Wandering the Web

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WANDERING THE WEB....

Women's Law-Related Resources

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Column Editor's Note: When the idea for this column first surfaced, we wanted to provide readers with two basic services. First, we wanted to alert you to the ever-expanding resources found in the World Wide Web. Even more importantly, we wanted to provide Websites that had been examined for content, completeness and currency of relevant information. We wanted to begin to do the type of critical analysis so desperately needed in the Electronic Tower of Babel we call the Internet. In examining a Website, we asked some of the following questions: Is this an institutional or privately owned Website? This question was based on the idea that an institutional Website is more likely to have secure data than a privately owned site. How often was the material updated when the currency of the information was considered paramount? Are the materials and menus arranged in a logical manner? Are the links to documents and other sites still operating or would the user try to move to a document only to find that information is no longer available?

This first installment is the result of a selection/collection development project offered for credit by the School of Library and Informational Science at Missouri in cooperation with the Technical Services department of the law library. Ms. Sorensen worked with me to develop a bibliographic resource on Women's Legal Resources. The Websites featured were also part of a bibliography submitted by Ms. Sorensen to complete her requirements for this independent study project. I would like to extend an offer to our readership to contact me regarding future issues of Wandering the Web. If you would like to do a Website bibliography, please contact me at (573) 882-7739 or email at <montgomery@law.missouri.edu> to discuss the details. From the attention this column has prior to its initial publication, I'm certain this will be a popular and valuable resource for all of us who "wander the web" as part of our jobs or for our own edification. — JM

Women's Law-Related Resources on the World Wide Web

by Gina Sorensen (MLIS Student, School of Library and Informational Science, University of Missouri—Columbia)

WLC Homepage http://www.law.syr.edu/studentorganizations/WLC

This page is sponsored by the Women's Law Caucus, a student organization at the Syracuse University College of Law. The Women's Caucus was "created as a forum for law students to express their views about the role of women in both society and the law." It provides extensive links to information regarding women, feminism, and to organizations like the National Organization for Women and The League of Women Voters.

Women and the Law in the United States
http://www.sils.umd.edu/~jwilliam/womenpage.html

This page was created by Juliet Williams at the University of Michigan.

It is a good resource for legislation texts of women-related bills of the 103rd Congress, statistical and health-related information, a bibliography, and other issues pertaining to women's rights. It does provide a link to LEGISLATE which is a service that provides access to current bills in Congress and to political action groups like Partners Against Violence Network (PAVNET). Another interesting link is to CHOICENET which bills itself as a searchable "weekly update of reproductive rights issues."

Women's Web World: The Feminist Majority Online
http://www.feminist.org/

Voted "best non-profit women's site," this Website is a clearinghouse to many of the sites sponsored by the Feminist Majority which was founded in 1987 by Eleanor Smeal, former president of NOW. This page provides links to a variety of feminist issues including abortion rights, feminist theory, and jurisprudence. It is a searchable database with links covering women's issues from a generally feminist perspective, and allowing the researcher to search other similar sites such as the ones at the University of Maryland and Carnegie Mellon University, SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov/womeninbusiness/

This site provides very specific information and advice to women who are interested in starting their own small businesses. It is a great resource to find out information on the state and local level because there are links which will allow you to connect to very specific sites on financial, conference, and law-related issues. This page also provides information about training, development, and resource partnerships. It is sponsored by the Small Business Administration and administered by Sherry Henry, Assistant Administrator of the SBA.

Women'sNet@igc http://www.igc.apc.org/womensnet/

This site provides general information on a wide range of women's issues. It provides links to services provided by the women's net which is a computer network devoted to women's issues. It also provides links to electronic conferences discussing issues such as HIV and Human Rights.

Its main focus is computer services and Internet information resources for women. It is copyrighted by S. Levine and maintained by the non-profit organization that is part of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC). According to its bibliographical information, the APC provides global links for non-profit and non-governmental organizations as well as "citizen activists working for social change."

Legal Information Institute http://fatty.law.cornell.edu/topics/feminist_jurisprudence.html

This is an excellent guide to some primary source material pertaining to women's legal issues. It includes amendments and Supreme Court cases on topics including health and abortion issues. The updates were recent; however, not all of the links worked. The site is maintained by the Cornell Law School.

Rumors
from page 80

The Zimbabwe International Book Fair is coming up 26-27 July, 1996. Since Zimbabwe has received wonderful rains this past season, exhibitors will hopefully be able to enjoy a dust-free Book Fair! For more info try c-zib@mango.zw.

Think you should know that Sever Bordeianu <sbordeia@umn.ed> and Claire-Lise Benaud <claire@lib.umn.ed> are working on a book on outsourcing) to be published by Libraries Unlimited. Due date for the manuscript is May, 1997.

Met Becky Garcia (Product Manager, Ameritech Library Services) <beckyg@aol.com> many years ago with Rebecca Linton (Texas State Library), a College of Charleston alumna. And Becky is back! Read her account of Network+Interop, this issue, page 67.

Julia Gelfand <jgelfand@orion.oac.ucd.edu> wrote to say that she has received lots of comments on her article in the April ATG ("Does CD ROM Have a Future," ATG, v.9#2, pp. 17-21). She was surprised so many people received ATG! And she sent us a report on "The Public Interest in Copyright" held at the University of California, Berkeley, Saturday, May 4, 1996. It didn't make this issue, but it will be here in September, okay?

And speaking of ATG, I recently attended the NC Serials Conference, masterminded by the vivacious Evelyn Council (Fayetteville State University). Met up with Janet Flowers, Eleanor Cook, Marci Tuttle and Jert van Goethem to mention just a few people. And Naomi continued on page 93

<http://www.spidergraphics.com/atg>

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