USC LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING QUESTIONNAIRE

TO: Students Who Worked In A Legal Setting During Summer 2003
FROM: Associate Dean Albert Brecht, Professor of Law
DATE: September 20, 2003

RESEARCH

The Law Library staff would appreciate your taking a few minutes to comment on your legal research experience this summer. We are interested in knowing what, if anything, we can do to better prepare students to perform the research demands experienced in legal settings.

Please feel free to include your comments also.

1. What type of legal setting did you work in this summer?
   ____ Law firm
   ____ In house counsel
   ____ Law school research assistant
   ____ Other (e.g., government, public interest; please describe)

2. Were you required to perform much research as a summer associate?
   ____ Often
   ____ Seldom
   ____ Moderate amount

   Comment:

3. Did most of your research require using books or computers?
   ____ Mostly books
   ____ Mostly computers
   ____ Books and computers

   Comment:
4. Did your employer have a law librarian to assist you in performing research?
   
   _____ Yes       _____ No
   
   Comment:

5. Did your employer have Lexis and Westlaw?

   Lexis    _____ Yes       _____ No
   Westlaw  _____ Yes       _____ No

6. Did you perform research on a database other than Lexis and Westlaw to avoid Lexis and Westlaw charges?

   Other database(s)   _____ Yes       _____ No
   
   If yes, which other database(s)?

9. Are there additional things we should be doing in law school to prepare you for research you may be required to perform?

   Additional Comments:

LEGAL WRITING & ADVOCACY (SEE NEXT PAGE)
10. **How much legal writing were you required to do?**
   
   _____ None or almost none
   _____ Some
   _____ A lot

   Comments:

11. **If you answered some or a lot, what kinds of writing were you asked to do?**

12. **How prepared did you feel in doing predictive writing (such as in-house memo)?**
   
   _____ Well prepared
   _____ Somewhat prepared
   _____ Not prepared
   _____ Not applicable

13. **How prepared did you feel in doing persuasive writing (such as in briefs)?**
   
   _____ Well prepared
   _____ Somewhat prepared
   _____ Not prepared
   _____ Not applicable

14. **Were there any types of writing you were asked to do over the summer that had not been studied at all in legal writing class? What were they?**

15. **If there were any in-house writing workshops, what did they cover that you already knew? What did they cover that you wish you’d had in Legal Writing?**

16. **Do you have any feedback on these or related topics for the Legal Writing and Advocacy?**
Additional Comments: