

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2015



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 Deputy Librarian is Mr. David Mao.

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

The Library of Congress provides 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 2014, the year ending September 30, 2014, the Library continued to enhance Congress.gov, the official web site for U.S. federal legislative information. In January 2015, the site was updated for the start of the 114th Congress (2015-2016). In March 2015 new content was added, including Treaties, Executive Reports, and current floor activity, and site functionality was enhanced with advanced search, browse, appropriations tables, and member profiles. The May 2015 release added the Federalist Papers to the site, and included additional improvements to search, browse, and accessibility. The Library also continues to maintain the predecessor systems, THOMAS (for the public) and LIS (Legislative Information System, for Congress and legislative branch staff).

In fiscal 2014 the U.S. Copyright Office, a service unit of the Library of Congress, registered 476,298 works for copyright. The Library moved forward in managing its digital content on a consistent enterprise-wide basis, improving the end user's experience and providing a platform for new capabilities on the web.

The Library of Congress's web sites recorded more than 78.1 million online visits and 489.3 million page views in 2014. The Library's growing participation in Web 2.0 technology has significantly increased the number of virtual Library users. The Library's channel <http://www.youtube.com/loc> on the online video portal YouTube allows virtual users to access selections from the Library's collection of early motion pictures as well as such up-to-the-minute content as lectures delivered at the Library, an overview of the U.S. federal legislative process, and video clips from the annual Library of Congress National Book Festival.

The Library also welcomed more than 1.45 million on-site visitors in 2014 for tours and exhibitions--five new and seven continuing--on topics as varied as "A Thousand Years of the Persian Book" to "American Ballet Theatre: Touring the Globe for 75 Years." This outreach to the public strengthens the Library as a cultural force as well as a premier resource for scholarship.

Dr. James H. Billington, the Librarian of Congress, announced on June 10, 2015, that he intends to retire effective Jan. 1, 2016. Dr. Billington is the 13th Librarian of Congress. He began his tenure at the Library in 1987 and will retire with a total of 42 years of federal government service. The next Librarian of Congress will be appointed by the president of the United States with the advice and consent of the United States Senate, one of two houses of Congress.

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 Library's Law Library was the first separate department created in 1832 and by law serves Congress, the Executive Branch and the Federal Judiciary. 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. In 1914, Congress established a unit in the Library specifically to provide reference services to the Congress. 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; Library Services, the service unit that performs most national library functions for the U.S.; National and International Outreach; and the U.S. Copyright Office. In May 2015, the Librarian announced an organizational realignment that established the National and International Outreach service unit and retired the Office of Strategic Initiatives, which was a service unit from 2000 through mid-May 2015. Information technology, web services and repository development now will function in the Office of the Chief Information Officer within the Office of the Librarian. Digitization projects, digital and analogue collection life cycle management, and web archiving projects will be performed within the Library Services service unit. The realignment strengthens the Library's information technology and other support functions; elevates the outreach function; consolidates digital and analogue collection management; provides a better overall support structure for staff; improves overall management; and will result in continuously improved service to the Library's customers.

3. Key facts and figures for 2014 (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 2014, the collections included a total of 160,775,469 items. Of these, 23,892,068 were books and serials catalogued in the Library of Congress Classification system; an additional 14,072,971 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: 3,567,336 audio materials, such as discs, tapes, talking books, and other recorded formats; 1,972,235 direct-access computer files, e.g. CD-ROMs; 69,626,842 manuscripts; 5,539,890 maps; 16,912,491 microforms; 7,113,157 pieces of printed sheet music; and 18,078,479 visual materials, such as moving images, photographs, posters, prints, etc. The Library also reported more than 52.3 million files digitized from its historical collections and made freely available to all users around the world on its web sites.

The Library employed 3,138 permanent staff members in addition to seasonal employees and interns in 2014. Staff provided reference services to 467,142 private individuals in addition to responding to nearly 593,000 congressional reference requests. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped circulated more than 23 million disc, cassette, large print, and braille items to more than 890,000 patrons throughout the U.S.

For fiscal year 2014, the U.S. Congress appropriated to the Library \$618.8 million US, including the authority to spend \$39.8 million US in receipts. However, overall federal budget constraints reduced the Library's 2014 funding to \$618.4 million US, including the authority to spend receipts. The Library also benefits from numerous gift funds used primarily to mount special events such as lecture series and to purchase special collection materials. For fiscal 2015, the Library is operating on a budget of \$630.9 million US including \$39.9 million in receipts. For the coming fiscal year, 2016, the Library has requested a budget of \$666,629,000 US.

