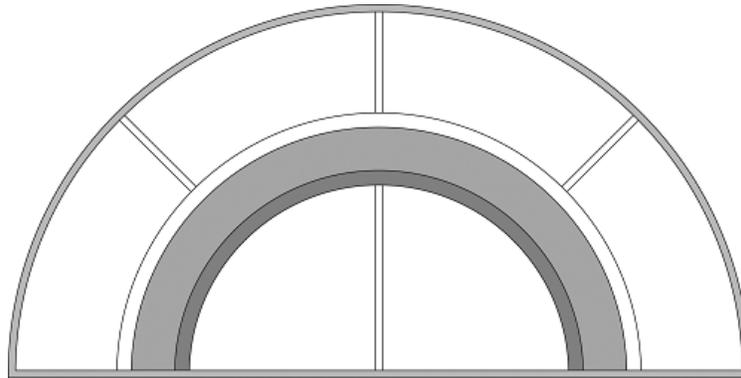


6-2021

Academic Year: 2020-2021

The Mendik Library



Mendik Library: By the Numbers

Academic Year 2020-2021

An annual report prepared by
Associate Dean Camille Broussard
and the Staff of the Mendik Library

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To view this report on Digital Commons, please scan this QR code:



-or-

follow this link:

[https://digitalcommons.nyls.edu/library annual reports/](https://digitalcommons.nyls.edu/library%20annual%20reports/)

Message from the Library Director



I am pleased to present the 2020-2021 Mendik Library's Annual Report. This report presents only a brief snapshot and description of the breadth of our core services and the depth of support we provide to our students who are learning law; to our faculty who are teaching law; and to our alumni who are practicing law. As we do each year, our entire Library team continued to work together to participate in and contribute to the intellectual and community life of New York Law School and to provide an extraordinary level of service and support to the law school community and beyond.

The Mendik Library is a vibrant and continually evolving information and research center where users come to study, access legal information and also to discover the breadth and complexity of the world of law. Our goal is to create an environment where our researchers can engage with us and learn to find the right resources for their particular tasks. As legal research continues to be an increasingly complex mix of print and electronic resources, the expertise of our dedicated staff becomes ever more relevant. This past year, we continued to manage our substantial print collection while integrating more digital resources into the library's offerings. The LexisNexis Digital Library additions and other e-book additions have given our students, faculty and alumni the opportunity to learn about and navigate new electronic resources.

The pandemic's impact may have required us to work just a bit harder but we made sure we continued to provide the services and classes our students needed to stay focused and successfully complete their studies. The reference and circulation teams provided a wide range of research assistance to students, faculty and alums answering over 5,500 questions. We moved our teaching operations to Zoom and offered over 80 research courses and workshops to the NYLS community. Many of these classes were part of our faculty instructional outreach program and we taught six for-credit research classes, including our always popular Saturday Legal Research Practical Skills class. Our collaboration with the Legal Practice faculty becomes stronger each year as we continue to develop and teach a series of research skills workshops required within the LP curriculum for all 1L students.

This report embodies the sustained efforts from the entire Mendik Library staff to meet the needs of all of our users. Our teamwork with all of the NYLS community, the relationships we develop and the many services we provide all speak to the value we add to the academic and legal pursuits of our students, faculty and alumni. It will not take readers long to see how far our contributions extend beyond the physical space we call the Mendik Library.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Camille Broussard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Library Community, Facilities, and Operations

Reference Services Overall

Traditionally, access to our collection and to information services often begins at the Reference or Circulation Desks, and it continues in the stacks, in Librarian offices, in the elevators, and even in the coffee bar and cafeteria. The past year, however, was not typical and since late March of 2020, access has continued through Zoom and Microsoft Teams. The Reference Librarians, along with the Associate Librarians, the Director and our Assistant Director for Acquisitions and Collection Control, provided professional research assistance and instruction to faculty, students, staff, alumni, and attorney patrons. Librarians provided research instruction both in the Library and in the classroom, whether it be physical or virtual. They worked with the Legal Practice program to develop, coordinate, and teach legal research classes to 1L students. They also served as liaisons for NYLS faculty and deans, our academic centers, clinics, and the Law Review, as well as the Moot Court Association, Dispute Resolution Team, and other student organizations. The team coordinated interlibrary loan services, participated in collection management, and contributed content to the Library web pages, the Mendik Matters blog, the Elevator Ed series of Learn While You Ride TripTips¹, and Legal Lexicon, a biweekly post designed to give extra meaning to our students’ legal education. The circulation staff also provided significant assistance (to students, faculty and alumni) beyond merely checking out and renewing borrowed items. These folks were essential information providers, helping students locate course and research materials, assisting with printing and scanning, and supplying answers to an enormous variety of other library (or law school) related questions. In short, they were an indispensable adjunct to the reference librarians.

