

KENNETH F. KAHN SCHOOL OF LAW LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025

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Director's Introduction

It is my pleasure to present the inaugural Annual Report of the Kenneth F. Kahn Law Library. Reflecting on our first year of operation, I am proud to share the library's progress, showcase our achievements, and express heartfelt thanks to the supporters who made our journey possible.

Gratitude to Our Benefactors

We owe our deepest appreciation to Liberty University School of Law Library, Founding Dean and Chief Justice (fmr) Mark Martin, Loyola University Law Library, and Fox Rothschild LLP, whose generous donations helped launch our collection. Special thanks also go to David Bryden, High Point University's university librarian and library director, whose mentorship and coordination were instrumental in laying the foundations of our law library. His guidance and expertise have been invaluable.

Our Staff: The Heart of the Library

Above all, our greatest asset is our dedicated staff. Their commitment and hard work have been the driving force behind our success this year.

Building a Law Library: Challenges and Support

Starting a law library from the ground up is a formidable task, but we have never been alone. The unwavering support of the University Administration and many mentors, who generously shared their insights and experiences, have sustained us throughout this journey.

Growth and Innovation in Our Inaugural Year

Our first year has been marked by significant growth and innovative approaches. From the beginning, we embraced the new ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools 604(a), which require law libraries to provide "reliable and efficient access" to a complete, current, and accessible collection of materials and information resources. This emphasis on access rather than the accumulation of physical books has shaped our approach to building our collection.

While we continue to collect selected print materials, the majority of our collection is now available in digital format. We utilize cutting-edge technology to deliver exceptional patron services, and our partnership with Adilam Solution will soon enable us to implement Arcus – a cloud-based platform – to offer seamless services such as self-serve material checkout and check-in.

Advancing Legal Education and Supporting Our Community

The Law Library remains committed to advancing legal education, meeting the research needs of our faculty and students, and providing outstanding service to the entire HPU community.

Through collaboration with the main campus library, our team has worked diligently to build the library collection, expand access to both physical and digital resources, and deliver unparalleled customer service to our patrons.

Strategic Partnerships and Innovation

This report outlines our major initiatives, milestones, and strategic plans. With the steadfast backing of HPU and the main campus library, we have established partnerships with both local and national library institutions. We have invested in new databases and technologies to better serve our patrons. We remain dedicated to serving our patrons with excellence.

Acknowledging Our Collective Accomplishments

The achievements of the Kenneth F. Kahn Law Library in its first year reflect the hard work of HPU Libraries staff, our own talented team and student workers, our supportive administration, and the law students and faculty—without whom neither the law school nor the law library would exist.

Looking ahead to the new school year, we are eager to strengthen existing partnerships and further expand our collection.

Invitation for Continued Engagement

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Kenneth F. Kahn Law Library. I invite you to explore the data presented in this report, which represents our ongoing commitment to excellence and innovative legal information delivery.

Sola Babatunde, Library Director.

Patrons

For any given week in the semester, patron visits ranged from 13 to 50, and were most typically between 24 to 33. Daily presence ranged from 0 to as many as 14 students. Student presence in the library tended to peak in the evenings. The busiest day was usually Monday. These trends underwent expected fluctuations during midterms (fall semester only) and finals, particularly in the spring semester. Full headcount data is provided in a separate document.

Faculty also used the library space for student meetings and their own work. The conference room within the library was in use almost daily by professors taking in person or virtual meetings, career development meetings with students, or library staff meetings.

The temporary law library space is small in comparison to the permanent space and is far away from the other buildings that law students used for class and studying. This issue is reflected in

the student survey, summarized below. We expect increased use when the library is located in the law school building.

Circulation

Most of our print materials are reference and intended for use within the library only. Thus, checkouts may not be an accurate portrait of use. However, we recorded 73 checkouts of print material, which increased in the spring semester with the addition of study aids to the Reserve collection. This also includes several records of “non-loan circulation,” times when books were used without being checked out and left on a reshelving cart.

