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- Historic Indian Publications by the United States Federal Government
- From Government to Government Information Librarian
- Accessing Thailand's Government Information

DttP

Documents to the People

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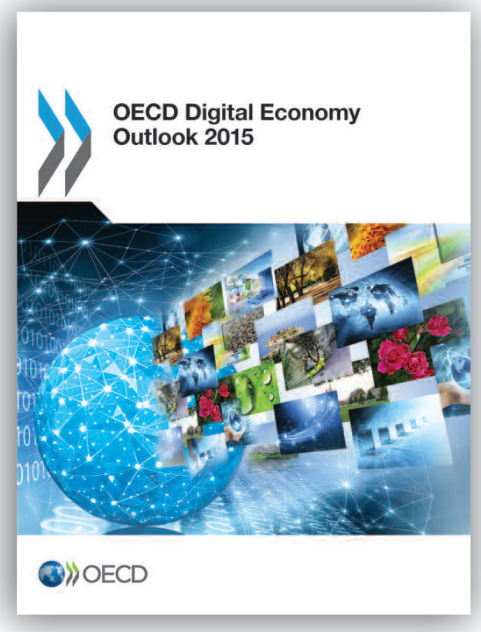
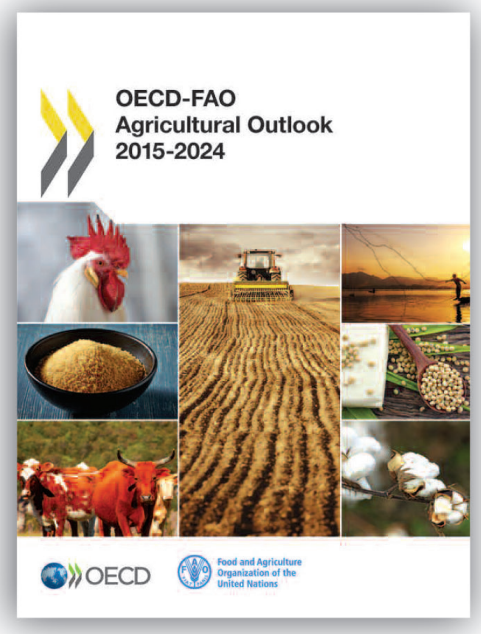


OECD Digital Economy Outlook 2015

July 2015 | Pages: 282 | ISBN: 978-9264-23974-6 (EPUB); 978-9264-23244-0 (PDF); 978-9264-23227-3 (PRINT)

This report assesses how countries can maximize the potential of the digital economy as a driver for innovation and inclusive growth, and discusses the evolutions in the digital economy that policy makers need to consider as well as the emerging challenges they need to address as a part of national digital strategies. Chapters include an overview of the current status and outlook of the digital economy; the main trends in the ICT sector, and developments in communication and regulation policy; and overviews of ICT demand and adoption, plus the effects of the digital economy on growth and development. This volume also includes a chapter on developments related to trust in the digital economy and on the emerging Internet of things.



OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2015

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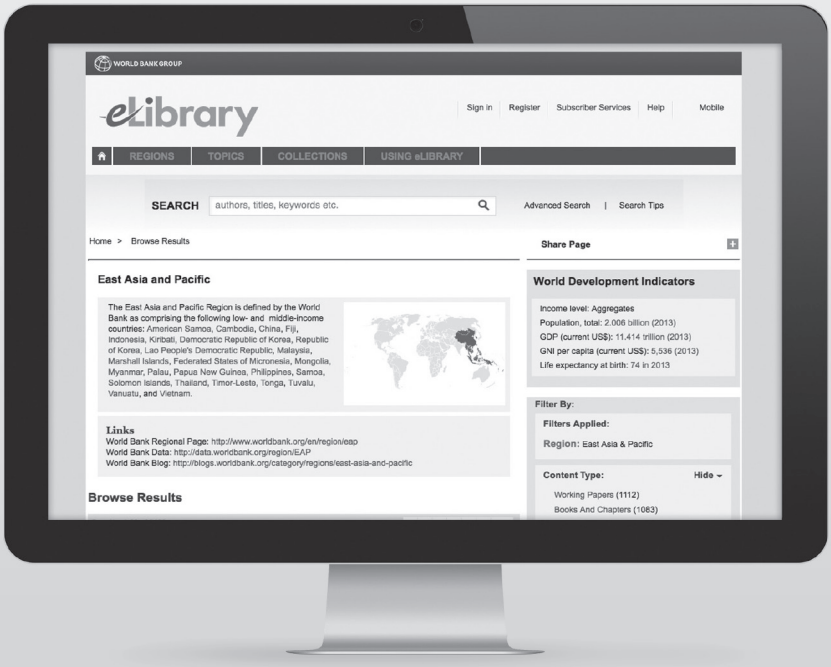

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Award winners at the 2015 GODORT reception. From left to right: James Jacobs, Lynda Kellam, Daniel Cornwall, John A. Stevenson, Steve Beleu, and Shelly Gililam.

From the Chair

Who Do We Think We Are?

Stephen Woods

Who do you think you are? Maybe someone has asked you this question before or you have the type of personality where you continually ask yourself this question. It's a question that any honest leader faces when taking over the reigns of an organization with a long and storied tradition like GODORT. However, I think the question taken at face value is an excellent place to start our conversation.

So, who am I? I will confess that when I started out as a government documents librarian in 1995, I felt like a counterfeit. I had no academic training in government information, only practical experience working in the University of Iowa's Government Documents Department. However, I was a voracious reader and supplemented formal course work by enrolling in the "virtual school" of Joe Morehead, Judith Robinson, and *DttP*.

Scholarship and teaching helped me to fully overcome my inability to self identify as a government information specialist. Lily Wai and others in the profession encouraged me to share with others at state and national conferences the things that I was working on in my everyday activities as a librarian. GODORT actually sponsored my first national presentation at ALA's Annual Conference in Atlanta in 2002. I still remember the anxiety I felt discussing my library's involvement in Idaho's redistricting in front of all of you—my peers. That faded, when I discovered there were others who were just as passionate about the topic.

I'll admit that scholarship through writing was not my chosen form of communication. That was forced on me as a necessity of tenure. Those same feelings of being found out as a fraud constantly entered my thought process while writing. However, I took the plunge in 2002 and started writing a column in *DttP* that I founded called By the Numbers. Looking over ten years' worth of columns, there are few literary masterpieces, but I discovered a valuable and pragmatic insight in the process of publishing. Writing forced me to really think deeply about what I do and to communicate it in a coherent fashion. Furthermore, it gave me confidence in my growing understanding of the profession.

The final step in my evolution as a self proclaimed government information specialist involved teaching a credit course in government and legal information. Teaching has a way of exposing the weakest links in our knowledge. Often as I would sit down to develop fresh ways of presenting the curriculum, I would discover holes in my own understanding and would have to do some research or have a conversation with a colleague. That fear of appearing foolish before my students provided plenty of incentive to stretch my appreciation for government information and to stay engaged.

Now I don't want you to think that being a government information specialist is the sum of who I am. For those who don't know me, I'm a father of three beginning to embark on that poverty- stricken road of paying college tuition. I have an amazing wife who works with web accessibility in online courses. I love sports, but will also confess to being a closet Jane Austin fan as well as a voracious reader of other classics.

So, who are we? Many of you have similar stories to the one I've told, but others may have embraced their identity as information specialists right way. Others are still in that process of finding their place in the profession and looking for ways to grow in confidence. I truly believe that GODORT can be an organization that inspires all of us regardless of how confident we are in our professional journey.

Our Ad Hoc Committee on Reorganization has been working hard to examine the structure and effectiveness of our community. Many of you generously responded to the survey that was jointly sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee on Virtual Meetings. However, I would argue that in order for these committees to accomplish their work our community must agree upon a clear mission statement and vision.

Let me first state what I mean by a mission statement. So that we can all be on the same page, I've asked each of the chairs of each of the committees and taskforces to read the document: "Proclaiming Your Dream: Developing Vision and Mission Statements."[1] It states, "An organization's mission statement describes what the group is going to do and why it's going to do that." Our mission is something we can control and it is what we do in our professional capacity.

For the last five years our mission has been to ensure that all government information is freely distributed by the government. That can be one of our values, but it can never be our mission. To develop a meaningful mission statement we need to identify the things we do and particularly those activities that help us become more confident in the value of our profession.

The much quoted advice of Alexander Pope "Know then thyself . . . " is a wonderful challenge to the individual, but a community is more complicated than the mere sum of individuals and what they do. This is exactly why we need something less tangible than a mission statement—something more along

the lines of a common vision. The KU Work Group states that, "Your vision is your dream. It's what your organization believes are the ideal conditions for your community; that is, how things would look if the issue important to you were completely, perfectly addressed."

Our community will and must have some conversations along the lines that I have alluded to in this column. Shari Laster has just sent out a reminder with the agenda for the Rare & Endangered Government Publication Committee (REGP) virtual meeting in July. It includes a discussion of goals for the REGP identified in our organization Policy and Procedures Manual (PPM). That's a fantastic start. However, how do we capture those activities that are a priority for our community that are not reflected in our legacy documents?

I'll close with this. At the final steering meeting in San Francisco as the baton was passed forward, I read the first draft of a mission statement. This was it: "GODORT's mission is to inspire government information specialists to develop services for government information." It took approximately ten minutes for someone to suggest a revision by simply adding the words "and collections" after services. That's the whole point of the exercise. Mission statements are one of those things that we as a community need consensus on. Once we get that right, we can answer with confidence the question: "Who do we think we are?"

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Editor's Corner

Elizabeth Psyck

I've been working with *DttP* for a little more than three years now, first as an editorial board member, then as co-lead editor, and now as Lead Editor. While each issue brings it's own challenges and opportunities, there is a rhythm to the year very much like what we find in libraries. In the public library world you know May through August will be filled with Summer Reading events. In an academic library, we know that panicked students will come for help in the days and hours before their final papers are due. For *DttP* it means publishing notes from GODORT meetings at the Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference, helping those librarians who were unable to attend as well as those of us who overbooked our schedules. I would encourage all GODORT members to review the notes included at the end of this issue, in the 'Round the Region section, and to get involved if you see something discussed that is important to you. We all have different passions within the government information world, whether we love international documents or digitization, and there is room for all of us in GODORT.

Speaking of international documents and digitization, we have some great pieces in this issue of *DttP* on both of those topics. Jim Church gives us the history of the United Nations Depository program, which I hope will help librarians who don't work with UN documents regularly (like me) better understand discussions about the future of this very important program. We also have an article from Tassanee Chitcharoen about access to government information in Thailand, where there are significant differences both in government structure and publication distribution. Charmaine Henriques and Daniel Zellner share the process of digitizing Northwestern University Library's collection of HUD 701 Planning Assistance Reports, while Brandon Burnette writes about finding and using historic Indian publications. This issue also features a guest column from Amy Riegelman that discusses Analytics.USA.gov, a website I'm embarrassed to admit I hadn't heard of before her submission! Tara Das shares her professional journey from producing government information in the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to a government information librarian at Columbia University.

If you are one of my Twitter followers or you were reading that first paragraph closely, you know this already, but as of this issue, I'm the solo lead editor of *DttP*. I very much appreciate the trust and support of my colleagues in GODORT (and especially my editorial board!) who believed I could do this. It's a lot of fun to put together these issues and get them out to all of you. But, at the risk of sounding sappy, the best part of editing *DttP* is getting to share the work of everyone in the government information world. Whether you work with international or local documents, paper or digital, at a public, special, or academic library, you are all doing such amazing things and I'm so lucky to get to learn from all of you every issue.

Which leads nicely into my regular reminder that if you enjoyed this issue of *DttP*, it's because someone just like you sent me an email (psycke@gvsu.edu or dttp.editor@gmail.com) asking if we were interested in an article on their topic. I am always interested in submissions or proposals, even if you aren't quite sure where the article will go. Our next issue, featuring student papers, is shaping up to be great, and we've already started thinking about the first issue of 2016. So if you have an idea, for an article or for *DttP*, don't hesitate to reach out.

The Once and Future United Nations Depository

> *In order to make the documents and publications of the United Nations freely available throughout the world there shall be maintained a system of depository libraries to which documents and publications will be sent without charge under the conditions outlined below.*
>
> —Principles Governing United Nations Depository Libraries, December 20, 1955. U.N. Doc. ST/PB/4.

