

# ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2013



## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Name of country: United States of America

Name of library or equivalent national-level organisation: Library of Congress

Name of Chief Executive: The Librarian of Congress is Dr. James H. Billington. The Associate Librarian for Library Services, the service unit that performs most national library functions, is Ms. Roberta Shaffer.

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### **1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.**

The Library of Congress supplied the Congress and other U.S. federal branches of government with up-to-date research, often of a confidential nature and always prepared to the highest standards of objectivity and timeliness. In fiscal 2012 the Library launched a new general-interest bimonthly magazine, LCM or Library of Congress Magazine, available in both online and print versions, and a beta site, [Congress.gov](http://Congress.gov), for accessing legislative information. The U.S. Copyright Office, a service unit of the Library of Congress, registered more than 511,000 works for copyright. The Library launched its multiyear Celebration of the Book with an exhibition on “Books that Shaped America” and its first Summit of the Book.

The Library of Congress’s Websites recorded more than 87 million online visits and 545 million page views in 2012. The Library’s growing participation in Web 2.0 technology has vastly increased the number of virtual Library users. The Library also continued to enhance its onsite visitors’ experience through the innovative myLOC.gov Website (<http://myloc.gov/>) and the “LC Experience” for onsite visitors, who numbered nearly 1.7 million in 2012. Visitors could experience the Library through guided tours of the historic Thomas Jefferson Building, while those who preferred a self-guided tour could use either free printed brochures about the building and collections or download a tour app to their mobile devices. The Library opened an exhibition, *Books that Shaped America*, in June 2012 highlighting 88 books published from 1751 to 2002, with the intention of encouraging dialogue about the influence of these and other publications on the lives of Americans. More than 100 national and international radio, television, video, and photographic productions featured the Library during 2012. The increased interactions with the public strengthen the Library as a cultural force as well as a premier resource for scholarship.

### **2. Note of the reporting library’s relationship to government, and citation of legislation which sets out the library’s mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library’s operations:**

The Library of Congress was established as a legislative reference library on April 24, 1800. The position of Librarian of Congress was established on January 26, 1802, by a law that also defined

the Library's role and functions. Legislation in 1865 and 1870 centralized U.S. copyright functions at the Library of Congress. The Thomas Jefferson Building opened in 1897 as the Library's first dedicated building. Beginning in 1900, legislation enabled the Library to make its cataloguing data available to other libraries on a cost-recovery basis. A law passed in 1971 established the U.S. Cataloging in Publication program at the Library. These laws enable the Library of Congress to function as the de facto national library of the U.S. for all content areas except clinical medicine and technical agriculture.

The Library of Congress now includes five service units: the Congressional Research Service; Law Library of Congress; the Office of Strategic Initiatives, which administers the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program; Library Services, the service unit that performs most national library functions for the U.S.; and the U.S. Copyright Office. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and the American Folklife Center are part of Library Services.

### **3. Key facts and figures for 2012 (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc.):**

The heart of the Library of Congress is its collections. At the end of September 2012, the collections included a total of 155,357,302 items. Of these, 23,276,091 were books and serials catalogued in the Library of Congress Classification system; an additional 12,638,773 items were books in large type and raised characters, incunabula, bound newspapers, pamphlets, technical reports, and other print material. The Library's collections also included: 3,420,599 audio materials, such as discs, tapes, talking books, and other recorded formats; 1,966,354 direct-access computer files, e.g. CD-ROMs; 68,118,899 manuscripts; 5,478,123 maps; 16,746,497 microforms; 6,589,199 pieces of printed sheet music; and 15,04,268 visual materials, such as moving images, photographs, posters, prints, etc. The Library also reported more than 37.6 million items digitized from its historical collections and made freely available to all users around the world on its Websites, such as American Memory (<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>), the Performing Arts Encyclopedia (<http://www.loc.gov/performingarts/>), and the Veterans History Project (<http://www.loc.gov/vets/>).

The Library employed 3,312 permanent staff members in addition to seasonal employees and interns in 2012. This number represented a decrease of 6 percent from the previous year. Staff provided reference services to 540,489 individuals, an *increase* of 6 percent from the previous year. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped circulated more than 25 million disc, cassette, large print, and braille items to more than 800,000 patrons throughout the U.S.

The Library of Congress in fiscal year 2012 (Oct. 1, 2011 through Sept. 30, 2012) operated with a total fiscal 2012 appropriation of \$629.2 million US. For fiscal year 2013, beginning Oct. 1, 2012, the U.S. Congress appropriated to the Library \$632.8 million US, including the authority to spend \$39.96 million US in receipts. However, overall federal budget constraints reduced the Library's funding level to \$598.4 million US, including the authority to spend \$39.96 million US in receipts, for fiscal 2103. The Library also benefits from numerous gift funds used primarily to mount special events such as lecture series and to purchase collection materials.

