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Presidential Ponderings

...from Michelle Cosby

In the hustle and bustle of daily life, burnout impacts many of us. Being short staffed, having your budget slashed, or being close to retirement are all factors that can contribute to feeling under-appreciated or tired of our jobs. To borrow a line from Jeff Probst, host of *Survivor*, this is when it is necessary to “dig deep.” We became librarians because we have a desire to help others. Helping someone obtain what they need gives many of us a strong sense of purpose. This can be achieved by helping someone obtain an article, providing access to necessary resources, or showing a new tech tool. It is in these moments that we are making a difference. We might not receive a “thank you” for all that we do, but we made a positive impact on someone, whether or not they personally realize it.

Refresh, reinvigorate, and reinvent at the 2017 SEAALL Annual Meeting in Raleigh, NC. Please visit <http://law-campbell.libguides.com/SEAALL2017/registration> to register for the meeting. We will be meeting at the Sheraton Raleigh. Hotel reservations are available at <http://law-campbell.libguides.com/SEAALL2017/accommodations>.

Finally, you all put so much into SEAALL and I want you to know that your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. Please remember that SEAALL is also here to help you! Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the executive board members if there is something you think SEAALL can provide to assist you in your daily jobs. Whether it be adding a new resource to the website or pointing you to the SEAALL Committee that can assist, helping our members succeed is important to us.



Billie Blaine

Supreme Court Librarian

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Closed Stacks

When the Florida Supreme Court moved out of its original location in the Florida Capitol Building and into its new building in 1913, the library was furnished with five railroad box cars full of glass-fronted, stackable “barrister” bookcases, which arrived directly from the Globe-Wernicke Company, in Cincinnati, Ohio. The library’s collection was housed in these beautiful bookcases.

Photo courtesy of the State Archives of Florida, taken in 1947. See more information [here](#).



The court moved into its current building in 1949. Over the years, many of these beautiful bookcases found their way out of the building and some remaining were broken or otherwise damaged. Many of the removable tops were stained by plants or drinks and some of the bases were damaged by mop water, but the library still maintains a large collection of these functional and attractive bookcases. Many still house library books, and the justices use them as an attractive way to display their photos and awards. We also furnished our rare book room with these beautiful pieces when we set it up in 2006. The room remains one of the most-beautiful spaces in the courthouse.



Several years ago, I enlisted our then office manager, Gerrie, to help me decorate my office featuring Globe-Wernickes. I have been collecting cows for over thirty years, so I decided to use a combination of law books, cows, and framed photos in my design scheme. Only the “classy” office cows made the cut, and Gerrie demanded that I take the rest of them home. I gathered frames and (mostly) old law books, and she set about making the combination look attractive. Her design is whimsical and playful, and continues to be worthy of an office in the state’s high court library. I was so happy with the result that I haven’t changed it since.



The books and other items displayed in the Globe-Wernickes in my office are mainly just “for pretty,” but the books I use regularly are housed on a Mission-style revolving bookcase which dates back to 1902. This and several others were acquired for use in the original Supreme Court Library in the capitol building. We still have three of these stunning

bookcases, one of which we use to collect books to be reshelved. It’s definitely the most beautiful reshelving area I have ever seen.

These attractive and functional modular bookcases have been preserved thanks to the work and caring of former and current library staff and serve as a tangible representation of the history of the Florida Supreme Court and its library. I feel privileged and lucky to have them on display in my office.



Readers' Advisory



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Michael Stephens, *The Heart of Librarianship: Attentive, Positive, and Purposeful Change* (2016)

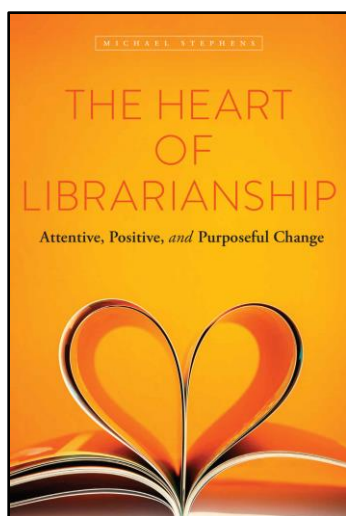
ISBN: 978-0-8389-1454-0

I've often said that empathy is a lost art. Compassion, kindness, even politeness – they are sadly underrated and even more underused in modern society, and from the look of things, they're in no danger of making a comeback. But I take those concepts very seriously, as a person, and especially as a librarian. Our industry standard, *Black's Law Dictionary*, doesn't define empathy, but the foreword of Michael Stephens' book, *The Heart of Librarianship*, begins with a definition from *Psychology Today*: "the experience of understanding another person's condition from their perspective." Keeping this in mind makes me a more effective reference librarian and professor, whether I'm working with students or faculty, experienced attorneys, or *pro se* library patrons. It helps me ask the right questions, listen, assess, and learn. From the foreword forward, I knew I would appreciate this book.

