



HEARSAY

NEWS FROM THE WHEAT LAW LIBRARY

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Google has become a household word and has recently been in national and regional news. The company recently entered into an Amended Settlement Agreement (ASA) with the Authors Guild. A little over a week later, Google announced that Google Fiber is coming to Kansas City, Kansas.

In The Authors Guild, et al. v. Google Inc., Judge Denny Chin came to the conclusion that the prior case was not “fair, adequate or reasonable” and that the future of orphan books should not be decided by private entities but by federal lawmakers. Allowing the previous settlement to stand would, quoting Judge Chin, create a “business arrangement that would grant Google significant rights to exploit entire books, without permission of the copyright owners. Indeed, the ASA would give Google a significant advantage over competitors, rewarding it for engaging in wholesale copying of copyrighted works without permission, while releasing claims well beyond those

presented in the case.” This decision offers “some outstanding opportunities for the scholars and libraries to build something far better than a used bookstore.” Siva Vaidhyanathan predicts that now is the time to create a “global digital library, he would call the “Human Knowledge Project.” This project is fully described in his book called *The Googlization of Everything (And Why We Should Worry.)* I love that title.

Google selected Kansas City, Kansas for its superfast fiber network from a group of over 1,100 other communities. The network will launch in 2012 and it means that throughout KCK users will have access to ultra-high speed Internet. How ultra-high? – 100 times faster than present day networks. I recall the day Topeka Kansas changed its name to Google, Kansas for a day in an attempt to seal the bid. Lawrence, KS hopes to benefit, if for no other reason than the fact that we are just down the road. Time will tell if expectations for



Director's Corner

boosting research capabilities, efforts to become a designated Cancer Institute, and faculty recruitment will be met. These and other great benefits are but a few KCK hopes to reap with the project. See you in the library!

Joyce McCray Pearson
Director &
Associate Professor



10th ANNUAL PAUL E. WILSON FRIENDS OF THE WHEAT LAW LIBRARY LECTURE & LUNCHEON IS SLATED FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 14th: Judge Steve Leben to be Featured Speaker

Judge Steve Leben will be this year's featured speaker, he will discuss the increasing use of social science and other nonlegal research in the law and the

increasingly interdisciplinary focus of the legal academy, with some thoughts about the effects of this on legal research and law libraries.

Judge Leben joined the Kansas Court of Appeals in 2007 after serving for nearly 14 years as a district judge

in Johnson County. Throughout his career, he has been dedicated to expanding and generating scholarship on the development of law, procedure, and legal ethics. Leben has published 13 law-review articles and two book chapters, and he has served since 1988 as the editor of *Court Review*, a national journal for judges. Leben also is coeditor of an annual survey of Kansas law published by the Kansas Bar Association and was the editor of the KBA's multi-volume practice manual on family law

continued —> see **Friends** inside

LAW LIBRARY— LIBRARY WEEK EVENTS:

MONDAY 4/11—National Library Week
Cake in the Commons

TUESDAY 4/12—National Library Workers
Day

WEDNESDAY 4/13—27th Annual Hazel A.
Anderson Memorial Book Sale
(1st Floor Commons)

THURSDAY 4/14—10th Annual Paul E. Wilson
Friends of the Wheat Law
Library Lecture & Lunch

FRIDAY 4/15—Library Fines Amnesty Day

27th Annual Hazel A. Anderson Memorial Book Sale To Be Held On April 13th

The 27th Annual Hazel A. Anderson Memorial Book Sale will be held on Wednesday, April 13th, in the informal commons from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Book Sale is one of the library's many traditions in honor of National Library Week, which this year is April 10th through April 16th. Numerous volumes, not incorporated into the library's collection for various reasons, will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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.

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!

If faculty members would like to donate any books to the book sale contact us. We will gladly come to your office and collect them.

Friends continued . . .

from 1997 through 2009.

Since 2007, Leben has regularly taught the Legislation course at KU Law, focusing on methods of statutory interpretation. He is a past president of the American Judges Association, and received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Center for State Courts in 2003 for his national contributions to the administration of justice. Before becoming a judge, Leben practiced for six years with what is now the firm of Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP and for five years in solo practice; his private-practice work focused on civil litigation, administrative law, and family law. He is a 1982 graduate of KU Law, where he graduated Order of the Coif and was an associate editor of the *Kansas Law Review*.

In a project this spring, headed up by Jeff Montgomery, the library staff worked to clear off shelves and make space for the expansion of the Journal (Kansas Journal of Law & Public Policy) office on the 5th floor.



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

National Library Week will be observed April 10-16, 2011 with the theme, "Create your own Story @ your library."

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate. — ALA website



On April 5, 2011 Jeff Montgomery celebrated 35 years working at the Law Library.
Congratulations Jeff!



Our library assistant Kelly Bevins' time with the library ended at the end of March. She got married on March 26 and is now Kelly Jakubowicz. Congratulations to you and Bill. Best wishes from all of us, we'll miss you!



Wheat Law Library is undergoing a transformation of sorts. After a national search in January for an Associate Director the best candidate turned out to be our own Christopher Steadham. And Blake Wilson is now the Head of Instructional and Research Services. Additionally, there is currently an ongoing search for a Faculty Services Senior Researcher which will be filled by a recent KU Law graduate. With all these changes afoot we thought it would be nice to get Chris (CS) and Blake (BW) to answer a few questions in their new roles.



What is the best part of your job?



CS: The great thing about working in a law library is the wide variety of ideas that literally surround you every day. Most people are forced to specialize in narrow fields but we get to survey the entire spectrum of legal information. There is an endless supply of fascinating topics to satisfy your intellectual curiosity, which makes our work rewarding.



BW: Wasn't it Einstein who said, "Once you stop learning, you start dying"? It wouldn't surprise me at all if law librarians became immortal, only without sparkly skin. I never have the same day twice; never the same topic twice. On top of that, technology is constantly changing and we have to learn to adapt to it. Who wouldn't love a job that helps a person grow while getting to play with technology?



What are your goals for the Wheat Law Library?

CS: We have a great foundation here so part of our challenge is to live up to the tradition of excellence that has been established. These are turbulent times for the legal information economy, so we need to be proactive to ensure we can meet our mission of service. That means exploring creative ways to deliver legal information to our constituencies through education, collections, and access services. Thankfully, we have a wonderful group of people continually working together toward that goal.



BW: As information specialists, we keep our fingers on the pulse of learning technologies. The students coming in are unbelievably savvy. They have never known a time without personal computers and the internet. I would love for the Wheat Law Library to be the instrument that brings the law school's teaching methods in line with the students' technological know-how. Already we have extensive use of Blackboard and TWEN as well as pod and video casting. I'd love for these technologies to become more prolific and I want the professors and students to know that we are here to teach and guide people through the learning curve.



What are your hobbies?



CS: We have a ten-month-old baby boy, Gable, and he has been our main hobby this year (laughing). As some of my colleagues know, he was named after the renowned amateur wrestling coach Dan Gable, a childhood hero of mine. However, I can assure you that the determining factor in that decision was simply my wife's preference for the name. When I have time, I like to hack my way around the golf course or spend an afternoon bass fishing.



BW: Anyone who knows me knows that I'm a huge geek especially where comic books are concerned. This is reflected in my personal area of research which is the intersection of comic books and the law. I also love fitness, even though my extra 40 pounds of chub might suggest otherwise. I believe that in a past life I was a strong man in a circus. I also love gardening, golf (I stink at it!), boxing, poker, chess, the outdoors, classical guitar, Zen meditation... maybe I should just say what I'm not into? Video games. I have tried and I just lose interest.



