



**63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**The Council of Voting Members**

**Global Resources Collections Forum**

*Center for Research Libraries*

*April 20, 2012*

A faint, light-colored world map is visible in the background of the slide, centered behind the text.

# **Shaping CRL's Strategic Agenda:**

Primary Sources and Research Collections

Law and Government

# Shaping CRL's Agenda: Law and Government

- Background: the CRL/LLMC partnership
- LLMC perspective
- Digitization selection
- Comparative analysis: LLMC and other databases for historical legal research
- Sustaining the partnership: alternatives

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*Kathleen Richman, Law Library Microform  
Consortium (LLMC)*

*Virginia Kerr, CRL*

# The CRL/ LLMC Partnership



- Formalized in 2010
- Shared interests: identifying, preserving, and providing digital access to important at-risk primary source documents
- Activities: digitization and print preservation
- LLMC-Digital database: over 35 million pages (5,000 titles); U.S. and various national jurisdictions

# Digitization Priorities: Joint Steering Committee

## **Content added 2010–12**

- Canadian legislative journals
- U.S. legislative journals (beginning with western states)
- Haiti patrimony collections
- African legal documents, British colonial and post-colonial (from LA Law Library)

## **Content planned for 2012–14**

- Additional state legislative journals
- African law reports (from various libraries)

# Digitization Priorities: Joint Steering Committee

## Future projects:

- Foreign official gazettes (500+ CRL records)
- Pre-Soviet materials (U. Michigan)
- Chinese codes and case law 1912-1949 (U. Michigan)
- British legal mss from Inner Temple, and Privy Court docs

# Comparative Analysis: Online Resources for Legal History

- **LLMC-Digital and . . .**
  - HeinOnline
  - LexisNexis/LN-Academic
  - *Making of Modern Law* (Gale)
  - Hathi Trust and other open access sources
- **Reports**
  - Comparative analysis  
[www.crl.edu/collections/topics/legal-databases-comparative-analysis](http://www.crl.edu/collections/topics/legal-databases-comparative-analysis)
  - Review of LLMC-Digital [www.crl.edu/review/llmc-digital](http://www.crl.edu/review/llmc-digital)
  - Review of HeinOnline [www.crl.edu/review/heinonline](http://www.crl.edu/review/heinonline)
- **Discussions with librarians in law, documents, political science**

# Comparative Analysis: CONTENT

## ***LLMC-Digital collection strengths***

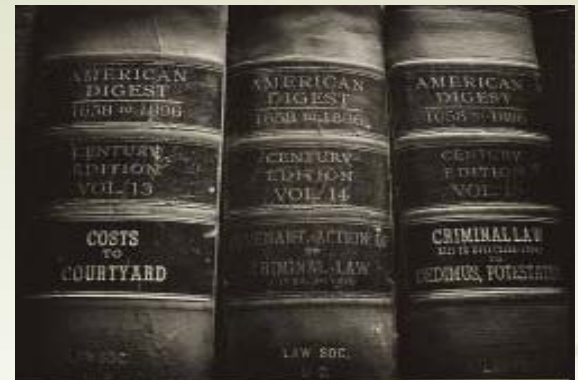
- Foreign content, especially British colonial and post-colonial
- Expanding U.S. state content (unique holdings in legislative journals, attorney generals' reports, court reports)

## ***Overlap***

Sample shows 22% LLMC-Digital content unique, but 59% overlap with various open access sources

## ***Historical research***

While *LexisNexis/LN Academic and Westlaw* are “excellent access to current laws”, not as useful for scholars searching for historical content





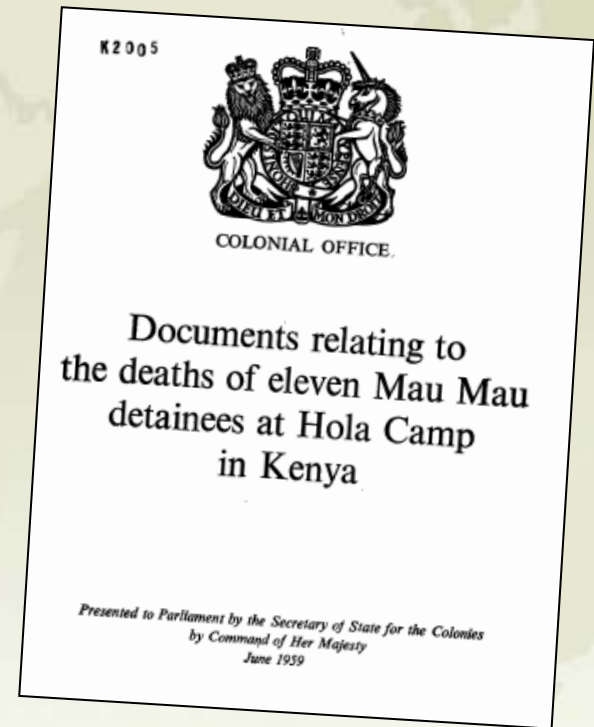
# LLMC-Digital Use Cases: PRIMARY SOURCES

## University of California, San Diego

- Human rights violations in Japanese-occupied Korea
- Text mining all decisions of U.S. Court of International Trade
- Undergraduate research involving state laws

## Michigan State University

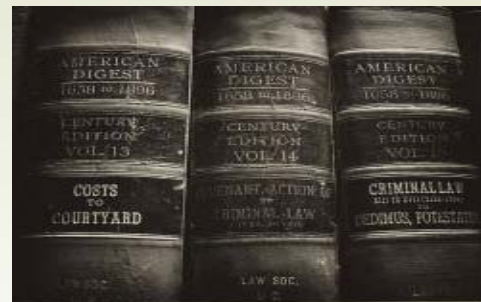
- African history course lecture on 1950s Mau Mau anti-colonial uprising in Kenya



# Comparative Analysis: DISCOVERY

## LLMC-Digital limitations

- *Catalog records*: not all subscribers buy sets from OCLC
- *Web indexing*: need titles loaded in link-resolver lists, and indexed in web-scale discovery tools
- *Serial holdings* hard to track and compare with print; but holdings in Hathi even more difficult
- *Not a “go to” resource*; fills gaps after HeinOnline, LexisNexis, etc. Low usage compared to HeinOnline core (which includes journals); 60% law school libraries use HeinOnline “extensively”.



# Comparative Analysis: INTERFACE

The screenshot displays the LLMC Digital interface. At the top, the title 'LLMC DIGITAL' is prominently featured in large white and red letters against a background of law books and a gavel. Below the title is a dark navigation bar with links for Home, Search, My File, History, About Us, and Help. The main content area is divided into two primary sections: 'Collections' on the left and search functions on the right.

**Collections**

- U.S. Federal Government
  - Legislative Search | Info
  - Executive Search | Info
  - Judicial Search | Info
  - General Search | Info
  - Constitutional Search | Info
- U.S. States
- U.S. Territories
- Anglo-American Collections
- Foreign Jurisdictions
- International Law and Organizations
- Multi-Jurisdiction Subject Collections

**Citation Search**

Volume Abbr. (Using Only Harvard Bluebook Citations) Page

1 124 Stat. 1121 1

Search

**Title Search**

Title Volume Part Page

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTU

Aacren - pre-ALR-1, American Decisions, 178

Search

- *Users prefer* standard database interfaces (such as Gale)
- *LLMC looking into:* improving document navigation and downloading, user friendly title browse, screen layout
- *Replace the platform?*