Michael Stephens is a public librarian who writes the "Office Hours" column in *Library Journal*. He is a futurist who believes in the changing roles of libraries and librarians, and he lists empathy among the necessary skills and competencies required of LIS students and new librarians to get hired and succeed, alongside thinking, planning, creativity, innovation, and mindfulness. He stresses that librarians need to be more visible and approachable than ever before, to combat students' apathy toward libraries and their hesitation to seek help from librarians. We're the public, human, faces of our organizations, and we need to advocate and self-promote because we are more important than our collections or our technology.

An entire chapter of the book is devoted to answering questions and concerns of prospective librarians considering earning LIS degrees, but it would be just as useful to put in the hands of newer, less-experienced colleagues. Other chapters discuss the related needs for networking and mentoring. Stephens analyzes the differences between introverts and extroverts, what each one brings to their libraries, and how we need to balance these concepts for our patrons as well, simultaneously providing a bustling information commons and a quiet sanctuary to study and reflect. These are issues we're all dealing with as law librarians, so it's a quick and worthwhile read.

Stephens includes copious notes after every section of the book, with recommended readings and citations for everything. This alone would make it an invaluable resource, and it happens to be an inexpensive one, too. I would recommend this book for any academic law library collection, as well as any general academic or public library collection. Students in library school desperately need to read it, but so do librarians who have been on the job for years, and especially those who have been at it for decades in management roles, as a reminder of why we bother to do this at all. All of this information probably sounds obvious to everyone reading our SEAALL newsletter, but it doesn't hurt to focus on all the good libraries and librarians do, and all the good left for us to do, as so many of us face budget cuts, lowered morale, and general apathy.



Readers' Advisory



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Laura McBride, *We are Called to Rise* (2015)

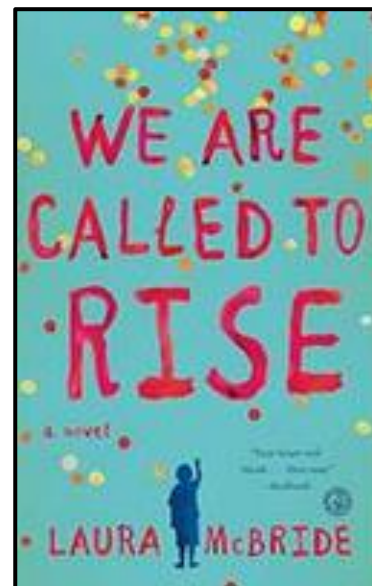
ISBN: 978-1-4767-3897-0

When I started reading *We Are Called to Rise*, by Laura McBride, I did not like it. It seemed each of the characters had such brutal and sad lives. The story is narrated by four different people. There is Avis, whose husband is leaving her for another woman and whose grown son has returned from Iraq changed and violent. Second is Roberta, the court-appointed child advocate who sees the grimier side of Las Vegas. Third is Luis, the soldier who wakes up in the military hospital after trying to take his life in Afghanistan. Lastly, there is Bashkin, an eight-year-old Albanian immigrant who loves school and endures a hard life with his family who are trying to adapt in America. While Laura McBride beautifully develops many of the characters of the book, I felt the least developed was Roberta, who ends up with a pivotal role at the end of the story. As the court-appointed advocate for Bashkin and his sister, she is the one who brings everyone together.

The story begins quickly and the writing pulls you into the explosive story. The book is a fast read. Like the title, everyone is called to rise out of their comfort zone to help another person. A tragedy brings them all together and ties up the plot. As McBride explains in the author's note, the climax of the story actually comes from a tragic event. When I finished reading the book, I was glad that I had read it. Through thoughtful caring and bravery, the characters in this story bring hope.

For more information about becoming a guardian ad litem, check your state's rules. For information on how to become a child's advocate in court in North Carolina, refer to the North Carolina Court System's website at

<http://www.nccourts.org/Citizens/GAL/Default.asp>.





