Joyce McCray Pearson  
Director & Associate Professor

As the largest and oldest law library in Kansas, the Wheat Law Library is an integral part of the School of Law. It serves the law school and university community in legal and interdisciplinary scholarly pursuits and provides attorneys, judges, and the general public with access to legal information. Key components of this mission include collecting and preserving Kansas, national, and international legal documents, teaching legal information literacy, and serving as a legal information gateway by providing access to resources beyond the scope of the physical collection.

Wheat Law Library Staff
Joseph Custer - Associate Director & Head of Collection Development
Katherine Greene - Automation & Acquisitions Librarian
Su Johnson - Circulation Department Manager
Joyce A. McCray Pearson - Director & Associate Professor
Jesse Kaufman - Technology Support Technician
Jeff Montgomery - Serials Department Manager
Allison Reeve - Library Assistant
Christopher Steadham - Faculty Services & Research Librarian
Tammy Steinle - Information Technology Digital Librarian
Marsha Tiemann - Cataloging Manager
Gale Truth - Accounts Manager
Pamela Tull - Head of Public Services
Lauren Van Waardenhuizen - Cataloging Librarian
W. Blake Wilson - Instructional & Research Services Librarian

Welcome to the Spring issue of Hearsay, the Wheat Law Libraries’ reawakened semi-annual newsletter publication for faculty, staff, students and friends of the library. This publication will keep you abreast of upgrades in our resources and services, highlight staff and announce new developments and additions to the collection.

Since our last newsletter we have hired new law library faculty, added substantial digital collections and reconfigured the library’s space. We hope that we have made the resources for research and browsing more accessible. While we strive to maintain the integrity of this rich collection of historical, interdisciplinary and scholarly legal materials, we are also mindful of the generational needs of all of our patrons. Not surprisingly, some of our library users only want to access material online; they are not terribly familiar with books. Others still insist on using books, read print newspapers and enjoy reporters and statutes they can pour over and cross reference.

Volunteer at the Book Sale

The library also invites students to volunteer to work at the sale, which directly benefits KU Law and the Wheat Law Library. Get involved, make a difference, and get a great deal!

7th Annual Paul E. Wilson Friends of the Wheat Law Library Lecture Slated for April 17th: Professor Martin B. Dickinson to Be Guest of Honor & Featured Speaker

The Wheat Law Library will hold the 7th Annual Paul E. Wilson Friends of the Wheat Law Library Lecture on Thursday, April 17th at 12:30 p.m. in the Rice Room at the University of Kansas. Our guest of honor and featured speaker will be Professor Martin B. Dickinson. Professor Dickinson joined the KU law faculty in 1967 and served as dean from 1971 to 1980. Highly respected as a teacher and mentor, Dickinson received the Immei Award for Teaching Excellence in 1997, the Moreau Student Counseling Award in 1998, 1995, and 1997, the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1988, and a Kemen Fellowship for Teaching Excellence in 2002. He is a nationally recognized authority in estate planning and taxation and a co-author of standard publications in those fields.

The library holds the annual Paul E. Wilson Friends of the Wheat Law Library Lecture each April in conjunction with National Library Week. Professor Wilson was an ardent supporter of the KU Law Library and an expert in legal history. As a scholar who regularly pursued rare law books and antiquated legal records, he had a deep knowledge of the printed history of the law. In recognition of Professor Wilson’s legacy, the library uses the annual lecture to promote an appreciation for the importance of legal history, law books and publishing, and the impact of law on literary and academic culture.

24th Annual Hazel A. Anderson Memorial Book Sale To Be Held On April 16th

The Book Sale offers an excellent opportunity to stock up on legal materials ranging from substantive references to ornamental office decorations. The nominal prices ensure that this will likely be the cheapest law book investment you ever make.

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First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country to celebrate and raise awareness of the vital role libraries play in communities. Libraries are in need of increased public use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate. — ALA website


As Instructional and Research Services Librarian, Blake Wilson teaches the lawyering component of the first year lawyering class as well as upper-level Advanced Legal Research courses. He acts as liaison between vendors and the Law Library including but not limited to Westlaw, Lexis-Nexis and CALI. He also conducts research tutorials for faculty, students, pro se patrons and groups on an as-needed basis.

Information Technology and Digital Librarian, Tammy Steinle, provides technology support for electronic legal databases; provides support to faculty in the submission of articles to scholarly electronic repositories; and assists with customizing websites for individual faculty and student groups.

E-RESERVES ARE NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH BLACKBOARD

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If you haven’t used Blackboard before or would like more information or a refresher on the system stop by the Reference Desk and we will be glad to assist you.

LAW LIBRARY MOVES A LOT OF BOOKS

There are no longer books and shelving units on the first floor. They have been replaced by new spacious, technology ready classrooms and study areas which were opened this fall.

After the construction dust settled the results included a first floor with group and individual study areas, a medium sized classroom, a small multipurpose room which can be used for meetings or as a seminar classroom. There is now also a large study room filled with carrels for quiet study time.

NEW (and updated) DATABASES

Wheat Law Library has added a new Making of Modern Law database as well as the Foreign Law Guide for greater research flexibility. Hein Online has also revamped its database and added more content. Here is a little more on these valuable resources.

Making of Modern Law: Trials 1600-1926 offers a historic account of courtroom drama from around the world. This collection includes official trial documents, briefs and arguments, legal transcripts, unofficial published accounts, and books written about trials.

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Additional new legal resources are available through the main campus database page. These include, the law section of 18th Century Collection Online and the Readex Serials Set.

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CONSTRUCTION BRINGS NEW ROOMS ON 1ST LEVEL

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NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK EVENTS:

• MONDAY 4/14—National Library Week Cake in the Commons
• TUESDAY 4/15—National Library Workers Day
• WEDNESDAY 4/16—24th Annual Hazel A. Anderson Memorial Book Sale (1st Floor Commons)
• THURSDAY 4/17—7th Annual Paul E. Wilson Friends of the Wheat Law Library Lecture
• FRIDAY 4/18—Library Fines Amnesty Day

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