The United Nations Depository is in a state of flux unprecedented in its long history. In July of 2013, UN Depository Libraries received an email from the UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library on behalf of the United Nations Department of Public Information, stating that due to a "confluence of circumstances" following damage caused by Hurricane Sandy, the printing and distribution of material from the United Nations Publications Office in New York would cease.[1] Soon afterwards, it became clear that the future of the UN Depository Library System itself was in question. In April 2014, a "consultation paper," (or survey accompanied by an analysis of the system and options for its future) was distributed to depositories by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library. The paper identified "sources of enduring value" of the depository library system, acknowledging the "UN receives a considerable service" through the system's "specialist knowledge"; its "targeting of specialist researchers"; its "preservation of authentic documents"; and other benefits.[2] At the same time, options for terminating, continuing, or reengineering the system were presented. UN depository librarians were asked to respond.

They did respond. A dedicated group of government information librarians lobbied to support the program through GODORT and the American Library Association, and notified the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). One hundred ninety UN Depository Libraries worldwide also responded to the survey, the majority of whom favored reengineering the program.[3] The future of a strong UN digital depository now seems hopeful, although (to this author's mind) not completely assured. And it struck me, while advocating on behalf of this, that the history and achievements of the UN Depository System are little known, even to international documents specialists. What was the origin of the UN Depository, and what were its intended aims? How has it evolved over time? And how might this history shed light upon, and help to assure, its strong future?

The League of Nations Depository

To answer this question we need to go back to the League of Nations—a much maligned yet remarkably progressive institution. The pioneering work of the League, its organization, and its publications paved the way for the current United Nations system. The League also had a global depository library program. Its origins and development are obscure, but thanks to the generous assistance of the staff at the Institutional Memory Section at the League of Nations Archives in Geneva, I have been able to reconstruct a brief history.

Several documents from the Archives shed light on this. One dates from May 18, 1923, and states the policy of League Depositories was "inaugurated over three years ago," which dates the program back to at least 1920.[4] As of December 1926, there were 76 League of Nations Depositories. The second document, dated June 14, 1935, contains a list of names, addresses, and the extent of material sent to depositories and exchange partners. By then, the number of depositories had grown to 93 "complete" ones worldwide, in addition to others receiving limited categories of publications.[5]

It is clear from the list that League of Nations Depository Libraries only existed in member states. The United States was not a member, and thus had no depositories. All depositories were required to provide public access, although exchanges partners were not. Exchanges received League content in return for publications of equivalent value, but only a handful of US Libraries, including the Library of Congress, Yale University, the University of Chicago, and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace had comprehensive exchanges. As of June 1935 there were only six such exchanges in the United States (most were partial, and some only received the *Official Journal* or *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*). Publications from the League were commonly procured via the World Peace Foundation, the authorized US sales agent, until 1936, when the responsibility was undertaken by Columbia University Press.[7]

The League dissolved in April 1946, but the United Nations Library in Geneva, where the League of Nations was headquartered, is the largest in the UN system. And one of its librarians, Sigurd Rasmussen, who worked at the League's Economic, Financial, and Transit Department (headquartered at the Institute of Advanced Study, in Princeton, New Jersey, during the Second World War), became the first Librarian of the United Nations.[8]

Origin and Development of the United Nations Depository

Sigurd Rasmussen was by all accounts an accomplished and courageous individual. While serving as head of the geographical department at the League of Nations in the 1930s, he provided cartographic information to Danish and British intelligence agencies to thwart the Nazis. He also traveled in secret from Geneva to occupied Denmark to work with a resistance group that "on occasion strung wire, neck-high, across roads frequented by Nazi soldiers on motorcycles."[9] He spoke or read about a dozen languages. Fleeing Europe to avoid arrest, from 1941 to 1946 he served as a librarian for the League of Nations Mission at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. In 1946 he became the first United Nations librarian. He lived to be 99 years of age.

Rasmussen was also among the first to advocate for a UN Depository system. In Doris Cruger Dale's book, *The United Nations Library: Its Origin and Development*, he is credited as supporting this based on his experience at the League.[10] In 1947 Rasmussen announced the inauguration of the Depository System to the *New York Times*, which reported on a plan to build a network of "recognized national and university libraries" that would make access to UN documents and publications free of charge and "act as local research centers."[11] The American Library Association, which attended the United Nations Conference of International Organizations in San Francisco in 1945 was also involved. In May 1947, *Library Journal* issued an announcement stating that "arrangements were made with the American Library Association for twenty-five leading university and public libraries to function as depositories for United Nations documents."[12]

The original goals of the UN Depository System were ambitious. Early UN documents proposed that depository libraries receive "all unrestricted material printed and mimeographed in the official language requested."[13] In the United Nations meeting of the International Advisory Committee of Library Experts in 1948, the committee recommended that "the range of materials distributed be as inclusive as possible including the internal papers of the Secretariat," further noting that "the libraries of the world constitute an effective channel for the dissemination of information about the United Nations and the specialized agencies."[14] The first United Nations "Principles Governing United Nations Depository Libraries" (a UN document specifying rules, procedures, and types of content received on deposit) specified that depository libraries "shall receive… all generally distributed printed and mimeographed documents and publications of the United Nations."[15] In 1964, in the first "Instructions for Depository Libraries Receiving United Nations Material" (ST/LIB/13), there is little mention of content limits.[16] There are rules for claiming, languages, and deadlines, but few restrictions on the material supplied (exceptions included press releases, confidential or "restricted" documents, provisional speeches, field documents, and other ephemera). As far back as 1972, the "Principles Governing United Nations Depository Libraries" has read "All depositories shall receive automatically, and according to their needs, all publications offered for sale."[17] The current "Principles," published in 1995, still specify this.[18] Depository Libraries were thus intended to receive all generally distributed material in the language of their choice (with a few exceptions) and to keep it (again with a few exceptions, for example, superseded material).

Fees and Exclusions

One of the first significant changes to the system occurred when Natalis Tyulina, director of the United Nations Dag Hammarskjold Library, sent a letter to Depository Libraries in 1974. The letter announced a reduction in the number of depositories receiving free and comprehensive collections. Only parliamentary libraries open to the public, libraries providing publications on exchange to the United Nations, and one library in each country continued to freely receive all depository materials. Existing depositories were permitted to "subscribe for an annual fee" (or contribution) to either partial or full depository services. Partial deposit, which included UN Official Records and publications, cost $500. Full deposit, which included Official Records, mimeographed documents and publications, cost $800 (developing countries received a discount).[19] When the system was temporarily suspended in 2013, the developed country contributions were $1,000 and $1,750 for partial and full depositories, respectfully.

Subsequent changes to the system were gradual, but over the years a growing number of UN publications were not included on deposit. In 1973, as noted in the second revision of "Instructions for Depository Libraries Receiving United Nations Material" (ST/LIB/13/Rev.2) UNICEF publications were excluded from deposit. In the third revision (ST/LIB/13/Rev.3) issued in 1977, a growing list of publications, including those from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) were excluded from partial depositories. In the fourth revision (ST/LIB/13/Rev.4) issued in 1981, additional categories were excluded, this time for all depositories.

By the time the fifth (and final) version of the *Instructions* was issued (ST/LIB/13/Rev.5) in 1995, the list of exclusions had grown to over twenty categories, generally classified under UN Sales Publication Numbers III, XX, and O.[20] Primarily these were publications from UN Programs, Funds, and Institutes, which have their own sources of voluntary funding and budgets.

The rationale for excluding this content thus makes some sense. Yet I wonder what Mr. Rasmussen and the International Advisory Committee of Library Experts would have thought of this. The United Nations sells many of these publications. What happened to "all depositories shall receive automatically, and according to their needs, all publications offered for sale?" In addition, I also recall (the details are in discarded emails from the 1990s) when selected United Nations Regional Commissions began to cut back on distributing publications to depositories outside their regions. By 2005, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) had limited its distribution to four statistical titles for depositories outside the Asia and the Pacific region.[21]

Current and Future Landscapes

n recent years the shift from print to digital publishing has been inexorable, and the United Nations has been no exception. In 2012 Hurricane Sandy occurred, and since then UN depositories have received almost no content from the United Nations office in New York (a notable exception has been The United Nations Yearbook), although depositories have continued to receive selected publications from the UN regional commissions. There is no doubt that the environment in which we find ourselves is the beginning of a new era. But we still have a role to play. Librarians at ALA and at the United Nations were instrumental in starting this system, and it is part of our responsibility to ensure it continues.

The majority of respondents to the survey in the "Consultation Paper" voted to reengineer the system, transforming the historic print depository into a digital one, and this author agrees. Many of us also welcomed the email dated May 29, 2015, from the Dag Hammarskjöld Library (DHL) stating that "Depository Libraries will receive a comprehensive and integrated service from DHL including distribution of relevant paid/unpaid publications and documents through the Digital Repository"; that "Depository Libraries will have full access to all relevant publications" and that Depositories will receive significant discounts for print as well as a discount on the subscription to the United Nations new "e-Collection."[22] Many of us were also pleased to learn, at a presentation given by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library at the GODORT International Documents Task Force meeting on June 29, 2015, that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library will explore joining the LOCKSS alliance at Stanford University to ensure lasting distributed preservation of its digital content. The new depository (or repository) has just been launched and is in beta. It is named the "Dag Digital Library" (http://repository.un.org/). It has a great look, and a nice ring.

But much of what is planned has not happened yet, and I remain concerned about the lack of UN staff dedicated to the depository program: at the time of this writing there were only two people responsible for this, who also have other duties. I also have concerns about the plan for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to provide the platform for the new e-Collection, a subscription service that will be launched separately from the Dag Digital Library. While the OECD has provided invaluable content to libraries for years, they have a different history and mission from the United Nations, and it remains to be seen to what extent this partnership will benefit UN depositories.

It is vitally important that the information of the world's most important international organization be preserved and accessible. A distributed and redundant network of Depository Libraries offers an effective mechanism to assist the United Nations in making its output accessible through bibliographic control and expert intermediation. It is essential for the UN to recognize the enormous good will this system has generated, and how useful its information has become, because of it.

I gratefully acknowledge the invaluable assistance of the staff of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in New York, and the Institutional Memory Section of the United Nations Office at Geneva Library. This article could not have been written without their help.

Jim Church (jchurch@library.berekely.edu) is the International Documents Librarian at the University of California Berkeley.

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Digitizing Docs

Rebirth of the HUD 701 Program Reports

Charmaine Henriques and Daniel Zellner

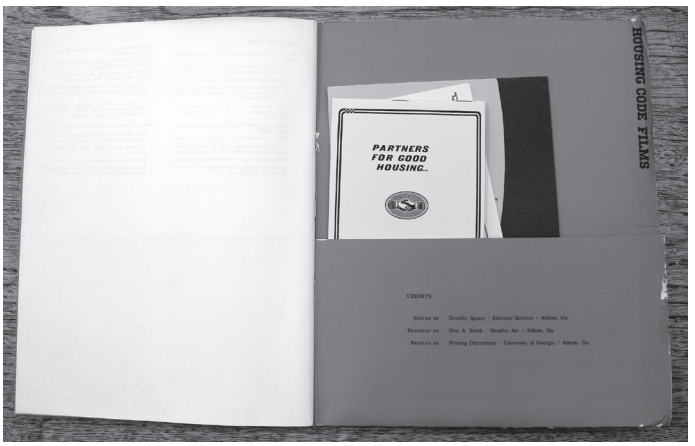
This paper examines an in-house digitization project of a small collection of 701 Comprehensive Planning Assistance Reports. While the acquisition and history of the reports is briefly discussed, the planning, process, and challenges of conducting the project is the main focus of the paper. Its intended audience is librarians and information professionals who have an interest or wish to learn more about digitizing government documents.

Introduction

On August 2, 1954 the 83rd Congress passed the Housing Act of 1954 (otherwise known as P.L. 83-580). The purpose of the Act, was "to aid in the provision and improvement of housing, the elimination and prevention of slums, and the conservation and development of urban communities."[1] Section 701 of P.L. 83-560, established planning grants to facilitate urban planning for smaller communities lacking adequate planning resources, to city and other municipalities having a population of less than 25,000 according to the latest decennial census of the time and to state, metropolitan or regional planning agencies empowered under law to preform planning work.[2]

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) *Handbook CPM 6042.1 Rev.*, shows that HUD who administrated the grant initiative, required that reports generated under the 70l Program be published and distributed.[3] It was mandated that grantees submit six copies of each document created to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) where reproductions could be bought in paper or microfiche.[4]

Additionally, in order to ensure a wide dissemination of information and to encourage maximum use of federally supported reports, grantees were obliged to send one copy of each document to the HUD Washington Library, the HUD office managing the grant, the Library of the HUD Regional Office having jurisdiction over the planning project, and two copies to the Library of Congress.[5] HUD also set up a Depository Library System consisting of twelve Planning Depository Libraries, fifty-two State Depository Libraries, and forty-eight Planning School Libraries; Northwestern University Library (NUL) was one of the forty-eight Planning School Libraries.



Examples of challenging materials

The Conundrum

NUL amassed an estimated six hundred 701 Comprehensive Planning Assistance Program Reports. The Reports (known as the HUD State Plans at NUL) were from the 1960s and 1970s, included Illinois and other geographic areas and levels, and covered several subject areas such as but not limited to: urban renewal, transportation, recreational space, community planning and development, economic development, and various housing initiatives.

In 2007 it was determined that due to scope and space limitations, the HUD State Plans would be withdrawn from the collections administered by the then Government and Geographic Information and Data Services Department. Initially, the documents were offered to a consortium who did not show interest and were recommended for a major digitization effort but were rejected because they were not cataloged and barcoded. A decision was made to send the documents to their home state libraries (Rhode Island reports would go to the Rhode Island State Library, Hawaii reports would go to the Hawaii State Library and so on). But, before the documents could be sent to their new homes a suggestion was made that maybe they could be digitized in-house; this would allow the information to remain but the physical copies be withdrawn to handle the issues of space.

The Plan

In 2005 NUL purchased a Kirtas APT Bookscan 1200 machine, which was one of the first book scanning machines available. The machine, which entered the market in 2004, is page turning and has the capability of scanning 1,200 pages in an hour. It was first used by NUL for preservation reformatting. With the advent of the establishment of the Library's Fedora digital repository, and funding via the Mellon Foundation to establish a book workflow system for scanning and ingesting books into the repository,

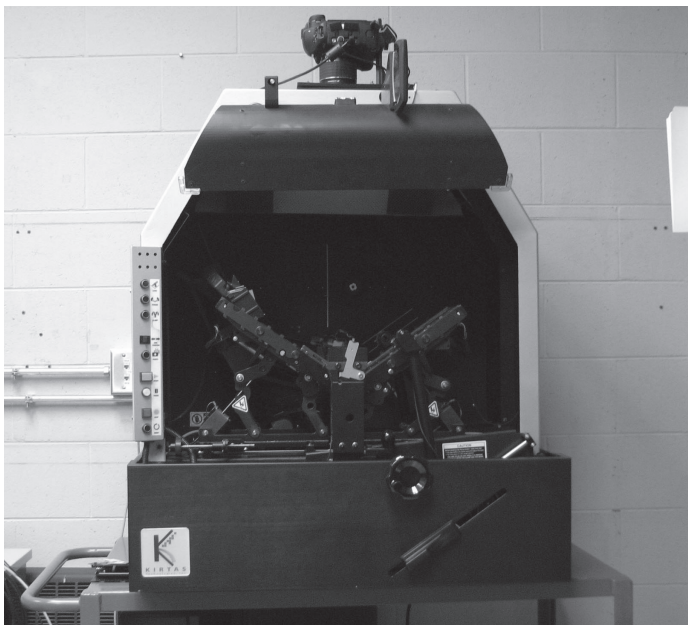
the Kirtas APT1200 began being used for other tasks beyond preservation reformatting. The Library's digitization activities expanded over the years as well as the infrastructure to support these initiatives; a Digital Projects Subcommittee (DPSC) was established to review proposals and processes were put in place to determine project feasibility and identify required resources (personnel, storage, etc.) for proposed digitization projects.

A digitization proposal for the HUD State Plans was written and given to the DPSC for review. The first charge of the committee was to determine whether the proposal had research merit and supported the mission of the Library. The HUD State Plan proposal passed the criteria but encountered difficulties regarding the scale and scope of the project. There were initial concerns regarding the amount of time it would take and personnel involved but these issues were addressed by using the Kirtas APT1200 machine. Because, the HUD State Plans were primarily text (with some included maps) they were well suited for automated book scanning.

The Venture

Staff from the then Digital Media Services Department (DMS) reviewed the materials for digitization and deemed the project feasible. In 2008 scanning of the Reports began. They were shelved in a closed stack, and first organized alphabetically by state and then sent to DMS (initially in batches of fifty) to be scanned using the Kirtas machine. As with all projects, there were complications, specifically items that could not be digitized using the automated book scanning system. Reports that were oversized, with smaller dimensions, difficult bindings, loose-leaf titles and fold-outs were the culprits. In those instances, materials were identified, sent in separate batches where they were processed in a different workflow, scanned manually on an Epson 10000XL flatbed scanner and subsequently integrated into the system. Occasionally there were reports with missing pages and in these cases a copy of the report was obtained via interlibrary loan so the missing pages could be scanned. There were also two titles that earlier could not be digitized due to a lack of contrast between the text on the page and the page itself but when the software that was used in conjunction with the machine was upgraded the two titles were finally scanned. Bibliographic records were found for most of the documents via OCLC and when records could not be found brief ones were created.

Along with cataloging and digitization, there was the ingest of the materials into the Library's Fedora repository. This task was accomplished using the Library's Books Workflow Interface—an application developed in-house and funded by the Mellon Foundation. The Books Workflow Interface, or BWI, tracks book digitization jobs through the various phases of production



Kirtas APT Bookscan 1200 machine, one of the first book scanning machines

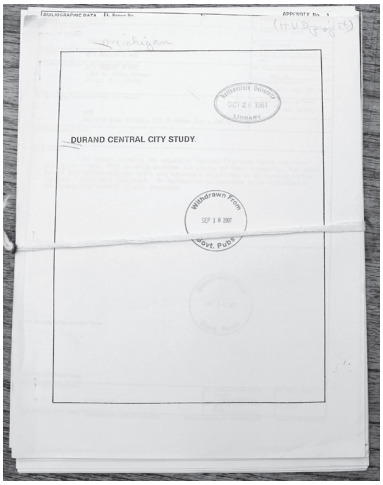
(scanning, processing, quality control, copyright review, etc.) and kicks off various services for creation of PDFs, OCR text and JP2 images for scalable viewing. It also enters the title and its respective parts (pages, chapters, etc.) into the library's digital repository. Titles in the public domain can be viewed using the systems interface that provides zooming, page turning, and download functionality. However, the application was in continuing development so there were limitations to its capabilities. Most notably it could not handle large serial titles or books with over approximately 2,000 pages. Fortunately, this drawback did not affect the HUD State Plan project because the serials and monographs within the project were individually fewer than 2,000 pages. The biggest setback to the project (which was completely unforeseeable) was that it kept being pushed back in the queue to accommodate other projects. Another challenge was available copyright expertise for determinations on some of the more difficult titles.

When the materials were returned from DMS, the Reports pertaining to Illinois were retained while the rest were withdrawn from the Department's shelf list, their print records were deleted from the University Library's OPAC, and even though the documents were not distributed through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) they were offered out on Needs & Offers lists via the GovDoc-L listserv. Some of the reports did find new families and those that did not were recycled.

And in the End

Often the immediate solution or advice for an in-house project that is taking longer than expected is to send it to a vendor. It's important to note that this solution has its own set of

challenges. Vendor negotiation requires a good deal of time. The establishment of technical acceptance criteria is crucial. This also applies for in-house work and fortunately the Federal Agencies Digitization Guidelines Initiative (FADGI) group provides a common frame of reference for quality levels.[6] Facilitation of inventory and shipping/receiving can take quite a lot of time. Also imaging expertise is required in the library to review vendor work. Both in-house and vendor solutions have their positive and negative aspects. In the case of the HUD State Plans, the in-house solution delivered the desired results. Ultimately, a digitization project not only makes material available in a new format but also provide a litmus test for the organization's capabilities, its technical systems and its workflows.



Examples of challenging materials

Digitization of the HUD State Plans was completed in December 2014; however there are still forty-four books with known link problems that are being examined. Five hundred and twenty-one 701 Comprehensive Planning Assistance Program Reports can be accessed via NUL's discovery tool NU Search. In this day and age materials may die a physical death but the information they carry can live on in electronic form and in this case help keep record of an undertaking that would not exist without the support of federal funding.

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1. *Housing Act of 1954*, 68 Stat. 590.
2. Ibid., 640.

Examples of challenging materials

A serial title from the HUD State Plans Collection

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4. Ibid., 4–8.
5. Ibid.
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By the Numbers

Using Analytics.usa.gov to Learn about Traffic on Government Websites

Amy Riegelman

In March 2015, the Digital Analytics Program of the General Services Administration revealed a new website that showcases traffic to federal government agency websites. The website displays data previously unknown to the general public. This website has many useful features as well as reasons to be cautious and opportunities for government information specialists.

This website features seven categories of web traffic data. The most prominently featured text on Analytics.usa.gov references the number of users currently on government websites. For example, at 10:51 a.m. CT on June 26, 2015, 131,219 people were on government websites. Below this real time web traffic data, the page presents a breakdown of hour-by-hour numbers. This allows users to learn when people are likely to visit government websites. As for June 26, 2015, there was a steady increase in users between 4:00 a.m. ET and 10:00 a.m. ET with a drop in users at noon ET.

On the right side of this web traffic dashboard, the Top 20 Pages are highlighted. Whereas the total number of people on government websites is focused on *websites,* the Top 20 list refers to individual *webpages*. This is an important distinction, and these labels exist throughout the dashboard—domains, websites, and pages. Researchers are able to see the Top 20 pages in real time as well as for the past seven days or past thirty days. This information opens a window into pages trending at the moment. It could be comparable to Trending Topics on Twitter but only for government information. For example, weather agency websites (e.g., National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and specifically the National Weather Service) were very popular on June 17, 2015, likely because of Tropical Depression Bill as well as flash flood threats in several states.

The next section on Analytics.usa.gov features usage information from the last ninety days. This section displays the number of total users as well as distinctions of devices, browsers, and operating systems accessing the sites. Surprisingly, desktop usage ranks supreme over use on mobile devices as well as tablets. On June 26, 2015, Analytics.usa.gov listed that 67.4% of users accessed government websites on a desktop while only 25.1% used mobile technology, and 7.5% used tablets. This counters trends recently shared by Google stating that searching on mobile devices now outnumbers Google searching on desktops.[1]

As for browsers, Chrome had the most use at 38.1% while Internet Explorer followed at 25.9%. Safari only had 19.9%, and Firefox was only used during 10.7% of the visits to government websites. The analytics also capture operating systems. Windows captured the majority of visits at 58.4%, and other key players were iOS at 16.4%, Android at 14%, and Macintosh at 8.9%.

One could download data from Analytics.usa.gov by simply selecting one of the ten options and viewing the JavaScript Object Notation (also known as JSON) format which is fairly easy to read. Downloadable options include:

- People online right now (Updated every minute)
- Visits every hour today (Updated every hour)
- Visits by desktop/mobile/tablet devices over 90 days (Updated every day)
- Visits broken down by Operating System over 90 days (Updated every day)
- Visits broken down by Windows version over 90 days (Updated every day)
- Visits broken down by browser over 90 days (Updated every day)
- Visits broken down by Internet Explorer version over 90 days (Updated every day)
- Top 20 pages, ranked by visitors online now (Updated every minute)
- Top 20 domains, ranked by visits over 7 days (Updated every day)
- Top 20 domains, ranked by visits over 30 days (Updated every day)

If any technical issues arise, help is available by submitting issues and suggestions on GitHub (https://github.com/GSA/analytics.usa.gov/issues) or contacting the Digital Analytics Program (DAP@gsa.gov). While Analytics.usa.gov appears to be very user friendly and accommodating to user concerns, it's important to be aware of both causes for concern as well as opportunities for government information specialists. Only 292 domains and 3,823 webpages are being tracked on the dashboard, which makes this dashboard far from comprehensive. In March, the director of the Digital Services Innovation Center at the General Services Administration expressed hope that the number of domains would increase and eventually include all public federal government domains. But as of June, there was no noticeable increase in domains.[2]

As for what is actually captured in the data, examples include Department of Agriculture, National Archives and Records Administration, Department of Justice, Department of

Defense, Department of Health & Human Services, and the Environmental Protection Agency. View the full list of domains linked on Analytics.usa.gov and also available at this URL: https://www.digitalgov.gov/files/2012/10/DAP-Domains-and-Agencies-3-2015-Sheet1.csv. Examples of domains that are not tracked in traffic statistics include Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, the Navy, and the Marines.

