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Introduction to "Books"

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BY MARGARET A. LEARY, DIRECTOR

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It's well known that graduate William B. Cook's generosity provided the Law School with its trademark Gothic Law Quadrangle. It is less universally known that Cook endowed the Law School with a trust to support faculty research, and had a strong interest in the nature of that research. He chose to call the library building "Legal Research" and to inscribe above the main entrance "Learned and cultured lawyers are safeguards of the republic." Cook often said that the lack of "intellectual leadership is the greatest problem which faces America," and he wanted this Law School to provide that missing leadership.

Judging from the books highlighted in the following pages, Cook's vision and the Law School's commitment to his goal have provided fertile ground to produce top rank, cutting edge research, scholarship, and writing.

Taken together, the books published by our faculty and graduates are important both for the influence they will have on the profession and for what they reveal about the importance of libraries to the scholarly endeavor. Put another way: these books will become part of many libraries, personal and institutional. (A listing of faculty members' publications from 1998-2001 begins on page 47.)

And these publications were born in part as a result of the authors' use of library collections and the talents of librarians. Elsewhere in this issue (see story on page 29) there is a description of the ways in which the Allan F. and Alene Smith Addition enabled the Law Library to expand its services. One of the library's highest priorities has been to become more engaged in the intellectual life of the Law School, and to support faculty research. Because we work so hard on our service, and on developing and maintaining the historical and current strengths of the collection, we consider these books, and all other publications of the faculty, as our indirect work product.

The intellectual and historical sweep of the books discussed here is astonishing. These books range from a casebook for law teaching, with numerous references to cases and statutes, to three books whose titles don't hint at being written by lawyers. Each of the seven exhibits a consideration of the laws or customs of other nations or civilizations, and attention to disciplines other than law. Two are explicitly about international law.

Each year, the Library delivers an average of 100 items to each faculty member, and one third of these come from other campus libraries, not the Law Library. Why is this? A close look at the material cited in these books gives the answer.

International Law: Christine Chinkin and Brian Simpson both write about rights from an international perspective. Simpson's research about the creation of the European Convention on Human Rights relied extensively on archives in Great Britain, but his 4,360 footnote references and 34-page bibliography include many treaties as well as cases and statutes from many countries. Chinkin also focuses on international law and human rights, but with special attention to the need to end the silence about women in discussions of UN reform. Chinkin and her colleagues compiled a 41-page bibliography and 16-page table of cases, plus 14 pages of

references to treaties and other international agreements, ranging from the 1899 *Convention for Pacific Settlement of Disputes* to the 1999 *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)*.

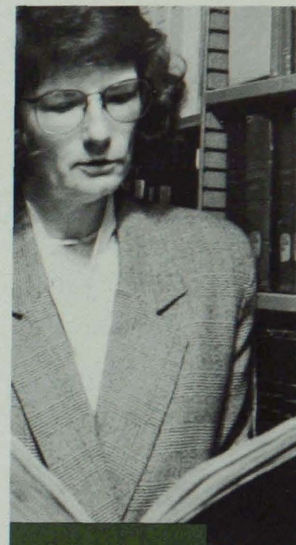
Sex Equality Casebook: The attention to feminism continues in Catharine A. MacKinnon's hefty, 1651-page work that centers on case law in the United States, but goes far beyond what a casebook would have been 30 years ago — when there would not have been a casebook on sex equality. This book includes constitutional, statutory, comparative, and international materials, including foreign law examples, in translation where needed: South Africa, Canada, aboriginal law, CEDAW, Brazil, Europe, and England.

Law and the Humanities: William I. Miller has used soldiers' memoirs to explore the meaning of courage, in the context of many wars and framed with concepts from Icelandic sagas, Aristotle, Aquinas, and Shakespeare, and drawing from cultural psychology and other writing about courage. There are no references to primary law — statutes, cases, regulations. Philip Soper explores deference, from that which appellate courts accord to more personal and historical examples. He, too, refers to early philosophers such as Plato and Socrates, and cites books and journals in law, philosophy, political science, and ethics. There are cites to a few court opinions, and the *Restatement (Second) of Contracts*. J.B. White explores "meaning" not just in law, but in literature, philosophy, and painting. He explores texts and visual presentations to see how "a mind can be seen trying to imagine the world, and the self within it . . . to make possible coherent speech and valuable action" — surely a goal shared by every lawyer.

Law and Medicine: The one book in this special section on law and medicine, edited by Carl E. Schneider, collects the thinking of doctors, lawyers, ethicists, and the general public to explore law and the end of life. The authors include a lawyer who is also a genetics counselor, a professor of law and medicine, a physician, a comparative and international law scholar, a medical historian, and a sociologist. The sources include newspapers, court reports from the United States and abroad, law review articles, oral arguments and briefs submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court, and commentary on the Court by doctors and philosophers.

William W. Cook gave money for buildings and a research endowment to the Michigan Law School. The Cook Trust has supported faculty research for decades. In 1934, the School hoped "eventually to have a collection of law books which will permit scholars to do research work in any field of law, regardless of country or period." Judging from the scholarship represented in this issue, the hope has been realized.

Cook could not have envisioned these specific books. Nor, indeed, could he have foreseen in detail the variety and breadth of research and learning that would take place here. His vision indeed was even larger — to make it all possible.



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is director of the Law Library. From 1973 to 1981, she served as assistant director and from 1982 through 1984 as associate director. In 1988-89 she served as president of the American Association of Law Libraries. Leary received a B.A. from Cornell University, an M.A. from the University of Minnesota School of Library Science, and a J.D. from the William Mitchell College of Law. An adjunct faculty member, she teaches Advanced Legal Research.