From the President:

Are you ready? Conference is coming (or already here and gone if you are reading this late). I know many people have concerns about Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). ALA has done their homework and the World Health Organization (WHO) has lifted the travel advisory. I look forward to having a safe and healthy conference. That aside, I know there are many of you that are not being given permission to go by your commands/offices. We will make sure that good notes are taken and posted quickly. Now, for the fun stuff. We have an excellent program scheduled. Steve Abrams, from ProQuest, has a wonderful presentation on the changing workforce and the technical changes that will come with it. Also, vice president/president-elect, Margaret Groner, has planned a scrumptious breakfast prior to the program. Don't forget the membership meeting in-between. The elections went off without a hitch. I want to thank everyone who voted. We need to hear from our members to understand what you want. I think the new membership fee structure will benefit us in the long run. Please let me know if you have any questions.

I hope to see you at conference,

Jennifer

Federal Librarians at the White House

(left to right): Andrea Gruhl, Lavonda Broadnax, Shirley Lee, Mike Kolakowski, Jane Sessa, and Sara Striner.

See Fabulous Feds on page 2.
Fabulous Feds

Jane Sessa, Dept. of Commerce, and Library of Congress staff members Lavonda Broadnax, Mike Kolakowski, Shirley Loo, and Sara Strinier enjoyed a memorable coffee at the White House on April 7 during National Library Week. Retired GPO staff member Andrea Gruhl was also at the coffee as President of the District of Columbia Library Association. During the coffee, all guests had the opportunity to take an individual photo with First Lady Laura Bush. The White House staff sent this photo autographed by Mrs. Bush to each librarian as well as an unscheduled group picture in the front hall of the White House.

Congratulations to former Superintendent of Documents Francis J. Buckley, Jr. on his election to ALA Council for a three year term from 2003-2006. Petition candidate Robert Newlen, head of the Legislative Relations Office, Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress, was a strong second in the three way contest for ALA president.

Shirley Loo, Library of Congress, is featured in the May to August 2003 issue of Kennedy Center News as a donor. She recently established a charitable gift annuity at the Kennedy Center. She has been a Roger L. Stevens Society member for several years and she enjoys going to the Kennedy Center Honors in early December.

Diane Schnurrpusch, DTIC, is co-secretary of the FAST (Federal and Scientific Technical Libraries and Information Center) Users Group. FAST (formerly the STILAS Users Group) is one of SIRSI’s many users groups. Also, Diane was best speaker in her Toastmaster International Speech club contest and best speaker in her Area 64 Toastmasters Contest. The title of her speech was “They Also Serve Who Stand and Wait” and it focused on her experiences as a Navy wife. Lavonda Broadnax and Shirley Loo are two other Toastmasters in the Washington Metropolitan Area. Lavonda is serving as an Area Governor in District 27 while Shirley is serving a second term as President of Capitol Hill Toastmasters.

Lorna Dott recently accepted a position as a reference specialist with the Office of International Information Programs at the State Department in Washington DC. Lorna was previously the Command Librarian for U.S. Army Materiel Command.

Lobbying for Libraries and the Public’s Access to Government Information: An Insider’s View has just been published by Scarecrow Press. The author is Bernadine E. Abbott-Hoduski, a professional staff member for Library and Distribution Services of the U.S. Congress Joint Committee on Printing for 21 years. Bernadine is a founding member of the Government Documents Round Table (GODORT).

Shirley Loo
Naval Postgraduate School Homeland Security Digital Library Development

The Dudley Knox Library at the Naval Postgraduate School is developing a digital library to support the research and curricula funded by the Department of Justice grant for Homeland Security and Homeland Defense. When completed, this digital repository will provide 24/7 access to relevant information to researchers, scholars, practitioners and decision-makers dealing with homeland security. It will contain web-enabled documents, articles, government publications, state and municipal planning documents, gray literature, multimedia materials and contact information of subject matter experts in the various related fields. It will also provide tools and services to facilitate effective research and collaboration in the area of homeland security.

