

A Legal Miscellanea Autumn 2012



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FOCUS
Dorothea Gregori *EX 14752*



The manuscript *Book of Law* (part of Dorothea Gregori's *EX 14752*) is a handwritten legal treatise that has been identified as the *Book of Law* in the *Book of Law* (1475).

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COLLECTING LEGAL MANUSCRIPTS: YES, NO, OR MAYBE

When to consider and collect legal manuscripts is a question confused essentially by most special collections librarians and other collectors of rare law materials. The answer depends upon a number of factors, and making a decision typically is a more complex process than realizing to collect rare printed books. With few exceptions, and some exciting projects, scholars may expect an official experience while they gain the experience of items in obtaining manuscripts in a library.

Why collect manuscripts? For a law library, the desirability of collecting manuscripts—books and documents written by hand—increases in proportion to the existence of certain institutional needs. Traditionally, research libraries are among the most active collectors of manuscripts, as unique artifacts, manuscripts supply the stable sought by scholars for their insight into established lines of historical inquiry, or to break new ground. Thus, manuscripts appear to find manuscripts at such libraries.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO EMILY KADENS
RECIPIENT OF THE RICHARD & DEANE CUMMINS LEGAL HISTORY RESEARCH GRANT FOR 2013.

Professor Emily Kadens, of Northwestern University School of Law, plans to use the Perle's commentary law books and commentaries, constitutive judicial decisions, and other materials in Special Collections to research her proposed project, "Custom in the Courts." She expects to be in residence at O'Fallon Law from late January until the end of March, 2013. Welcome, Professor Kadens!

[Click here to see the full Autumn 2012 issue of A Legal Miscellanea.](#)