With all of this web traffic transparency, what about privacy? According to the About this Site section of Analytics.usa.gov, the Digital Analytics Program does not track individuals and actively anonymizes IP addresses. With that being said, the data is descriptive in broad categories. As noted in *Bits*, a *New York Times* blog post, soon after President Obama made an announcement on immigration, there was an increase in web traffic on the US Customs and Immigration site (uscis.gov) specifically in geographic areas like parts of Texas, California, and Iowa.[3] Geographic information on web visitors is currently being captured by GSA; this information is not displayed on Analytics.usa.gov, but according to the *New York Times* blog post, "though it [Digital Analytics Program] hasn't made the data public yet and plans to add it to the analytics site within several months."[4] Government information specialists may want to advocate for larger geographic areas because of commitments to intellectual freedom.

Analytics.usa.gov reveals how government websites are used in the context of current events. Government information specialists could view this dashboard to have a better understanding of the information needs (e.g., weather, earthquake safety, IRS forms) of our users and even the time of day when information is sought. Because Analytics.usa.gov is open source, the code behind the data collection is not restricted. There may be potential opportunities for government information specialists to use the code in unique ways or embed the data visualization on library guides. Learn more about the open nature of Analytics.usa.gov by reading the About this Site section. Analytics.usa.gov has potential to grow and include more domains. Government information specialists may want to remain current on what this web traffic dashboard has to offer.

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Historic Indian Publications by the United States Federal Government

Part Three: Census, Law and Other Publications

Brandon R. Burnette

This is the third and final article based upon presentations called Historic *Indian Publications by the United States Federal Government*. This article is on the census, law materials as well as other important historic Indian publications.

Census

In the summer 2006 issue of the National Arcives and Records Administration (NARA) publication *Prologue Magazine*, NARA volunteer staff aide James P. Collins published an article titled "Native Americans in the Census, 1860–1890."[1] The article details the beginnings of the census enumeration of Native Americans and defining which Indians are to be counted for census purposes. It wasn't until the 1890 census that all Indians were enumerated.

In 1894, the Census Office published the "Report on Indians Taxed and Indians Not Taxed in the United States (Except Alaska)." This publication is accessible from the Census of Population and Housing webpage (www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html) by clicking on the 1890 link and choosing volume ten from "Final Reports." Figure 1 shows an image of the census webpage. This report has several sections: Introduction, which includes Indian census information since the 1700s; Historic Review of Indians in the United States (Alaska Excepted); Policy and Administration of Indian Affairs (from 1776 to 1890); a section on statistics called Population, Educational, Land, and Vital and Social Statistics of Indians; and the Condition of Indians Taxed and Indians Not Taxed by States and Territories. There is also a section on Indian Wars and their Cost, and Civil Expenditures for Indians. It has statistics on how many Americans and Indians were killed between 1790 and 1842 from various wars such as the Black Hawk War; a

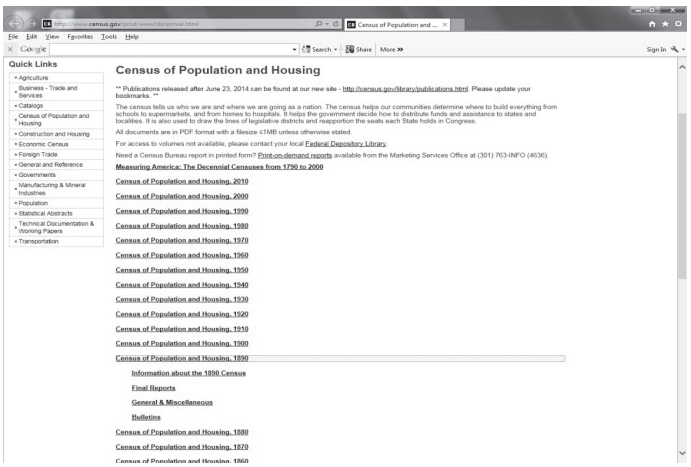

Figure1. Census of Population and Housing, www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html

chart on civil expenditures and information on military expenditures from July 4, 1776, through June 30, 1890. The last four sections are Depredation Claims; Liabilities of the United States to Indians, 1890; Legal Status of Indians; and Census of Indians in the Dominion of Canada, 1890.

Also during the 1890s, the Census Office published extra census bulletins that contain not only statistics, photographs, illustrations and maps, but also a variety of other information about each tribe including education and form of government. There were four extra census bulletins pertaining to Native Americans: *The Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory: The Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole Nations*; *Eastern Band of Cherokees of North Carolina*; *The Six Nations of New York: Cayugas, Mohawks, (Saint Regis), Oneidas, Onondagas, Senecas, Tuscaroras*; and the *Moqui Pueblo Indians of Arizona and Pueblo Indians of New Mexico*. These bulletins can also be found

from the Census of Population and Housing webpage (www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html) by choosing "Bulletins." *The Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory* publication states that for four of the five tribes, their form of government is similar to the United States in having three departments: executive, judicial, and legislative. These tribes or nations are the Cherokees, Chickasaws, Choctaws, and the Creeks. There is also a bibliography of laws for these four tribes. As of 1894, the Seminoles did not have a written or printed set of laws or a constitution.[2] The Eastern Band of Cherokees of North Carolina reside on portions of four counties in southwestern North Carolina. Although many of these Indians were full-blooded Cherokees and as such, were self-sustaining and not living on a reservation, they are citizens of the United States, and voters and taxpayers in the state of North Carolina.[3]

The *Indian Population in the United States and Alaska, 1910*, which was published in 1915 as part of the thirteenth census, and the *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930. The Indian Population of the United States and Alaska* published in 1937 by the Bureau of the Census, each have twelve different types of statistics on Native Americans. Both publications contain nine similar statistics: population, mixed-bloods, age distribution, stocks and tribes, martial condition, school attendance, illiteracy, inability to speak English, and occupations. The thirteenth census publication not only has 110 tables, but it also has statistics on sex distribution, fecundity and vitality, and Indians taxed and not taxed. The fifteenth census, which has seventy-three tables, include statistics on Indian farm operators and farm operated by Indians, the composition of the Indian population of selected counties and cities and the Indian population of Alaska. The state of Oklahoma, which had 74,825 Indians in 1910, was one of eight states with a population of at least 10,000 Indians. The other seven states were Arizona, New Mexico, South Dakota, California, Washington, Montana, and Wisconsin. Indians from these eight states was a total of 72.2 percent of the Indian population within the continental United States. In 1880, Indians consisted almost the entire population of Alaska, while in 1910, they consisted about two-fifths of all of the inhabitants.[4] There were ten states with a population of over 10,000 Indians in 1930. The other two states besides the eight states from the 1910 census were North Carolina and Minnesota.[5] The *Indian Population in the United States and Alaska, 1910* is accessible from the Census of Population and Housing webpage (www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html) by going to the 1910 link and choosing "Other 1910 Census Documents," while the *Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930. The Indian Population of the United States and Alaska* (catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000559164) is available from the HathiTrust.

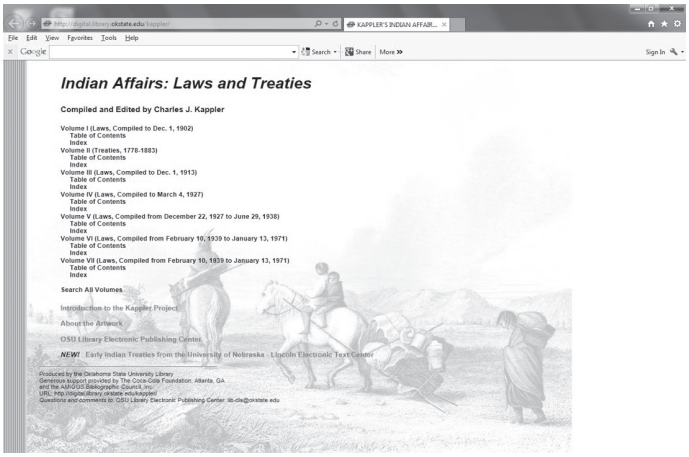

Figure 2. Kappler's Indian Laws and Treaties, digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler

Law

Charles J. Kappler compiled and edited the first five of seven volumes of the series *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties* (digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler/). Figure 2 shows an image of the home page, which is part of the Oklahoma State University Library Electronic Publishing Center. This series of Native American laws and treaties has US government treaties and agreements in volume 2 from 1778 to 1883, while volume one and volumes three through seven have US laws, executive orders, and proclamations from 1871 to 1971. One of the most important laws affecting Indians was the General Allotment Act of 1887 (24 Stat 388), also known as the Dawes Act, which was named after Senator Henry L. Dawes of Massachusetts. The allotment act was passed on February 8, 1887, during the second session of the Forty-Ninth Congress. The law states:

> An act to provide for the allotment of lands in severalty to Indians on the various reservations, and to extend the protection of the laws of the United States and the Territories over the Indians, and for other purposes.[6]

Lawmakers at the time were focused on the idea of dividing up the lands in Indian reservations into individually owned land as a way to break up the tribes. Section eight excludes specific tribes at the time of passage of the allotment act:

> That the provision of this act shall not extend to the territory occupied by the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles, and Osage, Miamies and Peorias, and Sacs and Foxes, in the Indian Territory, nor to any of the reservations of the Seneca Nation of New York Indians in the State of New York, nor to the

Figure 3. Native American Constitution and Law Digitization Project, thorpe.ou.edu

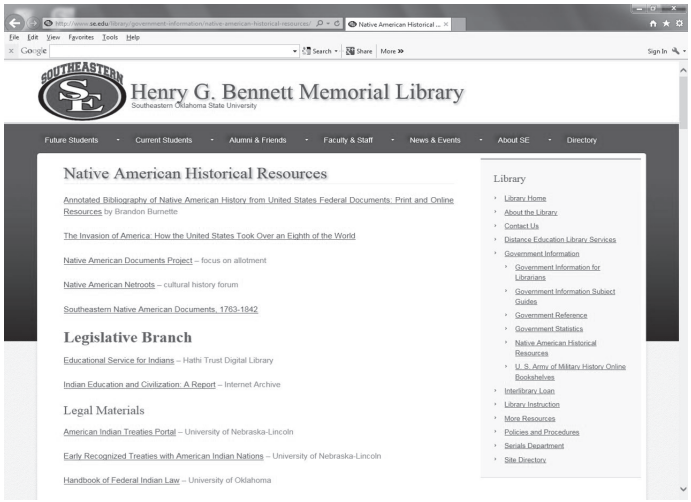

Figure 4. Native American Historical Resources, www.se.edu/library/government-information/native-american-historical-resources

> strip of territory in the State of Nebraska adjoining the Sioux Nation on the south added by executive order.[7]

Due to the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) of 1934 (48 Stat 984), which emphasized tribal revival, strong self-government, and economic self-sufficiency,[8] many tribes throughout the United States created constitutions and bylaws by organizing constitutional committees in order to form their own local self-government. Some tribes also have corporate charters. These documents are accessible from the Native American Constitution and Law Digitization Project website (thorpe.ou.edu), which is a cooperative effort from the University of Oklahoma Law Library and the National Indian Law Library. Figure 3 shows an image of the home page. The webpage titled Indian Reorganization Act Era Constitutions and Charters (thorpe.ou.edu/IRA.html) begins with a list in alphabetical order for the Alaskan tribes and then the tribes of the continental United States.