During Academic Year 2020-2021, the Library was open on 261 days; the reference desk was staffed virtually on 173 days that the library was open and 13 days that the library was closed.

2020-2021 Requests for Reference and Circulation Desk Assistance

Total: 5,515

By Location		By Patron Type*			
Remote COVID-19	2,279	NYLS Students (FTE 981)	4,345	Non-Mendik Librarian	16
Librarian’s Office	39	Faculty	940	Attorneys (Non-Alumni)	9
Reference Desk	2	Alumni	86	2021 Venable Students	8
Beyond Library	2	NYLS Staff	63	General Public	8
Circulation Desk	3,193	Bar Review	32	Other	8

Table 1

¹Because the campus was closed for much of AY2020-2021, Elevator Ed took a brief hiatus. We look forward to Ed’s return in AY 2021-2022.

Services to Students

The law library quickly becomes a prominent feature in most law students' educational lives and the librarians are committed to making that experience a rewarding one. A main goal is to provide support and instruction that helps students make meaningful and contextual connections between classroom learning, research skills, and the practice of law.

Reference Services to Students

The Reference Librarians serve as a crucial resource for students in search of answers on a daily basis. Whether questions relate to legal research, Bluebooking, exam preparation, or law school information, the Reference Librarians are resourceful and reliable. During the pandemic, because students were unable to access reserved course books, our Reference Librarians and Circulation staff scanned many assigned readings and posted them for student access.

2020-2021 Student Requests for Reference & Circulation Desk Assistance (FTE 981)

By Location		By Method	
Remote COVID-19	1,129	In Person	2,316
Librarian's Office	20	Phone	829
Reference Desk	1	Email	975
Beyond Library	2	IM/Text/Other	84
Circulation Desk	3,193	Zoom/Teams	141
Total	4,345	Total	4,345

Table 2

Legal Research Classes



Reference Librarians provide research training throughout the year. They teach for-credit courses as well as Research Skills Workshops required as part of the Legal Practice curriculum. They also present research sessions in doctrinal courses, and regularly offer a variety of skills workshops.

I. Foundations for the Study of Law

Research instruction begins during Orientation, when 1L students attend and actively participate in the Library's introduction to basic research resources and techniques as part of their Foundations for the Study of Law classes. Last year, **337** first year students explored the Library virtually, discovering the legal research landscape and some important navigational aids and approaches.

II. Essentials for Effective Legal Research

Research instruction for 1L students continues throughout the first year. Our most intensive teaching efforts for 1L students, Essentials for Effective Legal Research (EELR I and II), take place in the Fall and Spring. These 75-minute sessions, developed in conjunction with the Legal Practice program, primarily cover Lexis and Westlaw, but also try to focus on vendor-neutral approaches.

During the 2020-2021 academic year we offered 28 EELR classes (14 for EELR I and 14 for EELR II) that reached **324** students in the first semester and **309** students in the second semester.

III. Research Workshops

Working with Legal Practice Faculty, we have developed a program of research instruction to complement the Legal Practice course. In addition to the EELR classes, all 1Ls were required to complete the four workshops shown in *Table 3*. These classes are also open to upper division students.

Research Workshops	# of Classes	Attendees
Understanding Jurisdiction & Authority	11	324
Introduction to Administrative and Regulatory Research	13	297
Secondary Sources	11	307
Citators	13	306
Total:	48	1,234

Table 3

IV. Classes in the JD Curriculum

Each semester, we offer three credit-bearing research classes for upper division students.

Legal Research: Skills for the Digital World

A three-credit course focused on advanced techniques using the latest practice resources.

Legal Research: Practical Skills

A one-credit intermediate level class that builds on the skills introduced in the Legal Practice course. Two sessions are offered each semester: a general research class and a class focusing on an area of law of one of our academic centers or curricular concentrations:

Corporate & Business Law || Family Law || Intellectual Property Law
Real Estate Law || Criminal Law

Enrollment in these more intensive research skills classes is typically capped at eighteen.

Semester	Course	Students
2020 Fall	Legal Research: Skills for the Digital World	11
2020 Fall	Legal Research: Practical Skills	17
2020 Fall	Legal Research: Criminal Law	18
2021 Spring	Legal Research: Skills for the Digital World	15
2021 Spring	Legal Research: Corporate & Business Law	14
2021 Spring	Legal Research: Practical Skills	15
Total:		90

Table 4

Instructional Outreach

We work with faculty to incorporate subject specific research instruction into classroom teaching. Many of the sessions are team-taught, affording students the benefit of both the librarian's and the professor's perspectives. This year, we worked with **17** different faculty members in **33** classes to provide instruction to **918** students. We also conducted sessions for Law Review, Moot Court and OCEL, as well as provide instruction to **all 1L students** as part of the Orientation meetings of the Foundations for the Study of Law course. Because of COVID-19, we were unable to join with the Office of Academic Planning and Career Development in teaching the annual Professional Development 101 Workshop, *Putting Professional Skills Into Practice*, a class designed to help prepare students for their summer experiences with enhanced research abilities.