### **4. New developments in creating and building print and digital collections:**

Collection development at the Library is extremely broad, covering virtually every discipline and field of study, including the entire range of different forms of publication and media for recording and storing knowledge, with the exception of technical agriculture and clinical medicine, which are the responsibilities respectively of the National Agriculture Library (NAL) and the National Library of Medicine (NAL), both agencies of the executive branch of the U.S. federal government. The Library of Congress's collections development strategy integrates analog and digital content. Its Collection Policy Statements govern all its collection development work and are available on the Library's public Website at <http://www.loc.gov/acq/devpol/>.

The Library acquired more than 3.6 million items for the collections, including 736,341 items purchased for a total of \$21,054,707 US and 2,868,948 items acquired by non-purchase techniques. The Library spent more than \$4 million US on 6,209 electronic resources from all over the world. The Library's offices in New Delhi, Cairo, Rio de Janeiro, Jakarta, Nairobi, and Islamabad acquired 259,840 items for the Library of Congress collections from approximately 75 countries. The six overseas offices also acquired 374,498 items on a cost-recovery basis for other libraries that did not have acquisitions operations in those regions.

World events presented opportunities and challenges in building and providing access to the Library's collections. The Library's Cairo office has temporarily closed several times since February 2011 because of political events in Egypt. Cairo Office staff visited Algeria, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Qatar, and United Arab Emirates in 2012, acquiring 9,585 items for the Library through gift or exchange—a slight increase over the 9,197 such items acquired the previous year. The Library's Rio de Janeiro office acquired materials at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio in 2012. On behalf of the Library's Congressional Research Service, acquisitions librarians collected materials on specific topics of interest to the U.S. Congress. More than 2,700 items were acquired from 357 sources at five different venues spread across and outside the city. In summer 2013, Rio Office staff assembled a collection of pictures and social media links that served as a summary of recent protests and related events in Rio de Janeiro and other cities in Brazil.

The U.S. Cataloging in Publication (CIP) program at the Library of Congress is the oldest in the world. The program provided cataloging in advance of publication for 49,245 titles in fiscal 2012, a decrease of five percent from the previous year's 51,870. In the 41 years since the CIP program was established, CIP data have been prepared for a cumulative total of 1,625,946 titles. A total of 5,188 publisher imprints participate in the program in 2013, representing a broad spectrum of publishers whose titles are of primary interest to both the Library of Congress and the nation's libraries. The Library has worked in 2012 and 2013 to expand the Electronic CIP Cataloging Partners Program in which other American libraries provide CIP cataloging for publications in their areas of specific interest or expertise. The Partners now contribute about 10 percent of new CIP bibliographic records. In the past year, the CIP Program also began creating cataloging data in advance of publication for electronic books (e-books) that have print counterparts. More than 100 e-book publishers now participate in the program that has produced more than 2,500 CIP records for e-books.

## **5. New developments in managing print collections:**

The Library now stores 5 million collection items at its offsite storage facility in Ft. Meade, Maryland, a 45-minute drive from the Library on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. The first two storage modules, housing 3 million books in fixed-location shelving, are full. In July 2009, the Library officially opened the third and fourth modules, for special-format items, which became essentially full in 2012. As a result, the Library is now storing a small portion of its collections in

various locations in several states. The Library has requested government funding to build additional storage modules at Ft. Meade and is exploring the possibility of fixed-location shelving for some collection materials on Capitol Hill. The Ft. Meade offsite facility has successfully retrieved all items requested to date by Congressional and other Library users within 12 business hours of the request.

The Library's Digital Content Management Initiative, or "eDeposit" project, manages ingest procedures and storage for "born digital" content. The project began with a focus on electronic serials received through the U.S. Copyright Office. In February 2010, the Copyright Office issued interim regulations for deposit of electronic serials that have no tangible counterparts. The regulations, under the Library's authority to specify the "best edition" for copyright deposit, require publishers to provide core metadata elements for each e-serial they submit for copyright deposit. The regulations are classified as "interim" so that they can be fine-tuned as they are put into practice. During this initial phase, born digital e-serials to be deposited for copyright purposes are the focus. The project has developed, built, and implemented Request-Receive-Ingest-Process components. The Delivery Management System developed for this project has been a success, and it is designed to be adapted for use with other formats of materials and other sources of acquisition. As of July 2013, the Library had accessioned more than 2,500 individual issues from 180 online journals. The Library is also gathering requirements for integrated software data exchange services to receive, accept and store e-books.

The Library is continuing the West Africa Acquisitions Pilot Project (WAAPP), a collaboration that began in 2010 with the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) to select, purchase and provide bibliographic services for materials from West African countries, using bibliographic representatives to augment the current methods of obtaining and cataloging materials from those areas. The project acquired 1,355 titles in 2011 and 3,025 in 2012. Bibliographic representatives living in West African countries acquired materials on behalf of the Library and provided preliminary bibliographic data for titles they purchased.