The curriculum developers, researchers, and NPS Library staff identified the need for the development of this tool as a means of "preserving the current debate" over the issues involved in homeland security. Since no academic discipline exists to examine these issues or prepare personnel for homeland defense, the Library will contain a very broad range of materials, both in subject and format. For example, project staff will be identifying and adding research studies, news features, white papers and case studies, bibliographies, tools [e.g. simulations, software], congressional materials, and state and local plans. Formats may be multimedia, as well as digitized print.

The development of the Homeland Security Digital Library is being undertaken in three phases. The first phase was developed as a proof of concept, containing a browse-able list of resources, a search engine, a web interface for submission of new resources, and selected news feeds. The Library staff also undertook preliminary development of a taxonomy for the organization of the digital materials. This development included defining the scope of the taxonomy, examining the standards to be used in creating the records describing the content, the record format, and the metadata fields to describe the content. This alpha phase was completed in October, 2002.

Additional funding was received in 2003, which enables us to begin the development of Phase 2. This phase of the project includes a refinement of the taxonomy, a more robust website with a customizable user interface and user authentication to enable different levels of access to restricted data. Phase 2 is expected to take approximately 15 months to complete. During this phase, the project developers will be looking for partners who have developed, or are in the process of developing, collections of digital materials relevant to aspects of the broad range of subjects which comprise homeland security. Such partnerships are expected to provide benefits of access to materials for the HSDL in disciplines which NPS does not normally collect, mutual access to materials of interest to the clientele of the parent organizations, and in the identification of best practices in digital library development.

Phase 3, if funding continues, will result in an authoritative thesaurus on homeland security, and a collection of comprehensive digital information supported with a real-time virtual reference service, online collaboration among professionals, text mining and data visualization tools.

NPS Library personnel participating in the Homeland Security Digital Library project are Dr. Maxine Reneker, mreneker@nps.navy.mil, Principal Investigator; Lillian Gassie, Senior Systems Librarian, lgassie@nps.navy.mil, who is doing the technical development; and Greta Marlett, Head, Information Services gmarlett@nps.navy.mil, who is in charge of developing the content.

Any federal libraries which may be interested in partnering with the Naval Postgraduate School in the development of the Homeland Security Digital Library should contact Dr. Reneker by email, or by phone at (831) 656 2343.
Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI)

If you have not heard about the Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI), then this message is for you. Even if you have heard about NMCI, this message is for you. NMCI is a plan that the Navy and Marine Corps have in place to gain greater efficiencies in the area of electronic resources. The plan seems to have been in formation since 1999 and is now being put in place seat by seat. The goal of the plan was to gain greater efficiencies with technological dollars by buying enterprise-wide licenses to certain computer software and programs and configuring workstations that could be plopped down on your desk making you ready to be off and running.

In theory, the concept is great. Develop a model, then just reproduce it in numbers. If you don't need any local people to install software on new computer buys, think of all the personnel dollars you could save. That's over and above the savings already achieved by buying computers and software in large numbers.

The plan is huge. Some sites are currently installed and many others are not, but definitely scheduled to be installed sometime. Obviously, it could not be implemented all at once and no one was really talking to us little guys until recently. So, what happened?

Well, they started to implement the NMCI seats. It was at that time, that they discovered “legacy systems”. A legacy system is one that you have been using for some time, but it is typically not “Navy” or “Marine Corps”. This is where all of us come in. Libraries have numerous “legacy systems” and, aside from some good old standard packages, they tend not to be the same from one library to the next. Examples are various OCLC applications, Library systems, e.g., Horizon or Sirsi, Procite, Clio, LexisNexis, etc. You get the picture. You probably have your own list of legacy systems on hand.

The solution at installed NMCI sites has thus far been to operate on a two computer basis, one being the installed NMCI seat and the other being the second computer that serves all of the Legacy applications.

Now for the scary part. There is a study currently underway of all the legacy systems. Points are being assigned and “stakeholders” should stand up and be counted if they haven’t already done so. A stakeholder is any agency that has a stake in seeing that their software gets to be adopted as part of the NMCI seat. Ultimately, NMCI will result in the issuing of an enterprise wide license for Library system software. Anyone who has already purchased it, great. Those who do not have the selected software will be told that they have to come up with the money to purchase the new package and they will have to migrate; like it or not. The only good news is that an enterprise pricing package might actually make expensive software affordable.

