

OBIC Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/21/00, Friday

Place: Oklahoma Department of Libraries

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Attendees: Gerald Hickman (Seminole State College), Jeanie Cavett (Rose State College), Abbey Warner (UCO), Jason Dupree (OBU), Jay Ramanjulu (OCCC), Edwin Wiles (OCU), Susan Hahn (OU), Tamra Stansfield (OSU), David Oberhelman (OSU), Tanya Finchum (OSU), Patrick Bauman (ECU), Kate Corbett (Langston), Shari Clifton (OUHSC), Robin Insalaco (OUHSC), Beverly Joyce (OU), Ona Britton (UCO)

Minutes Taken by: Ona Britton

Topic: How to Use Legal Resources

Presenter: Marilyn Jacobs

OBIC President Gwen Dobbs called the meeting to order and asked for approval of minutes from the last meeting. They were approved with one amendment submitted by Beverly Joyce from the University of Oklahoma. Gwen then introduced Marilyn Jacobs, who presented on the topic of how to use law resources.

Jacobs discussed the 3 types of law: Statutory Law, Administrative Law, and Case Law. She then explained the importance of knowing the differences between these types of law for finding law information. Each branch may make laws, and knowing the branch in which a law originates expedites law research.

Jacobs then discussed legal citations, giving examples of how to read them. She cleared up much confusion for many members by stating that law resources include only cases that illustrate a change in a law rather than all cases tried. Next, she discussed various print resources including

- Legal Encyclopedias
- Treatises
- American Law Reports
- Legal Periodicals
- Digests
- Case Reporters
- Oklahoma Statutes
- Federal Statutes
- Code of Federal Regulations

She included a packet with photocopies of many sources plus samples of the print indexes. She created hands on exercises to familiarize the audience with the sources.

The final segment discussed online sources, including Findlaw, Lexis-Nexis, and LegalTrac from Infotrac. Jacobs demonstrated these databases and discussed how best to use them for legal resources.

A short question and answer session followed. Gwen adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm.