

## Technology Fee Full Proposal

**Title:** Law Library Book Scanner

**Proposer:**

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**Sponsoring Organization:** Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center

**Purpose and Specific Objectives:** The purpose of this proposal is to request funds for one KIC Bookeye 4 V2 book scanner by the Legal Information Center.

**Impact/Benefit:**

The purchase of a KIC Bookeye 4 V2 book scanner will provide an efficient, user-friendly means of creating high-quality digital scans of print legal materials available at the Legal Information Center (LIC). Use of the scanner would benefit all UF students, faculty, and staff, and public patrons who use the Legal Information Center to conduct legal research. In 2013, the LIC had 236,124 visitors who would be potentially impacted by the addition of the Bookeye 4 V2 book scanner.

A recent American Bar Association Journal article estimated that approximately 15% of legal materials are available in digital format.<sup>1</sup> While many primary law sources are available online, print resources continue to be widely used by practicing attorneys, academic researchers, and members of the general public. Reasons for this include:

1. the designation of some print materials as "official" for the purposes of citation in academic writing, pleadings, and other legal documents,
2. the limited availability of expensive legal research databases to those outside of the law school community,
3. the value-added features of print publications, including indexes, annotations, and headnotes, and
4. the fact that some materials, especially scholarly works, are still unavailable online.

As a result, the print materials at the Legal Information Center remain indispensable in meeting the needs of the LIC's patrons. Faculty members regularly require articles and books that are only available in print for teaching and research. Law students conducting citation checks in the law school's academic journals often need to consult print versions of primary and secondary legal sources in order to verify the accuracy of footnotes. Undergraduates taking pre-law courses do not have access to Westlaw or Lexis and therefore need to use print materials for their

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<sup>1</sup> Hollee Schwartz Temple, *Are digitization and budget cuts compromising history?* ABA Journal, 36-41, May 2013, available at [http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/are\\_digitization\\_and\\_budget\\_cuts\\_compromising\\_history/](http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/are_digitization_and_budget_cuts_compromising_history/).

research projects. And practicing attorneys and members of the public rely on the LIC as their only source of authoritative legal information.

While the LIC currently features several photocopiers and flat-bed scanners, these are not efficient tools for meeting the needs of our patrons. Legal researchers often need to scan large numbers of pages from multiple sources, which is a time-consuming task with our current equipment. Some large materials are difficult to fit on the current scanners, often resulting in poor scans. Photocopies also cost \$.10 per page, while scanning documents is and will remain free of charge. The Bookeye provides a large scan bed of 17" x 24", and is capable of scanning up to 20 book pages per minute.

UF has set a goal to reach zero-waste by 2015. According to the Sustainable UF website, 10.5% of UF's waste is generated by paper.<sup>2</sup> The student printers for the law school alone produced 377,148 pages between February 2013 and February 25, 2014.<sup>3</sup> While it is impossible at this date to eliminate all printing, a book scanner would encourage more use of digital copies. According to the Pew Research Center, as of January 2014, 58% of American adults have a smartphone, 32% of American adults own an e-reader and 42% of American adults own a tablet computer,<sup>4</sup> all of which are capable of providing access to digital documents. Thus, it is a reasonable expectation that UF students have and are able to use these technologies; they just need access to the content in digital format, which the book scanner can provide.

The LIC has also launched a digital scholarship repository which will create a legacy of works created by UF Law School faculty and affiliates. Some of the materials, especially older items, will need to be scanned prior to placing them in the repository. Older materials require more delicate scanning procedures, such as scanning face up so as not to put pressure on the spine of a potentially fragile book. The Bookeye is able to scan materials face-up. It also has a book cradle that can be manipulated into different formations in order to support fragile book spines.

Additionally, the administrators of the LIC have discussed creating digital collections, which would be available to the UF community and the public, with some of the LIC's unique items, such as the collection of Florida Constitution materials. This would be a unique collection and may provide access to materials to the public which they could not access otherwise without great expense and travel to our campus or the State Archives in Tallahassee. Some of these materials are fragile due to age, and others are relatively rare and need to have special care taken not to damage them. The LIC does not currently have a scanner that can be used for this purpose. The Bookeye would be very useful in beginning this digital collection.

Lastly, the Bookeye scanner is more user-friendly for patrons and staff members with certain disabilities. For instance, the LIC staff member in charge of managing and processing interlibrary loan transactions has a disability which makes it more difficult for him to use the flatbed scanners currently possessed by the library. The Bookeye scanner, which includes a foot pedal for hands-free operation, would permit him to perform these duties in less time, and he would then have more time to focus on other aspects of his job. There are also 40 law students registered with the University's Disability Resource Center (DRC), which accounts for "almost half of all students with disabilities in professional school programs."<sup>5</sup> Students and faculty with visual disabilities would also benefit from the book scanner as materials could easily be digitized to allow the adjustment of size and provide text for

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<sup>2</sup> <http://sustainable.ufl.edu/zero-waste/>.

<sup>3</sup> Emailed printing report from Academic Technology. On file with proposers.

<sup>4</sup> Pew Research, Device Ownership Over Time, <http://www.pewinternet.org/data-trend/mobile/device-ownership/>.

<sup>5</sup> Email from Jim Gorske, Asst. Dean and Dir., University of Florida Disability Resource Center, to Jennifer Wondracek, Head of E-Services & Technology, University of Florida, Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center (Mar. 18, 2014, 7:51 AM, EST) (On file with proposer).

text-to-speech devices. When the scanner proposal was explained to Jim Gorske, Assistant Dean and Director of the DRC, he stated, "I appreciate your approach as the scanner supports independent use by not only students, but faculty, staff and visitors to the Law School library as well."<sup>6</sup>

**Sustainability:**

The recurring costs will consist of the annual maintenance services for the system. Quoted maintenance costs are \$ 2,153.00 per year. The Legal Information Center is committed to providing the resources necessary to maintain this system, and will be allocating funds toward the maintenance agreement.

**Timeline:**

**August 2014**

Funding awarded. Scanner, PC, and monitor ordered.

**September/October 2014**

Installation of system and training of LIC staff (4-6 weeks subsequent to purchase).

**October /November 2014**

Training of students, staff, and faculty of the law school.

**Ongoing**

Usage statistics recorded and reported.

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<sup>6</sup> Email from Jim Gorske, Asst. Dean and Dir., University of Florida Disability Resource Center, to Jennifer Wondracek, Head of E-Services & Technology, University of Florida, Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center (Mar. 18, 2014, 7:51 AM, EST) (On file with proposer).