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The UNC Law Library: 1945-95

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Since 1945 the Law Library has enjoyed a half-century of growth and success as a result of the following factors: the strength and vision of the library directors who led the organization through boom times as well as some lean years; the dedication and commitment of staff members who frequently gave more than the minimum requirements of their job descriptions; the efforts of friends who have supported the library with their gifts and their interest; and the foresight of law school deans and other administrators who acknowledged and acted upon the belief that law students, faculty, and the state bar are well-served by a sound and accessible collection of legal research materials.

THE POSTWAR YEARS

For the Law Library, the years following World War II were characterized by a rapid growth in the number of users, problems with space and money, and a lack of adequate staffing.

The rapid growth of the law school student body during the immediate postwar years strained the resources of the Law Library to a degree unmatched in its history. In the fall of 1944 there were forty-two registered law students.¹ By the fall of 1946, the student body numbered 222.² The library staff scrambled to find space in

1. *The Law School*, 24 N.C. L. REV. 47, 47 (1945).

2. *The Law School*, 25 N.C. L. REV. 55, 55 (1946).

Manning Hall for additional study areas and rushed to place orders for new library materials while attempting to continue the personal service formerly provided for students, faculty, and outside users of the library. This proved an almost impossible task, made more difficult by a lack of funds and a constant turnover of student workers, each of whom had to be trained in the intricacies of a law library and its resources. Simultaneously, the interest of the University's social science departments in the resources available in the Law Library made the inadequacies of the library's physical space and equipment more obvious than ever. The library staff struggled to provide service to a constituency that had more than quintupled in a two-year period.

Because of overcrowding in the library's study space after the war, the law school was assigned the use of a temporary structure (formerly used by the pre-flight school) located behind Manning Hall.³ In 1947 a second federally funded temporary structure was erected and equipped with library furniture, books, and student desk staff.⁴ Although the structure was designed for the use of the large first-year class, problems of poor lighting, insufficient heat, noise, and distance from the general collection made it less than desirable, and actual student use of the space was limited. Correction of some of these problems and the addition of more reference books led to increased use of the structure. During the second semester, such temporary structures only exacerbated the problems of a collection now scattered over four floors, seven reading rooms, and two annexes.⁵ With limited desk staff, such a layout was difficult, if not impossible, to administer efficiently.

A second problem facing the staff of the Law Library was how to keep up with the cataloging and recordkeeping for a collection growing exponentially. One solution the school seriously considered was to have the Law Library cataloging and recordkeeping handled by the main library at least on a temporary basis. Administration hoped that the main library catalogers could refine and standardize the Law Library records, conduct an inventory of the collection, bring the card catalog up to date, and "leave the work in such shape that the Recordation Department of the Law Library can be carried by

3. UNC SCHOOL OF LAW, LAW LIBRARIAN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1946-1947, at 1 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law).

4. UNC SCHOOL OF LAW, ANNUAL REPORT OF LAW LIBRARIAN 1947-1948, at 1 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law).

5. *Id.* at 1-2.

one person."⁶ This was deemed the most sensible solution; others required infusions of money from a legislature disinclined to provide funds.

The result of this solution was confusion of affiliation: was the Law Library a branch or departmental library, or was it an independent library? The issue of autonomy would be a subject of frequent study over the next eight years and was not completely resolved until 1955 when all personnel and policy decisions, book selection, budget, and technical services functions were centralized in the Law Library.⁷

By 1949, the Law Library was at a crossroads. With inadequate resources for the growing student body, a small staff plagued by constant turnover, an administrative policy growing more convoluted and complex yearly, and a diminished status among comparable libraries in the country,⁸ Lucille Elliott found it necessary to petition the law school administration to conduct long-range planning for the Law Library. She asked that policies, staffing, collections, and clientele be inventoried and that the law school decide whether the library should become a branch of the University library or be an autonomous library with all of the extra financial support from the school that such a relationship would bring. She also pointed out that in order to regain its former prestige among American law libraries, the library needed an infusion of money to purchase new materials and refurbish older items. This was a necessary accompaniment to any decision leading away from branch library status. A corollary to Ms. Elliott's suggested changes was the need for acquisition of additional library space. This specific need was quickly answered.

LIBRARY SPACE

The law school had moved into Manning Hall in 1923; by the late forties, the growing library collection, expanded faculty, and exploding student body required the use of three annexes to accommodate the overflow. The news of a new addition to Manning Hall was greeted with great pleasure by members of the library staff, who were finding it increasingly difficult to maintain a library the components of which

6. *Id.* at 3.

