

## Annual Report of the Documents Association of New Jersey (DANJ) – 2013

DANJ executive committee met bi-monthly this year to engage actively in activities to fulfill its missions. The committee has updated its Operational Guidelines which is helpful for the executive committee in managing the Association affairs. DANJ Website and Newsletter are redesigned with a new logo.

Two special awards were given to Mary Fetzer of Rutgers University and Susan White of Princeton University during DANJ Conference on Nov. 1 for their long-term commitment and contributions to the Federal, NJ state, and international documents.

### Federal Documents Interest Group (FDIG)

In the beginning of the year, Laura Saur led the Federal Documents Interest Group work on action items from the State Focused Action Plan we adopted last year. In the second part of the year we paused in those tasks to prepare to help the public with the Affordable Care Act and the unexpected government shutdown.

### State Documents Interest Group (SDIG)

With over 17,000 digital state publications Deborah Mercer reports that the New Jersey State Publications Digital Library (<https://dspace.njstatelib.org>) continues to grow and improve. This year has seen the addition of Annual Report of the Department of Education 1846-1930, the Annual Report of the Division of Taxation 1945-1991, the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Public Roads 1894-1916, the Uniform Crime Reports 1968-2011, and the Annual Report of the Division of Local Government Services 1947-1994 along with many other additional hearings, minutes and reports. In preparation for the 350th anniversary of New Jersey the New Jersey Historical Series was digitized and made available at <https://dspace.njstatelib.org/xmlui/handle/10929/27358>.

Two NJ documents won this year's Best Documents Awards:

**Best Document:** *Next Stop Metuchen: Three Railroads Shape a Crossroads Community*. The New Jersey Department of Transportation.

**Best Website:** *NJ Sandy Transparency Accountability. Integrity. Oversight*. Office of the State Comptroller. <http://nj.gov/comptroller/sandytransparency/index.shtml>

### International Documents Interest Group (IDIG)

The IDIG did not meet this year. DANJ can use new members to reenergize this group. Please let us know if you are interested.

### Membership

DANJ membership stood at 63 in 2013, thanks largely to the popular 2012 Conference on the U.S. Census. Conference attendance includes membership to DANJ for the following calendar year. Non-conference memberships are still available for \$15 per calendar year.

### Website

In 2013 the DANJ website got an updated look with enhanced content. The redesign incorporates the new DANJ logo, designed by Tiffany Hsieh, as well as a color scheme based on the New Jersey state flag. New elements have also been added to the site. The "News" page keeps members informed of DANJ activities, and recent developments concerning state, federal, and international documents. Thanks to a grant by LibraryLinkNJ, video recordings of the 2012 DANJ Conference are available on the "Conference"

page. An internal page was created to allow executive committee members to share documents and information. Overall, the site has been streamlined to allow for more efficient and timely revisions, much thanks for the dedicated work of the Webmaster Susan Bucks.

### **School of Communication and Information, Rutgers University (SC&I)**

Susan Bucks took over as liaison to the Rutgers School of Communication and Information. She attended the MLIS Program Associates meeting communicating news and updates to the executive committee. The award for best government documents student paper was not given this year since Rutgers did not offer the government documents class during the 2012-2013 academic year.

### **Newsletter**

The DANJ Newsletter has a new look, to coordinate with the updated DANJ website. The DANJ Newsletter is entirely digital now and is sent out to current DANJ members and librarians heading depository programs in NJ libraries.

### **Continuing Education**

The 2013 DANJ Conference on international documents is held at Princeton U. Much thanks to the Continuing Education Chair Linda Oppenheim for inviting excellent speakers near and far, hosting the Conference, and for her outstanding organizational skills. The keynote speaker is Iain Watt, Director of United Nations Dag Hammarskjold Library. Other presenters are Susan Kurtas (Dag Hammarskjold Library) on United Nations documents, Jim Church (U. C. Berkeley) on nongovernmental documents, and Jeremy Darrington (Princeton U.) on web searching for foreign government information. The program also includes a panel (Emily Riley, Princeton U. graduate student, Carlos Yordan, Drew U. political science professor, and Beth Patterson, Drew U. government documents librarian) on using international documents in teaching, moderated by Mary Fetzer (Rutgers U.) Tours after the conference are of the Mudd Manuscripts Library international documents collections and Firestone Library, League of Nations collection. Thanks to the grant of LibraryLinkNJ, the recording of the 2013 Conference will be available on the DANJ Website.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mary Fetzer audited the treasurer's account early this year. Treasurer Wen-Hua Ren is on sabbatical leave this fall. Treasurer's annual report will be emailed to the members at a later date. The current DANJ account balance is \$5615.82, and the balance of the bank CD is \$4321.16.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as DANJ president this year. I am grateful for the wisdom and wonderful support of the dedicated board members mentioned above, and the services of the Vice President/President-elect Elizabeth Patterson, the past President Linda Oppenheim, and Secretary Mei Ling Chow. We welcome more new members to participate in organizing future DANJ affairs.

Respectfully submitted by Ma Lei Hsieh - DANJ President, revised on Nov. 4, 2013.