

1-1-2020

## Georgia Library Spotlight - University of Georgia, Law Library Fest

Rachel Evans

*UGA Law Library*, rsevans@uga.edu

Marie Mize

*University of Georgia Law Library*, mmize@uga.edu

Anne Burnett

*University of Georgia*, aburnett@uga.edu

David Rutland

*UGA Law Library*, drutlan@uga.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Evans, R., Mize, M., Burnett, A., & Rutland, D. (2020). Georgia Library Spotlight - University of Georgia, Law Library Fest. *Georgia Library Quarterly*, 57(1). Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol57/iss1/7>

This Column is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia Library Quarterly by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu).

# GLA SPOTLIGHT

## University of Georgia Law Library Fest

Fall 2019, the [Alexander Campbell King Law Library](#) at the University of Georgia (UGA) turned library orientation for incoming students into a fest and opened the event up to the entire law school community. The idea for the Fest was a collaborative one, with ideas from other library orientation programs, [UGA's staff resource fair](#), conferences like [CALICon](#), and even an [AALL poster session](#) contributing to the final event design and deployment.

After many years of being a regular part of the School of Law's first year student orientation (during which one or a few librarians stood in front of a group of more than 100 students at a time for roughly an hour), the library went through a transitional period last fall and was removed as a required part of the schedule. As a result, the [fall 2018 library orientation](#) was a hybrid program that included heavy marketing of an optional in person event, paired with an [online video tour](#) (housed in a [LibGuide](#)). Participation was good, especially considering this was the library's very first event of this kind. The event, which lasted from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., burdened librarians and staff alike, due to its optional requirement on the part of

incoming students and uncertainty about attendance.

With a new student affairs team settled in at the School of Law, they reconfigured and expanded orientation for incoming students, and a library component was once again made a requirement. Elements from the hybrid fall 2018 model such as timing, location, and design were kept. The flow of students coming and going from the library was much smoother too, thanks to a blocked



schedule of four sets of approximately fifty individuals each hour. This made for easier scheduling on the library's behalf. With required attendance, even though promotion was less necessary, the library still wanted to encourage students to embrace the experience. The library incorporated door prizes and gamified participation with stamp cards.

Students received a stamp card that doubled as a flier in their law school orientation packet, along with password cards to the library's three top databases. For students who forgot to bring cards with them, the library provided extras at the entrance on the day of the event. The card contained six spots to get a stamp or sticker, and visiting one of each of the [six library stations](#) resulted in a stamp or sticker.

The stations included:

- **Circulation:** At this table located in front of the circulation desk, access services staff and student workers shared examples of other items for checkout, gave demos of course reserves in the library online catalog, and distributed library branded coasters and ink pens.
- **Reference:** This station, operated by law librarians, used the actual reference desk to display information about the library's legal research and legal technology course offerings, examples of print and online study aids, free mini copies of the constitution, and library bookmarks with hours and reference desk contact information.
- **I.T. Services:** For this table, members of the School of Law Information Technology Services team shared information about what their own Help Desk in the law library assists with. They also had signs and gave information about UGA's Enterprise Information Technology Services (EITS), WEPA (the printing system) and Microsoft Office software available to students. Plus, there was a basket of free law library branded flash drives to giveaway.
- **Library Tours:** Throughout the event, a rotating cast of six librarians and staff members gave approximately 10-minute guided tours of the law library. The tour highlighted important sections of the library, identified where bathrooms and water fountains are located, and answered any questions students had about the library, including the building and the collection.
- **Stress Busters:** For this station, a table operated by volunteer librarians displayed a variety of stress relief resources that are normally available during exams each semester. These resources included a giant touchscreen word search, puzzles, coloring materials, and print resources. Students could take a free tiny animal figurine "study buddy" to start their law school studying journey with.
- **Other Resources:** This final table was not operated by librarians or staff, but was merely a location for all other information about UGA and Athens resources. It included publications, pamphlet, and brochures about local news, Athens, the UGA offices of well-being, the LGBTQ resource center, and the health center. At this station students chose a sticker for their cards.



The library also invited its three top database vendors, Westlaw, Lexis Advance, and Bloomberg Law, to set up tables and contribute to the overall carnival feel of the event. They provided additional items to give away such as water bottles, tote bags, and even donut holes and candy. Vendors also contributed gift cards to the door prize baskets.

The library received several positive comments, and the library tour participation rate went from 37 students in fall 2018 to a whopping 169 students this fall! The library collected 150 completed stamped cards, and awarded 9 lucky participants with door prize packages. For the drawing, [the library captured a video](#) of two

librarians randomly selecting cards from the card submission box and announcing the winners, which was later shared on social media. The library is hopeful that next fall a similar orientation schedule and format will retain the event style from the past two years, as well as the required blocks from this fall.