7. MARY W. OLIVER, LAW LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA REPORT OF ACTIVITIES, JULY 1954-JUNE 30, 1955, at 1 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

8. REPORT OF THE CHANCELLOR AND THE LIBRARIAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ON CONDITIONS IN THE LAW LIBRARY, 1948-1949 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

were so widely dispersed. The 1949 General Assembly appropriated \$638,500 for an addition to the law school⁹ and, after considerable delays in construction, the building was dedicated on November 3, 1951.

Although the construction caused many hardships for the library staff (much of the collection had to be packed away and then unpacked and rearranged when the new space was completed), the end result was so pleasing that the law school planned a special celebration for alumni who had worked for the library as students. Library staff enthusiastically planned the celebration and were gratified at the number of responses and the interest of those who were able to attend.¹⁰

For the next fifteen years, the growing library had ample space and the collection burgeoned thanks to an ever-increasing budget. By the mid-1960s, however, when the law school began plans for a new building, the lack of study space for students in the library and the collection's expected continued growth, as well as the lack of up-to-date library equipment in Manning Hall, made the promise of new library space particularly appealing. In the fall of 1965, after the General Assembly had appropriated construction funds,¹¹ a faculty committee on the library building was formed. Professors Ernest Folk, Dan Pollitt, Frank Strong, and law librarian Mary Oliver were its first members.¹² The committee's responsibility was to plan and make recommendations for the library portion of the new building. To help with the planning process and to gain information on library buildings, Professor Oliver visited several new libraries for ideas. Because he had been dean at the College of Law at Ohio State University while a new library was planned and built, Professor Strong brought valuable first-hand experience to his committee responsibilities.

The move to Van Hecke-Wettach Hall, located on a site adjacent to the Institute of Government, took place late in the summer of 1968. Although some of the permanent fixtures (such as the circulation desk) had not arrived, most of the library's books were

9. Act of Apr. 23, 1949, ch. 1248, §4, 1949 N.C. Sess. Laws 1575, 1577.

10. UNC SCHOOL OF LAW, LAW LIBRARIAN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1951-52, at 1 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

11. Act of June 10, 1965, ch. 915, §2, 1965 N.C. Sess. Laws 1230, 1231.

12. LAW LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ANNUAL REPORT, JULY 1, 1965 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1966, at 1 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

unpacked and in place on the shelves by mid-September. The new library had plenty of expansion room for the collection, a spacious work area for the technical services functions of the library, a rare book room, a room for microforms, a typing room, a faculty library, study space on each floor for students, and air conditioning (a welcome bonus, as many of the books had become moldy in the un-air-conditioned environment of Manning Hall). For students and faculty, the move to the perimeter of the campus was a mixed blessing. The new building was spacious and the library facilities were excellent, but they came at the cost of easy access to the materials and collections in Wilson Library on the main University campus.

It is a tribute to law librarian Mary Oliver and her planning committee that, for the next twenty years, the physical space in the library was adequate to meet most of the changing needs of students and faculty for legal research. By the mid-1980s, however, two areas were hopelessly inadequate: internal facilities for the newly emerging technologies taking over the field of legal research were lacking and the growing staff had little office space. In 1968, when the library moved into Van Hecke-Wettach Hall, the staff numbered seven, and the most advanced technology in use by most law libraries was a microform reader-printer. By 1988, online legal research was an integral part of law school curricula throughout the United States and computer-based cataloging and acquisitions were the rule. The Law Library had a staff of eight professional librarians and thirteen other employees, many of whom had to work in cramped spaces not equipped to handle the technologically sophisticated tools. Once again, it was clear that physical expansion had become a priority. In the summer of 1989, construction began on an extensive building project, including expansion of the reference area, addition of offices for professional librarians to the main floor of the library, and upgrades to the internal wiring. The project, funded by the law school, was complicated by the fact that asbestos had to be removed from the ceiling of the Reading Room and full library services were to continue during the construction period. After a summer of dislocation, dust, and noise, the new spaces were completed and both library users and staff benefitted from the improved conditions.

Despite all efforts to upgrade the current library space, many problems still remain. The space for public services is completely inadequate: Office and work spaces for all staff members are still in need of upgrading; the current classroom space for teaching Computer Assisted Legal Research is inadequate; the library has no internal classroom space for legal research instructional sessions; and there is

little room for expanding the new computer and CD-ROM work stations proliferating in the current information environment. New, expanded library space, correctly wired and arranged for the extensive use of computers and electronic systems, is necessary to facilitate service to users.

