OSI APPROACH

Office of Strategic Initiatives
Newsletter

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

HACU Interns Contribute to the Library

By: Patricia Camacho

The Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) recently welcomed six interns for the Spring 2011 semester from the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), and so far, their experiences have been fulfilling and refreshingly diverse. This has been OSI's largest HACU intern group to date.
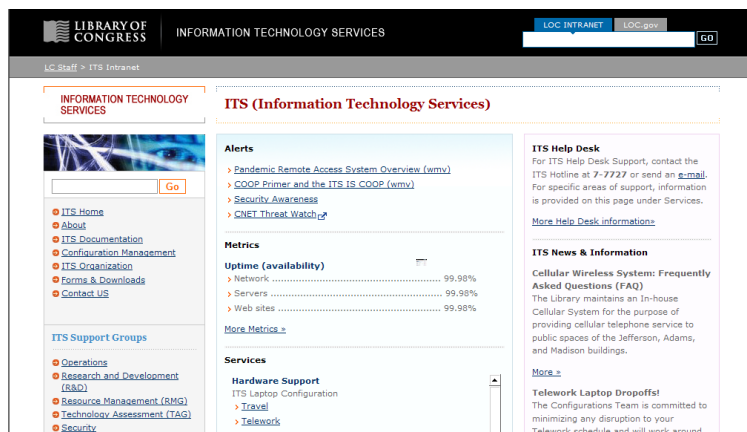
Pictured from left to right: HACU interns Armistead Reasoner, Patricia Camacho, Thomas Padilla, Lara Lookabaugh, David De Guzmán, Leysha López, and IU intern Domini Martin. Photo credit: Kristy Dyson

Patricia Camacho, a senior Journalism student from Universidad del Sagrado Corazón in Puerto Rico, has been working with Karen Caldwell while supporting projects such as the *OSI Approach*, the *OSI Annual Review*, and the OSI Telework Initiative. She has written articles for the February and March OSI newsletters, including newsbytes and an employee spotlight article. These articles required her to meet and talk with people in other areas of OSI. Patricia has written the intern welcome for the Web site and has edited content before it is published. She has participated in organizing this quarter's OSI All Hands Meetings, and has been the moderator for them as well. The *OSI Annual Review* is something she is particularly interested in, since she has been able to browse the Library's digitalized Prints and Photographs Online Catalog in order to help select the perfect images for the cover and interior.

ITS Web Site Takes on New Features

By: Christi Casiano and Kim Dean

A screenshot of the ITS home page.

Now is the time to browse on over to the new ITS Web site, which has a sleeker design, more comprehensive features, and is even more inclusive of ITS materials, such as presentations, forms, videos, and other documents.

A major attraction is the full listing of ITS Support Groups. This section in the navigation pane allows visitors to access new pages that have introductions of each group, including contact information and relevant links.

Important updates were implemented on the ITS Documentation, ITS Organization, and Forms and Downloads pages. From now on, the ITS Documentation page will contain the latest *ITS Annual Reports*, which are provided to the Office of Communications for the *Annual Report to Congress*. Currently, the Reports for fiscal years 2009 and 2010 are available here for download. Additionally, up-to-date organization charts that reflect ITS management and staff structure have been added to the ITS Organization page. The Forms and Downloads page shows the most requested ITS forms in a cleaner chart format as well.

For those who seek the most popular ITS services, the home page's Services section has been revamped to highlight these services' respective pages and also lists critical information regarding the services offered during a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). Detailed content pages for Blackberry Services and Telework have been developed and added under Other Support Services within the left side navigation pane. The right side navigation pane has been designed to keep ITS staff informed through timely features, such as ITS News

GeoMAPP Adds Two New State Partners

By: NDIIPP Communications Team

The Geospatial Multistate Archive and Preservation Partnership, a multistate partnership exploring ways to expand the capabilities of state governments to provide long-term access to geospatial data, has selected Missouri and Montana from a national invitation for bids to join the partnership as full partner states.

Missouri and Montana will join Kentucky, North Carolina, and Utah in the partnership, which began its National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program-funded work in late 2007 and will run through the end of 2011.

