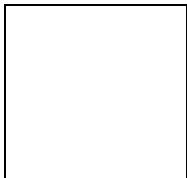


**FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER**



Allen Moyer, Director of the Law Library

As the summer season is well under way, thank you for taking a few minutes from your busy schedule to read this issue of the law library's newsletter, the "*Rinn Record*". We lead off with an overview of my recent trip to South Africa, where I accompanied a delegation of the Special Libraries Association sponsored by People to People Ambassador Programs. It was a wonderful opportunity for professional growth and an amazing personal experience. One that was difficult to do justice in a few paragraphs, so I included a few pictures.

We also have a couple of related pieces dealing with a recent technology development known as *Web.20* and how it facilitates a more interactive Internet. Next, a recent library acquisition, *The Making of Modern Law*, is highlighted; and recognition is given to our own Dan Ursin Acquisitions Assistant, for receiving the university's McHugh Quality Service Award.

I hope you find this issue informative and enjoyable.

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## A JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME: MY TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA

Allen Moye



I recently returned from the most amazing trip. This past April I had the distinct honor and privilege of accompanying the Special Libraries Association's (SLA) Professional Delegation to South Africa.

Sponsored by [People to People Citizens Ambassador Programs](#), it was a rare opportunity for cultural and professional exchange for a group of 14 librarians from varying backgrounds across the United States. The People to People Ambassador program was started by President Eisenhower during the height of the Cold War in 1956. Eisenhower believed that ordinary citizens of different nations, if

able to communicate directly, could solve their differences and find a way to live in peace. This is the basic premise behind the People to People Ambassador Programs, which is now a private foundation sponsoring student and professional delegations to nations around the world.



Our delegation leader was president-elect of the Special Libraries Association, Rebecca Vargha. Rebecca is also a librarian at the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and she was an excellent leader. In addition to myself there were 3 other law librarians (a director of a state Supreme Court law library, a director of a county law library and a firm librarian); 2 corporate archivists; 2 professors of information and library science; a library manager for the National Academy of Sciences; an assistant university librarian; a former

manager of Education and Member services for OCLC; and a retired librarian from a large municipal library system.

The program was very well-planned and organized. We spent our first 4 days in Johannesburg (Jo-Burg) under the watchful guidance of Refilwe Mathe, our PTP tour guide. "Rifi" as she told us to call her, never missed an opportunity to teach us something about her beloved country and its people; or to learn about us and ours. After a debriefing on the development and structure of libraries in South Africa, and a concise but enlightening historical overview of the social and political development of the country, we were taken on a tour of Soweto, the Black township 10 miles outside of Jo-Burg. We visited the Hector Pietersen Museum, named for the 12 year-old boy killed on June 16, 1976, (a date now commemorated as a national holiday) when police opened fire on a group of school children peacefully protesting against the injustices of Apartheid. The museum is a powerful and moving tribute to the struggle of the youth of South Africa for equal rights. In many respects, the images reminded me of the American Civil Rights Movement. The museum effectively mixes documents (reprinted as huge posters), video footage and objects in a spacious brick building surrounded by a memorial garden and wall of names to make a powerful and moving statement.



The journey through Soweto itself was evocative and brought to mind many majority African-American neighborhoods and counties here in the United States. It could have just as easily been Compton, California or Liberty City in Miami, Florida. Although there were impoverished one room shacks, there were also indications of middle-class standards with gated homes and well-manicured lawns.

The overall impression I left with was that there was a true sense of community in this historic place. The people we encountered were warm, welcoming and curious about us and where we were from.

As part of our professional development we visited the University of Johannesburg, one of the 9 members of the Foundation for Tertiary Institutions for the Northern Metropolis (FOTIM), South Africa's largest academic consortium. FOTIM members collaborate on various projects and initiatives to create and expand higher education opportunities in the region. Our host was Hannie Sander, Executive Director of the University of Johannesburg's Library and Information Centre. Ms. Sanders had her entire staff turn out and they treated us like dignitaries. One of the new initiatives that they spoke about is called VUMA!, a web portal offering user friendly life-skill support and developmental material to the large percentage of academically under-prepared learners entering higher education settings.

We next visited the Coalition of South African Library Consortia (COSALC), where we met Dr. Daisy Selematsela, a very dynamic and energetic woman with a commanding presence. Dr. Selematsela is the Manager of Information and Strategy Advice for COSALC, which mainly focuses on promoting and supporting national co-operative initiatives, such as negotiating national site licenses.

Our final destination on the professional development leg of our time in Jo-Burg, was to the Document Warehouse, a leader in outsourcing the storage, maintenance, archiving, retrieval, and destruction of information. Our contact was Inarie deVaal, Director of Training, and formerly Chief Librarian for South Africa's Chamber of Mines. Her presentation emphasized how important her training and skill as a librarian has been to the success of the company, which is fairly unique since it is able to handle all aspects of data management.

Later that evening we had a wonderful meal at the world renowned Gramadoelas Restaurant, where I was actually talked into eating an African delicacy of "*masonja*" also known as "mopani worms". I read that they were a big hit with Senator Hillary Clinton when she visited.

We departed Jo-Burg late on a Friday for a two hour flight to Cape Town on the Western coast. Our guide for the remainder of our trip was Linda Van Doesburgh. Linda was more laid back than Rifi, but her style and approach seemed to reflect her background and the location. While Jo-Burg is a thriving industrial metropolis; Cape Town is more of a resort, so the pace is slower and more relaxed.

There were also a greater variety of people in Cape town, with many more Asians and Europeans, than in Jo-Burg, which was predominately black African.

As part of the cultural exchange, we took a bus ride down the coast to the Cape of Good Hope, the most southern point on the African Continent. This is also purportedly where the Indian and Atlantic Oceans converge. This allowed us to absorb the natural beauty and splendor that is Africa.



The views were breathtaking. We next took a short boat ride to Robben Island, the prison island used to house political prisoners under the Apartheid Regime. Most notably this is where Nelson Mandela served part of his 27 year prison sentence. The most powerful and moving part of this visit was that our guide was a former prisoner at the island. His description of the conditions at the prison was especially raw, emotional and moving.

We toured a region about 15 miles from the city limits of Cape Town, known as "District Six", one of the unofficial black settlements. While here we attended a Baptist church service conducted in Xhosa, one of the 11 official languages of South Africa. It is spoken by 18% of the population. On more than one occasion I was presumed to speak Xhosa, by South Africans that I encountered and was told that I "looked like the Xhosa

people". I took this as compliment, since they seemed to be held in high esteem. Rounding out the cultural exchange, we had dinner at the home of a retired minister/missionary, visited a private school called "The Shine Centre" and a hospice for babies and children infected with HIV.

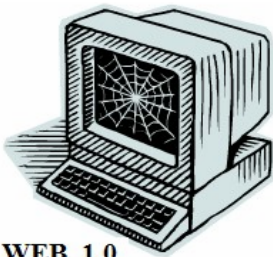
For professional exchange we visited the University of Cape Town and Mayibuye Archives, a special collection of memorabilia associated with the struggle against Apartheid housed at the University of Western Cape Town, one of the traditional universities for "Coloureds", or people of mixed ancestry. On our final day we attended a breakfast meeting of the Sub-Sahara Chapter of the Special Libraries Association., before heading back to the airport for our return 20 hour flight to the states.

I walked away from this experience gaining so much more than I had ever imagined. The places I visited; and the people I met, have all contributed to a profound broadening of my horizons and a change in my perspective. I was very impressed with the spirit of the South African People and their determination to overcome the stain of Apartheid through "truth and reconciliation."

I highly recommend the People to People program, and look forward to participating in other delegations in the future.

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## **WEB 2.0 ! YIKES, I'M STILL LEARNING WEB 1.0 !**

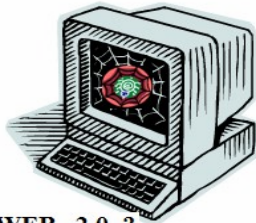


**WEB 1.0**

The characterization of some new developments (or new applications of old developments) on the World Wide Web portion of the Internet, as "Web 2.0", has many people wondering what it means and what it might mean for them. Last month at [Back to the Future of Legal Research Symposium](#), held at Chicago-Kent Law School, there were several informative presentations about what some of these developments are and how some people are using them in academia. Panelists included: Debbie Ginsberg - Chicago-Kent College of Law, Bonnie Shucha - University of Wisconsin at Madison, Douglas A. Berman - Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University, Richard D. Friedman - University of Michigan Law School.