Some terms that you might see tossed about are Functional Area Managers (FAMs), Taxonomy, Commercial off the shelf (COTS), Government off the shelf (GOTS), Central Design Activities (CDA). Terms used regarding the acceptance of software include reclama, discarded, approved.

Do you have to do anything in particular? Yes, if you work in a library for the Navy or the Marine Corps, you should find out who in your agency has been appointed as the FAM and whether or not someone has been assigned as a CDA for any particular product. Once you know that, then you need to make sure that your library or agency has been recorded as a stakeholder for whatever software you use that has an entry in DADMS (DON Application & Database Management System) found at https://www.dadms.navy.mil. Parts of the website require a password to get to them, otherwise a .mil address should allow you into other parts that are just informational.

Each represented application has a questionnaire that should by now have been filled in. Within this questionnaire is a place for each “stakeholder” to stand up and be counted. Someone in your agency needs to create a new stakeholder for you, either the FAM or the CDA if there is one in your agency. This is the only way that those who are in the process of reviewing the applications can tell how widespread the usage for that App may be. In some cases, it may be the difference between which software is kept and which discarded.
Another website with NMCI info is http://www.nmci.navy.mil/default.html. Go there for even more screens jam-packed with details about plans that could affect you in your workplace in the future.

In conclusion, the Navy and Marine Corps are not the only services exploring enterprise wide purchases as solutions to ongoing problems. Almost any perusal of the literature reveals similar activities ongoing in the Army and the Air Force though perhaps not on this scale. It is up to you to find out where these negotiations are going in your own branch so that you can provide input and make sure that decision makers have enough information to make valid decisions.

Lucille M. Rosa

The Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) announced the winners of its national awards for federal librarianship to recognize the many innovative ways that federal libraries, librarians and library technicians fulfill the information demands of government, business, scholarly communities and the American public.

The award winners, honored at the 20th Annual FLICC Forum on Federal Information Policies on March 19 at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., included two FAFLRT Members. Their names will remain on permanent display in the FLICC offices at the Library of Congress.

Janet Ormes, Library Director, accepted the 2002 Federal Library/Information Center of the Year (large category) award for The Homer E. Newell Library, NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center, which was recognized for its promotion of various innovative technologies and approaches to knowledge management. The library developed an extensive Web-based portal that linked a comprehensive project directory of resource and image gallery links with a network of experts. This enhanced the value of the knowledge gained from individual projects for the entire agency. The library was further recognized in fiscal year 2002 for eliminating the boundaries between traditional library support and the need for preserving knowledge unique to the Goddard Space Flight Center.

Army Librarian Ann Parham was selected as 2002 Federal Librarian of the Year and was recognized for her leadership and devotion to librarianship as demonstrated by her commitment to excellence in the management of the worldwide U.S. Army Library Program, her advocacy for the restoration of the Pentagon Library, and the innovative librarian training program she orchestrated. In fiscal year 2002, Parham served as an example for the entire federal library community by reaffirming the values and importance of library and information services to management, the user community and the nation. Her initiatives in the wake of the September 11 attack on the Pentagon serve as a model of principled determination and are a credit to the librarian profession.

The Federal and Armed Forces Round Table website: http://www.ala.org/faflrt/
News and Projects at the U.S. Government Printing Office

Bruce R. James became the 24th Public Printer on November 26, 2002. He comes out of the private sector, having spent his career in the printing and publishing industries.

Ms. Judy Russell was named the 22nd Superintendent of Documents on January 6, 2003, the first woman and second librarian to hold the post. The stated goals of the Public Printer are to improve permanent public access to government information and affect Federal information policy, not to merely run a printing plant. Mr. James and Ms. Russell began the visioning process for the future of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and the dissemination of Federal government information with the Spring Depository Library Council Meeting in Reno, Nevada, April 6-9. The theme was “Visualizing the Depository Library of the Future”. Attendance was over three hundred, as depository librarians from around the country gathered to participate in the beginning of the visioning process.

Fifty Federal libraries are selective Federal government depositories. Thirty-one of these are in the Northern Virginia-Maryland-D.C. area.

Examples of pilot projects underway or being considered at GPO:

University of Arizona pilot project: The University of Arizona is working on a project with GPO to become the first virtual depository for Federal government documents by replacing their tangible documents collection with an all electronic one.

DOE pilot project. As part of the Information Bridge, the Department of Energy, long a partner of GPO and the Federal Depository Library Program, has developed two new capabilities that it would like to test with depository libraries.

Digitization and Preservation: GPO is looking for depository libraries to partner with in a digitization project of twenty years of Congressional hearings. GPO also encourages depositories to seek digitization and preservation grants for retrospective conversion of other materials from their Federal documents collections. GPO will work with the libraries to see that all converted items are cataloged; to establish standards for digitization that will result in searchable files; to ensure that the digitized materials are part of the FDLP and available for permanent public access; and to serve as a clearinghouse for information about digitization projects so that redundancy is eliminated.

GPO Access has been launched with a new look and feel: http://www.gpoaccess.gov.

Full remarks of Ms. Russell at the Spring Council Meeting with complete descriptions of projects and plans at GPO can be found at:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/adnotes.html#2

Linda Resler

ALA’s Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Roundtable (FAFLRT)

Presents:

Stephen Abram,
Vice President of Corporate Development for Micromedia ProQuest.
2003 winner of SLA’s prestigious John Cotton Dana Award

ALA Annual Conference - Toronto, Canada
Saturday, June 21, 2003 • 10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon
Public Service Excellence Awards 2003

As one of the premier events for Public Service Recognition Week 2003, the Public Employees Roundtable (PER) held its Breakfast of Champions on May 8 to honor this year's Public Service Excellence Award winners. Ambassador Ruth A. Davis, the Director General of the Foreign Service, U.S. Department of State, was the keynote speaker. The event was dedicated to Doc O. Cooke, the "mayor" of the Pentagon who died last June in a car accident and was one of the leading champions of PER. Winners, who were nominated by their peers, exemplified the highest standards of public service and were selected in seven categories: City, County, Community Service, Federal, Interagency, Public/Private Partnership and State. The winners and their award-winning accomplishments are described below.

CITY: NICE - (Nuisance Impact Community Enhancement)
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Compton, CA

Compton city is located in South Central Los Angeles County and has long been known as a high crime area. The NICE Program was conceived and implemented to significantly improve the quality of life of all citizens residing within the city. This remarkable program has reduced the following public nuisance violations: drinking in public, loitering, panhandling, narcotics use, prostitution and shopping cart violations. Property crimes were down an astonishing 22.5% during the enforcement period. This program's success can be attributed to dedicated public employees utilizing their individual skills in a team effort through a partnership between the Sheriff's Department, the City Attorney's Office, Parole and Probation Departments, drug and alcohol programs, community clergy and local mental health facilities.

COUNTY: Careers in Child Care Training Program Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services
City of Industry, CA

The Careers in Child Care Training Program successfully addresses two critical issues in Los Angeles County; the need to find employment for California Work Opportunities Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) participants and the severe shortage of quality child care. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services collaborated with ten local community colleges to train motivated CalWORKs participants to become highly skilled Early Childhood Development teachers. This outstanding program works with people who are on welfare, with little or no technical skills and trains them to become highly skilled child care teachers. This program provides participants with: a career ladder, self-esteem, responsibility, economic independence and affects families positively. Parents of Los Angeles County also benefit from access to higher quality child care for their children.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:
Airman's Attic 355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron/SGP Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ

The Airman's Attic at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, a non-profit organization comprised of active duty and civilian volunteers, provides extraordinary services. Airman's Attic lends a helping hand to junior enlisted personnel who live on tight incomes and are often just starting out in life. The Attic provides free clothing, baby items, furniture, kitchen items and much more. Through donations of clothing and assistance to Brewster House, a shelter for mothers and children of domestic violence, the Attic helps women to be self-sufficient and move forward, instead of returning home by necessity. Overstocked military uniforms and shoes go to Air Force Junior ROTC in Nogales, AZ, where 90 children are proud to be in proper military uniforms. Sunnyside Elementary routinely gathers blue pants and white shirts from the Attic for their school uniforms.