Instructional Outreach			
Faculty Member	Class	Fall 2020 Students	Spring 2021 Students
Appleton	VIZ Moot Court	5	
Appleton	International Arbitration Class		5
Appleton	International Business Transactions Class		16
Caracciolo	LP class		25
Chase	Non-Profit and Small Business Clinic	8	
Cominsky	Criminal Law Clinic: Boot Camp (3 hours)	16	
Crowell	NY State & Local Law	18	
Davis	Foundations for the Study of Law (3 sessions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal Process Lecture ▪ Statutes & Legislative Process ▪ Finding the Law: Library Orientation 	337	
Gewolb	Law Office Externship		19
Hochberger	LP class	25	25
Manning	LP class	25	
Meyers	Venable Summer Associate Program—Litigation (4 sessions)		30
Meyers	Venable Summer Project (on-call assistance)		46
Meyers	Venable Summer Associate Program—Corporate Practice Group (2 Sessions)		70
Su	LP class	25	
Teitel	International Law (2 sessions)	48	
Teitel	International Human Rights Clinic		6
Teitel	International Criminal Law		8
Thomas	LLM Tax Orientation	3	1
Valentin	LP class	25	
Zierler	Law Review Write-On Bluebook Training	9	
Total		544	251

Table 5

The Venable/NYLS Summer Associate Simulation Program

From May 2021 through July 2021, the reference librarians partnered again with faculty and Venable partners and associates in providing an intensive simulated “Big Law” summer associate experience. We delivered virtual classroom instruction and conducted individualized help sessions for **52** students who were divided into two practice groups (Corporate Law and Litigation).

Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI)

CALI offers more than 1,000 interactive online tutorials in over 50 legal subjects. Reference Librarians actively promote these tutorials and provide students with access and assistance. See Appendix *Table 12* for details on lessons taken by topic and by month.

Info Hunts



In typical years, our three annual thematic Info Hunts—*Legally Clueless* during First Week, *Haunted Halloween* for Halloween, and *Find Love in the Library* for Valentine’s Day—enable students to hone their research skills while simultaneously having fun and winning prizes. Due to the school’s COVID-related closure this year, we conducted only the virtual *Legally Clueless* hunt, where we had **325** participants. We look forward to resuming all three events in AY 2021-2022.

Upper Division Training

Many upper division students request help at their point of need rather than take optional classes not linked to courses or assignments. The Reference Librarians work with these students one-on-one. Special classes are also offered for journal students, moot court competitors, research assistants, and students with judicial clerkships or other externships, and we reach many upper division students through our instructional outreach program discussed above and detailed in *Table 5*.

Student Publications Support

Meetings with Law Review Executive Board

The Library’s liaison to the Law Review offers the Executive Board (E-Board) an overview of Library services and administrative procedures and provides suggested research strategies and other information to help in their editorial endeavors. The working relationship between the Law Review and Library Staff is cordial and productive. This year, with the Library’s continued work with Law Review developing its presence on the Law School’s Digital Commons repository, the uploading of content has continued. Currently, there are 23 volumes with 42 more awaiting upload. For the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, there were **30,742** downloads of NYLS Law Review articles. There have also been **35,285** downloads of articles appearing in former NYLS journals, the *Journal of Human Rights* (**22,075**) (19 volumes) and the *Journal of International and Comparative Law* (**13,210**) (22 volumes). Since the inception of the project, there have been **44,994** downloads of NYLS Law Review articles, and **49,379** downloads of articles appearing in the *Journal of Human Rights* (**29,584**) and the *Journal of International and Comparative Law* (**19,795**).

Supplemental Training

The Library liaison also provides comprehensive orientation for new Law Review members and coordinates specialized Lexis, Westlaw and Bloomberg Law training sessions over the course of the

semester. He also conducts workshops on Bluebook citation skills.

Family Law Quarterly

The Library has also begun to provide research and citation assistance to the editorial board of Family Law Quarterly, the scholarly journal published by the ABA, in collaboration with NYLS.

Research Guides (LibGuides)

Using the LibGuides web-publishing platform, we curate and offer a wide and growing array of subject matter resources. Overall usage of these tools is detailed below.