GeoMAPP brings together geospatial and archival staff in each state to identify, preserve, and make available temporal and superseded digital geospatial data with ongoing value.

Joining the project are the Missouri State Archives, the Missouri Geographic Information Officer, the Missouri Spatial Data Information Service, and the Montana State Library. In addition to housing the regular library collections, the Montana Digital Library Division also manages the Natural Resource Information System, which provides comprehensive access to information about Montana's natural resources.

GeoMAPP has already released a number of white papers and guidance documents, including an interim report and a guide to geospatial metadata, and is preparing to release further guidance on digital geospatial formats and business planning.

In addition to the full partners, GeoMAPP also has an informational partner program that provides a mechanism for sharing the project's findings as widely as possible in state government. Arizona and Mississippi recently joined the project as Informational Partners, bringing the total of informational partner states to 12.

OSI Group Learns About Digital Libraries in North Africa

By: Ellen O'Donnell

On January 24-25, 2011, the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) participated in an international meeting, "Workshop on Digital Libraries for the Maghreb," held in downtown Washington. Several OSI staff attended to learn more about digital libraries, digital archives, and ICTs (information and communications technologies) in the Maghreb region of North Africa and to explore potential collaborative opportunities. One example of such a collaboration could be internships and/or fellowships in which the Library is a partner.

The workshop was organized by the Fulbright Academy of Science and Technology (FAST), an organization for alumni of the State Department's Fulbright Program of international scholarly exchange, and funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). While there was a strong focus on science, the workshop was not exclusively on scientific topics.

What is the Maghreb? Sources do not always agree on a definition, but for purposes of the workshop, the Maghreb was defined as five countries in North Africa: Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, and Mauritania. The Fulbright Academy noted that this list did not include the Western Sahara, which is a disputed territory. "Maghreb" is an Arabic word meaning "the West."

To compare a bibliographic source, *The Columbia Gazetteer* of the World defines the Maghreb as "northwest Africa between Egypt (east) and the Atlantic Ocean (west), and [between] the Mediterranean Sea (north) and the Sahara Desert (south); specifically, the Atlas Mountains generally applied to Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya." *The Gazetteer* also includes Spain during its period of Muslim domination.

The Maghreb might be described as a world crossroads. Its population is very diverse for historical reasons, including, as the *Encyclopædia Britannica* notes, the many invasions the region has experienced since ancient times–e.g., by the Phoenicians, Romans, Arabs, Christians, and French. Today, the region's many languages include Arabic; French; Berber dialects, Italian, English; Spanish; Pulaar; Soninke; Hassaniya; and Wolof (according to a Web site of the U.S. Africa Command).

Among recent U.S. Federal outreach to this part of the developing world was President Obama's speech, "A New Beginning," given in Cairo, Egypt, in June 2009, which addressed America's relationship with Muslim-majority countries. As part of his vision, the President expressed an intention to work with those countries to support technological development, transfer of ideas, and scientific excellence. One of the outcomes is that two Federal agencies in 2010 allocated $1.5 million for establishment of a digital science library in the Maghreb region.

The NSF also awarded three grants since 2005 for workshops on digital libraries in North Africa and the Maghreb. Steve Griffin, on detail from NSF to OSI, is the program officer for these grants. "International collaborative work involving institutions and scholars has long been a successful means for creating and sharing knowledge," he says. "Many participants at the 2011 workshop expressed the view that the recent dramatic events unfolding across the Maghreb further indicate a pressing need for new information and communications infrastructures. These, they say, should be freely available to all, and would help in fostering a deeper understanding of culture heritage and identity, and with that, a fuller appreciation of shared human experience."

Topics that the workshop participants explored included:

- Building the information infrastructure in the region
- Advancing the digital scanning and preservation of artifacts, documents, data, and other materials, for cultural history purposes and for use by scholars and researchers
- Enabling open access to resources, including by the public, not just elite audiences
- Training "informationists," defined for the workshop as "librarians, publishers, IT professionals, and others"
- Increasing the dissemination and exchange of knowledge, expertise, research, and literature
- Uniting currently existing but disparate initiatives, programs, policies, etc.

