

Annual Report of the Documents Association of New Jersey (DANJ) – 2012

This year has seen DANJ engaged in many activities that fulfill its mission of:

- Promoting the use of government documents
- Providing a forum for discussion of problems and concerns
- Providing training and continuing education events
- Facilitating communication among documents librarians and administrators

In addition to the activities reported below, DANJ acted in its role as advocate for government information by writing letters supporting the Uniform Electronic Legal Materials Act (UELMA) and opposing the separation of New Jersey's records management program from the State Division of Archives and Records Management (DARM).

Federal Documents Interest Group – Assessments of New Jersey depository libraries by GPO were completed this year. FDIG chair, Laura Saur, Government Documents Librarian for Newark Public Library, the state's regional depository library, kept us informed about 1) the FDL State Forecasts survey, completed by depository libraries, 2) the State Action Plan, which Laura drafted based on survey answers, 3) the Depository Selection Information Management System (DSIMS), and other GPO news. Sue Lyons, Reference and Government Documents Librarian at Rutgers School of Law–Newark and past president of DANJ, is currently serving on the Federal Depository Library Council. At the 2012 Depository Library Council Meeting and Federal Depository Library Conference, Newark Public Library's depository collection, under the administration of Laura Saur, was named the first regional Federal Depository Library of the Year.

State Documents Interest Group – This year saw a major change in the depository system for New Jersey documents with the passage of PL 2011, which reduces the number of publications printed by the state, provides for most to be available online, and requires notice of availability. SDIG chair, Deborah Mercer, the New Jersey Documents Librarian at the State Library, brought information on this and other developments, such as the State Library's growing digital repository of state publications. The award for New Jersey State Document of the Year went to *Genesis of the New Jersey State Library 1703 – 1796* by John T. Shaw (http://slic.njstatelib.org/slic_files/GenesisF.pdf). The winner of New Jersey State Web Site of the Year is the New Jersey State Archives (<http://www.state.nj.us/state/archives/index.html>).

International Documents Interest Group—The IDIG was reinvigorated by the new chair, Susan B. White, United Nations Librarian at Princeton, by bringing information about specific international documents and sources to the interest group meetings. Also and notably, Susan organized a full day meeting at the United Nations on May 4 for DANJ members (and other librarians), with an additional visit to the New York Public Library's Science Business and Industry Library.

SC&I – Susan Kadezabek acts as DANJ liaison to the Rutgers School of Communications and Information. As it has for the past several years, the organization presented an award for Outstanding Achievement in a Government Documents Paper/Project in SC&I's Government Information Resources course, taught by Professor Kay Cassell. Of the four papers read by DANJ representatives, James Kessenides' "The Fairness Doctrine and Related Communications Law: An Annotated Bibliography" was chosen for the award.

Membership – The board approved the proposal brought by membership chair Beth Patterson, that DANJ membership for the following calendar year be included in the payment for the annual conference. Membership for someone not attending the conference is \$15.00 per year, \$10.00 for students. It was also decided to eliminate institutional membership and the proposed changes were presented to the membership on the election ballot:

Current wording of Bylaws Article 2

Article 2 – Membership

Section 1. Membership will consist of personal and institutional members.

Section 2. Any person interested in the purpose of the association may become a personal member, and upon payment of annual dues, be entitled to vote, receive Association publications, and participate in activities.

Section 3. Any institution interested in the purpose of the Association may become an institutional member, and upon payment of annual dues, receive publications of the Association and participate in its activities. No voting rights will pertain.

Proposed new wording of Article 2:

Article 2 – Membership

Section 1. Membership will consist of personal members.

Section 2. Any person interested in the purpose of the association may become a member, and upon payment of annual dues, be entitled to vote, receive Association publications, and participate in activities.

Website – In addition to general maintenance, Susan Bucks, DANJ webmaster, added new sections to the website: “Notable Documents” to record information about international documents that Susan White contributes; and “News” to highlight current issues of importance to the documents community.

Newsletter – Editor Beth Patterson published a spring and fall edition of the newsletter.

Continuing Education – DANJ held spring and fall education events. In May was the visit to the United Nations and the Science, Business and Industry Library (of New York Public). Three DANJ members, Susan Bucks, Caitlyn Cook, and Ma Lei Hsieh, presented “Using the New American Factfinder and Fdsys to Locate the Current Census and Other Federal E-Documents” at the NJLA 2012 Conference in June. The title of the annual conference, held at Princeton University, was “U.S. Census: Past, Present—Future?” Speakers included Len Preston, Head, New Jersey State Data Center, John Shaw, genealogist and reference librarian, New Jersey State Library, Elana Broch, speaking about the census and the American Community Survey, Bobray Bordelon and Ryan Womack addressing the loss of summary statistics. Special guest was Mary Alice Baish, Superintendent of Documents. Originally scheduled for November 2, the conference had to be postponed due to Hurricane Sandy and took place on December 17.

Treasurer’s Report – DANJ finances have been ably managed by our Treasurer, Wen-Hua Ren, who has prepared a separate treasurer’s report. Mary Fetzer provided us the service of auditing our books.

I am grateful to the members of our board that includes all those mentioned in the report along with Vice President/President-elect Ma-Lei Hsieh and past presidents Geetali Basu, Caitlyn Cook, and Sue Lyons, who provide an amazing treasury of wisdom and good humor at every meeting. We bid a fond farewell, many thanks for her service, and good wishes to Susan Kadezabek who has moved to California. It has been a privilege and pleasure to serve as president of DANJ this year.

Respectfully submit, Linda Oppenheim, DANJ President - 2012