LibGuides Page Views 2020-2021

Guide Name	Views
Electronic Resources	10,816
Research Tools	6,896
Bar Exam Preparation Resources	3,879
Tax Research	3,751
Free & Low-Cost Legal Research	3,296
Exam Preparation Resources	1,024
Law School 411: Books & Films on Law & Law School	791
Legal Forms	777
International & Foreign Law Legal Research	745
New York Family Law	529
Mendik Library COVID-19 Updates	515
New York Legal Research	446
Current Awareness Sources	431
Study Aids	232
Corporations	172
Securities Resources	167
Real Estate Resources	163
Legal Ethics	139
Mobile Apps for Law Students	64
Bankruptcy Law Research	62
Guide to Government Information	58
Total	34,953

Table 6

Social Media

Our Facebook page enables students to access most of the Library’s digital offerings without leaving the Facebook environment. Our page has received a total of 671 Facebook likes. Our relatively new Instagram feed has 173 followers.



Book Jacket Displays



The Library regularly displays book jackets from our collection on the information boards near the elevators on L2, L3, and L4. Although there has been a hiatus in updating our book jacket displays during COVID-19, we look forward to resuming this engaging and educational program in the new academic year. These rotating displays center around important legal and historical events as well as current legal issues and new acquisitions. Some topics covered last year included Martin Luther King Jr., gun control, Thomas Jefferson, books about law school, and the labor movement.

Food for Fines

Each year, the Library conducts a *Food for Fines Drive*, allowing graduating students to pay their library fines at a discounted amount with canned or other packaged foods. All proceeds are then donated to the Salvation Army's Chinatown Corps. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, we were unable to offer students this option. We expect to resume the program in the 2021-2022 Academic Year.

Miscellany

In the past, we have charged phones and laptops, supplied earplugs, and notarized documents for students. Given the limited number of people on campus this year due to COVID-19, the volume of these services was negligible.

Connecting with Students



The Library staff is dedicated to supporting students in all aspects of their educational experience. Connecting with students and helping them achieve their goals is an integral part of our culture. Many of our activities extend far beyond the Library and our ability to check all of the boxes below is very important to us!

Advising Students in Externships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attending Student Association Events and Celebrations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Helping with Commencement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Judging Legal Practice First Year Oral Arguments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Judging Froessel and Wagner Moot Court Arguments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mentoring Bar Studiers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mentoring NYCBA Diversity Fellows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Participating in Experiential Learning Virtual Open Houses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Presenting Programs for Prospective Students	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Services to Faculty

Library Liaison Program

The cornerstone of our faculty services is the Library Liaison program, which links each faculty member with a librarian who serves as a principal Library contact. Liaisons meet periodically with faculty members to stay apprised of their research and teaching needs. They also assist in research and citation tracking, help prepare materials for classroom use, train research assistants, and locate Library materials. Each librarian works with five to seven faculty members.

Faculty Reference Services

In addition to general reference assistance, our faculty services include:

- ◆ *Library Links*, a mostly monthly email newsletter for faculty
- ◆ Current awareness routing and monitoring
- ◆ Instructional outreach
 - ◇ As detailed in *Table 5*, we work closely with many faculty members to incorporate subject-specific research instruction into classroom teaching
- ◆ Citation tracking
- ◆ Faculty committee support
- ◆ Classroom teaching support
- ◆ Scholarship support through research assistance
- ◆ Support for service to the Law School and the legal community

2020-2021 Faculty Requests for Reference Assistance

Questions by Location		Questions by Method	
Reference Desk	1	In Person	1
Librarian's Office	17	By Phone	0
Elsewhere in library	0	By Email	908
Beyond Library (public spaces, Commons, home, etc.)	0	Other (Zoom, Teams)	27
Remote (COVID-19)	918		
Total	936	Total	936

Table 7

As part of our research assistance, we provide faculty with scholarly materials they request. This year, we furnished faculty members with **517** journal articles and **55** books from our own collections and **10** e-books. These numbers do not include direct borrowing by faculty either in person or through research assistants or faculty assistants. In addition, **33** books and articles were supplied to faculty through the Interlibrary Loan process.

Faculty Scholarship on Digital Commons

Since 2015, showcasing faculty writing in our Digital Commons has increased faculty exposure worldwide, due to the open access nature of the repository and the platform's optimization for search engine discovery. It also serves as a permanent archive. Additional information about Digital Commons appears at page 13 and in *Table 11*.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, the Library uploaded **231** faculty works. As of June 30, 2021, a total of **2,256** works have been posted. For the 2020-2021 academic year, these works were downloaded approximately **117,411** times from **173** countries and **23** territories.

Faculty Publication Display Cases

The Library also maintains public display cases of newly published faculty books and earlier award-winning books, as well as law review reprints and other publications.

Supporting Faculty Workshops, Conferences, and Special Events

See Appendix *Table 13* for the virtual events our Librarians attended in support of NYLS faculty.

