

Friends of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library

Vol. 3, no. 2

September 2004

From the Director's Office ...

Up and Running

The opening of school is always an exciting time filled with eager new students, interesting new faculty, and creative new opportunities. This year, the excitement is even more tangible than usual, as we prepare to open the **new Sport and Fitness Center, the new Eric E. Hotung International Law Building, and the new John Wolff International and Comparative Law Library.** This complex of buildings "completes" the campus on New Jersey Avenue and provides more and better facilities for the students (including the library, the fitness center, and a new cafeteria with an eating lounge and a fireplace!), additional classrooms for teaching, and additional offices for faculty. A new moot courtroom in the style of the U.S. Supreme Court will undoubtedly become a national center for supreme court advocacy.



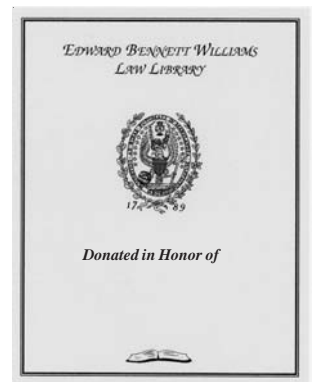
Courtesy Laura Bedard

As these new facilities are opening this fall, we hope that some time in the next few months you will find the time to come to visit the campus to see the new buildings and especially to see the new library. Professor John Wolff will be honored by members of FLAG at the Alumni Reunion on Saturday, October 16, in the Wolff Library. The Eric Hotung building will be dedicated on October 27.

If you haven't made it to campus before then, we hope you might plan to come to the Library Open House and book-signing on Friday, October 15. In addition to tours of both libraries, **Professor Sheryll Cashin** will speak about her new book *The Failures of Integration: How Race and Class Are Undermining*

the American Dream (PublicAffairs Books, 2004). Professor Cashin's new book has drawn much attention and has been highlighted on both NPR and CBS. We know that you will enjoy hearing her speak about her provocative new book, and we would love to see you there. (For more information about Professor Cashin and her book, please see another article, following.)

Speaking of new programs, this past spring, we inaugurated a program through which parents of graduating seniors could honor their student by making a \$100 donation to the library which would be memorialized with a commemorative bookplate inserted into one of the library's new books. A list of donors to that program is included with this issue of the *Newsletter*. Although the program was developed to recognize our graduating seniors, it could be used for other recognition opportunities as well. Please contact the Development Office at 202/662-9869 for further information.



R.L. Oakley
September 2004

GULC Fast Fact

76 years ago ... 1928

Dr. James Brown Scott donates his international law collection to the library.

The Friends of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library Newsletter is published several times a year by the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library, Georgetown University Law Center, 111 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-1417. For further information about the *Newsletter*, contact Robert L. Oakley, Law Library Director, at 202/662-9160 Or e-mail: oakley@law.georgetown.edu

For information on joining the Friends Program or renewing your annual support, contact Kerry Murphy, Georgetown University Law Center Development Office, 600 New Jersey Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-1417 202/662-9869 Or e-mail: kem67@law.georgetown.edu

Book Signing

Sheryll Cashin at Library Open House

Fifty years after the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, Georgetown University Law Center Professor **Sheryll Cashin** has written a new book warning that modern segregation – based on both voluntary separation and continued racial discrimination – thwarts citizens' dreams of living in safe, affordable communities with high-quality educational opportunities for their children.



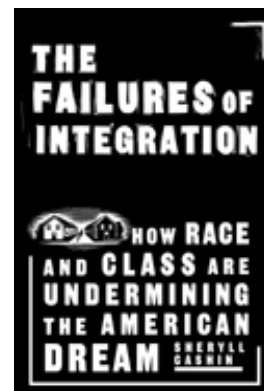
Courtesy Rhoda Baer

In *The Failures of Integration: How Race and Class are Undermining the American Dream* (PublicAffairs Books, 2004), Cashin argues that, despite the Civil Rights Movement's successful elimination of state-sponsored racial segregation, public and private institutional policies continue to divide neighborhoods along racial and class lines. In addition, Cashin says, both white and black America have grown to accept de facto segregation – whites because segregation from minorities is often seen as necessary to ensuring better opportunities, and blacks simply from ambivalence to and weariness of integration.