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

Collection development at the Library is 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 (NLM), both agencies of the executive branch of the U.S. federal government. The Library of Congress's collections development strategy integrates analogue and digital content. Its Collection Policy Statements govern all its collection development work and are available on the Library's public web site at <http://www.loc.gov/acq/devpol/>.

On June 23rd, 2014, the Library issued its Recommended Format Specifications, which are hierarchies of the physical and technical characteristics of creative formats, both analogue and digital, which will best meet the needs of all concerned, maximizing the chances for survival and continued accessibility of creative content well into the future. To fulfill the Library's mission "to further the progress of knowledge and creativity for the benefit of the American people", the Library continues to build a vast collection of content and to grow it aggressively, for the benefit of the American people today and for generations to come. To build this national collection and to ensure that it will be available for successive generations requires that the Library identify and acquire those formats which are suitable for large-scale acquisition and preservation for long-term access. The specifications provide the guidance within the Library necessary to inform the acquisitions of collections materials (other than materials received through the U.S. Copyright Office) in this regard. A second purpose is to inform the creative and library communities on best practices for ensuring the preservation of, and long-term access to, the creative output of our nation and the world. The Library has been pleased at the positive feedback it has received about the Recommended Format Specifications from around the world, including other national libraries. Reaction from business groups, such as the Recording Industry Association of America, has also been positive. The Library is currently revising the Recommended Format Specifications based on this feedback. The revision will lead to the release of the new 2015/2016 edition in the coming weeks. Reviewing the specifications annually will permit the Library to keep pace with developments in the creative world, so that changes to the Format Specifications can be made in small but frequent increments. Input and feedback are welcome; please see the *Recommended Format Specifications* document at: www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/rfs/index.html.

The Library in fiscal 2014 acquired more than three million items for the collections, including 717,339 items purchased for a total of \$24,539,936.34 US (compared to \$20,497,843.25 in fiscal 2013 and \$21,054,706.93 in fiscal 2012) and 2,289,097 items acquired by non-purchase

techniques. The Library obtained many treasures for the collections, including an edition of the Codex of Justinian published in Hamburg, Germany, in 1674; ten manuscript maps made by Augustin Codazzi shortly after Venezuela's independence in the 1830s, that led to the first printed atlas of Venezuela; a complete run of the cartoon posters published in the Dutch weekly magazine *De Nieuwe Amsterdammer*, January 2, 1915 (no. 1) to December 28, 1918 (no. 209), that strengthened the Library's collections of graphic materials related to World War I; a rare 1791 map of northeastern Peru printed in Lima; *Okamura Kichiemon: Iroha emoji* (Figurative writing of Japanese syllabary), one of only 30 copies printed; the Euromaidan ephemera collection representing selected materials from the Euromaidan protests in Ukraine from late November 2013 to March 2014; and microfilm of the Yokohama, Japan, Specie Bank's complete historical record of internal reports and other documents, unavailable as a complete set in any other North American library.

The Library spent more than \$4.9 million US to acquire or license access to 1,907 electronic resources from all over the world. The Library renewed its membership in the Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek (EZB) that made 78,227 titles available, of which 46,996 include free full text access for the Library's on-site users. All of the EZB titles can easily be found and accessed through the Library of Congress Electronic Resources Online Catalog or directly through the EZB link. In addition, the U.S. Copyright Office established special relief agreements with publishers DeGruyter and Emerald Publishing that provide the Library with access to thousands of e-serials as well as 549 e-books. The agreements excuse the publishers from depositing Best Edition print copy serials demanded under Section 407 of the U.S. Copyright Law. In return, the Library will receive all the serials and books that Emerald and De Gruyter publish in digital format instead of in print, and the publishers will provide complimentary access through their own web platforms to on-site Library of Congress staff and patrons. The Library's eDeposit project made progress this year in acquiring other born-digital serials through copyright.

The Library's offices in New Delhi, Cairo, Rio de Janeiro, Jakarta, Nairobi, and Islamabad acquire and catalogue items from approximately 75 countries for the Library of Congress collections and, on a cost-recovery basis, for other libraries that do not have acquisitions operations in those regions. The overseas offices digitized news reports and many items of grey literature for the collections, covering U.S. activities in Afghanistan, education, human rights, court decisions, and other topics. The offices also archived thousands of web sites from countries that do not participate in the International Internet Preservation Consortium. Many of those sites had a limited lifespan in the countries where they were first maintained.