David De Guzmán is a Computer Science senior at California State University, Fullerton and is working as Project Support Assistant within the Web Services Division, helping to publish the "Coast to Coast: Federal Theatre Project" exhibition online through myLOC.gov. David has finished creating a scroller interface for which he learned how to use CSS and JavaScript syntax. He will soon begin to assist in developing an inventory application for the Web sites that the Library owns or is in charge of, such as the Facebook page or myLOC.gov. David is working with Bill Kellum, Rohit Gupta, and Laura Moiseev, and is excited to take part in the Library's professional environment. "The Library is full of great employees and learning experiences I could only hope to get anywhere else," he says.

Lara Lookabaugh is a master's degree student in Library and Information Studies and is working in Digital Preservation Outreach and Education (DPOE) with Barrett Jones. While she has been attending meetings and writing content for the upcoming DPOE Web site, she has kept busy with a variety of projects. Lara is creating a system for monitoring news in Digital Preservation using social media and Web 2.0 tools, and has set up delicious. com, Net Vibes, and Google accounts. She is compiling the pertinent news items in weekly e-mails to members of OSI. Lara is also working on scheduling short, weekly information sessions for interns and OSI staff members in which presentations are given about different topics, highlighting the wide range of knowledge within the Library's staff.

As a Public Relations major, Leysha López, an undergraduate student at the University of Puerto Rico, feels that the Office of Special Events and Special Programs is the ideal match for her professional interests. She works under the supervision of Mary Rhoads and has learned exactly how much detail goes into planning a special event at the Library. She is currently creating a new Web site for the office, and has been working closely with the Web Services Division, along with continuing to work on the Web site's layout. Her new project is geared towards receiving feedback from the Library's special event clients using the Survey Monkey tool.

Thomas Padilla is a History major at San Francisco State University. He is working in the Educational Outreach Office with Anne Savage. He just completed writing the first evaluative report of the Library's LOC Box program. Thomas has also been developing content for professional development activities, as well as a new online primary source set to be used by teachers across the country. In addition, he has been tasked with compiling a list of potential fine arts institutions to join the Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) Consortium. During his semester here, he will create a TPS Educational Consortium FY11/FY12 Project Overview.

Domini Martin - IU's Washington Leadership Program Participant

Domini Martin is a junior at Indiana University (IU) at Bloomington, majoring in Legal Studies and minoring in French. She is an intern at OSI, working with Kris Nelson and George Coulbourne, and was accepted through the Washington Leadership Program. This program is exclusive to IU Bloomington, and as a member of the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, she is especially excited about the opportunity to live and work in Washington, D.C.

During her internship, Domini has written briefs on different organizations, researched federal grant programs, and helped plan travel budgets. She has also performed advanced formatting for program documents and manuals and is currently creating an intern information database for future OSI use. Domini is pleasantly surprised about the diversity of the Library's staff members, she says, "I love to read, I love books and writing, and I never thought someone who wasn't a Library Science major could work at the Library of Congress. I'm excited that a variety of many different talents can help make the Library a better place."

NEWS BYTES

LIS & THOMAS Amended
By: Tammie Nelson

On January 27, 2011, a representative of the House Leadership requested that the Law Library modify THOMAS, the Library Web site that delivers legislative data to the public, to include links to Constitutional Authority Statements for each bill (H.R.) or joint resolution (H.J.Res.) brought to the House Floor. This request generated a collaborative effort between several groups within the Library (ITS, Congressional Research Service, Law Library, Congressional Relations Office), the Government Printing Office, and the Clerk of the House. The result of this collaboration was a joint agreement on February 4 to a requirements document detailing a change to both LIS, the legislative system used by Members and Congressional staff, and THOMAS. Because of the request's high priority, ITS expedited the work and was able to develop, fully test, and successfully deliver this change to LIS and THOMAS by February 17. The ITS R&D CRS Team who worked on this project included My-Hanh Pham, Mike Newman, and Tammie Nelson.