THE LIBRARY DIRECTORS

The Law Library has been fortunate in its three directors, whose abilities and vision led the facility as it progressed from a small local collection to one of the leading law libraries in the Southeast. To chronicle the progress of the library is to acknowledge the strengths of each director.

The law collection became known as the Law Library in 1907, but it was not until 1923 that a permanent custodian was named to be in charge of the collection. The first custodian, who later became the first law librarian, was Lucille Elliott. When Miss Elliott became part-time custodian of the Law Library in the summer of 1923, the collection numbered about 7,000 volumes. By the time she retired as law librarian in 1955, the collection was more than ten times larger, with approximately 70,000 volumes. Miss Elliott was an active member of the American Association of Law Libraries, attending the Association's annual meetings after the war (when travel funds were available) and serving as president of the organization in 1953-54.

Mary Oliver began working as a student assistant in the Law Library in November 1949.¹³ For ten hours a week she and one other student assistant attempted to maintain the recordkeeping and cataloging of new books for the Law Library. Perhaps it was this early work in the library that helped guide her when she became law librarian; when asked what she considered her greatest accomplishment, she replied, "Lucille Elliott built a great library collection with very little money; I wanted to continue building a great collection but also wanted to make sure that we had good records so that people could make use of that collection."¹⁴

Ms. Oliver received her degree in library science from Drexel University and her J.D. from the University of North Carolina. She became assistant law librarian in 1952 and law librarian in 1955. By the time she retired in 1985, she had steered the library through thirty

13. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LAW LIBRARIAN FOR THE YEAR 1949-50, at 12 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

14. Interview with Mary Oliver, in Chapel Hill, N.C. (July 1, 1993).

years of almost constant growth, helped design a significant new library wing for the law school, initiated and taught a seminar in legal history, and taught numerous law and library science students the intricacies of legal research and law library administration. The collection, which numbered approximately 70,000 volumes in the early 1950s, had grown to more than 280,000 fully cataloged and classified items by the time she retired in 1985. Users could consult the card catalog with confidence knowing that all of these items could be identified by the library's records.

Mary Oliver was a member of the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools, serving on many inspection teams and committees during her years as law librarian. Ms. Oliver was elected twice as a member of the UNC Faculty Council and she was frequently asked to serve as library consultant to numerous corporate and law libraries across the country. An active member of the American Association of Law Libraries, she served on many of its committees and was AALL President in 1972-73.

Laura N. Gasaway has been Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law since 1985. She received her M.L.S. from Texas Woman's University in 1968 and her J.D. from the University of Houston in 1973. Formerly serving as Director of the Law Libraries at the University of Houston and the University of Oklahoma, she came to Chapel Hill with new ideas, enthusiasm, and a firm conviction that the library had to move quickly to embrace new technology. Within weeks of her arrival, she formulated plans for changes involving all departments of the library: Its collections and services were opened to all members of the University community as well as to the legal community of the state, planning began for automating many library functions, and a new classification system was adopted. Committed to maintaining the quality of the collection and enhancing its usefulness for faculty and students, Ms. Gasaway has been a particularly vocal and visible symbol for the library. As an expert on copyright issues, she presents many workshops throughout the country each year and has been tirelessly involved with fundraising for the library during the past decade.

Professor Gasaway served as President of the American Association of Law Libraries in 1986-87 and is currently a member of the ABA's Accreditation Committee. She is a fellow of the Special Libraries Association and has served on and chaired various committees of SLA and AALL, including their copyright committees.

COLLECTION

The growth of a library is often plotted by a linear graph that indicates the rate at which the collection is expanding. When assessed by this measurement, the growth of the Law Library can be represented by a generally ascending line. For example, from the 70,000 volumes in the late 1950s the collection grew to more than 88,000 in 1963, to 120,975 in 1967, and to 180,893 in 1977. By 1987 it numbered 312,770 volumes. There have been years when the ascent has been more gradual, and in the late 1980s and early 1990s the line was virtually flat. In general, however, the collection's growth has been steady.

Although much of the collection has been gathered by judicious purchasing, the library has on many occasions been the beneficiary of generous gifts from faculty, members of the North Carolina bar, and alumni throughout the country. It is impossible in this forum to list individually the significant gifts from friends and alumni during the past fifty years, but a perusal of the annual reports of the Law Library reveals the names of those who have given generously from their private collections. Without these gifts, the Law Library collection would be a significantly poorer one.

The collection in the early 1950s was strong in federal materials as well as in North Carolina titles, but it suffered from a lack of significant British research materials, particularly historical items. When Lucille Elliott retired as law librarian in 1955, she remained on the staff as bibliographer. While traveling in the British Isles in 1956 she purchased many of the old and valuable English titles needed to bring the collection up to research standards. These purchases were generously financed by the Friends of the Library, which contributed approximately \$1,000, and by an allocation of \$2,000 from the Alumni Annual Giving Fund.¹⁵

With the help of the North Carolina General Assembly and the staff of the *North Carolina Law Review*, Lucille Elliott and Mary Oliver instituted extensive exchange programs that facilitated the acquisition of state legislative materials and law reviews from other states. Copies of North Carolina Session Laws, the North Carolina Reports (and later the North Carolina Court of Appeals Reports), and the *North Carolina Law Review* were deposited with the Law Library to be exchanged for similar materials from other state

15. Henry Brandis, Jr., *The Law School*, 35 N.C. L. REV. 63, 66 (1956).

governments and law schools. Such exchanges meant that for a small financial outlay in postage and correspondence, the library could obtain a significant portion of the state materials necessary for a comprehensive legal research collection.

The Law Library became a U.S. Government Depository Library in 1978 shortly after the passage of federal legislation that allowed ABA approved or state bar designated law libraries to gain depository status. For Law Library users, this has meant that publications of many governmental agencies are now readily available in the library; for staff, it has meant the acquisition of many valuable publications for minimal financial outlay.

Although there are rumblings abroad in the library world that volume counts alone no longer can be an adequate measure of a library, the collection at UNC is, nevertheless, a large one; in 1991, the 350,000th volume was added to the collection. Today the library boasts 373,544 volumes and volume equivalents.

COOPERATIVE EFFORTS

In March 1975, Mary Oliver and Kathleen Price (the law librarian at Duke University) met to discuss ways in which the two law schools could cooperate in the development of their research collections.¹⁶ Although many titles had to be duplicated in both libraries, the purchase of some materials was coordinated when it was possible and prudent. For example, during the late 1970s, the purchase of state administrative codes was equally divided and free photocopies were provided for users who needed the materials not available in their own library. The purchase of large or expensive sets could be timed to take advantage of availability at the other library allowing some budgetary flexibility in lean years.

The current and perhaps most significant cooperative venture in which the Law Library is a participant is the Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN), which was established in the late 1970s. Among the benefits of this cooperative endeavor is a shared online catalog providing data on the holdings of each of the libraries at North Carolina State University, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Law Library serves as a research collection for briefs and records of the United States Court

16. LAW LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1974-JUNE 1975, at 2 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and is a member of COSELL, the Consortium of Southeastern Law Libraries, which consists of thirty-five academic law libraries throughout the Southeast.

AUTOMATION

The technological advances of the past fifteen years have produced the most significant changes in the Law Library's history, altering not only the organization of the staff but mandating massive changes in the library's physical structure.

The library acquired its first photocopy machine in 1976.¹⁷ It radically changed the use of library materials and the character of the formerly quiet study areas. Now students could retrieve and copy huge amounts of material, finances permitting; quiet note-taking from individual volumes quickly gave way to the noise of the copiers and piles of unshelved reporters around the copiers each morning.

During the 1970s, Westlaw and LEXIS introduced online legal research services that included the full text of reported decisions. By using these sources, legal researchers could search every word in a document in seconds. Within a few years, law schools across the country were including online instruction in their research and writing programs and providing terminals for student and faculty use on the two systems.

The Law Library subscribed to Westlaw in April 1981, purchasing an IBM 3101 computer for the purpose and installing it in one of the offices on the 5th level of the library. When the library acquired a special terminal for Westlaw in 1984, it was moved into the newly developed reference area on the main floor of the library; in April 1985, the library added a LEXIS terminal. The transition to a modern, technologically advanced library had begun. By the spring of 1985, the library was using a national bibliographic utility, OCLC, to catalog materials, and in 1987 it began to process its interlibrary lending and borrowing requests through this same national database.