5. New developments in managing print collections:

The Library has been facing a shortage of collections storage space for the past several years, a period that was also marked by budgetary challenges. The Library's primary high-density collection storage facility in Fort Meade, Maryland, currently has four modules that are equipped with state-of-the-art environmental and inventory controls. Two modules house approximately three million books in fixed-location storage. The third and fourth modules, completed in 2009, house two million special-format collections. All four modules are essentially full. In recent budget requests to the U.S. Congress, the Library's top priority was full funding of the Module 5 storage facility at Fort Meade. The fiscal 2014 budget appropriation provides the Architect of the Capitol budget with the full \$18.2 million required to construct the facility. While it awaits construction, the Library is storing a small portion of its collections in various other locations away from Washington, D.C. The Library is also shelving some collection materials on its Capitol Hill campus by size and accession date, although full classification is still assigned since

it is a useful browsing term in the Library's catalogue. The Fort Meade offsite facility has successfully retrieved all items requested to date by Congressional and other Library users.

6. New developments in providing access to collections:

In fiscal 2012 the Library of Congress began to develop BIBFRAME, the 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. After an active year of experimentation with the high level model published by the Library in November 2012 and completion of work by a group of "Early Experimenters" (George Washington University, U.S. National Library of Medicine, Princeton University, OCLC, British Library, and Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, in addition to the Library of Congress), other organizations were invited to test BIBFRAME in their local environments and share their experiences with the library community in late 2014.

In summer 2015, the Library of Congress will begin a pilot project to catalogue its own collections in BIBFRAME. The pilot, involving 35 cataloguers, will test BIBFRAME data production for print materials in English and numerous other languages, as well as for maps, moving images, printed music, and sound recordings. The Library maintains a BIBFRAME electronic discussion list; subscribe from the web site at URL <<http://www.loc.gov/bibframe/>>.

The U.S. Cataloging in Publication (CIP) program at the Library of Congress is the oldest in the world. The program in fiscal 2014 provided cataloguing in advance of publication for 50,040 titles from an estimated 5,284 publisher imprints. In the forty-four years since the U.S. CIP program was established, CIP data have been prepared for a cumulative total of 1,723,407 titles.

In the ECIP for E-Books program, the Library creates cataloguing data in advance of publication for electronic books (e-books) that have print counterparts. More than 175 e-book publishers now participate in the program that has produced more than 4,200 CIP records for e-books. For the first time, in fiscal 2014 the Library ingested e-books directly from ten publishers participating in this program and stored them securely in a digital repository. As of May 2015, 3,396 e-books have been received, and 2,937 have been moved to long-term storage.

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 2014, a total of 181 partners from 81 countries had joined the project, and there had been approximately 27 million visits to the web site. The web site received more than 3.7 million visits and 24 million page views in 2014 alone. In September 2014 the WDL released a beta version of a revamped and updated user interface for testing and comments from partners. The new interface was designed to better accommodate access on mobile devices.

A key objective of the WDL project is to build digital library capabilities in the developing world, and the Library of Congress provides 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 web site, *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (<http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/>), which now provides access to more than 9.5 million newspaper pages, digitized by 37 states, the District of Columbia, and the Library of Congress. These historic newspapers include 1,750 titles published between 1836 and 1922. The site now hosts 285,000 pages digitized from 121 ethnic newspapers, published in French, German, Italian or Spanish, increasing access to the non-English ethnic press. *Chronicling America* offers a free weekly notification service through RSS (Really Simple Syndication). Please see the Subscribe feature or URL<<http://www.loc.gov/rss/ndnp/ndnp.xml>>).

Photo enthusiasts continued to access and identify Library photos from the early 1900s through the photo-sharing project on Flickr that began in 2008. During the year, the Library added nearly 2,500 photos to its Flickr account, bringing the total to more than 22,000. The images have received 164 million page views.

In the Library's Electronic CIP Cataloging Partners Program, other American libraries provide CIP cataloging for publications in their areas of specific interest or expertise. There are now 29 partners who contribute more than 10 percent of all U.S. CIP cataloging. The Library provides the secretariat for the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, an international consortium of more than 800 institutions that share cataloging, standards, and training.