The *Handbook of Federal Indian Law, with Reference Tables and Index* by Felix S. Cohen, which is also accessible from the Native American Constitution and Law Digitization Project website (thorpe.ou.edu/cohen.html), is a unique book on Indian laws. It begins with definitions of the terms "Indian" and "Indian country" in the first chapter. Chapter two is on the development and the policies of the Office of Indian Affairs. There is a chapter called "Indian Treaties" that states the treaty powers of the president of the United States. A few of those powers include being authorized to establish trading posts, military posts or garrisons on Indian land; designating places for trade; appointing agents; and arbitrating territorial and other difficulties between tribes.[9] In the chapter called "Personal Rights and Liberties of Indians," the idea of using the term "wards" by applying it to Indian tribes was first used by the United States Supreme Court Chief Justice, John Marshall, in the *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia* case. Marshall did not say that Indian tribes were wards of the government, but only the relationship to the United States of the Indian tribes within its territorial limits resembles that of a ward to its guardian. This was explained in Marshall's opinion of the *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia* case:

> They look to our government for protection; rely upon its kindness and its power; appeal to it for relief to their wants; and address the president as their great father. They and their country are considered by foreign nations, as well as by ourselves, as being so completely under the sovereignty and dominion of the United States, that any attempt to acquire their lands, or to form a political connection with them, would be considered by all as an invasion of our territory and an act of hostility.[10]

Some of the other chapters include "Federal Indian Legislation," "The Scope of Federal Power over Indian Affairs," "The Scope of State Power over Indian Affairs," "The Scope of Tribal Self-Government," "Federal Services for Indians," "Taxation," "The Legal Status of Indian Tribes," "Tribal Property," "Criminal Jurisdiction," and "Civil Jurisdiction." There are also chapters for specific states: New Mexico, Alaska, New York, and Oklahoma. The "Reference Tables and Index" section has seven parts: (1) tribal index of materials on Indian law; (2) annotated table of statutes and treaties; (3) table of federal cases; (4) table of Interior Department rulings; (5) table of Attorney General's opinions; (6) bibliography; and (7) an index.

Other Publications

The *American State Papers* (memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwsp.html), which has a total of thirty-eight volumes, is available from the Library of Congress American Memory website called A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: US Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774–1875. It's arranged into ten topical classes and contains the legislative and executive documents from 1789 to 1838. Class 2 was called *Indian Affairs* and it was divided into two volumes.[11] These volumes are considered to be volume seven and volume eight of the *American State Papers* series. The Indian affairs documents are from the years 1789 to 1827 and only volume two has a table of contents. It has communications from the president of the United States, the secretary of war and reports from congressional committees. Topics such as civilizing and educating Indians can be found in some of these reports. One such example is titled *Trade, Intercourse, and Schools* that starts on page 150 of the second volume, which is report number 151 from January 22, 1818, states that

> supplying the Indian tribes with such articles of merchandise as are necessary to meet their pressing wants is not only an act of humanity, but of sound national policy; and that every measure that would tend to civilize those savage tribes ought to be pursued by the United States. . . . The committee believe that increasing the number of trading posts, and establishing schools on or near our frontiers for the education of Indian children, would be attended with beneficial effects both to the United States and the Indian tribes, and the best possible means of securing the friendship of those nations in amity with us.[12]

In report number 162 titled *Progress made in civilizing the Indians* beginning on page 200 of the second volume, the Secretary of War, John C. Calhoun, wrote on January 15, 1820,

> Although partial advances may be made under the present system to civilize the Indians, I am of the opinion that. . . . They must be brought gradually under our authority and laws, or they will insensibly waste away in vice and misery. It is impossible, with their customs, that they should exist as independent communities in the midst of civilized society. They are not, in fact, an independent people. . . . They should be taken under our guardianship; and our opinion, and not theirs, ought to prevail, in measures intended for their civilization and happiness.[13]

Indian Education and Civilization: A Report prepared in answer to Senate Resolution of February 23, 1885 (https://archive.org/details/indianeducationa00unitrich) was an 1888 special report by the Bureau of Education and it was prepared by Alice C. Fletcher. The first couple of chapters contains an historical account of Native Americans and Europeans from the sixteenth through the eighteenth century, while the fourth chapter was on the administration of Indian affairs. Chapter five, which was called *General Review of Indian Reservations,* gives a list by state and territory of 108 Indian reservations that were established by treaties or as an act of Congress. Another list has sixty-one reservations established by an executive order from the president of the United States.[14] While chapter six was devoted to education, the main content of the report was on reservations. These chapters on reservations contain treaties, executive orders, and acts of Congress. Other information from these chapters include how the reservation was established, tribal population, education statistics and government rations. This report is Senate Executive Document number ninety-five from the second session of the Forty-Eighth Congress and it is accessible from the Internet Archive.

The *Problem of Indian Administration* (catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/009063777), better known as the *Meriam Report*, was published in 1928 and can be accessed from the HathiTrust. Named after Lewis Meriam, who served as technical director for compiling information for the report, it not only criticized the allotment policy from the General Allotment Act of 1887, but it also describes the conditions of the Indians on reservations and Indian boarding schools. The report states on the poor health conditions at boarding schools:

> Old buildings, often kept in use long after they should have been pulled down, and admittedly bad fire-risks in many instances; crowded dormitories; conditions of sanitation that are usually perhaps as good as they can be under the circumstances, but certainly below accepted standards; boilers and machinery out-of-date and in some instances unsafe, to the point of having long since been condemned, but never replaced; many medical officers who are of low standards of training and relatively unacquainted with the methods of modern medicine, to say nothing of health education for children; . . . serious malnutrition, due to the lack of food and use of wrong foods; schoolroom seldom showing knowledge of modern principles of lighting and ventilating . . .[15]

All of these titles that are discussed in this article are accessible from the Native American Historical Resources webpage

(www.se.edu/library/government-information/native-american-historical-resources) at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Figure 4 shows an image of the webpage. They can also be accessible from other websites such as Google Books (books.google.com), HathiTrust (www.hathitrust.org) or the Internet Archive (https://archive.org/details/texts) except for the Native American constitutions and corporate charters.

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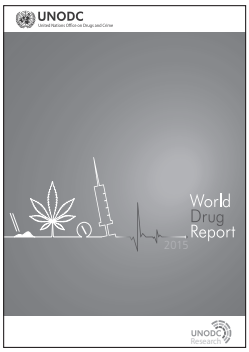

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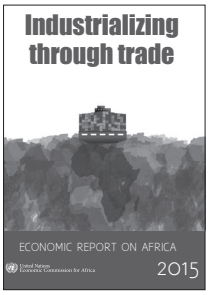

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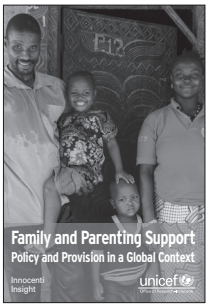

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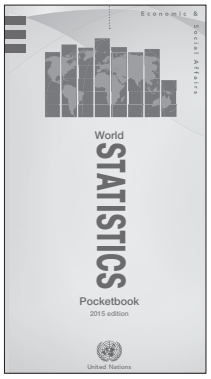

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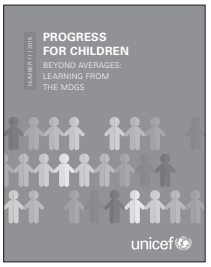

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From Government to Government Information Librarian

Tara Das

This essay describes my transition from government to government information librarianship, how I have incorporated government experience into my librarianship, and how my views on government information have expanded. Prior to becoming a government information librarian in 2014, I worked for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. My experience working in government enabled me to see firsthand how government information is produced. These workflows and operations have interested me for a long time. While working toward my doctorate in anthropology and political science, I was interested in how day-to-day operations can shape official records and statistics, which in turn, influence research and policy. While not using library-speak with terms like "information literacy," critical social theorists also assert the importance of evaluating information. They investigate what lies beneath the surface and identify hidden assumptions that guide official records and dominant discourses (to use critical theory-speak). Joel Best, a sociologist who studies how social problems and statistics are created, argues, "We sometimes talk about statistics as though they are facts that simply exist…All statistics are created through people's actions: people have to decide what to count and how to count it . . . "[1]

In line with Best's arguments, my dissertation was an organizational ethnography of UN HIV/AIDS publications in considering the individuals behind international statistics and policy recommendations. I wanted to understand why so many UN documents and publications on HIV/AIDS contained the same information across organizations (UNAIDS, World Health Organization, and World Bank) and over time, and if/how this information shaped HIV/AIDS policies in sub-Saharan Africa. Via interviews with UN officials, researchers, and editors, I investigated how UN information on HIV/AIDS were created, and how this information was then communicated and adapted in local settings. After completing my doctorate, I brought these views with me as I entered government.

For New York City, I oversaw operations for the collection, archives/records management, and production of vital statistics for all births, deaths, and terminations of pregnancy that occur in NYC. These operations resulted in the production of local government information—vital records and vital statistics—and contributed to other local, state, and national government information via data sharing. I like to think of this transition from academia to government as going from one who studied individuals who created information to being one of those individuals who created information. I pursued an MLIS during this time, thinking that I could apply these skills to my vital records work, and perhaps later return to academia as a librarian. Now as a government information librarian, it feels like coming full circle with my views on government and official information.

Being a government information librarian has been a natural fit. Having been involved in government information for so long, I am naturally inclined to see what government agencies are producing on topics discussed during reference interactions. In *Fundamentals of Government Information*, the authors note that "unlike other kinds of librarians, documents librarians are all about where the information came from . . . librarians must consider where the document originated, and their strategies for talking to patrons revolve around this, as well."[2] These strategies were ones that I used without thinking. The importance of an agency's organizational mandate to its publishing activities, and staff awareness of mandates in their work, were made clear to me from my graduate studies and research with UN agencies.

Based on experience in city government, and collaborating with state and federal government agencies, I have become intimately familiar with government resources, both published and unpublished. This familiarity helps me in reference and research consultations. As a government information librarian in Columbia University, a large decentralized university, not all government-related questions are necessarily referred to me. Subject specialists here tend to be familiar with government

information published in their fields, and incorporate these materials in their reference services. Students and faculty will either reach out to me directly, or will be referred to me from other librarians for more difficult or specialized questions. I will often have questions referred to me if they are related to New York City government (which many are), public health, vital records, government archives, or hard-to-find government documents. This is not an exhaustive list of reasons for referrals thus far, but cover the majority. With the help of my government experience, I have addressed questions like where can I find a list of all the people who have died in the United States, how are government vendors selected in New York City, and how is syndromic surveillance conducted.

What has been most fun for me in connecting librarianship to my government experience has been going beyond providing resources to discussing operations that drive the availability and quality of these resources. These specific discussions not only lend themselves to raising literacy concerns with users in evaluating information, but also raise the curtain on what takes place behind the scenes in producing government information and making it available. These are experiences that users have found helpful in understanding the nature of government information. When providing government data, for instance, I discuss ways in which such data can be created and reasons for why numbers may warrant further examination. In talking about local versus federal data on the same topic, I may discuss how data is cleaned for local statistics, and then shared with federal agencies who conduct additional cleaning for federal statistics.

If I am unsuccessful in locating information for users, I discuss the possibilities that the information may simply not exist; it may exist but must be accessed via a FOIA request or research application to the agency; or it may exist but was sent to an archive. I draw on my experiences in these discussions. I have participated in data collection efforts that are not published. I have witnessed very delayed or suspended publishing activities, for data that had been made publicly available, due to higher agency priorities, staffing issues, or other challenges. I have responded to FOIA requests for unpublished data, and reviewed research applications for confidential data. I have also worked directly with government archives and libraries, and know that if a bureau does not voluntarily provide publications, the bureau may not necessarily be contacted to do so. Even when users are aware of these possibilities, they are interested in how a government agency actually operates, and in how inquiries from the public are handled.

While working in government, I was concerned about how rules and regulations, systems and operations, and people-shaped government information and its quality. My job was to ensure that government information best reflected the situations and reality that it was mandated to describe, given public visibility, challenges, and competing priorities that government officials face in completing tasks and projects. I was less focused on ensuring permanent public access to government information. For me and my colleagues, we knew enough to preserve the very specific government information that we needed to fulfill our duties, but thought less about preservation of all government information for public access. For access too, we knew who to contact to request specific government information to fulfill our duties, but thought less about public access to all government information (aside from our mandated publishing activities). Now that I have left the government world, and having seen how its information is and is not preserved over time from the inside, all I can do is think and worry about permanent public access to government information. Moreover, the electronic nature of government information, with its implications for permanent public access, was not something I thought deeply about in the past.

