

# Friends of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library

Vol. 1, no. 1

April 2002

## *Welcome Friends,*

I am extremely pleased to inaugurate the *Friends of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library Newsletter*. My library colleagues and I hope this forum will give you useful and interesting information about the library, our services, and our new Friends Program.

We have received an enthusiastic response to the fall mailing announcing the new Friends of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library. As of this writing in April 2002, there are over 130 charter members, including five student members.

The tremendous response brought in donations of over \$28,000 that will be used to fund special projects for the library. We will relate more on that in a future issue of the *Newsletter*. I am especially delighted to welcome students to the Friends Program, and appreciate their support.

In the meantime, there are several Spring semester events to highlight for the Friends:

- Friends were invited to a panel discussion and reception on March 18<sup>th</sup> in honor of Professor Louis M. Seidman's new book: *Our Unsettled Constitution: A New Defense of Constitutionalism and Judicial Review*.
- During Law Reunion Weekend on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, there will be a short presentation and book signing by local alumnus and writer Tim Junkin (L'77). See his profile on page 2.
- On that same afternoon, the library will host an open house. We will have tours and give demonstrations of the use of the Internet for legal research. Expert advice will be available from the international law librarian, the rare book librarian and the preservation librarian, among others. Come

with your questions and curiosity to learn more about the roles of law libraries in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We hope to see you there!

Let me extend my personal thanks to Dean Judy Areen for her support and encouragement and everyone who made this first year of the Friends Program such a success. The Edward Bennett Williams Law Library is one of the very best law libraries in the country, if not the world, and the support of generous Friends and alumni makes that possible.

*Bob*



### **GULC Fast Facts**

**115 years ago . . . 1887**

**The Georgetown Law Library first opened its doors in a room at the law school at 6<sup>th</sup> & F Streets, N.W. The library was staffed by student librarians.**

*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 St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001-1417. For further information about the *Newsletter*, contact Robert L. Oakley, Law Library Director, at 202/662-9160.

For information about joining the Friends Program or renewing your annual support, contact Nicole Ouellette, Georgetown University Law Center Development Office, 50 F Street, N.W., Suite 8100, Washington, D.C. 20001-1417  
202/662-9885 or e-mail: [nco@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:nco@law.georgetown.edu)

## Millionth Volume Acquired in 2000

When the law library first opened in 1887, the law school occupied space in a small residential house at 6<sup>th</sup> & F Streets, N.W., and the stacks held no more than 1,500 volumes. In the fall of 2000, the library acquired its one-millionth volume in the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library building on G Street.

The title selected for this honor is a manuscript book from the collection of books and manuscripts that once belonged to John Scott, the first Earl of Eldon (1751-1838) and Lord Chancellor of England from 1801 to 1827. This collection of law books and manuscripts is now a part of the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library Special Collections.

The folio volume is handsomely bound in vellum with Russian leather bands in brown and green on the front and back. It has 632 pages, with some leaves missing known as "cancellerans."

*The Catalogue of Lord Chancellor Eldon's Law Books*, by H.A.C. Sturgess (1934) indicates that this manuscript book may have belonged to Sir Henry Spelman. Mr. Sturgess entitled it *A Commentary on the*

*Laws of England*. It is not dated, and there is some question whether this is in fact by Sir Henry Spelman (1534?-1641). The handwriting is possibly from the mid to late 18<sup>th</sup> century and is the same throughout, except for pencil annotations by Lord Eldon. A preservation sheet inserted into the volume indicates that this manuscript book may date from 1789. Citations to cases, digests and primary materials do go beyond the mid-1700s.

John Scott, Lord Eldon was one of the major English political and legal figures during the reigns of George III and IV, into the early years of Queen Victoria. He served as cabinet minister, advisor to kings, member of Parliament in both houses, and held a variety of legal posts, culminating in twenty years on the bench as Lord Chancellor in the equity courts of England. Lord

Eldon played a major role in the development of law in equity.

For more information on Lord Eldon and his law books collection at the Edward Bennett Williams Law Library, go to the Lord Eldon Collection Web site at:

<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/special/eldon/eldon.html>.



President John DeGioia (L) with Library Director Robert Oakley (R) holding the millionth volume

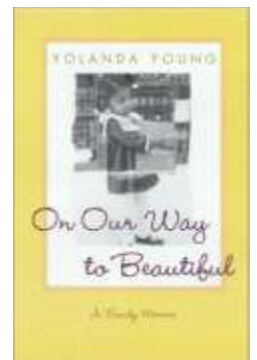
## Literary Alums

**Tim Junkin (L'77)** - Junkin recently released his second novel, *Good Counsel* (Alonquin Books). Following the release of his first novel, *The Waterman* (Alonquin Books, 1999), *Good Counsel* won praise from the *Baltimore Sun*, *Washingtonian Magazine* and *Publisher's Weekly*. It also earned him the Maryland State Arts Council's Individual Artist Award in Fiction prize for 2000. *Good Counsel* is set in the Chesapeake Bay area and chronicles the events in the life



of an attorney who knowingly coaches his clients to present false testimony. Junkin is a trial lawyer and founding partner of the Washington, D.C. firm of Asbill, Junkin, Moffitt & Boss.

