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Some Helpful Professional Reading

Lexis searchers and law librarians involved in teaching computerized legal research or merely wanting to fine tune their online searching skills may find it useful to read a series of articles by Teresa Pritchard-Schoch in the journal *Online*.

In the November 1993 issue this author discusses problems connected with teaching new practitioners in law firms and outlines successful strategies which Ms Pritchard-Schoch has used. Westlaw searching is the focus for most of this article and is followed by an article on Lexis searching in the March 1994 issue. In the July 1994 issue she provides a series of test questions which can be used to assess the success or otherwise of a computerized legal research training course.

Law firm librarians may find another article by Pritchard-Schoch, on developing a client conflicts database based on INMAGIC, even more interesting. It can be found in the December 1993 issue of *Database*, a companion journal to *Online*.

The March 1994 issue of *Online* contains an article by Michelle Quigley, entitled "New Features on Lexis and Nexis: Frequency Searching, Capitalization and Pluralization". Again, as with Pritchard-Schoch's articles, there are many practical examples and hints to encourage the novice or infrequent searcher.

New CD-ROMS

The Fairfax organisation has recently issued its newspapers and business magazine on CD-ROM. They are: the *Age*, the *Australian Financial Review*, the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Business Review Weekly*. Each publication comes on a separate disk. January to June 1994 information is now available and will be updated quarterly. A cumulated disk will be provided at the end of each year.

News, feature articles, comment, letters to the editor, special surveys and the *Good Weekend* are included; photographs, stock exchange listings and advertising are not.

Each CD-ROM is available in DOS, Windows and Macintosh versions. The search software, Folio Views, (also being used increasingly for law full-text databases) seems to be fairly memory-hungry, requiring 8MB of RAM for all three versions. The DOS or Windows versions require a 386 PC or better, and the Macintosh version requires a System 7, 68020 machine.

Annual single-user subscription for each disk on a stand-alone workstation is \$990. A single-user licence operated through a network costs \$990 plus 25%; each extra simultaneous user on a network after the original base price plus 25% is another 15% per user.

Since the Law School subscription to Lexis now includes Nexis, which provides access to several years of the *Age*, *Australian Financial Review* and *Business Review Weekly*, as well as the *Sydney Morning Herald* from this year, the question for university law libraries must become the

comparative cost effectiveness and comparative convenience of the two methods of access to these publications.

Internet Notes

The World Wide Web continues to proliferate faster than the mother monster in *ALIEN*. If you have access to a World Wide Web browser such as Mosaic or Cello you may like to explore a very comprehensive new source at :

<http://akebono.stanford.edu/yahoo/>

YAHOO apparently stands for "Yet Another Hierarchically [insert O word] Oracle" and is maintained by David Filo and Jerry Yang.

YAHOO seems to be another attempt on the way to the realization of the Internet holy grail, the one-stop shop or "Scholar's Workstation" concept. It offers a long Home Page menu arranged alphabetically into many subject groups, including law. However, I also found some law-related resources under the "Culture and Society" main menu heading, subheading "Women's Studies".

Three academics from Indiana University School of Law, Cornell Law School and University of Tennessee College of Law respectively are organizing the FEMINIST CURRICULAR RESOURCES CLEARINGHOUSE. This is a collection of syllabi, reading lists, bibliographies and other information pertaining to the teaching of legal courses involving feminist issues. The clearinghouse is still under construction so not all the links are activated as yet.

LEXIS News Release on International Legal Materials

DAYTON, OHIO — October 1, 1994 — The LEXIS/NEXIS Services introduced today the most comprehensive and user-friendly way of finding international legal materials. EASY Search for Worldwide Law allows even a casual online searcher to quickly access and retrieve treaties, case law, legislation, journals, law directories and related materials. As new laws for various countries are added to LEXIS/NEXIS, they will also be available through the Worldwide Law product.

When it is complete at the end of 1994, materials from Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, Ireland, Russia, the U.K. and the U.S. (pertaining to international relationships) will be available in the LEXIS/NEXIS Worldwide Law product. The menu listing below indicates current and future options:

1. All U.K. and Commonwealth Law*
2. Australia*
3. Canada*
4. European Community (also European Union)
5. France
6. United Kingdom
7. United States International Law
8. Other Countries and Organizations
9. Treaties and Agreements
10. Law Journals
11. News
12. People

*Available October 1, 1994

Other EASY Search products include News, Worldwide Business and U.S. Legal. EASY Search guides users through menus and screen prompts leading them to the information they need. The new Worldwide Law product is unmatched by other online or CD-ROM services in the amount and variety of international laws in a menu-driven format. Asian, Eastern European and Mexican laws and related materials will be added to the Worldwide Law product.