During the first week of classes in the fall of 1987, a Microcomputer Lab opened in the former typing room on the third floor of the library. Co-sponsored by the law school and the Microcomputing Support Center, the lab offered ten linked IBM-PC work stations; the shared software on the network included three word processing

17. LAW LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1976-JUNE 1977, at 4 (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

programs as well as many specialized legal resources. The lab currently has twenty-two personal computers. In the past few years, law students' use of the lab has dropped off, probably due to decreased hours for the lab and the fact that eight-three percent of the students in the first-year class now own a computer or plan to buy one during their first year.¹⁸

Once begun, the library's transition to a computerized environment moved rapidly. Personal computers were purchased for all librarians to use, and each department was provided with at least one general-use PC. The staff initiated a regular and ongoing assessment of hardware and software needs as it became not only dependent upon, but proficient in, computer use. The library purchased its first telefacsimile machine in 1989, and it now provides many photocopy requests to borrowing institutions and law firms by telefax.

Currently, periodical indexes, much of the material needed for North Carolina legal research and, increasingly, federal materials are available on compact discs. An online catalog has been installed on campus, and each of the libraries, including the Law Library, now conducts its circulation transactions in a computerized environment. These changes have meant the disappearance of the card catalog, which was removed from the library in the winter of 1993; in its place are banks of computer terminals on each level—some for the online catalog, others for LEXIS and Westlaw, and still others providing access to periodical indexes, North Carolina caselaw, federal statutes, and the like.

BOOM TIMES AND BUST

As a state-supported institution, the Law Library's budget fluctuates with the financial condition of North Carolina. In periods of economic growth or stability, the library can count on steadily, if not always spectacularly, rising allocations. When the fortunes of the state ebb, however, the pinch is often painful. With very little flexibility in budget lines, it is not always possible to move money where it is needed.

Because such a large percentage of a law library's budget is committed to continuations and serials—materials that must be purchased annually regardless of budget constraints—there have been budget years when few monographic publications were purchased.

18. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA LAW LIBRARY COMPUTER SURVEY (1993) (on file with the Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.).

Occurring infrequently in the 1960s and '70s, the most devastating of these poor budget cycles hit the state in the late 1980s. During these years, the Law Library was forced not only to curtail new purchases, but to begin the very painful process of identifying serials and periodicals that were no longer central to the curriculum and research interests of students and faculty. Although difficult, the process of analyzing and assessing the collection proved beneficial and allowed the library to reallocate funds to its ultimate benefit.

During the budget crises of the past five years, support for the library has come from students, faculty, and alumni. Since 1991, the library has been the recipient of the third-year class gift; the class of 1991 pledged \$22,000; 1992, \$56,000; 1993, \$45,000, and 1994, \$42,000. The faculty dedicates its time and efforts to the now annual Festival of Legal Learning, a showcase of short continuing education programs. Proceeds from the Festival are given to the library to augment its collection resources. Support by alumni has made a critical difference in the 1990s. Thanks to committee chair Marion A. Cowell, Jr., of First Union Corporation, and other UNC School of Law graduates, the Law Library fundraising campaign had by April 1994 raised over \$1.4 million in pledges against a \$1.25 million goal.

A special occasion in the fall of 1993 allowed the law school community to come together to celebrate the important contributions of the law library and to express optimism for its future. In September of that year the law school named its library for the late Kathrine Robinson Everett, an alumna who graduated first in her class in 1920. Mrs. Everett's will provided generously for the School of Law, leaving it assets worth two million dollars. The largest gift in the history of the school, the bequest will be devoted to the library as well as to endowed professorships and student support. Speaking at the dedication of the Katherine R. Everett Law Library, Mrs. Everett's son Robinson noted that his "mother had great affection for the UNC School of Law and immense gratitude for its role in enabling her to become a pioneer woman lawyer in North Carolina."¹⁹

Such fund raising efforts, together with an improving state budget, promise a future for the Law Library that will rival or exceed its rich past.

19. Ginger Travis, *Law Library Named for Katherine R. Everett*, UNC-LAW ALUMNI NEWS (UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, N.C.), Winter 1994, at 7.

LIBRARY STAFF

A library's strength depends on both the vision of its directors and the dedication of its other employees. Although sheer numbers do not by any means dictate success, they have a considerable impact on what a library can accomplish. During the mid-1940s, the library staff consisted of two trained librarians plus student help. Lucille Elliott, in her annual reports throughout the decade, wrote of the difficulties of providing service to a growing faculty and student body while staffing the service desks with student assistants. Although most student employees were diligent and hard working, they were only temporary, soon finished with their law studies and moving on to permanent positions. Miss Elliott and her assistant were left to retrain another group of students for a year or two of employment.

