitors are now flat screens. Also changed is the configuration of the room, courtesy of Network Administrator John Obermann. With the new arrangement, this lab should be a more comfortable and convenient place for you to work and receive instruction.

One thing to note about the new computers in the second floor lab is that they do not have CD capability. So, if you want to take work from home to school or vice versa, you will need to save it on floppy disks and carry it back and forth. While it's true that all your work can be saved to your user space on the network drive under your user name, the law school network is a closed one. It is accessible to you from any computer in Wesemann Hall or in the clinic computer lab, but not from sites outside the law school.

The major project in the library this summer was bringing the electronic reserve system into full operation. To accomplish this, all the exams and course reserve materials (many of which had to be

scanned first) were loaded onto the network. Now that more memory has been added to the printers in both labs, you'll find that printing the reserve files will be faster. With the new computers in the second floor lab, load time should be greatly reduced. So now, for the first time, when you ask for either old exams or course reserve material, this material will be available online only. The new e-reserve system will save you money since printing is only 5 cents per page as opposed to 9 or 10 cents for photocopying. It will also save you time (since you won't have to unstaple, collate, and restaple) and worry (since you won't wonder about whether you have everything or whether someone has taken parts of the exam file). Last year's e-reserve system was an experiment; this year, we are offering a full-service product.

As some of you may know, the School of Law is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2003-2004. The first tangible sign students may notice is the gift of an extra 125 pages of free printing. Because the yearly allotment of free pages has just gone up to 500, the anniversary gift will bring this year's total to 625.

Valparaiso University is going to be switching soon from the current Simeon email program to a new one called Mulberry. Though it's not quite ready yet, when Mulberry does become available, documentation will be available on how to use this program. We understand that Mulberry will offer many more features than Simeon currently does, including the ability to mass-save emails. Watch for announcements about the switch.

And finally, watch for email messages and signs in the library announcing upcoming Microsoft Word workshops on topics such as shortcuts, creating footnotes, making the program work more quickly, and compiling and using tables of authorities and tables of contents. Each workshop will probably be offered several times (usually during chapel break)

and will last about 20-25 minutes. Class size will be limited; if you see a session that interests you, sign up early.

So, welcome back, or welcome, my friends, to the Valpo Law "show," which has been in progress since 1879. Good luck to all of you.

From the Director

by Mary Persyn

Welcome back! We hope you have a productive and enjoyable academic year.

My message in the July issue of *The Reporter* brought you up to date with what's been happening in the Law Library over the summer, so I won't repeat myself.

However, I will expand on one small part of that report. I mentioned that the librarians attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries (our professional association) in Seattle in July. At that meeting we ran into a number of Valpo Law graduates who have become law librarians. For a law school whose university does not offer a master's degree in library and information science, Valpo Law has a significant number of graduates who have gone on to earn an M.L.S. elsewhere and who are working as academic law librarians.

The list includes Kristine (Kit) Kreilick '76, Associate Law Librarian for Technology, Fordham University; Mark Folmsbee '82, Associate Dean for Computer Services, Washburn University; Kent Milunovich '93, Systems/Technical Services Librarian, Seattle University; Douglas Lind '92, Scholarly Resources Librarian, Georgetown University; and Heidi Frostestad '00, Reference/Instructional Services Librarian, Marquette University. In Seattle, we also spoke

with Debra Denslaw '89, a recent University of Illinois library school grad, who was interviewing for law library positions at the conference placement office.

We are also aware of two recent Valpo Law grads who are still in library school. Robert Hudson '02 is attending the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. Last, but definitely not least, our own Steven Probst '02 will begin his library and information science coursework at Dominican University (River Forest, Illinois) in September. Steve will be working for us part-time this academic year while he obtains his M.L.I.S. degree and will rejoin the Law Library staff full-time next August.

This summer we also saw two other Valpo Law graduates who hold positions as vendor representatives for Westlaw. Those of you who are returning students will remember Cindy Semmelroth '00, who was our Westlaw academic account manager until this summer. She will now be handling law schools in the Cleveland, Ohio, area. (Our new Westlaw academic account manager is Susan Spoerk.) Jennifer Eigenfeld Moeller '98 has just recently started work as an account representative for Westlaw, based in Seattle.

Careers connected with the library field are a good bet for law graduates. I recently read that 40 percent of the librarians in the United States will retire in the next ten years. Looking around the AALL conference at the age of the current law librarians, I can see that the statistic applies to law librarians also. If you are looking for an alternative to practicing law, and you enjoy the academic environment, doing research, working with people,

and teaching, consider becoming an academic law librarian. [Note: Librarians with law degrees also work in libraries of larger law firms, courts, and government entities.] The pay is reasonable, the hours are humane, the benefits are good, and the work is very interesting (and lots of fun). Any of Valpo Law's librarians would be happy to talk to you about career possibilities in our profession.