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Readers' Advisory

Adrienne Berard, *Water Tossing Boulders: How a Family of Chinese Immigrants Led the First Fight to Desegregate Schools in the Jim Crow South* (2016)

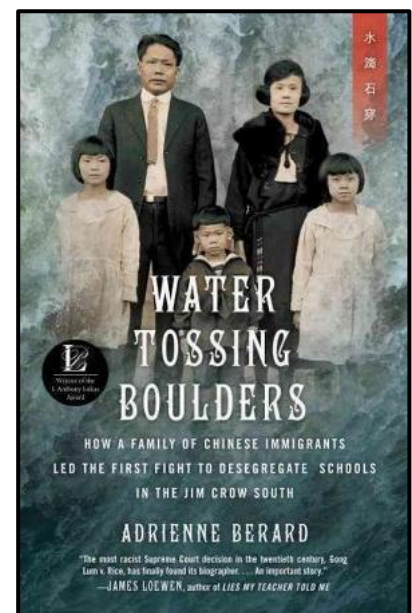
ISBN: 978-0-8070-3353-1

Adrienne Berard, a journalist and author, brings back to life the Lum family, whose struggles in the Mississippi Delta paved the way for *Brown v. Board of Education*. This beautifully written story about the Chinese-American struggle for racial equality in the South resurrects an often-forgotten population that is so important to American history.

The story begins in the Mississippi Delta in the 1920s. Jeu Gong and Katherine Lum were a couple who were both born in China, moved to the United States, found one another and married. They had three children -- Berda, Martha, and Biscoe. The Lums were owners of a small grocery store where they sometimes boarded relatives and another family. They were living what we might call "the American Dream," and although life was difficult, the Lum family worked hard because they believed that they would be able to fully assimilate into American culture and become successful. Katherine named her children after white members of the community in an effort to raise the social status of her children through creating a shared connection. To them, hard work and trying to befriend the white people in the Delta town of Benoit where they lived was the key to reaching their goal. Part of that plan was to send the children to school where they would get the best education possible.

Their plan was shattered when the principal of Rosedale Consolidated High School, where Berda and Martha attended, told them that they could no longer attend school. Relying on the Mississippi state law which prohibited integrated schools, Principal Nutt told the children that they were no longer welcome because they were of color. This deleterious decision was made in a social climate that had been growing more and more restless as more immigrants from Europe and Asia began to flow into the United States. Once American culture was divided along black and white racial lines, but now the influx of multitudes of new cultures resulted in a variety of violent and socially stigmatizing events.

Jeu Gong and Katherine refused to accept the school's decision to keep their children from going to school. They hired former Mississippi Governor Earl Brewer, Esq., to represent them as they fought to have their children reinstated. What began as a simple desire to secure an education for the girls, however, became an epic battle over the "separate but equal" doctrine and wound its way up to the United



States Supreme Court. Following Plessy v. Ferguson, however, would prove to be an insurmountable hurdle for the Lums, who would go back to the life they now led in Arkansas, having lost most possessions and the security for which they had worked so hard. Lum v. Rice appeared to be a defeat for integrationists as the holding of the court permitted individual states to decide whether to keep schools segregated or to integrate them.

Almost thirty years later, a much-changed Supreme Court would hear Brown v. Board of Education. The same legal question posed to the court by Earl Brewer would be asked once more, this time with a vastly different result. The afterword to *Water Tossing Boulders* offers an account of what impact was had on each of the players and their families. With amazement, this reader learned about how the family picked up and moved on, leading what most would call ordinary lives, lives which we generally take for granted. We have the luxury today to take this way of living for granted because of the extraordinarily brave efforts of the Lum family, who were forgotten until now.

Meet & Three



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Meet . . .

Hey, folks. How's everybody doing tonight? Welcome to Legal Research After Dark!

Oh wait, this isn't my Advanced Legal Research class. Let's strike that from the record.

My name is Louis Rosen, and I am a Reference Librarian and Associate Professor of Law Library at Barry University School of Law in Orlando, Florida. I grew up in Kendall, a Miami suburb, went to college and law school at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and have lived in the Orlando area for the last 12 years. There's so much more to Orlando than theme parks (which I live across town from and never go to). We have a surprising amount of culture here, great restaurants that aren't all corporate chains, and I met my wife and started my career here. Even though I hate the heat and humidity, this is home.