This separation provides unequal opportunities to achieve a quality of life most Americans strive for – the ability to live in communities offering attractive neighborhoods, reasonable tax rates, low crime, good schools, and job opportunities, Cashin

writes. Segregation sets up “winner” and “loser” communities, she says, with racial minorities and the poor substantially locked out of the “winner” column (and middle-class whites finding it increasingly harder to stay in).

Cashin warns that continued segregation – whether by choice or longstanding policies – threatens to polarize the nation even further, at a time when coming together as one community would advance everyone's pursuit of the American Dream. Integration, not segregation, continues to be the answer, she says.



Courtesy PublicAffairs

Cashin teaches Constitutional Law, Local Government Law, and Property among other subjects. She writes about race relations, government and inequality in America. *The Failures of Integration* received critical praise in *The New York Times Book Review* and *The Chicago Tribune* among other publications. A frequent radio and T.V. commentator, she has appeared on *NPR All Things Considered*, *The Diane Rehm Show*, *The Tavis Smiley Show*, *The Newshour With Jim Leher*, *CNN*, *BET*, *ABC News*, and numerous local programs.

From the Past

Frederick C. Hicks (1875-1956) L'1901

He was a student, lawyer, author, legal biographer and bibliographer, editor, musician, painter and above all, a librarian. **Frederick Charles Hicks** was a man of many interests. To us at Georgetown, he was a law student. To the legal profession, he was one of the greatest law librarians of the 20th century.

He attended the Georgetown Law School at night, while working as the Assistant Chief of the Map Division of the Library of Congress, receiving his LL.B. in 1901. Mr. Hicks heard the call for law librarianship early in his career: except for a brief time in 1904 practicing law back home in Aurora, N.Y., he returned to law libraries for the rest of his life.

He spent 8 years moving around the East Coast as a librarian for various smaller libraries before joining the Columbia University Library in 1909. He was formally appointed as Librarian of the Columbia University Law School in 1915, and then lured away to Yale Law School Library in 1928. He stayed there as the Simeon



E. Baldwin Professor of Law and Librarian until his death in 1956. Mr. Hicks was a prolific writer and editor of more than 20 books, among which is the authoritative *Materials and Methods of Legal Research* (1923). He was appointed President of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) from 1919 to 1921, where he also made lasting contributions to the profession of law librarianship, earning him the title of “Scholar-Librarian.”

Fred Hicks also wrote a novel, and thus is one of our earliest “Literary Alumni.” *Human Jettison: A Sea Tale From the Law* (West) in 1927, was a “novelization” of a murder case from 1842, *United States v. Holmes*.

Several biographies are available on Frederick C. Hicks, as well as a bibliography of his works on the library's Special Collections & Archives web page, <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/collections/special.cfm>.

Current Updates on Legal Research

Electronic access to official court and government documents has broadened substantially in recent months. A wealth of current and historical legal documents is now widely and freely accessible on the Internet.

The FindLaw legal web site is at the forefront in making current documents available with FindLaw News Document Archive, <http://news.findlaw.com/legalnews/documents/>. Opinions, memoranda, briefs, complaints and orders, most in .pdf format, are available for a wealth of cases. Documents are available in the court cases of such celebrities as Martha Stewart and Nick Nolte, and on topics such as same-sex marriages, the Iraq conflict and Enron. The Special Coverage site at <http://news.findlaw.com/legalnews/lit/> covers people and topics such as Michael Jackson and Napster. The site is simple to use, with excellent browsing and searching capabilities.

Courts, news agencies and educational institutions are also making topic-specific information available via their own web sites. For example, the University of Michigan, on its "Information on Admission Lawsuits" page, <http://www.umich.edu/%7Eurel/admissions/>, has an array of documents under Court Filings, with commentary and research, about its *Grutter* and *Gratz* cases. Similarly, the Colorado State Judicial Branch has made documents available at its *People v. [Kobe] Bryant* Court Documents site, <http://www.courts.state.co.us/exec/media/eagle/courtdocuments.htm>. The NBC News affiliate web site, *NBC11.com*, has posted many of the documents from the Laci Petersen trial at: <http://www.nbc11.com/news/2170229/detail.html>.

