

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2009

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 Dr. Deanna Marcum.

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

The Library of Congress has been especially involved in matters of intellectual property rights in the past year. After a comprehensive study in 2006, the U.S. Copyright Office recommended changes to the U.S. copyright law to ease obstacles encountered by potential users of Orphan Works--materials that are protected by copyright law but for which a user cannot identify or locate a legitimate copyright owner. Proposed legislative changes that would permit a good-faith user to reformat or use an orphan work, after first diligently searching for the copyright owner and meeting other threshold preconditions, passed the U.S. Senate in September 2008 but were not passed by the other arm of Congress, the House of Representatives. It is expected that the legislation will be reintroduced in Congress this year.

The Library's National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) and the U.S. Copyright Office from 2005 through 2008 co-sponsored the Section 108 Study Group, named after the section of the U.S. Copyright Act that is commonly known as the "library exception." The Study Group made recommendations on possible revisions of the law to reflect reasonable uses of copyrighted works by libraries and archives in the digital age. The Group's full report is found at <<http://www.section108.gov/docs/Sec108StudyGroupReport.pdf>>.

Library Services, the unit of the Library of Congress that has most national library responsibilities, is basing its innovations and budget decisions on a strategic plan for fiscal years 2008 through 2013 that was developed over the past two years with input from staff at all levels.

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 cataloging 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. The Library collects content in all subject areas except clinical medicine and technical agriculture, which are collected by the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) and the U.S. National Agricultural Library (NAL), both in the executive branch of the federal government.

The Library of Congress now includes five service units: the Congressional Research Service; Law Library of Congress; the Office of Strategic Initiatives, which administers NDIIPP; 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 (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 2008, the collections included a total of 141,847,810 items. Of these, 21,218,408 were books catalogued in the Library of Congress Classification system; an additional 11,599,606 items were books in large type and raised characters, incunabula (books printed before 1501), bound newspapers, pamphlets, technical reports, and other print material. The Library's collections also included: 3,074,056 audio materials, such as discs, tapes, talking books, and other recorded formats; 380,648 direct-access computer files, e.g. CD-ROMs; 62,778,118 manuscripts; 5,357,385 maps; 16,086,572 microforms; 5,674,956 pieces of printed sheet music; 15,678,061 visual materials, such as moving images, photographs, posters, prints, etc. The Library also reported 15.3 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>>) and the Performing Arts Encyclopedia (<<http://www.loc.gov/performingarts/>>).

The Library employed 3,637 permanent staff members in addition to seasonal employees and interns in 2008. Staff provided reference services to 545,084 individuals. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped circulated more than 22 million disc, cassette, and braille items to more than 500,000 patrons throughout the U.S.

The Library of Congress in fiscal year 2008 (Oct. 1, 2007 through Sept. 30, 2008) operated with a total fiscal 2008 appropriation of \$613,496,414 US, including the authority to spend \$50,447,565 US in receipts. The U.S. Congress has appropriated a total of \$646.8 million US, including authority to spend \$39.7 million US in receipts, to the Library for fiscal year 2009, an increase of 5.4 percent over the previous year. 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 collections:

The Library's collections development strategy integrates analog and digital content. The Library has a grant from the Sloan Foundation to digitize three million books in the public domain. This is the Library's first large-scale digitization effort for its general collections. The Library will spend approximately \$3 million US this year on born-digital content and approximately \$15 million on at least 1.2 million items in print and other analog formats.

In late 2008, Library Services completed a thorough revision of the Collection Policy Statements that govern all collection development work at the Library of Congress. The revision updated the collection policies to integrate digital and analog collections. New Policy Statements were drafted for new areas of collection development, ranging from Dance to Computer Science, Telecommunication, and Artificial Intelligence. The Collection Policy Statements are available on the Library's public Website at <<http://www.loc.gov/acq/devpol/>>.

5. New developments in managing collections:

The Library has filled the first two modules of its offsite storage facility with books. The Library expects to begin occupying the third and fourth modules, designed for special format collections,

in June. Situated in Ft. Meade, Maryland, a 45-minute drive from Capitol Hill, the offsite facility has successfully retrieved all items requested to date by Congressional and other Library users.

The Library's eDeposit project is designing ingest procedures and storage for electronic resources that have no tangible counterparts – so-called “born digital” content. The project is beginning with electronic serials received through the U.S. Copyright Office. Under the Library's definition of “best edition” for copyright registration, publishers will be required to provide twelve core metadata elements for each e-serial they submit for copyright registration.

6. New developments in providing access to collections:

The Library implemented a new organizational structure for acquisitions and general cataloging in October 2008, after several years of planning. The new structure streamlines workflows, optimally deploys staff with unusual language skills, and fully merges acquisitions and cataloging functions for books and digital resources, based on the regional origin of the materials. Fourteen former divisions were restructured into nine new ones, reducing administrative costs. The redesign continues the Library's Dewey Decimal unit, which classifies approximately 70,000 titles each year, and the secretariat for the 600-member Program for Cooperative Cataloging. The U.S. Cataloging in Publication program was integrated into the new U.S. and Publisher Liaison Division, which also administers the U.S. ISSN Centre. The merger offers potential synergies between two programs that provide bibliographic control to materials in advance of publication.

The Library of Congress, the NLM, and NAL are leading a test of the forthcoming new cataloging code, *Resource Description and Access (RDA)*, the proposed successor to the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd Ed.* Twenty test partner institutions have been selected and will be announced in mid-May 2009. To assess the feasibility of implementing RDA and compatibility of RDA records with older records in existing catalogs, the test will run for six months after the online version of RDA becomes available. The general methodology, test protocol, and list of test partners will be available online at <<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda>>. The RDA test is part of the Library's response to *On the Record*, the final (January 2008) report of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control. The report is available at <<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future>>.

On April 28, 2009, Library of Congress staff began a 90-day beta test of the user interface for an Electronic Resources Management System (ERMS). The ERMS uses software from Innovative Interfaces, Inc., to combine searching and access to full digital text, primarily of electronic serials, with information on holdings, rights, licenses, and vendors. The ERMS currently includes more than 65,000 holdings records. The Library hopes to make the ERMS OPAC available for Congressional and public users on Capitol Hill in August.

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

The Library of Congress, in partnership with UNESCO and 34 partner institutions, launched the World Digital Library on April 21, 2009. Growing out of a proposal from the Librarian of Congress to UNESCO in 2005, the WDL Website (<<http://www.wdl.org>>) offers unique cultural heritage materials digitized from library collections and archives throughout the world. Each item on the Website has a narrative description and authoritative descriptive metadata in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish, enabling users to browse and search the collection in seven languages. The Library of Congress hosts the WDL content on its servers and maintains the Website. Collaborative partners include Yale University, Brown University, and the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, in addition to IFLA, the national

libraries of eleven countries, and other cultural heritage institutions. In its first week, WDL was mentioned in more than 1,700 articles in the international press.

The National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) is sponsored jointly by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Library of Congress to ensure public access to historic American newspapers. Since 2005, NEH has awarded funds to institutions to digitize more than 860,000 newspaper pages from 108 titles from nine states and the District of Columbia, representing the years 1800 through 1910. Newly digitized content is added to the public Website, *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (<<http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/>>), on a quarterly basis. Beginning in summer 2009, NDNP will add newspapers published from 1880-1922. The Library of Congress hosts the NDNP Website, developed the technical specifications for the digitization projects, and provided historic newspapers from Washington, D.C., and the state of New York to be digitized.