Three New Players Join Valpo Law Library Team

by Naomi Goodman

Several new staff members joined the Law Library during Fall Semester 2002. With this issue of *The Reporter* we have the opportunity to introduce all three of them to you.

Susan Waldschmidt began her position as **Government Information Coordinator** in September. The Law Library is a depository for government publications, and Susan is the person responsible for processing the items we receive according to Government Printing Office specifications. In addition, she looks after purchased microfiche sets such as the bar journals and the U.S. Supreme Court records and briefs. She is available to help patrons use our new digital reader/printer/scanner and to help them find government documents. Susan is also the layout/production person for this newsletter.

Susan has had a wide variety of jobs. Her library experience includes working as Government Documents Specialist at VU's Moellering Library in 2002 and working in a public library in Monterey, California. Susan lived in New York from the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s, where she earned an M.S. degree in counseling and worked as a high school guidance counselor, a college career counselor, and a college residence hall director.

She moved to Big Sur, California, in 1987, where she studied massage therapy while working as a desk clerk at a luxury bed-and-breakfast frequented by celebrities such as Steve Martin and Robert Redford. She lived on a ranch overlooking the ocean in a converted chicken roost complete with oriental carpets and antique furniture. Later, she moved to Monterey and worked as a style editor for a test-publishing company. She has fond memories of hiking the hills, canyons, and beaches of California's central coast.

A Valparaiso native, Susan is now back in her hometown, where she has strong ties. Years ago she earned her bachelor's degree from VU, where her father was a professor of psychology. Back in the Midwest, she is still able to indulge her love of the outdoors by hiking and cross-country skiing in the Indiana dunes. She also enjoys well-written novels, original movies, and many different kinds of music, including jazz, bluegrass, vintage country, and classical.

Susan finds satisfaction in keeping the government documents and microform collections well organized and making sure records for these items are easy to locate in our online catalog. The library buys and loads online catalog records for

government documents from an outside vendor. Since these records don't always match our holdings perfectly, Susan does a lot of clean-up: moving item records and ordering better bibliographic records. She appreciates the opportunity her job has given her to attend legal research classes and special events such as the Monsanto Lecture. She likes the way the law school and the university keep all staff informed of interesting news and events here, and she enjoys the friendliness of staff and students.

Kitty June became our **Periodicals Coordinator** in November, taking over the care of the library's collection of law reviews and journals. She has responsibility for keeping the collection in good condition by checking in each issue of a title, routing issues to faculty when requested, identifying and claiming missing issues, and supervising bindery. She is also responsible for arranging updated material for our codes, digests, directories and other publications on our shelves, and sorting mail for the law school.

Kitty's previous work experience includes working at the Cedar Lake Branch of the Lake County Public Library. Her varied duties included working temporarily at the main Lake County Library several times a year to help with the organization of their magazines and journals. Back at the Cedar Lake Library, she particularly liked working with adults and children to find information they needed, and presenting library programs. She has also worked with her husband in their business that designed and produced circuit boards and machinery for companies that manufacture cardboard boxes and pallets.

Kitty has two adult sons and one still at home. Richard is married and runs a computer consulting business. Chris, who is also married, is far from home these days—serving in Iraq with the 101st Airborne. Steven is an energetic fourth grader with many interests, including math, music, and drawing. He is currently working with Kitty on

writing and illustrating several children's books. Although time for hobbies is hard to find, Kitty enjoys writing poems and short stories, several of which have been published. Work on a bachelor's degree at Indiana University Northwest has been suspended for lack of time, but she hopes to complete her degree later.

Kitty's job involves coordinating many tasks (checking-in, claiming or replacing missing issues, and sending items out to the bindery) in order to keep the law review collection up-to-date, complete, and available. She finds the work interesting because it requires thinking and planning. She is pleased to be working in a place where people are friendly, and supportive of each other in work and personal issues (qualities which she points out are not always found in a workplace these days).

Pat Glenn, who joined our staff last December, is the person to see if you need an article or book that is not in our library. Pat will locate the item in another library and get a copy for you to use. Her full title is **Interlibrary Loan Manager and Assistant Cataloger**, which means that in addition to borrowing books for Valpo Law students and faculty, she also catalogs many of the new books we receive each year for our own collection.

Pat has many years of experience in libraries, including the Portage School District and Duneland (Chesterton) School Corporation. Her work as Cataloging Specialist at Moellering Library from 1992 to 2000 prepared her well for her position here. However, some aspects of cataloging and most aspects of interlibrary loan were new to her, so she has attended several workshops in Chicago and Indianapolis. Soon after starting here, she had to learn a new web-based interlibrary loan product. Before the end of the year, there will be yet another change, when she will also have to move to a new web-based cataloging system. She is now fully prepared to handle the heavy volume of requests from Law Review staff members doing cite-checks.

Pat has two adult sons and four grandchildren. Her husband, Don, is the Director of Park Services in Portage. Pat has trouble turning away strays, which explains the five cats and one energetic Australian cattle dog living with them. She enjoys old movies, fishing, and reading, and is a member of the Friends of Indiana Dunes.

