

Re hiring good RAs

- Ask the librarians, they know who the good researchers are
- Ask Roger, he teaches advanced legal research, so ditto
- Find a good RA, and ask them to identify other potential RAs who would be a good match for you (they know your work, etc)
- If you're looking for someone to work on fns, think about students on journals
- Ask your standouts from class--but don't forget about posting on simplicity so students outside that avenue can find you
- Think creatively about how to staff your summer RA needs—maybe someone going to Cambridge can give you some time before they go (or once they come back)--same for those going to firm jobs, check to see when they're going & when they're coming back (=don't assume just because they have plans that they are gone all summer)

How can the library help?

- Roger had a handout with a number of innovative ways that librarians currently work with faculty on their research projects to illustrate a few of the possibilities--each faculty member has an assigned librarian, so start with them & don't be afraid to ask for help
- Librarians can also work with your RAs, so the RAs are doing the work but librarians are guiding them, checking their searches, etc.
- A number of faculty raved about the RA training done by the library at the beginning of the summer, and requested a similar training at the beginning of the school year, maybe even once a semester (and keep the professionalism stuff in there, we found that very helpful!)

What sorts of work do we have RAs do?

- Short answer = everything!
- Lit reviews
- Taking notes on highlighted research
- Memos on discrete questions
- Constructing footnotes
- We talked about the importance of checking in with RAs, both to make sure the work isn't too burdensome and also to ensure that there are clear expectations as to what they're supposed to be doing. Check in early & often at the start of the year, then loosen up as they get to know you and what you want/need.
- We talked about RA work for credit (which is under review in at least one committee) & for pay, and to watch for the email that goes out near the end of the fiscal year allowing you to request additional RA hours if you can justify them.