With the majority of government information now in electronic format, concerns arise with the format (in addition to content). Library government information collections have moved toward pointing to web links and away from collecting publications. Yet, governments, their websites, and individual webpages can shut down or information can be removed, which makes this move to "pointing" for government collections fraught with risk for libraries, which people rely on for information. Despite the electronic nature of government information,

> Libraries should still be selecting, acquiring, organizing, and preserving information for their user-communities, and providing access to and services for those collections. Libraries do no one a long-term service by simply pointing to resources over which they have no control and which someone else can simply make unavailable literally at the flick of a switch.[3]

No longer being in a position with control over government information, I am very much aware of how little control I now have as a librarian outside government. This concern has led me to look further into digital and web archiving, and think about how I can become involved in these activities for local, state, and federal government information.

In addition to preservation of all government information, I have also been very concerned with the state of open government data. In recent years, governments have started opening up the raw data that they collect in the course of providing public services, for users to conduct their own analysis. However,

with the exception of scientific and statistical publications, the data originate from the programmatic, administrative work that governments do. New York City implemented an open data portal in 2012 under local law, which mandated publishing of data by municipal agencies by 2018.[4] As someone who worked in government at the time, and was responsible for providing data to all our partners, I was not aware that NYC Open Data existed. I actually learned about it in a class on data librarianship. Anecdotally speaking, few programmatic staff are aware of the open data portal, aside from senior leadership and those who deliver the data to the IT agency for upload into the portal. Knowing that this data exists publicly for widespread use, with technical jargon and abbreviations for column headings and values, is worrisome. Often the data is only understandable to those specific individuals who collected and presented the data.

It is a small population of people who can properly analyze open data that has no public documentation, because they understand how the data was collected and how column headings and values were defined. More of these people in government need to be involved in the production of open data, particularly when open data is being created out of routine agency programs and operations. These types of data were not published openly in the past, and so are seldom accompanied by data documentation. If detailed data documentation and metadata were included with open data, researchers could better understand its nature, appropriately reuse this data for analysis, and interpret findings within context. This is especially true when data is collected for specific government purposes, often unrelated to publication for the purposes of analysis and evaluation, and uses internal vocabulary and definitions. In advocating for better metadata, these are arguments that I have made to government officials who manage open data operations. I have been making some progress in aggregating metadata specific to open datasets, which will be published to facilitate more responsible data reuse and accurate interpretation.

This essay describes my transition from government to government information librarianship, how I have incorporated government experience into my librarianship, and how my views on government information have expanded. Or should I say how my concerns with government information have increased. As a government information librarian, I am now concerned with preservation, access, and open government data, in addition to quality and accuracy of government information as created from humans participating in day-to-day operations. My eyes have certainly been opened in looking at government information as an outside user versus government insider. I derive a lot of fulfillment as a government information librarian, and in using my past experience to engage in education and advocacy with users and government officials. This role has been a most fitting transition into librarianship.

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Accessing Thailand's Government Information

Tassanee Chitcharoen

In the United States, the dissemination of government information is necessary for an informed citizenry and for a democratic society. Federal laws were passed in 1795 and 1813 that established the process of printing and distribution of government information. The 1813 resolution (Statute II, 13th Congress) required the printing of extra copies of government publications and the distribution of these publications to state legislatures, colleges, and historical societies.[1] Further acts in the 1850s and 1860s led to the establishment of the Government Printing Office (GPO) and the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). The FDLP is one way of accessing government information in the United States, but do other countries have similar programs? This article explores the means of access to Thai government information as an example of a relatively new democracy sharing information with its citizens.

Overview of Thai Government Structures

The structure of the Thai government affects how citizens access government information. Thailand's government is a constitutional monarchy under a parliamentary system. The executive branch consists of the King as the chief of state, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet as head of government.[2] Since the military coup of May 22, 2014, the current Prime Minister of Thailand is a former Thai Army officer of the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO). Under the military junta, a new interim constitution was instituted, "Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand (Interim) B.E. 2557 (2014)."[3] The Prime Minister and the military junta hold this position until a formal election is held which is scheduled for some time in October 2015 or early 2016.[4]

The King "appoints" a Prime Minister in agreement with the National Legislative Assembly. The Prime Minister advises the King on the appointment of (up to) 35 other ministers, to form the "Council of Ministers" who are in charge of public administration, implementation of reforms, and other affairs of state.[6] Currently, there are 20 ministries and 32 ministerial members of which 11 are military officers who head core ministries like the Ministry of Transport, Commerce, Education, and Foreign Affairs.[7]

Thailand is divided into 76 provinces and is administered by provincial governors. The Minister of the Interior appoints the governors, except for Bangkok where the governor is elected.[8] The legislative branch is a National Assembly, a bicameral consisting of an appointed Senate and an elected House of Representatives. However, after the May 2014 military coup, the Senate was "dissolved." House elections that were held on February 2, 2014, were annulled and the chamber was also "dissolved."[9]

A National Legislative Assembly replaced the bicameral National Assembly and is appointed by the King "as advised by the National Council for Peace and Order."[10] The National Legislative Assembly now serves as the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the National Assembly. Elections for a permanent legislative body are currently unscheduled and may not occur until early 2016.[11]

The Thai judiciary system is composed of the Supreme Court whose justices are appointed by the King and is the final court of appeal in both civil and criminal cases. Parliamentary acts, royal decrees and draft legislation fall under the purview of the Constitutional court and the Constitutional court may also rule on the appointments and removal of local administrators.[12]

Tangible Publications

The national and royal symbol of Thailand is the Garuda, a mythical half-man, half-bird creature. The Garuda is depicted on seals that are used by the King and by the government. Official Thai government publications are distinguished from other types of publication by the use of the Garuda seal to authenticate

official documents.[13] The seal appears on the letterhead of most Thai government documents and also appears on the cover of *Ratchakitchanubeksa* or the *Royal Gazette,* the Thai public journal that contains laws and regulatory notifications.[14]

The history of the *Royal Gazette* and the publication and distribution of government information can be found in a 102-year-old abolition of slavery document, "Thai Law and Proclamations on the Abolition of Slavery" published in the *Ratchakitchanubeksa* (Royal Gazette) 1874–1911.[15] The document states that the printing press was first introduced to Thailand by missionaries and, in 1839, King Rama III "made first use of it for administrative purposes by printing 9,000 copies of a decree forbidding the sale and smoking of Opium."[16] Between 1858 and 1868, nineteen issues of the *Royal Gazette* were printed. Publication of the gazette later lapsed but was resumed in 1874 by King Rama V and continues to this day. Currently, state agencies are required by law to send official information concerning the agency's structure and the organization of its operation to be made public in the *Royal Gazette*.[17] Laws passed by the government come into force after being published in the Royal Gazette.

Electronic Distribution

Government information is available via government agency websites found on the Office of the Official Information Commission's (OIC) website.[18] GINFO (Government Information System), one of the OIC's main portals for accessing government data, was developed in 2000 with a mission of disseminating government information to the general public. Through GINFO, the public can access official data from the databases of Thai government agencies, nongovernment organizations, state enterprises, and local administrations. GINFO also provides the public access (through links) to the Official Information Centers and E-services. There are over 1,199 government agencies including ministries, departments, provincial and local government levels connected to GINFO.[19] The OIC continues to improve GINFO over the years by adding more data and by developing an English version since Thailand is one of the ten member states of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), a political and economic organization of Southeast Asian countries.[20] One of the goals of ASEAN is to increase the economic, social, and cultural growth of Southeast Asian Nations through partnerships and joint endeavors in order to promote regional peace and community within the region.[21]

The Role of Thai Libraries

Thailand has a national Library (National Library of Thailand), 38 academic libraries (23 public universities and 15 private universities), five research institute libraries such as the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Science, and six special libraries like the Royal Thai Air Force Library.[22] A visit to the libraries at Naresuan University, Chiang Mai University (both public universities in Northern Thailand) and the National Library of Thailand in Bangkok, revealed that Thailand does not have a formal distribution program similar to the FDLP to provide access to government information.[23] University libraries receive few official Thai government publications with the exception of the *Royal Gazette.*

Finding government information in libraries can be a daunting task. Depending on the library, government information can be found integrated with other collections or in a small designated section of the library. A research strategy to use when searching for government information in the United States is the "civics and search" approach.[24] This strategy is based on knowing the structure and organization of the US government and determining which agency is responsible for that information. The "civics and search" strategy can be applied to finding Thai government information. For example, to find Thailand's health report or data, the user needs to know that the Ministry of Public Health is responsible for this type of information. The Ministry of Public Health also provides a listing of individual agencies within the ministry like the Department of Mental Health and the Food and Drug Administration.[25]

Press Act of 2007 (B.E. 2550) the Legal Deposit Section

The National Library of Thailand (the largest and oldest library) was established in 1905 by King Rama V with a mission to serve the public. The library is responsible for collecting publications published in Thailand and is an agency under the Dept. of Fine Arts and the Ministry of Culture. The Ministry of Culture is responsible for collecting and preserving heritage materials, intellectual property, science, art, and culture in every format from ancient palm leaf books to digital resources.[26]

The National Library receives Thai publications published in print format through the Press Act of 1941 (B.E. 2484). This Act states that publishers must send the National Library two copies of each printed title of their publication. One copy is to be kept at the Legal Deposit section of the library and the other copy for the public to use in the library. The act also requires 20 copies of each printed title from government institutions.[27] If publishers violate this act, they are fined a small fee. However, the small fee resulted in noncompliance and, with more publications in electronic format, the Prime Minister passed the Press Act 2007 (B.E. 2550) effective since December 19, 2007, that states, "publishers send 2 copies of their press to the National Library within 30 days from the date of propagation."[28] Even though there isn't a Legal

Deposit Act or a National Library Act, the Press Act 2007 (B.E. 2550) by law requires Thai publications to be "deposited" to the National Library and made available to the public.

Official Information Act of 1997

Although Thailand does not have a Federal Depository Library Program or a dissemination program, the Official Information Act is another way for Thai citizens to gain greater access to government information. However, it was not until December 9, 1997 when a citizen's "right to know" provision was written into the Thai Constitution, making Thailand the first country in ASEAN to enact a freedom of information law.[29]

The Official Information Act (OIA) of 1997 can be found in Section 58 of the Thai Constitution which states,

> A person shall have the right to get access to public information in possession of a State agency, State enterprise or local government organisation, unless the disclosure of such information shall affect the security of the State, public safety or interests of other persons which shall be protected as provided by law.[30]

A "state agency" is defined as a central, provincial or local administration associated with the national assembly.[31]

The act thus allows Thai citizens, for the first time, the right to request official government information. Public agencies must disclose all public sector information requested by Thai citizens and ensure privacy by protecting personal data. In summary, the act ensures transparency and accountability of public agencies and supports the people's participation in the formation of government policy and its implementation.[32] The Office of the Official Information Commission (OIC) through the Office of the Prime minister is responsible for supporting the people's "right to know." The OIC website, www.oic.go.th/web2014/en/main.html, provides citizens with information regarding his or her rights under the Official Information Act and provides steps in exercising those rights, such as the right to claim and appeal.

Moreover, under the "Official Information Act," state agencies are responsible for making official information available for "general public inspection" by establishing information centers. The OIC provides guidelines to help state agencies with the establishment of these information centers. These include information regarding the location, correct signage, the availability of computer stations, index or list of official information, etc.[33] The Official Information Commission (OIC) is responsible for ensuring that state officials or state agencies support the implementation of the act.[34]

The Official Information Act is a way for Thai citizens to gain greater access to government information. However, since its enactment eighteen years ago, there are still many barriers to the realization of the act. The main obstacle is that the Official Information Act is under the responsibility of the Prime Minsters' Office, which has the authority to undermine the information disclosure. The OIA should be supported by an independent organization. In addition, many government agencies do not comply with OIA requests. Nevertheless, the Official Information Act is said to be "symbolically important" and may one day lead to greater transparency and accountability in the Thai government.[35]

Conclusion

Thailand does not have a formalized government distribution program. Thai citizens can gain access to government information through each ministry's "library" or by visiting the state agency information centers. Thai University libraries mainly act as service points for accessing general information but provides the means for the public to use the numerous agency webpages found on the Office of Official Information Commission portal to gain government information. As a result of the Press Act of 2007, the National Library of Thailand serves as the only repository for publications printed in Thailand and as a place for the public to access government publications.