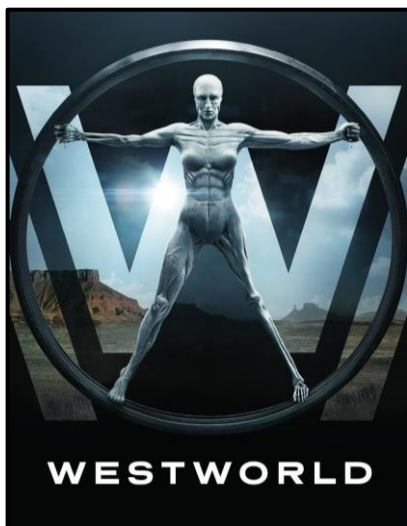
Before coming to Barry, I worked as a law-firm librarian, traveling among several different big central Florida firms, visiting each one once or twice a week, a few hours at a time. I also worked from home as a virtual reference provider for Florida's Ask a Librarian program, while attending library school at the University of South Florida. But I've been at Barry since July 2008, and, earlier this year, at the end of my eighth year here, I was promoted from assistant professor to associate professor.

In addition to my reference librarian duties, I teach Advanced Legal Research as well as two classes in our new LL.M. program aimed at international students with law degrees from their home countries. This semester, I just wrapped up teaching Fundamentals of American Law, a whirlwind tour of every aspect of the legal system, procedural and substantive law, government, and a little history. Next semester, my colleague Diana Botluk and I will design and co-teach another new LL.M. class.

Meanwhile, I try to stay involved in SEAALL and AALL. Among the highlights of my professional career have been my two years on the SEAALL Scholarship Committee and four years on the AALL Scholarship Committee, which became an awards jury for my last year. I won student scholarships from both SEAALL and AALL, so being able to pay it forward to other students and colleagues as a member and chair of both committees meant the world to me.

And Three . . .

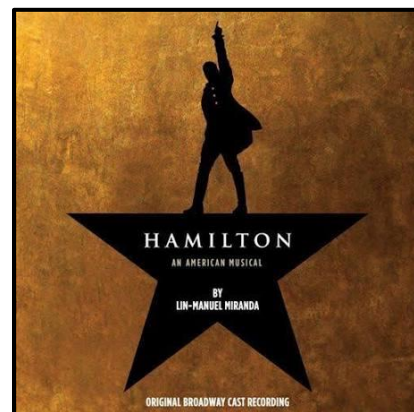
Planning new classes has been stressful. Work is stressful. The world seems more stressful and uncertain than ever. What do *you* do about it? Here are three things that have helped immensely with my stress in 2016:



1. *Westworld* on HBO. I love obsessing over TV shows to decompress after work, and this has definitely been the best new show of 2016. The season finale airs this Sunday, so the season will be over and done with by the time this newsletter sees print, and it's well worth binge-watching. I recommend it highly to science fiction and "prestige drama" fans. Loosely based on the 1973 movie, it's an introspective sci-fi series set in the future, about an immersive Wild West theme park for the ultra-wealthy to run amok and fulfill their every desire, staffed by human-looking robots. There is a lot of rumination on free will, consciousness, memories, and what makes us truly human. The writing, acting, and production design are superb, and every episode feels like an elaborate puzzle to be solved, with each answer posing more questions.

2. The *Hamilton* original cast recording.

Certified genius Lin-Manuel Miranda's brilliant musical marries my loves of hip hop, musical theater, and American history, and it has been in constant rotation in my car to the point where I have every song memorized and usually sing and/or rap along . . . not that I would dare torture anyone by doing so. It will probably be years before I can see the musical live on Broadway, but my wife and I have our 40th birthdays and our 10th wedding anniversary a few years away, so we might be able to get affordable tickets by then. In the meantime, I settle for the cast album, my biggest cultural obsession of 2016.



3. Food. I fully admit I'm a stress eater. I believe almost every food is better in sandwich form. I think "*Netflix and chili*" needs to become a thing. I already mentioned Orlando's great restaurants, and anyone who has hung out with me at conferences knows I'm always on a mission to find the best local food in any city. Tomorrow is one of my favorite days at work, our law library holiday potluck lunch, and I'm preparing TWO lasagnas, an antipasto platter with dry salami, marinated fresh mozzarella, roasted red peppers, and artichoke hearts (favorite foods all), and a gooey butter cake. Staying up late to cook for a large group might be stressful to some, but for me, it's therapeutic.