**Yolanda Young (L'95)** - *On Our Way To Beautiful* (Villard Books) is not only Young's warm and heartfelt memoir of growing up poor in Shreveport, Louisiana; it is the story of how a family's resilience, faith and values shaped a young girl's life in the face of despair. Some call it reminiscent of Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. In stories laced with Southern humor and spiritual enlightenment, Young introduces a host of unforgettable characters (including the town of Shreveport itself) that shaped the trajectory of her life. Young is currently on a national book tour. She resides in Washington, D.C.



### GULC Fast Facts

30 years ago . . . 1972

**The library had 6 librarians and 9 staff members. Today, there are 22 professionals and over 60 paraprofessionals serving the Law Center and the Georgetown University community.**

## Online Resources: Research Guides and Tutorials

- Have you ever had to do legal research in an area of law that was not your specialty?
- Has it been a while since you have had to compile a legislative history?
- Do you have a new client with international contracts and need to get up to speed quickly?
- Has your firm recently switched from Lexis to Westlaw or vice versa, leaving you wondering how one differs from the other?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, our online research guides and tutorials are just for you.

The **research guides** cover a wide range of topics in six areas:

- Foundations of Legal Research
- Topical Research
- Non-Legal Research
- Tips and Advice
- International and Foreign Research
- Interdisciplinary Studies

Each guide introduces the basic concept of that topic and explains how the materials and/or the important resources for that subject area are arranged. Each guide gives the locations of materials owned by the library and some give detailed information about the resources themselves. A list of contents across the top of each guide lets you select the section you most want to view.

In addition to the many research guides written by our own law librarians, we have included links to some research guides written at other law libraries. To look at all the research guides online, go to:

<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/lib/guides/index.html>.

The **tutorials** cover introductory topics in a variety of areas, ranging from statutory and case law to legislative history and international law, from Lexis or Westlaw searching to Internet research. These tutorials are designed as a teaching and study aid for first year law students in Legal Research and Writing, but they can also be generally useful if you are out of practice in one of these areas.

The tutorials will walk you through the process of doing research in a step-by-step format. You will learn about the resources, the relevant terms of art, and important dates in time that will affect your research. You can also use the site map function in the tutorial to pick and choose the topics most relevant to you. The complete selection of tutorials is available online at:

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

For more information and additional help with these guides and tutorials, contact a reference librarian at 202/662-9140, or e-mail questions to:

[libref@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:libref@law.georgetown.edu).

### *In Memoriam: John Harrison “Harry” Boyles*

In September 2001, the law library mourned the loss of Professor Emeritus and former Law Librarian **John Harrison “Harry” Boyles (L’48)**, who had passed away at the age of 80.

Harry Boyles was a Georgetown University Law Center student, librarian, and professor most of his life. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Bonaventure College in New York in 1944 and his LL.B. from Georgetown in 1948. He was admitted to the D.C. Bar in 1949.

Before coming to the Georgetown University Law Center as a law librarian, Harry taught Legal Bibliography and other courses at the National Law School, now George Washington University Law School. He was an attorney in private practice in Washington, D.C., and a member of the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1952 to 1954.



Harry Boyles in 1954

Harry served our community as the law librarian from 1954 until 1975. During his tenure, he was responsible for many important improvements, including bringing in the first microfilm system. He tripled the size of the library, from 50,000 to over 160,000 volumes. He helped plan the new Fred O. Dennis Law Library in the Bernard P. McDonough Hall building, which opened in 1971.

He turned to teaching law full-time in 1977 and taught several courses, including Administrative Law, American Legal History, Legal Bibliography, and Professional Responsibility. He retired in October 1986.

Harry is survived by his widow, Vassilia C. Boyles, in Washington, D.C., a brother Jesse Boyles from Aurora, N.Y., and two sisters, Audine Nellis and Evelyn Copley, both from Oil City, PA.

## *An Invitation*

Our library is an active institution. 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)

202/662-9148 (Reference Desk)

### **E-mail**

[libref@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:libref@law.georgetown.edu) (Reference Desk)

### **Hours during the academic year**

Monday – Thursday

Library: 8:00 a.m. - midnight

Reference Desk: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday

Library: 8:00 a.m. - midnight

Reference Desk: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday

Library: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Reference Desk: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

Library: 10:00 a.m. - midnight

Reference Desk: 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 library can be arranged by calling Susan Ryan at 202/662-9142 or inquiring at the Reference Desk.

For inquiries and contributions to the Friends Program, or to renew your annual support, contact Nicole Ouellette in the Law Center Development Office at 202/662-9885 or e-mail her at: [nco@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:nco@law.georgetown.edu).

**Edward Bennett Williams Law Library**

**Georgetown University Law Center**

**111 G Street, N.W.**

**Washington, D.C. 20001-1417**

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