For those who are interested in their presentations here:

There is also an excellent [online guide](#) prepared by librarian Debbie Ginsberg describing many of the new applications frequently referred to as part of Web 2.0. (It's hosted on a wiki which is one of these applications) Some internet user may be familiar with some of these applications while others may sound a bit unfamiliar.



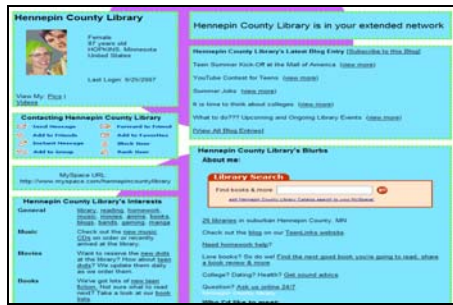
**WEB 2.0 ?**

interested in their presentations, one can find podcasts of the "[Web 2.0: New Tools for Doing & Teaching Legal Research](#)".

Some internet user may be familiar with some of these applications while others may sound a bit unfamiliar.

**Here is a sampling:**

 <a href="#">Blogs</a>	 <a href="#">RSS</a>	 <a href="#">Podcasts</a>	 <a href="#">Wikis</a>	 <a href="#">Live Chat</a>
<a href="#">SocialNetworkingSites</a>				



[MySpace](#)



[FaceBook](#)



[Laywer Link](#)

[OtherContentSharingSites](#)



[Flickr](#)



[Delicio.us](#)



[YouTube](#)



[VirtualWorlds](#)

## DEFINING WEB 2.0

While these newer tools are described as being part of what is called Web 2.0, there is considerable disagreement about what that label means. Some observers question whether it describes anything at all. Russell Shaw in a [posting on a ZDNet blog](#), says that Web 2.0 is basically a marketing slogan. As he puts it,

*"...My problem with all this is not that the changes described in each of these points aren't real, it is just that many of these changes are incremental, and only related to each other in the broadest, most general sense. That is, until some clever marketers wanting to charge a fortune for you to attend their conferences dreamed this one up. Dreamed Web 2.0 up as a nice-off-the-tongue, easily memorable descriptor for come to our conferences, learn about what's hot."*

The [description by blogger Danah Boyd](#) of what "WEB 2.0" may be reminds one of the proverb of the blind men all perceiving the elephant at different places, and coming up with very differing ideas of what kind of animal they were dealing with.

*"Recently, I found myself needing to explain Web2.0. Unfortunately, here's a term that has been hyped up in all sorts of ways with no collectively understood definition. The [Web2.0 conference](#) talks about the web as a platform, a business-y concept that i find awfully fuzzy. Technologists and designers [have differing views](#) focused on either the technology and standards or the experience. Even [Wikipedia](#) seems confused and [cumulative definitions](#) are not inclusive. Buzzwords associated with Web2.0 include: remix, tagging, hackability, social networks, open APIs, microcontent, personalization. People discuss how the web is moving from a read-only system to a [read/write system](#) and they focus on technologies like GreaseMonkey, Ajax, RSS/Atom, Ruby on Rails. Of course, others talk about the [paradoxical relationship between openness and control](#). The reality is that when people talk about Web2.0, they're talking about a political affiliation with The Next Cool Thing, even if no one has a clue what it is yet."*

## INTERPRETING WEB 2.0

Even without a collectively agreed upon definition there are strong proponents and detractors of the very mixed phenomena that get called “Web 2.0”. [David Rogers identifies](#) a populist user focus as a primary attribute of Web 2.0,

*“So I’m going out on a limb to say that **Web 2.0 is really about users**. It’s how developers emerging from cubicle cocoons admit what we user-obsessed sorts have long understood—that **users rule**. All that Web 2.0 talk of systems, applications and platforms is ultimately about empowering end-users to achieve their dreams on the Web without restriction.*

*Even more, users drive the Web 2.0 juggernaut. It would never have emerged had users not already chosen the sites, services and applications—the [Amazons](#), [Googles](#), [Bloggers](#), [flickrs](#), [BitTorrents](#), et al—that respected them, treated them as partners, engaged them in conversation and made it easy for them to accomplish their goals. ...”*