By 1954 there were four full-time staff members in the Law Library along with the usual and ever-changing contingent of student assistants. As the collection grew, so the need for a larger staff, particularly clerical help, increased. Mary Oliver expanded the library staff gradually, adding thirteen positions over her thirty-year tenure, but the process of acquiring new positions was, and remains, a long and arduous one. Professor Gasaway has created several new staff and librarian positions, and more have been requested in each budget cycle. The library staff wants to expand its reference, circulation, and instructional services to students, faculty, and the state bar; until more librarians and staff are available to provide the necessary support, such plans remain on hold.

Besides its distinguished directors, the library has had many able librarians on the staff in the past fifty years. Some were only with the library for a few years, others remained for lengthier tenures. To list them all is not possible, but some should be acknowledged.

Frances Hunt Hall was appointed assistant law librarian in 1959. She resigned her position in 1963 to become a reference librarian at the University of Chicago, moving on to accept the position of librarian and Associate Professor of Law at Southern Methodist University. Miss Hall returned to North Carolina in 1977 to become librarian of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

Katherine Cheape was the assistant law librarian from 1963 until her retirement in 1985. During a three-month leave of absence during 1971, she served as acting law librarian at the University of Alabama for the spring term.

Timothy Coggins was Head of Reader's Services from 1982 to 1984, served as acting law librarian from June through December of

1984, and became Associate Director of the Law Library in January 1985. In December 1992 he left North Carolina to become Director of the Law Library at the University of Alabama.

The current Associate Director is Thomas French, who came to the Law Library in the summer of 1993 from the Law Library at the University of Maine, where he served as assistant law librarian and head of public services.

Currently, the library staff is twenty-one members strong. Of those, thirteen are long-term employees who have worked in the Law Library for more than six years each.²⁰

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FUTURE

Since 1985 the Law Library has continued to expand its services, build its collection, enhance its teaching role, and increase the use of technology in its operations. An extensive long-range planning process has been in place since 1990, when the library adopted its first mission statement—a set of guiding principles for the development of library services and planning for the future.

LAW LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

The University of North Carolina Law Library supports the education of UNC law students, serves as a research partner with faculty and students, and strives to meet the legal information needs

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20. Current staff members, position and length of tenure in the Law Library:
- Laura N. Gasaway, Director and Professor of Law (9 years)
 - Thomas R. French, Associate Director and Clinical Associate Professor of Law (1 year)
 - Sandra R. Jones, Administrative Secretary (4 years)
 - Marguerite I. Most, Public Services Librarian (3 years)
 - Martha B. Barefoot, Reference/User Services Librarian (10 years)
 - Janice W. Hammett, Reference/User Services Librarian (8 years)
 - Deborah K. Webster, Reference/Computer Services Librarian (20 years)
 - Masako Patrum, Reference Associate (16 years)
 - Steven A. Case, Collection Manager (8 years)
 - Dorothy A. Grant, Circulation Supervisor (12 years)
 - Carol A. Nicholson, Technical Services Librarian (12 years)
 - Terri O. Saye, Catalog Librarian (9 years)
 - Sandra Dyer, Serials Librarian (2 years)
 - Nancy M. Cox, Cataloging Technical Assistant (23 years)
 - Bernetta R. Evans, Acquisitions Technical Assistant (11 years)
 - Cheryl H. Gee, Cataloging Assistant (7 years)
 - Alan R. Hall, Acquisitions/Serials Assistant (7 years)
 - Audrey Knowles, Cataloging Clerk (1 year)
 - Sylvia Pearsall, Acquisitions/Serials Clerk (2 years)
 - Crystal L. Sharpe, Acquisitions/Serials Assistant (1 year)

of university students, faculty, the legal community, and the citizens of North Carolina. To that end, the Law Library's mission is:

- To provide access to, and instruction in, the use of legal information resources, and to develop research guides, access tools and instructional materials;
- To research and develop innovative services and creative uses of technology to access, manage, and communicate knowledge;
- To collect, organize, and preserve legal information in an environment conducive to serious research and scholarship; and
- To foster research and leadership in law librarianship, legal research, and resource sharing through publication and dissemination of findings and results.

For the past five years, the library has used the framework of the mission statement to initiate and evaluate its services, and it will continue to do so as it plans for the future.

In examining the history of the library, one quickly becomes aware that the Law Library has had a long and distinguished record of providing materials and services for its users. With the next century fast approaching, the library is clearly in an excellent position to make great strides into a future of unparalleled opportunity. With a deep and rich collection of traditional legal materials, with access to an ever-growing body of information in electronic formats, and with plans for new library space to enhance its learning environment, the members of the library staff look forward to the challenges of that future.