

TRLN ANNUAL MEETING 2010: DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Duke University J. Michael Goodson Law Library

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<http://library.law.duke.edu/lib>

The Most Exciting Things That Your Library Did Last Year

Since 2005 our law library has maintained a repository for law school scholarship on the Eprints open source platform. As our content grew and plans for expanding our range of materials and formats developed, it became increasingly difficult to devote staff time to maintaining and developing the product to meet our needs. This year we migrated the content to a new platform, **Bepress Digital Commons**. Digital Commons provides the programming and technical support to continually develop functionality, and to support a wider range of media and types of materials. We plan to expand the content to include the full range of intellectual activity in the law school - webcasts, conference activities, working more closely with centers, along with student works.

The law libraries of **the University of Virginia School of Law and Duke Law School** are **exploring ways to collaborate** on collection development and service areas to help both schools deal with space demands, transition from print to electronic resources, preservation issues, and the need for more staff expertise. The discussions about how our libraries could collaborate began with a recognition of similarities between our libraries in depth of collection and curriculum programs we support. The first projects involve shared retention of low use print materials now used primarily in electronic format, focusing on state court reports and law journals. We plan to expand our ideas to foreign law collections along with expedited service models, and sharing specialized knowledge for business and empirical law.

Heightened interest in skills training in law schools has provided a new opportunity for **adding upper level research courses** on particular topics. Our reference librarians have proposed and had approved a group of classes that will be offered on a rotating basis and have successfully taught courses in health and medical research and business resources. We continue to look for ways to integrate research instruction across the curriculum.

The Biggest Challenges Facing Your Library in the Coming Year

A combination of loss of staff from retirements and changes in the work of traditional technical services areas led to **rethinking the organizational structure** of our library and how we think about working together. We want to focus less on compartmentalizing the work of departments, and more on the library as a whole supporting the mission of the law school. We also recognize that it is likely that our staff as a whole will be smaller in the future and that we need to be prepared to be flexible and responsive to changing needs. Our goals are to achieve better communication and sharing of information across departments and to that end our reorganization is a flatter structure that also includes cross-departmental working groups. The working groups are intended to be not for short term projects, but groups with ongoing work responsibilities. The reorganization has created new roles and responsibilities that we also hope prove to provide more opportunities for staff to develop new skills.

For more details on the reorganization, visit our staff directory page at:

<http://www.law.duke.edu/lib/staffdirectory>

Other Developments

Faced with an unusually high interest in noise and behavior in the library, the Goodson Law Library has recently **unearthed an educational filmstrip** from our archives touching on these issues. You can view the video from our Suggestion Box page at: <http://www.law.duke.edu/lib/suggestions>

Credit goes to our especially talented and creative team of Jennifer Behrens, Lee Cloninger and Miquel Bordo.