

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2010

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.

Mailing address: 101 Independence Ave., S.E., Washington DC 20540-4000 USA

Telephone: (1)-202-707-6240

Fax: (1)-202-707-6269

Web address of the Library: <http://www.loc.gov>

Email address for contacting the library: ALLS@loc.gov

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

The Library of Congress enhanced its presence in the national and international media during the past year. Under a nonexclusive, joint multimedia initiative, History™ continued to showcase the Library's collections on its broadcasts and Website with programs such as "Stealing Lincoln's Body," "D-Day: The Lost Evidence," and "Hidden Treasures from the Library of Congress." The Library has also enhanced its visitors' experience through the innovative myLOC.gov Website (<http://myloc.gov/>) and the "LC Experience" for onsite visitors. Last September, more than 130,000 people attended the 2009 National Book Festival organized by the Library, with the President and First Lady as honorary chairs. The increased interactions with the public strengthen the Library as a cultural force as well as a premier resource for scholarship.

The Library now participates in Web 2.0, vastly increasing the number of virtual Library users. Since January 2009, the Library's feed on the popular micro-blogging site Twitter has attracted more than 13,500 "followers," making it one of the three most popular U.S. federal government Twitter sites. In April 2010, Twitter donated its entire public digital archives to the Library of Congress—billions of public "tweets" or short messages that will be a rich resource for scholars of 21st century life.

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 (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 2009, the collections included a total of 144,562,233 items. Of these, 21,814,555 were books catalogued in the Library of Congress Classification system; an additional 11,701,147 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: 3,052,857 audio materials, such as discs, tapes, talking books, and other recorded formats; 884,601 direct-access computer files, e.g. CD-ROMs; 63,718,170 manuscripts; 5,391,200 maps; 16,206,259 microforms; 6,001,971 pieces of printed sheet music; and 15,722,425 visual materials, such as moving images, photographs, posters, prints, etc. The Library also reported more than 19 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 3,624 permanent staff members in addition to seasonal employees and interns in 2008. Staff provided reference services to 589,777 individuals. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped circulated more than 24 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 2009 (Oct. 1, 2008 through Sept. 30, 2009) operated with a total fiscal 2009 appropriation of \$646,761,000 US, including the authority to spend \$39,665,000 US in receipts. The U.S. Congress appropriated a total of \$684,299,000 US, including authority to spend \$40,962,000 US in receipts, to the Library for fiscal year 2010, an increase of 5.8 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:

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 (NLM) 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/>.

Library Services is planning to establish a position for a Collection Development Officer, reporting directly to the Associate Librarian for Library Services, to plan, develop, coordinate, and execute Library-wide collection development. This decision resulted from the strategic planning exercise that Library Services completed in 2008. A Library Services study team will issue a long-term plan for the Library's collection development function by August 25, 2010.

With a grant from the Sloan Foundation to digitize books in the public domain, as of Sept. 30, 2009, the Library had digitized more than 52,600 volumes, totalling approximately 9.3 million images. Working with the Internet Archive, the Library has developed an open-source page-turner that greatly enhances the usability of the digital books. The scanned materials are

accessible on the Internet Archive's website, with bibliographic links to the Library of Congress Online Catalog (<http://catalog.loc.gov>).

The Library spent approximately \$3 million US in 2009 on born-digital content and approximately \$16.2 million for collections in print and other analog formats, purchasing more than 1.2 million new collection items. More than one million additional items were obtained by transfer from other U.S. government libraries, gift, or exchange methods and hundreds of thousands of others from the U.S. Copyright Office.

5. New developments in managing collections:

The Library now stores three million collection items at its offsite storage facility in Ft. Meade, Maryland, a 45-minute drive from the Library on Capitol Hill. The first two storage modules, for books, are full. In July 2009, the Library officially opened the third and fourth modules, for special-format items. The 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, is managing ingest procedures and storage for "born digital" content. The project is beginning with 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. On May 10-11, 2010, the Library hosted a group of publishers of electronic-only journals to discuss procedures for copyright deposit of e-journals.

6. New developments in providing access to collections:

The Library of Congress, NLM, and NAL have designed a test of the forthcoming new cataloguing code, *Resource Description and Access (RDA)*, the proposed successor to the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd Ed.* The test will assess the feasibility of implementing RDA and compatibility of RDA records with older records in existing catalogues after the online RDA Toolkit is released in June. The goal is to draft recommendations by early 2011 to the U.S. national libraries' managers regarding a joint implementation decision. Test records from the 26 test partner institutions will be shared via the U.S. National Libraries RDA Test Website (<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda>). The RDA Test is part of the Library's response to *On the Record*, the January 2008 report of the Library of Congress Working Group on the Future of Bibliographic Control (<http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future>).

The Library is reclassifying 800,000 law titles into the Library of Congress Classification. Formerly arranged in the stacks simply by country, "LAW 7," and the first letters of the main entry, these titles were often difficult to retrieve. In 2009 staff reclassified 17,985 titles and completed the reclassification of titles from Anglophone Africa, China, Latin American and Caribbean countries, Indian states, Philippines, and Hungary. Congress and other Library users can now retrieve materials on areas of strategic interest much more rapidly and reliably.

The Library is a founding member of the Virtual International Authority File (VIAF) project. Researchers can now search for 10.4 million names that appear in catalogues of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the Getty Institute, the Library of Congress, and the national libraries of Australia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the Vatican simultaneously, using the scripts that each individual user prefers.

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 2009, a total of 51 partners from 32 countries had joined the project, and approximately 5.1 million users had visited the Website. Major financial support was secured from two external sources in 2009: a \$3 million gift from the Qatar Foundation, for general support and cooperation with the Central Library of the Qatar Foundation, and a \$2 million grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, to support the participation of cultural institutions from sub-Saharan Africa and Eurasia.

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 approximately 1.5 million newspaper pages, mostly from 1880-1922.

The online Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), administered by the Law Library of Congress, comprises more than 170,000 laws, judicial decisions, and related legal materials contributed by 34 member nations and international organizations. The Library contributes laws for 16 nations that are not currently GLIN members. In 2009, Cameroon joined the network. GLIN added more than 3,400 laws from all member countries. The use of digital certification was implemented in 2009 to authenticate the integrity of legal texts found in the GLIN database.

In order to sustain the free flow of national government information, the Library of Congress has undertaken a project to transform the U.S. International Exchange Service (IES) program to embrace the analog and digital publishing environments and to meet the collection development needs of the Library of Congress and its official exchange partners for government publications. To gather information, the Library issued a survey to its 95 official exchange partners in October 2009. Respondents showed a strong preference for receiving U.S. publications in print or online digital format, not in microform or physical digital formats. Ten of the 49 respondents reported that their libraries are ready to download and archive U.S. online publications. Most respondents are also interested in receiving U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) MARC21 bibliographic data for the U.S. publications. The rights issues for all parties to download and archive foreign official publications are very complex. The full report is available at <http://www.loc.gov/acq/IESSurveyResults.pdf>.