Thailand is a country with a constitutional monarchy, a revered King and a history of political instability. Over the past decade, there have been massive street protests and military coups against the established government. The Thai Constitution and the "Official Information Act" B.E. 2540 (1997) and B.E. 2550 (2007) give Thai citizens the right to know and to access official information by request. The future of Thailand's "Official Information Act" is unknown as new constitutions may be altered or implemented with each new administration. As of April 2015, a 36 member Constitution Drafting Committee (CDC) completed the first draft of Thailand's 20th constitution since 1932.[36] Nevertheless, Thailand is striving for a democratic society and political stability. Through the promotion of transparency in the government administration and the OIC's vision, "to disclose is the key, to conceal is the exemption," this may be possible one day. [37]

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Reviews

YouTube War: Fighting in a World of Cameras in Every Cell Phone and Photoshop on Every Computer. Cori E. Dauber. November 2009. (http://permanent.access.gpo.gov/LPS117266/PDF%20version/pub951.pdf).

This e-book manages to both inform and intrigue the reader right from the very beginning. Dr. Cori E. Dauber, associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, brings readers truly remarkable insight on modern technology's effects on war and terrorist strategies. Holding a BS, MA, and PhD all in Communication Studies and having previous work appear in publications such as *Military Review* and *Armed Forces and Society*, her expertise is keenly demonstrated throughout *YouTube War: Fighting in a World of Cameras in Every Cell Phone and Photoshop on Every Computer*. Thus, it should be both praised and recommended.

In just ninety-two pages, Dauber explains with elaborate detail how today's advanced technology has caused media to become a military weapon of its very own. She reveals that this is accomplished not only through its use in communicating and recruiting, but also in its use to frighten. It is growing extremely simple for just about anyone to capture a video and broadcast it over the Internet. Although the concept of civilians taking videos with their cell phones is not quite new, Dauber draws attention to even higher-quality technologies that are becoming more and more accessible, explaining that the makers of these technologies do not always consider the potential negative effects. She discusses largely the role of news production in the issues surrounding media and technology. While Dauber presents fascinating facts, she also slips in some opinion and a bit of counsel, to which the reader can surely expect to be found nodding in approval and gaining further interest.

YouTube War should be read by any scholar researching today's military practices, strategic communications, or another similar field. Furthermore, almost anyone with slight curiosity concerning these subjects, the effects of advancing technology, or both, will likely find it to be a worthwhile and captivating read.

Emily M. Alford
Miami University

Building the American Mosaic: A Report from the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. United States. President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. May 2014 (PR 44.8M85/AS 4).

On October 14, 2009, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order 13515 reestablishing the White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders and the President's Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. The stated purpose of the initiative is "To improve the quality of life and opportunities for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through increased access to, and participation in, Federal programs in which they may be underserved." Contrary to the myth of the "model minority," the AAPI community faces many challenges that this report hopes to address. Produced under the auspices of the US Department of Education, the report is divided into four sections. The first section is entitled "One in Ten in 2050." As the title suggests, the total AAPI population is projected to be one in ten persons growing to an overall population of 40.6 million in the United States by 2050. The second section, "Commissioners as Representatives and Advocates," addresses issues that are central to the AAPI community including education attainment, economic growth and health equity, immigration status, and civil rights. The twenty commissioners appointed by President Obama were comprised of a diverse group of business leaders, former elected officials, and academics. Their charge was to reach out to the AAPI community through a series of Town Hall style meetings to determine some of its main priorities. The third section of the report is entitled "A Stronger Federal infrastructure for AAPIS" and discusses the broader scope of the initiative which is to provide a platform for greater access to Federal Departments. Section four entitled, "Recommendations to Federal Departments and Agencies," offers suggestions on how to address community priorities like educational attainment. The report is well-written, easy to read, and instructive. It is worth reading, and it should generate informed discussion about an often invisible population.

Darren Sweeper
Montclair State University

Archaeology, Anthropology, and Interstellar Communication. Douglas A. Vakoch (ed.) National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2014 (NAS 1.21:2013-4413).

If an alien message landed on Earth, would humans know how to respond? This question is at the core of the NASA History Series e-book,

Archaeology, Anthropology, and Interstellar Communication. This free volume is available in PDF, Mobi, and ePub formats and is easy to access and save to a desktop, tablet, or e-reader. Inside, the authors provide an excellent overview of the history, debate, and potential implications of NASA's efforts to communicate with extraterrestrials. From the early years of the SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Program, anthropologists and other social scientists have provided guidance on how to create or interpret messages to and from alien species. Some scientists are quick to apply historic analogues to future human-alien communications. Many lessons have been learned over the past century as modern humans have encountered new cultures, translated ancient languages, and uncovered prehistoric artifacts. Perhaps these experiences could be used to educate scientists and prepare the world for extraterrestrial contact? Other contributors argue that it is naïve and inappropriate to apply these analogies to interstellar communication. We are human, after all, and our biology, environment, and worldview may differ quite dramatically from that of another star system. This book provides a solid understanding of these issues and many more. It touches on topics as varied as mathematics, linguistics, religion, culture, and global politics. These authors have tackled a somewhat controversial subject in a very serious and non-condescending manner, which will be much appreciated by the reader. *Archaeology, Anthropology, and Interstellar Communication* is highly recommended for anyone interested in learning about the human quest to communicate with alien civilizations.

Kathryn Tallman
University of Colorado-Boulder

GODORT Annual Conference Highlights

Annual 2015 was a time of reflection to help GODORT reconceptualize what it should look like in the future. Two ad hoc committees, one on GODORT reorganization and the other on virtual meetings, started the process by sending a joint survey to GODORT members before Annual and by sharing reports at Annual. Each GODORT committee will now review, update, and revise its mission, goals, and tasks for the next five years. Details of committee work are shared in the following:

Awards

On Sunday, June 28, 2015, at a fun-filled reception at the Cartoon Art Museum, the Awards Committee presented the following awards: James Bennett Childs to John Stevenson; ProQuest/GODORT/ALA *Documents to the People* to the *Free Government Information* blog; Bernadine Abbott Hoduski Founders Award to Steve Beleu; NewsBank/Readex/GODORT/ALA Catharine J. Reynolds Research Grant to Lynda Kellam; and W. David Roskuszka Scholarships to Kelsey Cheshire and Shelly Gilliam.

Bylaws

The main topic of discussion was virtual meetings. In the short term, Bylaws will add a link in the GODORT PPM to ALA's Open Meeting Policy, under which virtual meetings fall. In the long term, Bylaws will work with the ad hoc reorganization committee and the ad hoc virtual meetings committee to ensure that the PPM is updated to reflect any future organizational changes. With the organizational changes, a more in-depth policy for virtual GODORT meetings will be developed. Also discussed was the transition between the incoming and outgoing Bylaws chairs.

Cataloging

The committee discussed a project to review/update/revise its mission and goals/tasks for the next five years. It will work on this project over the next six months and report to GODORT on the results by Midwinter 2016. In addition, it discussed plans to continue updating the Toolboxes for Processing and Cataloging Federal, International, and State/Local Government Documents on the GODORT wiki, as well as pursuing ideas for a possible program proposal for Annual 2017 on cataloging/metadata issues related to documents.

Conference

This year's awards reception on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at the Cartoon Arts Museum was a huge success with many members at hand to eat great food, talk with old and new friends, and to celebrate GODORT. Many thanks go to the vendors who supported the reception.

Education

Julia Stewart requested that more committee members provide input in the future, as only two committee members responded with input about the FDLP Certification Program. GPO's Jaime Huaman was present to provide details about the certification program. Discussion centered on outcomes from the pilot, in particular the completion rate and survey data post pilot. Also discussed were future training possibilities with the certification program such as marketing the program to library school students interested in learning about and becoming government documents librarians. There is currently a waiting list to participate in the FDLP Certification Program.

ALA and Roz Reynolds have not been approached to see about offering this program through ALA. A soft consensus was reached in committee that payment should not be involved *unless* someone wanted to received CPU credit or something similar.

Government Information for Children (GIC)

This coming year GIC will continue to be busy with multiple projects. They plan to expand the Constitution Day Poster Contest to include land grant colleges and state library agencies. GODORT's Emerging Leader will continue to work on the GIC Clearinghouse LibGuides platform hosted by the University of Central Florida that will now also contain Spanish language Federal documents thanks to Jane Canfield, Bibliotecaria/Librarian at Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Puerto Rico. A partnership with the Federal Citizen Information Center to promote awareness of Kids.gov may also be on the horizon.

Legislation

Joint Meeting with COL/GIS

LegComm and GIS agreed to accept additions to the ALA core competencies

to include government information. They are looking for space at Midwinter to hold a brainstorming session since education competencies would also include RUSA, PLA, ACRL, and ALCTS.

LegComm and the Preservation Working Group are working on a message about the value of government information experts and preserving collections. Private sector representatives on the working group are interested in both of these pieces. They see the value of government information specialists (who buy their products) and preservation of collections (they may need to go back and redigitize so may need physical copies).

The FDLP information sheet for new Congress members is to be handed out by the ALA Washington Office to staffers on the hill. GODORT brought the handout to COL to have it adopted ALA wide. COL deferred it to GIS. The document will be edited further after Annual and was given a new title, "Getting Government Information to Your Constituents: the Federal Depository Library Program."

GPO's Mary Alice Baish and Cindy Etkin shared news about FIPNet, a partnership of the GPO and information professionals to preserve both tangible and digital national government information (www.gpo.gov/PreserveFedInfo). FIPNet came out of the 2012 FDLP survey and is in the outreach phase. Web harvesting is a top priority.

Regarding collections on FDsys, GPO staff members are working to ingest Panama Canal commission reports into FDsys from the University of Florida. They will have the GPO authentication symbol. After ingest, the University of Florida will take down their copies and link instead to the authenticated versions in FDsys. The Library of Congress is almost finished digitizing bound historic Congressional Record, but doesn't have a time frame yet. LSCM is going to digitize the entire run of the Federal Register.

LegCom discussed pending legislation that would cause harm to NTIS. Those forces are quiet. The Department of Commerce has done an internal assessment and review that isn't public.

James Jacobs brought forward a draft ALA resolution on fugitive government publications. The resolution was tabled and sent back to LegComm for more discussion.

LegComm Meeting II

The committee is planning to present a program for library school professors at midwinter 2016. Kay Cassell is working to put together a program for ALISE before ALA Midwinter 2016. Debbie Rabina, Cass Hartnett, and Helen Sheehy were suggested as possible people to present. See more at: http://connect.ala.org/node/240254#sthash.e1aPXk6T.dpuf

The committee discussed a few issues that need to be added to the National Preservation of Government Publications Plan. It is still in draft stage and not ready for Steering.

Regarding papers on small depository libraries, staffing, and on processing government publications, the committee discussed having a goals statement at the bottom of each so that the papers are not simply problem statements, but statements on goals and ideals surrounding each of these issues.

Membership

The GODORT Membership Committee held its inaugural orientation session, called the GODORT Kick-Off, on Friday June 26, 2015. It was well attended by folks who were new to GODORT as well as veterans. We shared personal stories of why we are active members of GODORT, what we get out of membership, and how we got involved in government information librarianship. The informal session highlighted GODORT events at this conference including the programs and awards reception. Afterwards, we moved to the Press Club, a local restaurant, for the GODORT Happy Hour. Being successful in its first year, the orientation session will hopefully become an annual event.

Other Membership Committee activities included publishing a revised brochure and attending the ALA Membership Promotion Task Force meeting. One of the ideas for the next Kick-Off will be to create GODORT trading cards featuring pictures of GODORT members and some facts about them. These collectibles will help folks get to know key players as well as new members, sparking conversations and encouraging networking.