FEDERAL: GPS Operations 2nd Space Operations Squadrons
Schriever AFB, CO

The Global Positioning System (GPS), the only worldwide satellite navigation system, has become an instru-
mental part in the average citizen’s
day-to-day life. GPS is a satellite con-
stellation designed to provide a con-
tinuous set of radio signals around the
world to accomplish three missions:
navigation, time transfer, and nuclear
detonation detection. In the war on ter-
rorism, GPS-aided munitions have
made up over 80% of the weapons em-
ployed and collateral damage has been
less than in any aerial conflict of this
magnitude. Although GPS was origi-
nally designed for the military, today,
over 90% of GPS uses are civilian in
nature. Whether guiding a pilot to
place precision-guided munitions on
target in Iraq, providing emergency
teams the quickest route to an acci-
dent, or assisting parents via special
bracelets, to track their children in
theme parks and crowded malls, GPS is
affecting lives all over the world.

**INTERAGENCY: Corridor Safety
Program Washington State
Department of Transportation
Olympia, WA**

The Corridor Safety Program en-
gages communities in custom-design-
ing their own powerful actions to re-
duce the number and severity of auto-
mobile crashes and save lives. It con-
centrates on low-cost engineering fixes.
For every dollar invested (including the
time of the participants, as well as the
actual costs of the engineering enforce-
ment, education, and emergency med-
cal service improvements), approxi-
mately $35 is saved in reduced costs to
society from collisions. The Corridor
Safety Program effectively focuses on
driver-behavior issues to improve safe-
ty on the road. Drunk driver warning
signs installed in areas with frequent
alcohol-related collisions have been ex-
perimentally effective, resulting in a 57% de-
crease in alcohol-related collisions. An
innovative engineering solution was
used, installing an advanced laser de-
tection system along the side of a road
to provide a “real-time” warning to dri-
vers when deer where on the road.

**PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP:
Immunization Outreach to
Reduce Hepatitis-A in Gay Men
Department of Health /Office of
Performance Improvement
Tallahassee, FL**

This exceptional partnership of
county, non-profit and church-based
services successfully tackles one of
the most urgent public health problems.
Orange County experienced a 150% in-
crease in rates of Hepatitis A from 1997
to 1999. Data revealed that 80% of the
cases were among men, 60% of total
cases were among gay men, and 50% of
total cases were food service workers,
specifically among gay men who were
also food service workers. In order to
reach more of the target population,
the Orange County Health Department,
Joy Metropolitan Church and the Gay
Lesbian Bisexual Community Center
partnered to develop an immunization
outreach program, sponsoring the
Rainbow Health Fair. Since its incep-
tion, six outreach events were held and
over 1,670 men were successfully im-
umnized against Hepatitis A. The ini-
tiative has had a positive impact on the
reduction of Hepatitis A in Orange
County (from 13.5 in 1999 to 6.1 per
100,000 population in 2001) with no
increase in Orange County Health
Department funding.

**STATE: Missouri Child Support
Initiatives Department of Social
Services Jefferson City, MO**

Child support payments are essential
to many families in Missouri, ensuring
their quality of life. In June 2001, the
Missouri Division of Child Support
Enforcement (DCSE) determined that a
total of $26.2 million in reported
undistributed support collections had
accumulated. This unacceptable level
began accumulating in 2000, after
Missouri converted from a local, coun-
ty-level system to a federally mandated
centralized system for collection and
disbursement of child support. DCSE
recognized the need for immediate in-
tervention and the Holds team was es-
tablished to develop a system to reduce
these monies. To assist in these efforts,
the Holds Team partnered with the
Custodial Parent Locate Project Team
who was given responsibility for locat-
ing people eligible to receive the mon-
ey. Through their combined efforts, by
December 2002, DCSE’s reported
undistributed support total had de-
creased to $4.9 million, representing an
81 percent reduction. In addition, this
highly successful project resulted in lo-
cating nearly 11,000 custodians and re-
leasing over $20 million to custodial
parents and payees.