Services to Alumni

Alumni are always welcome in the Mendik Library where they can access a wide array of research resources, including a dedicated Westlaw subscription with a generous selection of primary and secondary authorities. This year, however, alumni were not permitted in the law school due to the pandemic shutdown, and therefore they could not access our physical collection or many of our online resources that require a presence on campus. As an alternative, we were able to procure for Alumni remote access to Westlaw's Patron Access service. Unfortunately, Westlaw was unable to provide usage data for remote patron access. Alumni also took advantage of remote access to the Library's librarians, who provided virtual help with **86** requests for reference assistance.

Use of Library Resources



The Library was open **90** hours per week during the fall and spring semesters. During the final exams Study Hall period, hours are extended until 12:00 a.m. to provide an additional two hours of daily study time access. During intersession periods, the library hours were reduced to 80 hours per week. As a result of COVID-19, the Library remained closed from July 1, 2020 through August 23, 2020, although we continued to provide virtual reference hours six days per week.

2020-2021 Total Monthly Users		
Month	Weekday & Weekend Afternoons	Weekday & Weekend Evenings
July*	0	0
August*	228	68
September	759	285
October	673	256
November*	16	0
December	593	237
January	215	73
February	473	182
March	420	158
April	622	227
May	985	428
June	739	294
Average per Month[°]	602.4	232.4

Table 8

* Library closed or partially closed due to COVID-19.

[°] Average based on the 9.5 months during which the law school was open.

Circulation Transactions

As reflected in *Table 9*, print resources still play a large role for faculty and students. The Reserve Collection accounts for 60% of total transactions. This past year's course reserves comprised **546** items for **461** classes.

2020-2021 Circulation Transactions by Patron Type (Check-outs and Renewals)	
Students	812
Faculty	64
Law School Staff	10
Academic Libraries	4
Law Firms	0
In-House use (by all patrons)*	137
Total	1,027

Table 9

* Materials used within the Library and re-shelved but not checked out.

Interlibrary Loans

The library fulfilled **33** Interlibrary Loan requests for faculty and made **47** loans to other libraries.

Access To and From Other Libraries

To ensure student and faculty access to materials beyond our collection, we participate in consortial relationships with many law school, university, and other libraries. Through our issuance of what are known as *Green Letters*, our students and faculty have access to other metropolitan area law school libraries. We provide access to additional libraries via METRO Passes through our membership in the Metropolitan New York Library Council. Through agreements with all but two local law school libraries (Columbia and NYU), we can provide our students who reside closer to another law school with a *Letter of Introduction* entitling them to semester-long access for convenience study. We extend a reciprocal privilege to students of the other participating law schools. On request, we also admit students from out-of-town law schools as a reciprocal courtesy to our sister institutions.

Finally, we also provide complimentary Reader's Passes to faculty guests and visiting scholars.

This year, due to the pandemic closure, we did not receive or issue any of the above-mentioned letters or passes.

Legal Research Database Usage

The three major legal publishers, Lexis, Westlaw, and Bloomberg Law, as well as American Lawyer Media and Hein Online, provide only limited and non-uniform usage statistics. See Appendix *Table 14, Table 15, Table 16, Table 17, and Table 18*.

Government Documents

The Library remains a Federal Depository Library within the Federal Depository Library Program overseen by the Government Publishing Office. We collect approximately **23%** of government-published materials, a total of **2,333** items. Of those, we receive approximately **76%** in online format, and the balance in microform or print.

Collection Management Services

Staff

The Technical Services staff focuses on the acquisition of digital and print materials and the maintenance and organization of the Library's entire collection. The latter efforts entail the design and regular revision of the systems and services, including the Library's online catalog and a variety of Library web pages, necessary for our patrons to access and use all our resources effectively. Among other things, the Technical Services staff works closely with the Reference Librarians to monitor and update the Library's *Treatises by Topic* guides and maintain the *A to Z* list of electronic journal titles, ensuring seamless access to critical resources whose links, access points and protocols frequently change. They also work continually to maintain the Library's descriptive list of more than **140** electronic subscription resources available to users from any location.

The NYLS Online Catalog

During the 2020-2021 academic year, the Technical Services staff added **1,214** records to the online catalog.

Collection Statistics

Format	Titles Owned		Volumes and Volume Equivalents Owned	
	2020-2021	2019-2020	2020-2021	2019-2020
Print	90,822	90,708	275,465	275,233
Microform	198,448	197,387	305,144	304,160
Electronic	246,919	246,881	n/a	n/a
A/V	242	242	n/a	n/a
CDs	552	552	n/a	n/a
Total	536,983	535,770	580,609	579,393

Table 10

In addition to owned titles, the Library provides direct access to more than 20,000 online journals through either direct subscriptions or through various databases and aggregators (e.g., Lexis, Westlaw, HeinOnline, etc.).

The Law School's Archive

In addition to our physical archive of historic law school materials, we continue to grow our Digital Commons collection to highlight the law school's rich history. This year, **696** items were uploaded, bringing the total since inception to over **6,812** items as of June 30, 2021.