Collections & Cataloging

Physical collection

Format	Section/Type	Number
Print volumes		
	Collection	35
	Faculty publications	3
	North Carolina	5
	North Carolina Reference	704
	Reference	781
	Reserve	82
	Special Collections	70
	Total	1680
Equipment		
	Wall ports	3
	USB-C to USB-C cords	4
	Lightning to USB-C cords	2
	Laptop chargers (USB-C)	2
	Desktop PCs	2

Databases

In addition to HPU Libraries resources that all law students have access to, the law library subscribes to the following databases:

- Aspen Learning Library (ebooks)
- CALI (lessons and tutorials)

- Elgar Advanced Introductions to Law (ebooks)
- FastCase (case law)
- HeinOnline (case law, historic cases, journals, law reviews)
- Lexis+ (federal and state statutes and regulations, cases, news)
- West Academic Study Aids Collection (ebooks)
- Westlaw Precision (federal and state statutes and regulations, cases, treatises, practice materials)

Ebooks

In addition to subscribing to ebook library resources, like West Academic and Aspen, we also began purchasing individual ebooks this year from GOBI. We purchased 10 ebooks, which are available in the catalog to all HPU users. We also have a demand-driven acquisition list set up with EBSCO, which provides all HPU users access to over 400 volumes that will be triggered for purchase if an ebook is being used a predetermined amount. Additionally, many of the databases we are subscribed to, listed in the previous section, provide ebook and other digital resources; see volume and volume equivalent numbers in the table below.

Provider	Volumes or equivalents
Aspen Learning Library	213
Elgar Online Advanced Introductions to Law	75
HeinOnline	766,475
Lexis+	26,430
West Academic Study Aids Collection	1394
Westlaw Precision	9,390

Reference

Kahn Law Library has been without a reference librarian for our first year of operation. As such, reference services have been largely informal. The director, Sola Babatunde, handles larger reference requests and has fulfilled many of these from the faculty, especially the dean of the law school. Emily, the technical services librarian, typically answers short article requests or statistical information questions from faculty (8 this year) and access questions from students.

Student Survey

We ran our first student survey in the spring of 2025. The full results are appended to this document. We received 36 responses, just over a 50% response rate.

Students rated the current library staff and services highly, with an average rating of 4.47 out of 5 for staff and 4.5 out of 5 for services. The survey indicated fairly low use of the library, shown in the patron section; however, another survey question elucidates the issue. Of the 36 respondents, 23 said that their low use of the library was due to either “It is too far away from other law school spaces” or “It is generally inconvenient to access due to parking or other concerns.” Indeed, another question about preferred study spaces indicated that many students chose to study in Congdon or Wilson, two other buildings on campus with a law school presence – most classes were held in Congdon, and there was a dedicated law student study area in Wilson, which is right beside Congdon. We expect this to be mitigated or completely overcome by the permanent space, where the library will be in the same building as the students’ classes, study rooms, student lounge, and the faculty offices.

Otherwise, students indicated satisfaction with the library resources and staff, with some requests for more education about available resources.

Faculty Survey

We ran our first faculty survey in the late spring/early summer of 2025. Of the eleven full time faculty at the time, including our own library director, six responded.

They indicated a mixed level of familiarity with and use of the library, with two admitting to very little or no library use, one indicating low use, and three indicating medium to high use. Noticeably, their use of the library seems to be more focused on asking librarians for reference and book purchase assistance rather than using the resources for research, except in one case. On a positive note, 5 of the 6 respondents said they felt comfortable pointing law students to the library, and 6 out of 6 expressed confidence in the library’s commitment to providing resources for courses.

Library staff was rated 4.67 out of 5, and library services and support was rated 4.83 out of 5.

One respondent requested a presentation on library resources and services for faculty to gain familiarity with what the library has to offer.

Goals

Moving forward into the 2025-2026 school year, Kahn Law Library will add more resources for students, and we expect patron use of the library to increase with the addition of the second class and the move to the permanent building.

We added a third staff member beginning in August 2025 and will increase the number of student workers to continue to provide exemplary service to patrons.

We will continue to develop our resources, guides, and website to provide guidance to students.