ITS Upgrades Serena TeamTrack
By: Bruce Blest

Information Technology Services (ITS) has organized a team to perform a system upgrade for Library Services (LS) from Serena TeamTrack to Serena Business Mashups. For the past several years, LS has been tracking their request tickets through Serena TeamTrack, which performs the same function that the Remedy system performs for ITS. This upgrade will take advantage of the full-featured mashup management tool that provides the ability to create business processes that pull and manage information from different sources. Business mashups solve business problems that are typically process-driven. Currently, the project team, which includes Kaushi Belani, Bruce Blest, Seth Dapaah, Annie Goshay, Jack Liu, and Monica Ureta, is staging the database for deployment. Installing the new system upgrade in production will involve coordination with Library Services to ensure that the old system is taken off-line as the new system deploys on-line.

The Library of Congress at SXSW® 2011
By: NDIIPP Communications Team

For the second year in a row, Library of Congress staff from the Copyright Office, the Recorded Sound Section, and the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) will participate in the South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conferences and Festivals 2011 in Austin, TX. The Library will host a booth at the event's trade show, from March 14 through March 17, spanning all three conferences (Interactive, Film, and Music). Visitors to the Library's booth will learn how to legally protect their work, become part of the national collection, and explore ways to keep their digital music safe for the long-term. The Library will also moderate a panel, "How To Keep Your Digital Music Flowing," where OSI's Butch Lazorchak will act as moderator. The panel brings together a collection of music industry veterans to discuss some of the core issues around maintaining the long-term accessibility of digital materials and will share "good enough" practices on how to leverage digital music workflows for accessibility and preservation for a general audience of music creators, consumers, and stewards.

NDNP Expands Chronicling America Web Site
By: Leslie Johnston

On February 14, 2011, the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) added 178,000 pages to the Chronicling America Web site, which now provides access to over 3.3 million pages of historic newspapers for searching and viewing. The program is also preparing a new interface for the site, which will add new search and browse features, in addition to a new overall design.

Employee Spotlight
Nat Gadson
Systems Analyst

By: Patricia Camacho

Nat Gadson walking through the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building. Photo credit: Kristy Dyson

It is truly an understatement to say that Nat Gadson is an interesting member of Information Technology Services (ITS). If the walls surrounding the cubicles on his desk could speak, there would be fascinating stories from the span of the 43 years he has been at the Library. Fortunately, the Library has Nat as a superb source. The Washington, D.C. - born and raised Project Manager (PM) in the Research and Development Infrastructure Group brings enterprise applications into production. He works on multi-year projects by taking legacy applications and putting them onto the same platform database using Integrated Workplace Management System (IWMS) software, so that staff can more easily share information. To accomplish this task, Nat currently manages replacement systems being developed under the Facilities and Asset Management Enterprise (FAME) umbrella. These systems include the Asset Management Tracking System (AMTS), Computer Automated Facilities Management (CAFM), Space Planning Office Move/ Add/Change/Delete (MACD) System, the Demand Work Order System (which replaces the Facilities Automated Services Tracking (FAST)) system, the Parking Program Management System (PPMS), and the Transportation Reservation Information Program (TRIP). He also assists in the Computer Aided Design system currently used by Facilities Design and Construction, and has completed projects for the Copyright Office and Congressional Research Services.

Nat began working at the Library while he was in high school, and worked here throughout college as well. He attended Georgetown University and Lear Siegler Institute for his associate's degree, and Strayer University for his bachelor's degree in Data Processing Management. Even though he initially applied for a position in the IT Department after he completed college, Nat was hired to work on the Deck instead. It was only after he left the Library for a few years that upon returning, he began working in IT. Over the years, Nat has also helped to set up imaging systems for the Senate and House.

According to Nat, of all the memorable experiences in his years at the Library, there are two which stand out the most. In 1992, an LOC team had a meeting with the Russian government and its counterpart to the Librarian of Congress for the National Library of Russia, Dr. Rudolf Germanovich Pikhoia. The group was performing a demonstration for digitalizing and searching for data, and showed how to convert images into text. Dr. Pikhoia then offered them a copy of the Communist Party archives and asked for them to be made available online and accessible to the people of Russia. Another special moment for Nat was when he was part of a group who collaborated with the Law Library staff and a group of South American countries and placed digitizing equipment in these countries. This project became the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN).

