

# CASE STUDY

# University of Wisconsin Law Library

"It's extremely easy to use, and very low maintenance. We've had no repairs. Once it's in and set up, it's good to go. It's a good price and the quality is very high. I definitely recommend it."

Victoria Coulter assistant director for Technical Services and Collections

#### UW Law School Chooses Scannx for Ease-of-use, Affordability

When the PC-connected flatbed scanner at the University of Wisconsin Law Library died in 2012, there was no question it needed to be replaced. And Victoria Coulter, the library's assistant director for Technical Services and Collections, knew she wanted something both state-of-the-art and easy-to-use.

Fortunately, she didn't even need to leave campus to see the latest in scanning technologies. The university's main library has a Scannx Book ScanCenter, and other departments on campus had a number of different scanning solutions, prompting law library staffers to go comparison shopping.

"I went to see the Scannx," said Coulter. "It was so easy to use, and so intuitive. I liked it immediately. Some of the others went to see other scanners, which were far more expensive and far more complicated."

After a side-by-side trial between the Scannx Book ScanCenter and a competing self-service scanner kiosk, the feedback put Scannx on top. "People said it was very easy to use, and it had a sharper image."

#### Document Feeder, Book-Edge Quality: Best of Both Worlds

Their trial unit came with a document feeder – something users liked. But when the time came to order, said Coulter, "we thought we would save money and not get



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the document feeder." It was a decision she quickly regretted. "Photocopiers in that room also do scanning, and they have document feeders," she said. "That's why didn't want to get the document feeder at first. But even our staff admitted they were difficult to use."

Less than a year later, the Scannx Book ScanCenter was getting such heavy use that they decided to get a second unit – and two document feeders. This dual-solution setup is a good fit for law school libraries like UW, where some patrons need to scan lengthy legal documents, while others want to scan pages from law books. The former can use the document feeder to power through a large stack of double-sided paper, while the latter can use the book-edge design of the Book ScanCenter to get flawless scans – with no distortion or black 'gutter' – from thick, cumbersome volumes without damaging the bindings.

Coulter says she's glad the library has the choice between the two. "The document feeder scans so fast for both sides. It's just so handy, and such a time saver," she said. But the book edge on the flatbed scanner also comes in handy. "A lot of our law books are very old and are not allowed to be checked out, and law books are very large, and very thick. Having that angled, beveled edge really helps."

### Flexible Options Offer Customized Scanning Solution

Overall, the Book ScanCenter fulfilled her expectations. "Ease of use was the most important thing, then pricing and quality," said Coulter. "We needed to have good quality scans, and it certainly met that. And we needed something that was fast because we have so many people who want to use the scanners."

As she becomes more familiar with the Scannx, however, she is amazed at the unit's flexibility. "I didn't expect there to be quite as many options," she said. "The variable degree of quality available is awesome. I especially like that it doesn't matter how sloppy you put the document on. It auto detects and corrects. And I



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like the fact that we can tailor the scanner to our specific need. We could change the welcome screen, and limit what patrons could or couldn't do."

### About University of Wisconsin Law School

Established in 1868, the UW Law School is located in a 5-story building at the heart of the University of Wisconsin's Madison Campus, and is recognized as a pioneer of the 'law-in- action' approach to legal education. This philosophy, along with quality clinical programs, have earned it a place among the nation's preeminent law schools.

The library, located within the law school, has a staff of about 20 to support the faculty, staff, and students of the UW Law School, and of the university at large. The law library is also open to the public, and serves as an important source of legal information for the State of Wisconsin. The collection includes about 450,000 volumes; over 1700 law reviews and journals; primary legal materials from all fifty states; an extensive collection of government documents; and hundreds of electronic resources.