Publications

The committee approved revised language to update the PPM with the new committee leadership structure (Chair-elect, Chair, and Immediate Past Chair). Treasurer Mike Smith noted that $560 in royalties from the Serial Set book has been received. Editor Elizabeth Psyck has recruited several new *DttP* columnists,

and their columns should start appearing in 2016. GODORT members will soon have access to *DttP* through ALA Connect as soon as the electronic issues are available. Elizabeth will investigate opening up *DttP* issues in Hathi Trust, determining if *DttP* issues are being sent to the ALA archives, and finding out why the journal hasn't been indexed by Wilson for the past year. Notable Documents Chair Mark Anderson will be seeking at least two new panel members. He also will post this year's report to the GODORT wiki, including a link to the Notable Documents article in *Library Journal*. Finally, strategies for recruiting Occasional Papers submissions were discussed.

Rare and Endangered

The Rare & Endangered Government Publications committee (REGP) hosted a discussion focused on the newly-formed Federal Information Preservation Network (FIPNet), which is a component of the Government Publishing Office's National Plan for Access to US Government Information. Cindy Etkin (GPO) and Robbie Sittel (University of North Texas Libraries) provided an overview of FIPnet, followed by a lively question-and-answer session.

Following the conference, REGP held a virtual business meeting to discuss its outreach efforts to other organizations, both those within and those external to ALA. There is interest in continuing to organize discussions as part of face-to-face meetings during Annual, and scheduling tours in conjunction with Midwinter and Annual, depending on availability and location. Attendees also discussed REGP's mission in light of the GODORT Chair's request for committees to develop a list of goals.

REGP will continue to hold conference calls between conferences. Open meeting notifications will be posted to ALA Connect, and members of ALA are welcome to contact the Chair to be added to the "Friends of REGP" email list.

SLDTF

SLDTF presented a well-attended and well-received program entitled "State Government Information and the Copyright Conundrum." The program included a discussion of state government information and copyright, issues that libraries, digital repositories and state agencies, specifically state libraries, face with copyright ambiguity. It also included an overview of the work FSGI: Free State Government Information is doing to address this little discussed but major issue.

SLTDF met virtually before Annual to work on their piece of GODORT's strategic planning initiative. Members collaborated to create four statements that capture the spirit of the task force's mission. The wording will be polished by a subcommittee, and a new mission statement will be posted for review in the near future.

The group selected three goals to focus on in their brainstorming session:

1. Promote and speak for the interests of documents librarianship relating to state, regional, and local information, while improving bibliographic control for these resources
2. Identify, explore, foster communication and act on problems and issues facing librarians and state/local depositories, including interstate and intergovernmental agencies
3. Sponsor and encourage opportunities for state and local documents librarians to update existing competencies, learn requisite new skills, and gain awareness of the state of the art, based on member needs assessment

A list of the action items proposed in the brainstorming session will be posted on the SLDTF wiki for review and then all members will be invited to vote on which five projects/tasks to pursue in the next five years. (http://wikis.ala.org/godort/index.php/State_%26_Local_Documents.

FDTF

Mary Alice Baish, GPO's Superintendent of Documents, revealed nine GPO members received travel funds to attend ALA. They had booth 2104 in South building this year in exhibit hall. The call for nominations for depository of the year (one regional and one selective) had a July 31 deadline. Tribal college libraries are coming into the FDLP. DePaul will be a digital FDLP library.

GPO's Laurie Hall said GPO is working with Federal Register on the 1936-1994 digitization project. They are getting ready to ingest a Panama Canal collection from the University of Florida into FDsys. The Library of Congress is almost finished digitizing the bound historic Congressional Record and is adding additional metadata. The cataloging partnership for Forest Service documents is completed. They are providing CIP data for 200 to 300 publications per year. There is a new Ben's Guide. GPO worked with school librarians on lesson plans. The new marketing campaign is

Stephanie Braunstein's UN Anniversary Cake

"on the go and on the shelf." Cindy Etkin reminded everyone of the digital projects registry.

David Walls, GPO's Preservation Librarian, discussed the web archive. GPO reached out to NARA and Library of Congress. They formed a working group to understand the what and why of archiving. There was actually not much overlap in what has been harvested. GPO will have a grant-funded resident graduate student helping with the Trusted Digital Repository project.

GPO's Cindy Etkin discussed FipNet (Federal Information Preservation Network), which supports permanent public access to government information and builds peoples' local preservation activities into a national effort together. FIPNet is looking at naming a "national collection" that's broader in scope than FDLP. FIPNet activities include harvesting, cataloging, and indexing things that are within scope of the FDLP.

GPO's Jamie Huaman discussed the FDLP coordinator certificate program. This certificate program is designed to help new coordinators understand rules and regulations. It's an eight-week, virtual program, done cohort-style (20–25 participants).

James Jacobs discussed the Fugitive Documents Project. There were workflow complications with Zotero. A draft resolution on fugitive documents urges federal agencies to work with GPO to get their documents and data into FDsys, so all of their information can be in the national bibliography. James is hoping an ALA resolution could get more federal agencies interested in working with GPO. He suggested the FDTF could reinstitute the liaison program with federal agencies, and reach out to agencies that GODORT is interested in working with to encourage them to get their documents to GPO.

Bernadine Abbott Hoduski said ALA/COL would prefer that GODORT as a group not speak directly to government agencies. They want us to go through ALA/COL. The FDTF Chair should work on this.

Regarding the one-page briefing handout on FDLP for Legislators, there was a suggestion to include URLs for FDSys and the CGP.

FDTF is working on its vision for the next five years. Tim Dodge suggested it include the following:

- To further education/training of librarians and others who work with federal government information.
- To continue to develop more effective measures of bibliographic control over federal government information sources including born-digital fugitive documents.
- To broaden public knowledge of federal government information.
- To devise more effective advocacy measures to Congress on behalf of FDLP, GPO, etc. that adhere to GODORT, ALA, and ALA Washington Office requirements.

Lori Smith suggested cataloging different series of available documents-related webinars and training videos and putting an annotated list with links on the GODORT wiki.

Shari Laster supports the idea of FDTF having a focused approach to advocacy. People could use support and guidance on how to reach out to legislators. Let's build the advocacy program so we can speak on behalf of ourselves.

Other ideas mentioned were to move forward on the fugitive documents problem and create a uniform statement for library directors on importance of government documents in their library (advocacy within our organizations). The GODORT LibGuides account that of Helen Sheehy is the administrator can be used for GODORT information dissemination. Use it for the "Catalog of Webinars" and to spotlight collections and repositories from government agencies (publicizing).

IDTF

Jim Church completed his first term in IFLA and is up for a second five-year term. The next meeting is in Cape Town, South Africa. The IFLA Government Publication Section (GPS) focuses on preservation of government information and documents. Church urged participation in the GPS.

Maritina Paniagua (Outreach and Professional Development, Dag Hammarskjöld Library), gave an overview of the framework of the new program for UN depositories. (Maritina will be retiring in August after 36 years of service.) The mission is to ensure local access to UN information, documents and knowledge with the following goals:

- To share knowledge, information, and data generated so it is easily available.
- To provide transparency for the activities of the UN.
- To ensure the security of UN documents (multiple copies to reduce the risk of loss or tampering). A LOCKSS model will be explored.

Components of the new program are:

1. A digital repository (DAG Digital Library). A pilot version was tested with a sample of 42 depository libraries worldwide. The pilot was successful. The pilot will be extended to all members over the next 12 to 18 months. It should evolve to a full service within 2 years.
2. DSpace currently is being used. They are in the procurement process for a more robust system and are looking for a new system that will use MARC.
   - Stage I: provide digital access of materials that were received in print.
   - Stage II: expand access. Embargos may be enforced for some collections. Depository libraries will be granted access to full UN publications by IP or password. Metadata will be exposed to work with Zotero and other bibliographic citation managers. It will take time to implement all of the UI suggestions given by the UN Depository Library community.
3. Training. The value of depository librarians (local human guidance) is critical. One person must be named as the UN information expert at each depository library. Continuing education will be provided on an ongoing basis. Workshops will be held for libraries in the tristate area. A UN workshop will be held at IFLA in Cape Town.

Outreach: They want to raise awareness of UN depositories and will expand the directory of UN depositories on un.org.

Legal document re UN Depository Libraries (last updated in 1995) will be updated. The depository library website will be revamped. The name "UN Depository Libraries" will remain.

Ann Paprocki, librarian, Dag Hammarskjöld Library, gave a presentation about an online exhibit celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the UN.

The World Bank, Bernan, IMF, OECD and UN Publications all presented updates about their publications.

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SAY UNCLE.

In 1941, a onetime chef returned to his native Vietnam after travels abroad, his mind aflame with communist ideals. Over a tumultuous decade he sparked an unlikely independence movement, rallying loyalists to confound imposing foes such as France, Japan, China and ultimately the United States of America. Ho Chi Minh, referred to as "Uncle Ho" by his committed charges, repeatedly inspired a sense of nationalism to defy the interloping superpowers, besting them with equal parts fervor and craftiness, not to mention a penchant for attrition.

Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) Reports, 1957-1994 chronicles Ho's profound impact on Vietnam's history, including the country's ultimate independence. The collection contains millions of pages from a wealth of sources, including monographs, reports, serials, journal and newspaper articles, and radio and television broadcasts. Featuring an emphasis on communist and developing nations, it is an ideal tool for researching military, socioeconomic, political, environmental, scientific and technical issues and events.

"unearth rich scientific and cultural gems..."

Christopher C. Brown, Professor
Reference Technology Integration Librarian and
Government Documents Librarian,
Penrose Library, University of Denver

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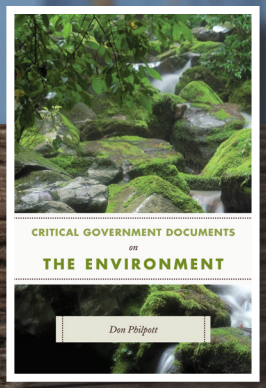

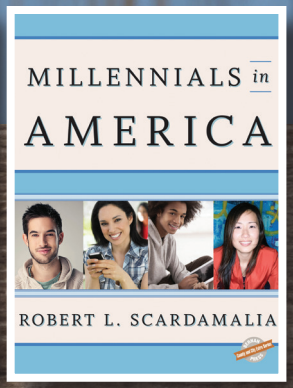

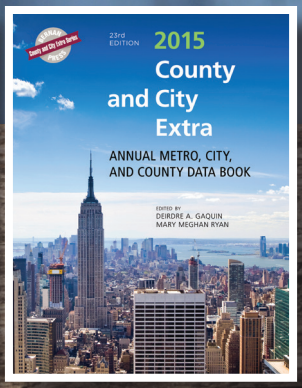

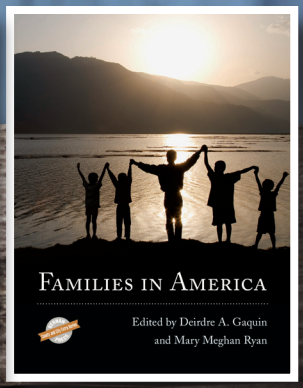

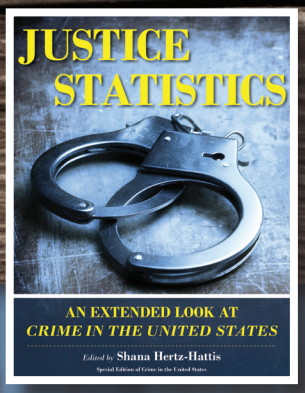

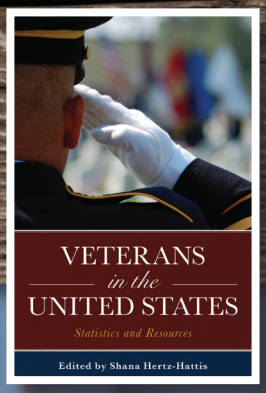

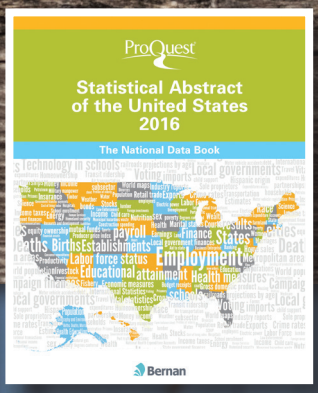

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