Something many people may not know about Nat is that he married his college sweetheart, Theresa, almost 40 years ago, and that they are both licensed foster parents to children of all races and backgrounds, which he says is very rewarding. Theresa and Nat treat them as if they were their birth children, and their home is the one that everyone always requests. Nat says that he has helped raise children from all backgrounds, "white, black, and Hispanic…and kids are kids, they just need someone to understand them and love them." He has five grandchildren, and the sixth is on his way. Nat is also an experienced golfer and bowler, and is a fan of traveling. His favorite place so far has been Kona, Hawaii, because it has every type of climate, and this year he plans to go to Alaska to see the glaciers.

Nat Gadson *continued from page 6*

Nat is truly full of wisdom, and it does not take a genius to know that with all of his years at the Library, he has not only acquired stories, but invaluable experiences and wisdom as well. He is a valuable primary source of the Library's history in the past four decades, and, as he said, his focus is on "knowing you've made a positive impact and made a few people's lives a little bit better."

Nat Gadson's extended family has grown in the past year.

HACU Interns *continued from page 4*

Armistead Reasoner is a Library and Information Science graduate student at the University of Southern Mississippi, and he is working in DPOE with Diacorda Amosapa and Barrett Jones. He has been writing biographies of the DPOE steering committee members, refining the DPOE timeline, writing a brief history of the DPOE initiative, and briefing Diacorda Amosapa, Barrett Jones, and George Coulbourne regarding steering committee research. Over the past weeks, he has been conducting research on how multi-sector steering committees operate and interact with working groups. Armistead's latest project includes recruiting staff members to participate in information sessions with the OSI interns, in order to highlight the range of staff expertise at the Library.

The interns are currently working on a group project collaboratively, which entails creating a Facebook page for recruiting future interns, as well as making a video highlighting the different internship opportunities available at OSI. Each one of them will have an essential role in the end result. This will undoubtedly, in addition to their everyday duties, keep them busy and allow them to substantially contribute to the Library of Congress' missions and goals.

ITS Web Site *continued from page 2*

& Information, ITS Employee Updates, and Recent Presentations. Staff members can submit information that qualifies for these categories to Lisa Phillips, Chief, ITS Digital and Web Initiatives at lphillips@loc.gov.
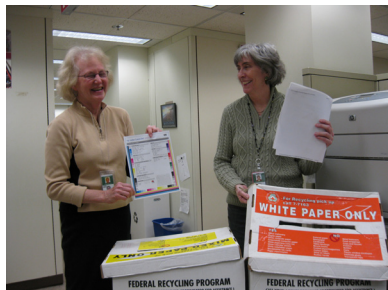
All of ITS can be congratulated for the redesign of the ITS Web site. Every group contributed information to assist Michael Smallwood (ITS Digital and Web Initiatives) and Kim Dean (ITS Helpdesk/Integration Services), in reorganizing and collecting new content to establish a site that enables users to effectively arrange delivery of ITS products and services, moreover, providing outstanding customer service to any Library staff in need of technical support.

Recycling Something Small Does a Lot of Good

By: Jane Mandelbaum

We need your help with recycling "stuff" in our spaces!

The Library receives money back from recycling of paper, laser cartridges, and beverage containers. This money gets used for support and staff for the LC Wellness Center in the Adams building. If we recycle more, then more money is available for the Wellness Center, and more money is available to provide more recycling bins, etc.

OSI/ITS staff Janna Marchione and Mary Donovan are dedicated recyling advocates; here shown celebrating renewed enthusiasm about recycling.
Photo credit: Jane Mandelbaum

So what do we need from you?

Here are the highest priority things you can do, in order:

RECYCLING ON A DAILY BASIS
1. Recycle as much white paper as possible in the cardboard bins marked White Paper Only. White paper makes the most money for the Library. It is very important that <u>only</u> white paper go into those bins. One piece of non-white paper will contaminate an entire bin.

What is white paper? Anything printed or copied on an LC printer or copier (color printing is OK) on standard paper stock, assuming the base paper color is white; lined notebook paper pages (no bindings), assuming the base paper color is white; index cards, assuming the base paper color is white; copies of the *Gazette*; and staples and paperclips are OK if they are still attached to the paper.

