
Kresge Law Library, Research Services Department

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Borrowing Privileges: Law students and other members of the Notre Dame and South Bend communities may, with proper identification, borrow library materials for a specified time. To determine if an item circulates, check with a Circulation Desk attendant. All items checked out are subject to recall if needed by another user.

Carrel Reservations: LLM and JSD students, law journal students, research assistants, and students on the International Moot Court team, Appellate Moot Court team, and the AAJ and Barristers trial teams may reserve a carrel. Stop by the Research Services Assistant’s office, Room 2301, for details.

Catalog: LINK is the online catalog for the law library. To search other campus libraries, see “Hesburgh Libraries.”

Drinks, Food, and Tobacco: No food is allowed in the library, but you may bring in drinks in approved containers. Using tobacco products in the library is prohibited.

Elevators: There are three elevators for those using the library. Press “2” on Elevator B adjacent to the Bolchini Hall of Law Chapel to arrive at the library entrance. Use Elevator C next to the circulation Desk or Elevator D at the north end of each library floor (near the Men’s Restroom) to move from floor to floor.

Fax Machine: A fax machine is available at the Circulation Desk. Though not primarily for student use, ND law students may send a fax for a fee. There is no charge for receiving a fax. For details, please speak with a Circulation Desk attendant.

Government Documents: Since 1986 the law library has been a selective depository for United States government documents. These items, found through LINK, are available to the public.

Interlibrary Loan: Law faculty and students may request, through interlibrary loan, materials not available in the law library or at the Hesburgh Library. An electronic form is available on the library’s Web page.

Library Hours

Circulation Desk

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Research/Reference Assistance

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday Closed

Non-Law School Users

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday Closed

Special hours will be posted for holiday and break periods.

Library Etiquette: The law library is for serious research and study. Please refrain from loud conversation and other inappropriate behavior. Non-law students may not use the library as a study hall. Anyone violating library policies may be ejected.

Lost and Found: The Circulation Desk handles lost and found materials. After one week, unclaimed articles are sent to the campus “Lost and Found” department in the Campus Security Office.

Microforms: The microfiche/microfilm materials and reader/printers are located east of the main reading room on Level 2 and at the southeast corner of the Lower Level.

Services

About Notre Dame’s Law Library

The primary mission of the law library is to provide services and to acquire and organize legal information in support of the research and curricular goals of the Law School. It also supports the legal research requirements of the University community and provides legal information to appropriate members of the local community.

The library occupies four floors. Enter through the main entrance adjacent to the north end of Eck Commons. (Eck Commons is the bridge connecting Bolchini Hall of Law and Eck Hall of Law.)

The collection contains 350,000 print volumes, 5,000 print serial titles, and 311,000 microform volume equivalents. The library seats 550 people, 150 at individual study carrels. Ten professional librarians, 18 support staff, and numerous student assistants comprise the library staff.

In these early years development of the law library’s collection and staff was slow. The Law School did not appoint the first law librarian, John Whitman, until 1925. His selection coincided with the Library’s accreditation by the American Association of Law Schools. By 1930, after more than 60 years of existence, the library had only grown to 10,000 volumes. This modest collection did not require a large staff. In fact, in 1942, a single librarian, Lora Lashbrook, oversaw the entire operation, while serving concurrently as teacher of research methodology, law school registrar, and secretary to both the dean and the faculty. Marie Lawrence succeeded to the post of librarian in 1945. She guided the collection for almost 25 years. At her retirement the library stood at 68,000 volumes — still quite small by American Bar Association standards.

The enlargement of the library’s physical space in 1973 came under the leadership of the next librarian, Kathleen C. Farmann. Expansion and increased funding of the library, made possible in part by a gift from the Kresge Foundation, came under the leadership of the next librarian, Kathleen C. Farmann. Expansion and increased funding of the library, made possible in part by a gift from the Kresge Foundation, resulted in a growth of the library’s physical space more than doubled. The total physical area of the library increased by a third, and the collection grew to more than 25,500 volumes as “spacious, well-lighted,” and “well-ventilated.”

In 1985 the University committed increased funding of the library, made possible in part by a gift from the Kresge Foundation, resulted in a growth of the library’s physical space more than doubled. The total physical area of the library increased by a third, and the collection grew to more than 25,500 volumes as “spacious, well-lighted,” and “well-ventilated.”

The progress of the past continues into the future under Ed Edmonds, who was appointed the sixth librarian in summer 2006. He is proud to welcome you to the newly renovated Krege Law Library in Bolchini Hall of Law. Here a talented staff, quality collection, and superb physical facility unite to create a leading national research institution.