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Graphic Novels and the Law: A Curriculum Proposal

During the course of earning my Masters of Information Science degree at the Florida State University, I had the opportunity (and grand fortune) to take a Graphic Novels in Libraries course with Dr. Don Latham. Being a law librarian, my instinct is to relate everything to law. Being a graphic-novel and comic-book lover, my intuition told me this was a complete possibility. One of our assignments was to devise how we might promote graphic novels within a classroom curriculum. This article is an adaptation and takes an expanded approach to that assignment and takes a look at how graphic novels and comic books could be utilized in a law-school classroom. From an academic-law-librarian perspective, using graphic novels and comic books in our everyday interaction with law students can be completely valuable for contextual, and even foundational, purposes. Whether developing a law course, such as Graphic Novels and the Law, or simply having certain comic and graphic-novel materials on hand, this article will highlight the benefits to a law-school curriculum and a law library that makes use of graphic-novel and comic-book materials.

When integrating law and graphic novels, the best course of action might be to develop a Graphic Novels and the Law seminar course for law students. The purpose of using graphic materials in a law-school classroom setting is to facilitate law students in becoming more engaged in issues of the law. The idea is that using graphic materials will draw a connection between law and pop culture, law and entertainment, law and copyright, law and society, law and the relevancy of current events, and so much more. As such, highlighting this connection might help students to maintain, or even rekindle, a certain whimsy and excitement about the law. (3L year is tough!)

The way in which law students engage with legal materials every day can be pretty draining on the imagination and can even discourage budding attorneys or “burnt out” students from continuing with the practice or academic pursuit of law. Often, law books are very large, have very small print, and speak in a very practical and pragmatic tone with zero imagination. Using graphic materials in a law-seminar setting can revitalize one’s love and interest in the law. Graphic materials might even help the law student to better understand a particular section of the law because the student might be a visual learner rather than strictly a reading only learner.

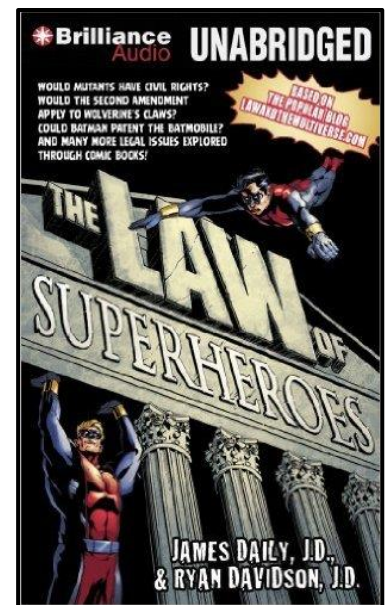




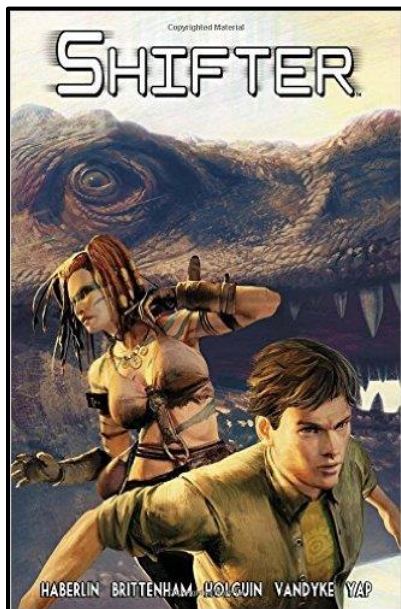
The materials most suitable for such a course will be a mix of graphic materials in which the superhero or protagonist is a lawyer, graphic novels written by lawyers, and books and law-review articles written by lawyers. Specifically, an example of looking at superheroes that are lawyers, the syllabus might include titles such as *She-Hulk*, *Daredevil*, *Icon*, and *Shadowhawk*. An example of a graphic novel written by a lawyer is Harry Brittenham's *Shifter*. Finally, the syllabus should include two pieces that are not specifically graphic materials, per se, but place a relational focus on graphic materials and the law or lawyers.

The first of these is a book titled, *The Law of Superheroes*, by James Daily, J.D., and Ryan Davidson, J.D. The second of these titles is William Hilyerd's law-review article titled, "Hi Superman, I'm a Lawyer: A Guide to Attorneys (and Other Legal Professionals) Portrayed in American Comic Books: 1910-2007."

In using graphic materials with law students, the materials that feature superheroes who are lawyers by day will be used to showcase a specific area of law and its relevance as being shown via the graphic materials. For example, *Daredevil* will be utilized to look at criminal law, both prosecution and defense, as Matt Murdock often finds himself representing petty criminals by day and punishing more extreme criminals by night, as Daredevil. Additionally, *She-Hulk* can be used to showcase trial advocacy, and *Icon* can be used to study constitutional law and legal history.



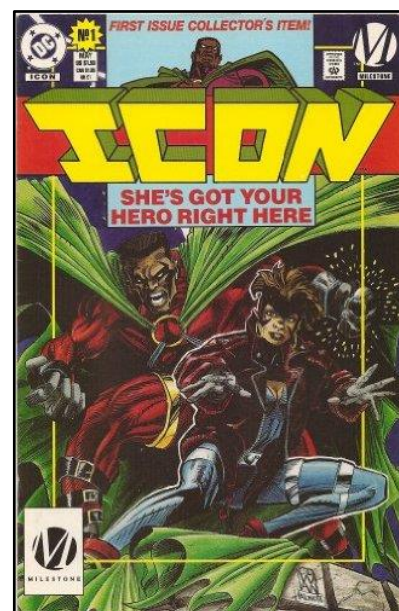
Conversely, the course could focus on one area of law, to wit, criminal law, as these graphic materials contain plenty of fodder for that area of law. Harry Brittenham's *Shifter* will be used to examine legal ethics. Due to the fact that Brittenham is a lawyer, the reading of this graphic resource will be used to see if Brittenham was at all influenced by the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Conduct, or if he used his fantastical imagination to go outside of the prescribed rules which govern his everyday legal life. Finally, Daily and Davidson's book and Hilyerd's law-review article will be used as contextual pieces to study and discuss how graphic materials relate to the law as a whole.



Typically, in law-school courses, the only assessment activity is a single exam at the end of the semester; however, because this will be a seminar course as opposed to a doctrinal course, the assessment for this course will take a different and more appropriate path. The assessment activities for this course are four short-answer tests throughout the semester and one final paper that will be between 10 and 15 pages and will focus on graphic materials and one or more of the law subject-matter areas that were discussed in class. The student might have leeway with the specific topic choice, but the professor, by way of student submission of a 250-word topic proposal,

must approve it. Moreover, students should feel free to choose their own graphic resources for their final paper. The syllabus will contain a suggested reading list of graphic novels that relate to the law and the student should feel free to use any from that list or any law-related graphic materials they might find on their own.

Introducing graphic materials into the academic law library realm can also be a lot of fun and very beneficial to students (and employees). In the academic law library, librarians can build exhibits to highlight relationships between graphic materials and different areas of the law. This serves to get the students interested in asking questions and taking a fresh look at the law. Further, an exhibit in the law library can serve to keep a student's imagination, interest, and passion for the law alive. Most importantly, an exhibit in the law library can help to instill confidence in students that the law library is a further resource they can feel good about taking advantage of, because not only do law librarians have fun, we know how to be creative while keeping everything legally relevant. Moreover, law students oftentimes have writing requirements. The law library should be one of the first places the student must visit as they embark upon either conceiving of a topic or diving into their topic. Having graphic materials pertaining to law (which is difficult NOT to do with comic books and graphic novels) can be a plus for exciting the legal imagination. These materials can be a fun source to introduce into a paper that might be otherwise mundane to write.





That is not to say that law libraries and law schools will not be chock-full of students who have not lost their focus or love of law throughout the rigorous three-year program. Please do not misunderstand, the intent is not to offend, but to introduce and excite. Finally, graphic materials in the law library will help add context to items such as treatises, nutshells, and hornbooks. Not to mention, once the Graphic Novels and the Law curriculum is developed, the students will need to have access to a plethora of materials for their class!

As previously mentioned, the overall theme of this proposed course is to introduce law

students to a new way of critically (and enjoyably) thinking of and conceptualizing the law. The theme of the course centers on using graphic materials to relate to different areas of the law. There will not be a focus on one area of law. Instead, the focus will be learning the law through a graphic-materials medium. It is my hope that thinking about the law in a new and more engaging way will serve to get students more excited about practicing law and refresh their outlook and passion for legal issues and matters.