This job appealed to Pat because, although she wanted to stay in a library, she was looking for new challenges and new skills to learn. She enjoys working in the small “community” of Valpo Law, where she knows students and faculty by name and where her work directly addresses their research needs.

FROM THE EDITOR

by Sally Holterhoff

What is a “lawyer’s lawyer”? Is possession really “nine-tenths of the law”? Would you trust a “jailhouse lawyer” . . . or how about a “Philadelphia lawyer”? What is a case “on all fours”? Why is a “reporter” in the legal sense a set of books rather than a person?

A great reference source to answer these questions and many more is *A Dictionary of Modern Legal Usage*, Second Edition by Bryan A. Garner. A copy of the *DMLU* can be found on reserve in our library [KF 156.G367 1995]. Lately this book is a favorite of mine because it contains so many fascinating tidbits of information about legal words and expressions as well as practical advice on style and usage for the legal writer. The author, who is an editor, academic, and practicing attorney, has created a great companion to the standard legal dictionary. He offers witty and concise explanations, often illustrated with quotes from judicial opinions or well-known treatises. The book contains sections with headings such as “Popularized Legal Technicalities” and “Lawyers, Derogatory Terms for,” as well as great coverage of maxims, “Latinisms,” and “officialese.” If you have a few minutes and want to amuse yourself, I highly recommend picking up a copy of this book.

As for the questions in my first paragraph, here are some answers from the *DMLU*:

Calling someone a “lawyer’s lawyer” is a cliché and is becoming an overused expression, but it is also “among the highest compliments that one lawyer can pay another.”

The statement that “possession is nine-tenths of the law” is a popular phrase, rather than a legal one, and it originated in the 17th century. The “nine-tenths” started out as “nine parts,” since there were supposedly ten parts or points of the law.

A “jailhouse lawyer” is “an inmate who acquires some legal learning and counsels fellow inmates on drafting complaints and briefs.”

A “Philadelphia lawyer” can refer to either “an ultracompetent lawyer who knows the ins and outs of legal technicalities” or “a shrewdly unscrupulous lawyer.”

“On all fours” means “squarely on point with regard to both facts and law.” This useful bit of legal jargon began as an old Latin maxim, translated as

“No similar thing is the same, unless it runs on all four feet.”

A “reporter” would traditionally refer to the person responsible for making and publishing a law “report” (written account of a proceeding and judicial decision). However, the first word has been blurred into the second in the U.S., primarily because of West Publishing Company’s “National Reporter system.” Each West Reporter is a set of books containing judicial opinions from particular jurisdictions.

Speaking of reporters . . . *The Reporter* is also the name of the newsletter you are reading, which is written and produced by the Law Library staff.

We usually publish five issues a year, including a summer issue, which all new and returning students should have received by mail a month or so ago. Articles in *The Reporter* cover such topics as law-related websites, strategies for legal researchers, reviews of books or videos with a law connection, human interest stories, and library news. Each issue we publish has a different, eye-catching color for the front page. You will find copies in the library, in the student lounge, and in Duesenberg Commons. Faculty and staff receive the issue in their mailboxes. We welcome student suggestions for future articles. And please watch for recent issues of *The Reporter* to appear once again on the law school website.

Legally Blonde Goes to Washington

Reviewed by Gail Hartzell

Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde is a trivial but sweet-natured sequel to its 2001 predecessor, with bloneness triumphing over adversity once again. After graduating from Harvard Law School, Elle Woods (Reese Witherspoon) is hired by a prestigious Boston law firm. While busy planning her lavish wedding to Harvard law professor Emmitt Richmond, Elle decides that the only thing missing from her wedding plans is the long-lost mother of her beloved Chihuahua, Bruiser. To her dismay, she discovers that a client of her very own law firm is using her dog’s family members as cosmetics test subjects. When she stands up for the rights of these animals, her law firm fires her.

So, she sets out for Washington, D.C., intending to lobby for a ban on testing cosmetics on animals. When she is hired as a legislative aide for Congresswoman Victoria Rudd (Sally Field), Elle hopes to push her “Bruiser bill” through Congress.

On Capitol Hill, she is a bright pink guppy in a sea of grey, black, and navy pinstriped sharks. But with determination and unflagging optimism, she manages to buck the system and to overcome and inspire her formidable political challengers.

Legally Blonde 2 moves at such a brisk, easy clip that there is not much time to linger over its flaws. It’s true that there is a good deal of repetition from the first film, and the hardened politicians who are moved to tears or standing ovations by Elle’s speeches on the Senate floor seem like ridiculous caricatures. But Bruiser’s coordinating outfits and his little pink pillbox hat are outrageous and to die for, and Reese Witherspoon’s performance keeps you rooting for Elle every step of the way. For a lightweight escape from the reality of law school, *Legally Blonde 2* is a good choice.