Move over Wendy’s and Taco Bell—the Law Library is “open late” too!

From the beginning of Reading Days (April 16th) through the last day of Exams (May 5th), the Law Library will be open until 2 a.m.

Happy Studying!

Law Library Hours During Exams
Monday—Friday 7:30 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m.
Sunday 5:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m.
The Law Library is pleased to announce that Regent University School of Law is now a CALI member!

**WHO OR WHAT IS CALI?**

CALI, the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction, is a consortium of law schools that researches and develops computer-mediated legal instruction and supports institutions and individuals using technology in legal education.

**HOW CAN CALI HELP ME?**

The CALI Library of Lessons includes over 300 interactive, computer-based lessons covering 29 legal subject areas. Designed to augment traditional law school course materials, the lessons are written by law faculty and librarians and are regularly reviewed and revised. From future interests to the hearsay rule, these lessons are a great way to reinforce concepts introduced in your law school classes!

**WHERE DO I BEGIN?**

To get started, you must first register at [http://www.cali.org](http://www.cali.org) using an institutional membership authorization code. Regent’s code for law students is: REGETUstu172. During the registration process, you’ll create your own password. In subsequent visits to use lessons, simply enter your email address and personal password.
The Well-rounded Legal Researcher
by Bill Magee, Assistant Research Services Librarian

According to Martindale-Hubbell’s online lawyer directory (www.martindale.com), over 50% of the 500 listed as Regent alumni throughout the country were not with a law firm. Whether you join the ranks of those who “hang out a shingle” or choose to become a public interest attorney, for those who do not work in firms or organizations that can afford to exclusively use Lexis or Westlaw, broad knowledge of both print and electronic legal resources and research techniques is a must. This includes not only an understanding of how to use traditional print resources, but also the ability to discern when using a print resource is more efficient than using an electronic source and vice-versa. It also includes knowledge of free and reliable legal information on the Internet.

Here are five more reasons to cultivate this skill:

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REASON ONE: **Money:** For a solo, founding partner, or public interest attorney, financial resources are limited. While many new attorneys are aware of the costs associated with staff, rent, malpractice insurance, and office supplies, some are surprised that law books and other research resources are so expensive. A basic print library (consisting of a state code, reporter set, and digest set) can cost up to $3,500, with substantial annual updating expenses not included! The key here is knowing what free and low-cost resources are available and whether those resources are reliable. What law libraries are open to you? Does your state bar provide access to any research tools as a benefit of membership? What websites offer free access to the information you need? Time is also money, so ease of use can be important too. If it takes you three hours longer to find and evaluate the information you obtained than it would have using a more comprehensive paid service, then the cheaper route may not have been the correct choice.

REASON TWO: **Client PR:** Seems odd, but clients today are a little more savvy than 20 years ago when it comes to paying Westlaw and Lexis charges. You may have to justify the expense and if you cannot show why it would have been less beneficial to research using a free resource or in a law book, expect your client to gripe—then expect to swallow that Westlaw or Lexis bill.

REASON THREE: **Duty:** As an attorney, you have a duty to research competently. There is a North Carolina case in which an associate was sued because he did not use the index to the state statutes properly.

REASON FOUR: **Marketability:** Just because you start as a solo, it doesn't necessarily mean you will remain one. Good research techniques demonstrate not only your proficiency, but also your ability to keep costs low. More knowledge and better performance than your competition is always good.

REASON FIVE: **Time Management:** Did I mention that time is money? Legal research can consume an enormous amount of your time. The better your research skills, the faster you will be able to find the information you need.

What can you do now? Build well-rounded research skills by learning to use both print and electronic resources effectively! Take advantage of legal research clinics or training offered by the Law Library. Law librarians conduct clinics covering print research, alternative electronic legal resources, legal research strategy, and more. One-on-one or group appointments can also be made. The Law Library also coordinates Westlaw and Lexis trainings throughout the semester. It’s critical that you learn how to use these costly databases effectively while you have unlimited access! Additionally, law librarians can answer questions about Westlaw and Lexis and offer expert advice as to which one is better for a particular task.

Remember, we are here to help you!
Research Survival Skills for Summer Associates

Thursday, April 15th
5:30–6:15 pm or 7:00–7:45 pm

This session is a must for those who plan to clerk this summer. Learn about non-Westlaw and Lexis research alternatives and get practical tips on how to handle that first complex research assignment.

It’s not too late to reserve your space!

Email Bill Magee at willmag@regent.edu. Please include Legal Research Workshop in the subject line.

UPCOMING EVENTS

New Law Library Displays

Two new displays will soon occupy the cases located near the Law Library entrance.

The Faculty Publications Display Case will feature scholarly articles and other works with a focus on biblical integration.

The second display will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision. The display will explore Virginia’s connection to the landmark case.
Testimony is the official newsletter of the Regent University Law Library.

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