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Invent ♦ Innovate ♦ Inspire in Raleigh, NC



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Campbell University School of Law and the Raleigh Area Law Librarians Association invite you to join us for the 2017 SEAALL Annual Meeting, March 30 – April 1, 2017. Our theme is Invent ♦ Innovate ♦ Inspire, and we hope you are inspired to make the most of your visit to Raleigh, which has something for everyone!

Along with beautiful architecture in [historic neighborhoods](#), you will also find modern skyscrapers housing cutting-edge technology firms like Red Hat and Citrix. Take a [Segway Tour](#) among the majestic oaks of the Capitol grounds or through [Oakwood Cemetery](#) for a unique view of the city.



Get your culture on by viewing Renaissance masters at the [North Carolina Museum of Art](#), as well as contemporary innovators at [CAM Raleigh](#). Discover dinosaurs at the [Museum of Natural Sciences](#) or learn about our state's past at the [North Carolina Museum of History](#).

Need a little retail therapy? Visit [Cameron Village](#), the oldest shopping center between DC and Atlanta, or browse the [boutiques, workshops, and galleries](#) within blocks of the hotel. For the foodies, have a bite to eat at [The Roast Grill](#), an old-school Raleigh institution, or at one of James Beard Award-Winning [Chef Ashley Christensen's seven restaurants](#).



Sports enthusiasts can cheer for the home team as the [Carolina Hurricanes](#) take on the Dallas Stars on Saturday, April 1, at 7 p.m.

In addition to a great conference program, there will also be library tours after the Institute on Thursday afternoon and dine-arounds at some of the best downtown restaurants on Friday evening. Find all the information you need about the 2017 SEAALL conference [here](#) and check back regularly for updates!

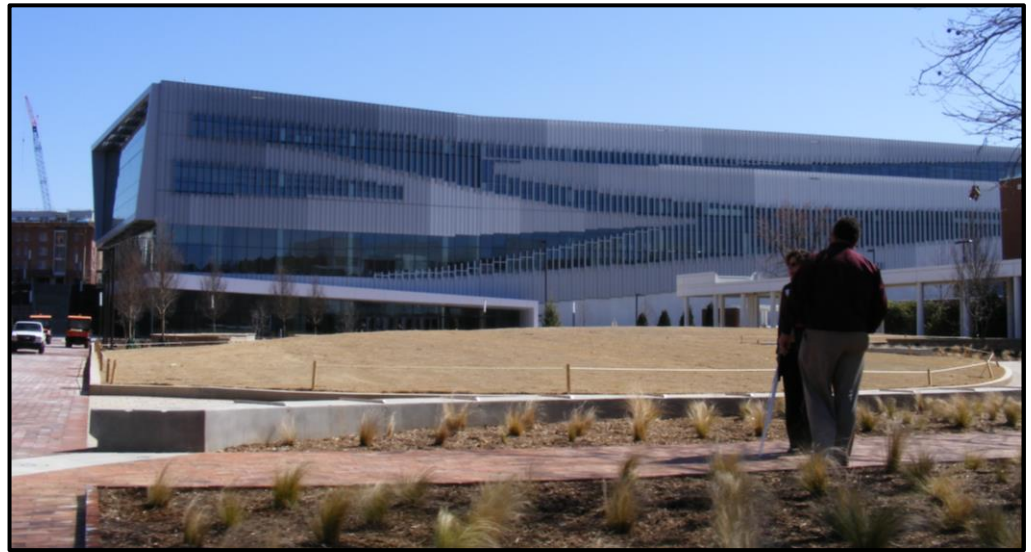
Excursion to the Library of the Future



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On Saturday afternoon, after the SEAALL conference, you might want to explore the James B. Hunt, Jr., Library, located at North Carolina State University's Centennial Campus (www.lib.ncsu.edu/huntlibrary). Because the Hunt Library does not offer any afternoon tours, you would be on your own, but the experience is well worth the short drive from downtown.

The Hunt Library is N.C.S.U.'s newest library, primarily serving the academic disciplines housed on Centennial Campus: textiles, engineering, and science. It opened in 2013 to national and international acclaim. What is the Hunt Library? From the library's website: The NCSU Libraries' vision is to be the competitive advantage for North Carolina State University and for the culture and economy of our state. The Libraries has been recognized for achieving that vision with numerous national and international awards. This is the "library of the future," known for its innovative use of technology, its ability to create inspiring learning and research spaces, the strengths of its collections, and its role in developing the next generations of librarians, scholars, and innovators.