What is <u>not</u> white paper? Colored Post-it® notes; magazines; slick or glossary items (like brochures); newspapers; papers with significant coffee stains or food stains; cardboard backings of notebooks; and paper folders.

2. Put your empty beverage containers (water bottles, soda bottles, cans, glass bottles) in the blue plastic containers in OSI (in all areas except LA 314, where a labeled white cardboard box plays the part of a blue plastic container), ITS, or in the cafeteria and snack bar.

3. Put your newspapers in the cardboard boxes marked Newspapers. Please do not put newspapers in the White Paper Only boxes.

4. Put any unidentifiable paper into the Mixed Paper bins. This includes any and all magazines, slick or glossy items, brochures, phone books, folders, cardboard, etc. These items can have bindings of any kind.

5. Laser printer cartridges. ITS collects cartridges in the LM G-02 (next to the Computer Room entrance). In the OSI 6th floor Madison area, there are cardboard boxes for cartridges near the printer areas. In LA G-06, there is a box in the room with the microwave and fax machine. In LA 314, there is a box for cartridges near the entrance.

If you have any questions about specific items, please see Jane Mandelbaum or leave the item in her office. Jane has been spending some time each week with one of the Chimes recycling collectors in ITS, so she can identify which items they consider acceptable for each category of paper.

Unsure or anxious about what to do?

If you are unsure, it is better to put something in Mixed Paper, rather than White Paper.

Chimes staff are being very conscientious about identifying and picking up recycling, so we would like to do our part to make their work go better.

Wishing Them Well!

By: Monica Ureta

▪Jack Liu▪ retired from the Library on December 31, 2010 after over 32 years of federal service. He was a Systems Programmer in the ITS Enterprise Systems Engineering group. During his tenure, Jack was responsible for providing operations and maintenance support to a number of application servers that host the Serena PVCS applications used by service units within the Library. One of his significant accomplishments was participating in the implementation of the architecture that enables the Serena PVCS application. This application supports the Library's financial system to be migrated into a secure environment. Jack will be remembered by his colleagues for his many years of excellent service and professional friendship. He always greeted everyone with a smile. Upon retirement, Jack plans to travel and spend more time with his family.

Jack Liu

Digital Libraries for the Maghreb *continued from page 3*

- Aiming toward more self-reliance, independence, and future sustainability in related projects
- Advancing scientific, research, government, and academic communities through these efforts

At the time of the workshop, a period of major political and civil uprising had just begun in Tunisia and would soon move across the Arab world. This development formed a compelling backdrop to the meeting.

Laura Campbell was the lead OSI representative to the workshop. She notes, "OSI seeks new ways to use new technologies and to cooperate or collaborate with institutional partners that have similar interests. One relevant area is dialogue and exchange with persons and organizations interested in digital technologies, digital preservation, and cultural heritage issues worldwide. With respect to the Maghreb region, OSI can foresee potential benefits from a more robust infrastructure in and engagement with this region, including with its significant cultural heritage."

Sixty-two participants from eight countries participated in the 2011 workshop. One-quarter were international, including from the Maghreb and countries adjacent to it. In addition to the Library, the nine other Federal participants included the Department of State, the Agency for International Development, the Institute of Library and Museum Services, and the Smithsonian Institution. Nongovernmental organizations included schools of library and information science, UNESCO, the Internet Archive, Internet2, and others.

Several OSI staff developed a white paper posted in a scholarly collection on the Web for the workshop. If you would like to read more about the event, including the official workshop summary, visit http://www.fulbrightacademy.org/page/DL/index.v3page.

Office Supply Swap

On Earth Day, April 22, the Recycling Committee will present an office supply swap table. Unwanted or surplus office supplies from offices around LC will be collected before the event, and then made available at the Earth Day event for potential reuse by others. There will be a general call before the event, so get your unused items ready.

As we get ready for spring, this is a good time to ratchet up what we do for the planet, ourselves, and future generations.

Send newsletter suggestions, comments, and submississions to AskOSI@loc.gov.
In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, please refrain from printing this publication.

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