Collections within the law school's overall Digital Commons saw nearly **221,034** downloads. *Table 16* details the 10 most downloaded collections over the year. Additional information about Digital Commons material appears on pages 6 and 9.

Over the course of the academic year, the Library receives many requests from inside and outside the law school about the school's history and alumni. The inquiries come from alumni; relatives of alumni; scholarly researchers; the media; the Dean's office; and the Office of Institutional Advancement. Over the past year, we fielded **14** requests, relating to individual alumni and historical aspects of the school and faculty.

Whenever possible we provide copies or scans of the materials held in the archive. Those who requested the information express enormous gratitude for the historical connection we are able to provide.

The Library maintains two public display cases on the first floor of the W building by the main elevators. The archive provides a rich source of photos and historical artifacts that we use to create informative and attractive exhibits for the public display.

Top Ten Downloaded Collections 2020-2021 (Excluding Faculty Scholarship)

Collection	Downloads
NYLS Law Review	30,742
NYLS Journal of Human Rights (1983 - 2003)	22,075
NYLS Journal of International & Comparative Law (1979 - 2003)	13,210

Academic Centers and Programs: Racial Justice Project	8,681
Archives: The Honorable Roger J. Miner '56 Papers	6,147
Archives: Commencement Programs	4,907
Archives: 125 th Anniversary Materials	4,028
Archives: Student Newspapers	2,554
Archives: New York Law School Alumni Magazine	1,901
Academic Centers and Programs: Tribeca Square Press	1,732

Table 11

Library Publications

In addition to our Research Guides discussed on page 6, the Library publishes a number of other digital works each year, primarily in the nature of current awareness alerts. Our goal is to provide faculty and students a continual flow of information about recent articles, new acquisitions, and developments in legal publishing and research platforms.

Mendik Matters Blog

Our [Mendik Matters](#) blog, which debuted in 2004, publishes items of interest about current legal topics, new legal developments and legal history. It also serves as a vehicle for library-related announcements and information. It alerts faculty and students to new resources, providing an important form of continuing legal research education. During 2020-2021, we posted **51** items to Mendik Matters and reached an audience of over **3,800** subscribers. Four of our Mendik Matter blog posts were picked up by AALL's KnowItAALL daily newsletter, which is circulated via email to the more than **3,900** AALL members nationwide.

Elevator Ed



Elevate your research. Ask a librarian!

Elevator Ed, the winner of AALL's 2013 Excellence in Marketing, Best Campaign award, also had to quarantine during the pandemic. Fully vaccinated and continuing to practice social distancing, Ed looked forward to returning to his elevators in the Fall of 2021. In next year's report, we hope to recap Ed's renewed relationship with students through his frequent TripTips about legal research and library resources, continuing to help students "learn while they ride." Ed's foremost goal remains elevating the legal research skills of scores of students.

Legal Lexicon

Beginning in the fall of 2019, we launched a new bi-weekly elevator post designed to remind students of the importance of legal dictionaries and offering them a steady flow of new legal vocabulary. During COVID, we adapted distribution of Legal Lexicon to bi-weekly Mendik Matters posts.

Library Links

This short newsletter is sent to faculty on a “mostly monthly” basis. It highlights new digital research technologies and resources available through the library.

Orientation Pizza Survey

For the fourteenth consecutive year, the Library conducted its *Orientation Pizza Survey*, designed to gauge the changing digital inclinations of each entering class (as well as their pizza topping preferences). The results from each year’s survey are maintained in the Mendik Library section of Digital Commons.

Here are some key facts from the 2020 Pizza Survey:

- ◆ Instagram is now the most popular social networking platform, with 57% of students using it most often. Facebook and Twitter usage has declined from the prior year.
- ◆ 76% of respondents report using social media 5+ times per day. While the total percentage was the same in 2019, the number who reported using social media more than 10 times per day increased by 4 points.
- ◆ Student usage of e-books increased to 33%, a 7-point gain over the prior year.
- ◆ Of those students who used e-textbooks in their undergraduate or graduate programs, 33% preferred e-textbooks while 28% had no preference between physical or e-textbooks.
- ◆ Interest in podcasts has increased by 5 points from 2019, with 82% of respondents saying they have listened to more than 1 podcast.
- ◆ 87% of respondents reported using YouTube or another video tutorial platform to help them understand or study content from their undergraduate classes.

Faculty Library Services Manual

The Faculty Library Services Manual details the services offered to faculty members, including support for research and teaching, electronic resources, and interlibrary loan and document delivery services. This manual is made available to all faculty members through the [For Faculty](#) section of the Library website.

Law School 411: Books and Films on Law and Law School

[Law School 411](#) is a multimedia bibliography of sources for prospective and current law students. It is updated regularly to include books, websites, and movies on law, lawyers, legal careers and a large section on excelling in law school.