Among its many awards is the 2013 AIA/ALA "Library Buildings Award:" the Hunt Library. The library has many interesting features, including a robot-driven "[bookBot](#)" automated book delivery system [which] holds up to 2 million volumes in 1/9 the space of conventional shelving, enabling the library to provide more space for learning and collaboration . . . The



bookBot delivers books in minutes with a click in the Libraries' online catalog. Visitors can watch the bookBot in action through a glass wall on the first floor ("Robot Alley"), as four robots dart up and down enormous aisles to pinpoint and retrieve materials. "

Fun Fact: Users may select from over eighty styles of chairs, all of which were tried out and selected by the library staff.

TOURING ON YOUR OWN:

- Stop by the Ask Us Center for library information and maps. The Ask Us Center is located on the second floor, up the bright yellow staircase and through the turnstyles, to the right.
- Download our Mobile Tour app at <https://www.lib.ncsu.edu/visit/mobiletour>

PARKING:

Hourly parking is available in the Poulton pay lot across the street from the first-floor entrance to the Hunt Library. Parking fees are \$2 per hour. Parking spots are limited, and there is a pay station that accepts debit and credit cards only (no cash). If no parking is available at the Poulton lot, the next available paid parking area can be found in the Partners Way deck, which is a five-minute walk from Hunt.

SEAALL 2017 Library Tours



Connie Matzen

Retired Law Librarian
Last Position: Director of
Library Services

Smith, Anderson, Blount,
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Downtown Raleigh has a variety of law libraries within walking distance of the conference hotel. On Thursday afternoon, from 3:15 to 5:15, SEAALL attendees have the opportunity to visit several of these libraries, selecting one of two tours. Each tour is limited to twenty participants. Preregistration is required. Participants will meet no later than 3:15 at the conference registration desk in the Sheraton. Each group will then walk to the libraries being toured.

Tour A: Two Law Firm Libraries: A Contrast in Research Approaches

Williams Mullen Clark & Dobbins has 230 attorneys across eight offices in Virginia, North Carolina, the District of Columbia, and South Carolina, with 43 attorneys in Raleigh. The library staff consists of four professionals located in Richmond, Hampton Roads, and Raleigh. In 2009, the Raleigh office of Williams Mullen moved to the 17th floor of the iconic PNC Plaza Building on Fayetteville Street. With the transition to the new location, the firm seized the opportunity to create an office for the future. The design retained traditional style but added a modern edge with a pleasing result. Considerable thought was given to the aesthetics of the new library. They retained stacks for reference sets of statutes and North Carolina State reports while moving to more online sources. The tour will allow you to see how they are meeting the challenge of new research strategies.

Womble Carlyle Sandridge and Rice, the law firm with the bulldog mascot, is comprised of 550 lawyers in 15 offices in the Southeast and California, with the home office being located in Winston-Salem, NC. The firm has a library staff of seven, also known as Information and Research Services Librarians, to serve the entire firm. In 2015, the firm took on a new office design and move for the Raleigh office. They worked from the premise that the office had to move from traditional ideas to a “high performance” work space. The 60 attorneys no longer aspire to the partner office but now have collaboration spaces and desks that literally move to adjust to individuals and their work styles. One of the goals of the move was to reduce the office footprint in order to reduce costs that are passed on to the clients. The library planning included a reduction of print warehousing with the resulting streamlined collection. Warning: The bulldog in the lobby is not real - but you can pet him if you like.

Tour B: Campbell Law School Library and the North Carolina Supreme Court Library

In 2009, Campbell University School of Law took the bold move to relocate from the main campus in Buies Creek, NC, to Raleigh, 30 miles away. A repurposed office building serves as the school's new home. The downtown city location offers the students work options in state government and federal, state, and county courts, while they are steps away from after-hours entertainment. The 25,000-square-foot library has furniture on wheels that moves to encourage study groups. The library and staff offer work space and library services to members of the bar and the law-library community.



Located three blocks from Campbell, the North Carolina Supreme Court Library primarily serves the appellate division of the General Court of Justice, and also provides some library services to other officials in the government complex. The present library traces its roots to 1812 and now houses over 160,000 volumes in the Supreme Court's historic Justice Building across from the Old State Capitol. In spite of recent renovations to improve the infrastructure, the library reading room retains the classic and comfortable style of the original building. The library serves as the repository for several collections, such as complete state historical statutes and administrative codes, and for a number of rare books.



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Submission Guidelines

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MS Word is the preferred format for electronic submissions.

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