Appellate briefs, oral arguments and trial transcripts are also more readily available. Please see our research guide on Briefs and Oral Arguments at http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/lib/guides/briefs_arguments.html for help with these electronic and print sources. Selected federal court trial transcripts may be purchased from RealLegal Exemplaris at <http://www.exemplaris.com/>.

Federal and state government entities are posting their available documents on a more general basis. Examples of federal sites are:

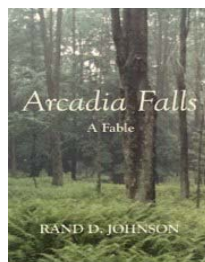
- The U.S. Department of Justice has legal documents posted at http://www.usdoj.gov/05publications/05_2.html. Available documents include briefs, decisions, and letters, sorted by department division (such as Solicitor General, Antitrust, and Criminal Divisions and others) and year.
- The National Association of Attorneys General has documents available for several of its projects at <http://www.naag.org/issues/microsoft/index.php>.
- The U.S. Government Printing Office documents may be searched at GPOAccess, <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cgp/advanced.html>, and browsed by government branch at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/branches.html>. Available resources include congressional, presidential, agency and judicial documents.
- The Library of Congress makes congressional documents available from <http://thomas.loc.gov/>, including bills, reports, debates and public laws.

As always, when seeking official documents, it is very important to use authoritative web sites and portals. Governmental, educational and other proven sites such as FindLaw should be consulted for the best resources and information. For guidance on documents available on the internet, and other reference sources, please feel free to contact the Reference Department at libref@law.georgetown.edu, call 202/662-9140, or see our web site at <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/staff/ps/reference/index.cfm>.

Literary Alumnus

Rand D. Johnson (L'79)

After enjoying a successful career as the managing partner of Cullen and Dykman Bleakley Platt LLP in New York, **Rand D. Johnson** left the legal world to pursue his interest in eco-writing. Currently a successful nature writer and photographer, Johnson's works have appeared in a variety of national and regional periodicals. In his most recent novel, *Arcadia Falls*, Johnson tells the story of a suburbanite frustrated by urban sprawl who finds



love and a renewed sense of purpose in his quest to preserve a cabin retreat in a tract of woodland slated for development. *Arcadia Falls* is the first of Johnson's fiction works to be published by Gloria Mundi Press, a publisher dedicated to the appreciation and preservation of the natural world through the presentation of art. Johnson's other fiction works include the novel, *Rude Awakening*, and *But Then, November*, a novella.

An Invitation

Our library is an active institution, even more so now that we occupy space in two buildings. Every day, we work with students, faculty, public patrons, alumni and Friends. If you are not currently using our services, we invite you to visit, call or e-mail us, or consult our Web site when you need information or assistance with legal research. Our catalog, research tips and guides, tutorials, federal and state government information, and other reference sources are easily accessible online from anywhere. Check us out!

Web site

<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu>

Telephone

202/662-9160 (General Information)
202/662-9140 (Williams Reference Desk)
202/662-4195 (Wolff Reference Desk)

E-mail

libref@law.georgetown.edu (Williams Reference Desk)
intlref@law.georgetown.edu (Wolff Reference Desk)

Hours during the academic year

Monday - Thursday

Williams Library: 8:00 a.m. - midnight
Wolff Library: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Williams Reference Desk: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Wolff Reference Desk: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Friday

Williams Library: 8:00 a.m. - midnight
Wolff Library: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Williams Reference Desk: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wolff Reference Desk: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday

Williams Library: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Wolff Library: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Both Ref. Desks: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

Williams Library: 10:00 a.m. - midnight
Wolff Library: 12 noon - 11:00 p.m.
Both Ref. Desks: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Note that special hours apply for holidays and the summer months. Please call 202/662-9131 if you plan to visit us during these times.

Tours

Tours of the Williams and Wolff libraries can be arranged by calling Duncan Alford at 202/662-9144 for Williams Library tours, and Marylin Raisch at 202/662-9159 for Wolff Library tours, or by inquiring at the Williams or Wolff Reference Desks.

For inquiries and contributions to the Friends Program, or to renew your annual support, contact Kerry Murphy in the Law Center Development Office at 202/662-9869 or e-mail her at: kem67@law.georgetown.edu.

**Edward Bennett Williams Law Library
Georgetown University Law Center
111 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-1417**