Professional Organizations, Activities and Continuing Education

The librarians participated in a variety of organizations as officers, board members, or speakers. They also attended many professional/continuing education programs, webinars, and networking events (virtually) that will further enhance their contributions and value to the NYLS community. See Appendix *Table 19* for the list of these programs.

American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)

All members of the Library's professional staff are members of AALL.

Camille Broussard, **Michael Roffer** and **Victoria Sukhol** attended the AALL Conference remotely. **Camille** is a member of the US News and World Report Law School Rankings Task Force. She was also recognized by the AALL Diversity and Inclusion Committee as the June 2021 Librarian of the Month for her work and contributions within the librarian profession, along with her involvement in creating the Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section (SIS) Standing Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. **Michael Roffer** is also a member of AALL's Law Repositories Caucus, the Academic Law Libraries, Government Documents, and Research Instructional and Patron Services SIS Committees. **Victoria Sukhol** is a member of the Library Systems & Resource Discovery, Technical Services Professional Development, and Metadata Management SIS Committees. **Ping Tian** is a member of the Technical Services and Research Instructional and Patron Services SIS Committees. **Elina Oyola** is a member of Academic Law Libraries and Research Instructional and Patron Services SIS Committees.

Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA)

The Legal Information Preservation Alliance is a non-profit consortium of academic, federal, state and public law libraries working to preserve print and electronic legal information. It enables libraries to work collaboratively on preservation projects at lower cost and to take advantage of the partnerships created by the organization. Camille Broussard completed service as Treasurer and as a member of the Board of Directors in 2015. She remains the NYLS Voting Representative.

Law Library Association of Greater New York (LLAGNY)

Bill Mills, Michael Roffer, Ping Tian, Elina Oyola, Julianne Eum, Martha Goldman and Carolyn Hasselmann are members of LLAGNY, the local chapter of AALL. Ping Tian served on the Education Committee. Julianne Eum served on the Volunteer Committee. Michael Roffer continues as a member of LLAGNY's Executive Board through July 1, 2022.

Perma.cc

Perma.cc, developed and maintained by the Harvard Library Innovation Lab at the Harvard Law School Library, helps scholars, journals, courts, and others create permanent records of the web sources they cite. We are a Perma.cc partner library and Michael Roffer is the registrar for members of the NYLS community. We currently have **10** registered users who have created a total of **1,105** permalinks.

Society of Academic Law Library Directors (SALLD)

Camille Broussard is an active participant.

Services to the Law School Community

New York Law School Activities

This past year, our Librarians engaged virtually in a number of NYLS community programs and activities including First Year Orientation, multiple ABA self-assessment sessions, Alumni virtual reception events and the GALA, student association programming, testing of potential new CMS platforms, health and wellness programming, all HR and OIT training sessions, and the law school's web redesign project.

Committee Memberships

Several librarians held appointments to law school committees:

- ◆ Academic Responsibility Committee (Michael Roffer, Michael McCarthy)
- ◆ Admissions Committee (Michael Roffer)
- ◆ Title IX Committee (Michael McCarthy)
- ◆ Advisory Committee on Campus Safety (Michael Roffer)
- ◆ ABA/NYLS Site Visit Team (Camille Broussard)
- ◆ Faculty Coordinating Committee (Camille Broussard)
- ◆ Academic Status Committee (Camille Broussard, chair)
- ◆ Decanal Reappointment Committee (Camille Broussard)
- ◆ Faculty Meeting Secretary (Camille Broussard)
- ◆ bepress Institutional Repository Implementation Task Force (Camille Broussard, chair)
- ◆ Faculty Re-Opening Task Force (Camille Broussard)
- ◆ NYCBA Diversity Fellowship Selection Committee (Camille Broussard)
- ◆ Student Commencement Speaker Selection Committee (Camille Broussard)
- ◆ Administrative Technology Committee (Grace Lee)
- ◆ Institutional Review Board (Bill Mills) (through 12/2020)
- ◆ Faculty Technology Advisory Panel (Bill Mills) (through 12/2020)
- ◆ Printer/Copier/Scanner Review Group (Bill Mills–through 12/2020, Grace Lee, Elina Oyola)
- ◆ Commencement Soloist Selection Committee (Grace Lee)
- ◆ OIT/ Mendik Library Joint Committee (Victoria Sukhol)

Finding Information in the Digital Age

Every summer, Camille, together with the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, hosts a *Finding Information in the Digital Age* class for admitted law students.

Better World Books

This year, we donated **10** boxes containing **128** volumes to Better World Books, a non-profit organization that helps fund high-impact literacy projects in the U.S.