[Paul Graham in a long article](#) finds a growing democracy as a key element of this evolving phenomenon,

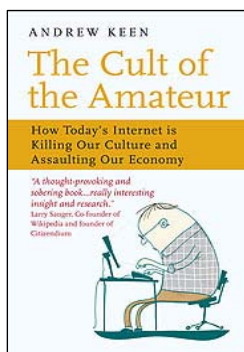
*“The second big element of Web 2.0 is democracy. We now have several examples to prove that [amateurs](#) can surpass professionals, when they have the right kind of system to channel their efforts. ...  
... something was happening: the web was finding its natural angle of repose. The democracy component, for example—that’s not an innovation, in the sense of something someone made happen. That’s what the web naturally tends to produce.”*

But there are other observers who don’t see this new phenomenon in such glowing positive terms. In fact some tend to perceive it as a potential threat to conventional values ! Andrew Keen, 47-year-old Briton who founded dot-com era music startup Audiocafe, in an [article](#) last year’s “the Daily Standard”, sees an ideological threat in this emerging “movement”.

*“Rather than Paris, Moscow, or Berkeley, the grand utopian movement of our contemporary age is headquartered in Silicon Valley, whose great seduction is actually a fusion of two historical movements: the counter-cultural utopianism of the '60s and the techno-economic utopianism of the '90s. Here in Silicon Valley, this seduction has announced itself to the world as the “Web 2.0” movement. ...*

*This outlook is typical of the Web 2.0 movement, which fuses '60s radicalism with the utopian eschatology of digital technology. The ideological outcome may be trouble for all of us.”*

## THE BACKLASH ?



This year Andrew Keen has escalated his critique to new levels in the recently released book entitled, “[The Cult of the Amateur: How Today's Internet is Killing Our Culture](#)” which is described at his [publisher’s site](#) like this,

*“In a hard-hitting and provocative polemic, Silicon Valley insider and pundit Andrew Keen exposes the grave consequences of today’s new participatory Web 2.0 and reveals how it threatens our values, economy, and ultimately the very innovation and creativity that forms the fabric of American achievement.” ...*

So while the socio-political assessment of “Web 2.0” may be up for grabs. We can still explore some of the new tools and application to see if they may be useful to us. At the very least, we can learn enough, to nod knowingly when their names come up at home or at the office.

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## LAW LIBRARY ACQUIRES “THE MAKING OF MODERN LAW”

*The Making of Modern Law* brings nearly 10 million pages of legal history from America and Britain to researchers around the world in a matter of minutes. It is an archive of the world's most comprehensive full-text collection of Anglo-American legal treatises anywhere. It allows for full text searching of more than 21,000 works from casebooks, local practice manuals, form books, works for lay readers, pamphlets, letters, speeches and more - all separated into 99 subject areas. *The Making of Modern Law* is available on the library's web page of database listings under “M”.

[http://www.law.depaul.edu/library/research/database\\_list.asp#M](http://www.law.depaul.edu/library/research/database_list.asp#M)

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## 2007-2008 McHugh Award to Dan Ursini



Dan Ursini, Acquisitions Assistant in the Rinn Law Library, will be honored with the McHugh Quality Service Award to be bestowed at the Fall Academic Convocation in September.

The Ken McHugh Staff Quality Service Award was created to honor full time staff members who have demonstrated quality service over a period to time. In particular consideration is given to how an individual's service has enhanced the University's initiative by demonstrating collaboration and teamwork to support DePaul's mission.

Letters in support of Dan's nomination were submitted by supervisors and colleagues in the library and College of Law faculty. Dan is in his 27<sup>th</sup> year of service to DePaul and during that time he has been an example of DePaul's mission, Catholic, Vincentian and urban, recognizing the dignity of the individual and his or her place in the wider community being served.

Congratulations are extended to Dan as he becomes the first Law Library staff member to be so honored.

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DePaul University College of Law Library was founded in 1912. Our primary mission is to support the research, teaching and service programs of the DePaul University College of Law. In October of 1998, the DePaul University College of Law Library was dedicated to the memory of Vincent G. Rinn, a member of the class of 1931. Mr. Rinn is fondly remembered as a "steadfast friend and generous benefactor of the law library."

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