*Fran Perros*
Newest Hot Topic? TAXONOMIES!

Because of my heavy involvement in the KM community, I can tell you the buzz on the street is that librarians are vitally important to government. Why? Because of their expertise in taxonomies and their ability to see the world from the viewpoint of the user!

In completing a detail for the DoD Deputy CIO, I put together a program at the Library of Congress about taxonomies. The KM lists got so much buzz around this topic, several more efforts have come out of that. Let me recap a few things that have happened recently.

WHAT

31 March 03 event at Library of Congress on “Promoting Information Retrieval Strategies in Federal Agencies/ Organizing for Effective Search and Retrieval: State of the Art Taxonomy Strategies for a NetCentric Environment” (co-sponsors DoD DCIO, FLICC, KM.Gov)

WHY

Deputy CIO of DoD seeks assistance and input from the library community as to how the Department will achieve a netcentric environment. There is a strongly held belief in the DCIO office that librarians and taxonomic skills will be critical to the future information structure of the Department.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Net Centric Warfare concepts as defined by DoD R&D
http://dodccrp.org/

webcast of 31 March event
http://www.loc.gov/flicc/video/taxmar/info0303.html

Questions and answers from 31 March, POC list of who’s working with taxonomies/taxonomic tools in federal
govt.http://km.gov/training/training.html

QUESTION:
SHOULD YOUR NAME BE ADDED TO THIS LIST?

WHAT WE DIDN’T PLAN FOR

The KM.gov community sponsored an additional event on taxonomies 23 April featuring information on products and efforts within Navy to create their enterprise taxonomy and portal.

E-Gov KM Conference created a panel discussion on “Taxonomies for Communities of Practice.” The panel included Lillian Gassie (Naval Post Graduate School), Martha Knott (Redstone Arsenal), Carolyn Turner (NDU), and Jerri Knihnicki (G6/CIIO Army Knowledge Management). There was a reporter there from Federal Computer Week who interviewed Lillian afterwards for an article.


WHAT’S NEXT

Many people have asked that the efforts to bring together people in government who are working with taxonomies continue. A Community of Practice (COP) is being formed to bring all those people together.

QUESTION:
DO YOU WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF THAT COP?

I'm pleased to say there is an opportunity for our community to take a lead and educate others in federal government, establish ourselves as THE experts. Your thoughts? Comments?

Nancy Fagot
Toronto Joint Reception
Monday, June 23

AGITG
(CL A Access to Government Information Group),
GODORT, and FAFLRT

invite you to attend a combined reception
Monday, June 23, 2003, 5:00-7:00 pm
University of Toronto Faculty Club,
Main Dining Room
Food and Cash Bar

Sponsored by
Infocurrent & SIRSI
Stephen Abram, Vice President, Corporate Development, Micromedia Proquest is FAFLRT’s distinguished guest who will speak on generational demography. His talk, entitled, “The Next Generation Changed When I Wasn’t Looking! What Now?”

Generational change and the different behaviors of younger and older people who aren’t exactly like “us” is a continuing challenge for librarians and libraries. Generational change is challenging us on many fronts: our users are changing their information seeking modes as they adapt to an information ecology largely dominated by the web; the demographics of our peers are changing as the Boomer Bulge of senior librarians retire in record numbers, and the volunteer profile of our associations and networks is changing as the motivational reasons for volunteering changes across generations. We have a new responsibility to understand these changes and accept the challenges or we’re likely to create one of the largest generation gaps in history.

Abram will address the strategies in futuristic learning and work environments, library micro-trends, Internet evolution and what our future websites will look like. Abram’s vast experience make up a wealth of information that he is willing to share and can benefit all types of librarians.

Stephen Abram is a librarian and corporate leader and is responsible for the long term development of successful print, microform, CD-ROM, intranet and web-based news, periodical directory, corporate, engineering and government information publishing lines. A noted and dynamic speaker, he has managed libraries, marketing and information resources and has held a myriad of other positions. He was named by Library Journal as one of the Top 50 Librarians who have shaped the future of libraries and librarianship. He is the recipient of many awards from library associations and other corporate entities.

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