Bookends

With the 2021-2022 academic year underway, the librarians continue to use the information we have gathered to inform our ongoing efforts to tailor, refine and enhance our services and deploy our resources to best serve the law school community amid the changing landscape of legal education and the evolution of law practice.

Kind Words We've Received

Some of the expressions of appreciation from faculty, students, alumni, and other library users our librarians have received during the past year:



Appendix

CALI Lessons Taken by General Topic		CALI Lessons Taken Each Month	
Administrative Law	20	July 2020	23
Civil Procedure	114	August 2020	545
Constitution Law	110	September 2020	1,206
Contracts	154	October 2020	407
Corporate, Financial and Commercial	44	November 2020	540
Criminal Law and Procedure	116	December 2020	255
Evidence	79	January 2021	61
Family Law	19	February 2021	115
Law School Success	2,169	March 2021	194
Legal Research and Writing	281	April 2021	106
Professional Responsibility	28	May 2021	207
Property	257	June 2021	16
Tax	8		
Torts	171		
Wills & Trusts	19		
Other	86		
Total:	3,675		3,675

Table 12

Events
South African Reading Group Discussions with Penny Andrews
ICLT 2021 Kickoff: Legal Tech Update and Student Demo Day
Gamestomped—Center for Business and Financial Law program
Family Law During COVID-19: Challenges, Adaptations, and Future Impacts (Family Law Quarterly program)
Future of Tribeca Meeting with Dean Crowell
Law and Leadership Series: 2021 Mayoral Election Forum (Impact Center for Public Interest law)
Webinar with Annette Gordon-Reed

Table 13

Lexis Usage 2020-2021

User Type	Searches	Documents Accessed	Shepard's Reports	Public Records Searches
Students	57,832	101,193	7,944	143
Faculty	24,517	8,434	631	3,482
Law School Staff	220	395	3	1,180
Librarians	2,336	587	91	78
Adjunct Faculty	7,479	10,441	1,049	67
Total:	92,384	121,050	9,718	4,950

Table 14

Bloomberg Usage 2020-2021

	Bloomberg Law.com Site Views	Alerts Sent ¹	Law Report Email Opens	Law Report Email Subscriptions
Total:	66,255	14,983	134,071	15,442

Table 15

¹User-established alerts, Bloomberg Law only.

Westlaw Usage 2020-2021

	Student Transactions	Faculty (includes Librarian) Transactions
Total:	437,804	72,414

Table 16

American Lawyer Media Usage 2020-2021

Title	Page Views	Visits
New York Law Journal	3,917	2,126
Law.com	2,288	1,112
The American Lawyer	1,046	608
New Jersey Law Journal	450	250
National Law Journal	401	247

Table 17

HeinOnline Usage 2020-2021

Page Hits	Site Visits	Articles viewed	Pages viewed	Searches
88,483	2,969	10,775	10,174	7,407

Table 18

Professional Organizations, Activities and Continuing Education	
AALL "Teaching Legal Research in a Post Pandemic World"	Lexis Practical Guidance for Information Professionals (by vendor)
AALL Law Repositories Caucus Sandbox Series: "Creating Topical Exhibits in Digital Commons"	Maximize Your Efficiency with Westlaw Edge
AALL program: Teaching Critical Approaches to Legal Research	Meet Your Westlaw Practical Law Editors
AALL Symposium: Citation and the Law	OCLC webinar: Collections and Facilities: Caring for Your Resources during COVID-19
ACRL The Socially-Distanced Library: Physical Spaces, Transition Tactics, and a Look at the Data	PQ Ebook Central tutorial
ALL-SIS Panel Discussion: The U.S. News & World Report Law Library Survey Questions: Where Do We Go From Here?	Remote law library E-book access in the time of COVID-19
American Association of Law School annual meeting programs: 1. Impact of AI on Legal Writing 2. Future of Law Libraries 3. Race, Racism and Legal Teaching	Round table AALL: How to reach and connecting to patrons
Be at the Forefront of the New Era in Legal Research: An In-depth Look at Lexis+	Teacher's College Team Presentation on Remote Learning
Beyond citations: PlumX Metrics integrates with Digital Commons dashboards	Teaching Legal Citation Asynchronously with Professor Tracy L. M. Norton
Bloomberg Law Librarian Update	The Current Landscape of Digital Preservation
Build the best Ebook collection with Gobi PowerPoint by BOBI Library Solution	Transforming course reserve to improve learning and faculty engagement
D & B: Delivering a Successful Remote Learning Experience with Next-Gen Technology	Using CALI LessonLink to Reinforce Teaching
HeinOnline 101	Westlaw program: Prepare to Practice: Cost Effective and Time Efficient Westlaw Training
Incorporating Anti-Racism into Core Law School Classes	Westlaw Quick Check Judicial
Key Numbers Deep Dive: Westlaw	Westlaw training session Westlaw Public Records

Table 19