The Library also initiated a project with a French book vendor in 2011 to acquire titles about French West Africa through a distribution center located in Normandy, France. In 2011, the Library acquired 92 titles through the Normandy distribution center and in 2012, 122 books were acquired by this method. The acquisitions included government documents, maps, local newspapers, and law codes and gazettes. The acquisitions from West Africa via WAAPP and the vendor Touzot significantly increased the Library's acquisitions and preliminary cataloging of titles in African languages.

## **6. New developments in providing access to collections:**

The Library of Congress, in coordination with NLM, NAL, and the 800 other members of the international Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), implemented the new cataloging instructions, *RDA: Resource Description & Access*, on March 31, 2013. (All PCC institutions implemented RDA for authority records on that date; most also implemented RDA for bibliographic records but had the option of retaining their former rules for bibliographic descriptions). The Library trained 500 staff members, including catalogers in its overseas offices, in preparation for implementation. The Library has posted all its training materials on its Catalogers Learning Workshop Website at <http://www.loc.gov/catworkshop> or its Website for RDA preparation and implementation at <http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/>

The Library of Congress has contracted with Zepheira to help accelerate the launch of BIBFRAME, the New Bibliographic Framework Initiative. A major focus of BIBFRAME is an

effective migration plan for the library community to make a transition from the MARC format to a new framework based on a Linked Data (LD) model, while retaining as much as possible the robust and beneficial aspects of our library environment. Zepheira, a company that has been active in the development of Semantic Web and library standards, has provided a model that can serve as a basis for work focused on a demonstration system/service that will, in turn, be used to further refine the model(s). A comparison service showing Library of Congress catalog records in the prevailing Machine-Readable Cataloging (MARC 21) Format and BIBFRAME and a transformation tool that allows institutions to convert their own MARC records to BIBFRAME are now available on the BIBFRAME Website at <http://www.bibframe.org>.

In 2012 the Library of Congress joined the HathiTrust that manages a digital repository of digitized American publications. The Library has contributed more than 89,000 titles in the public domain, all digitized at the Library of Congress. Library users can access the full content from links in the Library's online catalog.

In order to respond to increasing expectations for collections materials and related items to be made available on its Website, the Library is seeking to supplement its existing digitization programs by entering into no-cost contracts for the scanning or digitization of collections materials for the mutual benefit of the digitizing entity and the Library. In March 2013, the Library issued an ongoing [Request for Proposals](#) process for third party digitization projects. The initial response date was April 30, and the first proposals are now under review. Future response deadlines are to occur every six months, with the next being Oct.31, 2013. All digitization projects must comply with the principles noted at URL <http://www.loc.gov/about/business/thirdpartydig/principles.html>.

## **7. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (libraries, archives and museums):**

The World Digital Library (<http://www.wdl.org>), launched by the Library of Congress with UNESCO and 34 partner institutions on April 21, 2009, now offers unique cultural heritage materials from or about all 192 UNESCO member countries. By September 2012, a total of 161 partners from 75 countries had joined the project, and there had been approximately 23 million visits to the Website. The Website now receives more than 5 million visits each year. A key objective of the WDL project is to build digital library capabilities in the developing world, and the Library of Congress provided technical assistance and training to library partners around the world. With private-sector funding, the Library of Congress operated digital-conversion centers in Egypt, Iraq, and Uganda.

The Library hosts the National Digital Newspaper Program public Website, *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (<http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/>), which now provides access to more than 6 million newspaper pages, digitized by 27 states and the Library of Congress. These historic newspapers include over 967 titles published between 1836 and 1922. In summer 2013, the Website will add more than 500,000 pages from participating states. *Chronicling America* now offers a weekly notification service. Readers may subscribe for free to this RSS (Really Simple Syndication) service. Please see the Subscribe feature or URL <http://www.loc.gov/rss/ndnp/ndnp.xml>.

The online Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), administered by the Law Library of Congress, comprises nearly 210,000 laws, judicial decisions, and related legal materials contributed by 38 member nations and international organizations. The Library itself contributes laws for some nations that are not currently GLIN members. The member nations and

organizations share responsibility for management of GLIN. In 2012 and 2013, negotiations were ongoing to transfer GLIN central functions from the Library of Congress to a successor institution.

The Library's Nairobi Office continued its efforts to acquire and preserve African newspaper issues that often are not preserved in their countries of publication. Three grant proposals were submitted to the Cooperative Africana Materials Project/Center for Research Libraries Partnership for Newspaper Preservation this year and all were approved, for microfilming Senegal newspapers; *The Nation* (Malawi); and *Mololi* (Lesotho).