



Annual Report of the Documents Association of New Jersey (DANJ) – 2016

The Documents Association of New Jersey (DANJ) is a proud advocate for the preservation, use, and provision of public access to government information. Our continuing mission is to:

- Promote the use of government documents
- Provide a forum for discussion of problems and opportunities
- Provide training and continuing education events
- Facilitate communication among documents librarians and administrators

DANJ continued its practice of bi-monthly meetings to discuss news and ongoing challenges related to government information management, and to plan the annual conference. Andrea Levandowski of the NJLA Collaboration Task Force met with the Executive Committee in April to discuss ways that the organizations might partner to mutually strengthen common goals.

The government and maps librarian at Rutgers University, Ellen Calhoun passed away in December. Ellen was a founding member of DANJ.

Federal Documents Interest Group (FDIG)

The FDIG, chaired by Laura Saur, continued its work to identify and discuss issues related to the preservation and access of federal information. Throughout the year she provided updates about GPO news and resources including the Homeland Security Digital Library, govinfo.gov, Federal Register digitization project, document recalls, Depository Library Council meeting, and so forth. Laura also kept committee members apprised of pending changes to discard policies for Regional Depositories.

State Documents Interest Group (SDIG)

Deborah Mercer continued as chair of the SDIG. She shared news and events related to New Jersey official state documents with committee members. Deborah also oversaw the selection of this year's best state document and website:

- Best NJ Document: "Morristown Muster Newsletter,"
<https://www.nps.gov/morr/learn/news/newspaper.htm>
- Best NJ Website: "Thomas Edison National Historical Park,"
<https://www.nps.gov/edis/index.htm>

International Documents Interest Group (IDIG)

Susan White kept committee members informed about UN depository news and other items relevant to international documents. She continued her ongoing series on key international documents with discussions of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Organization for Migration.

Membership

Current membership holds relatively stable at 66 members. Membership chair, Caitlyn Cook, designed a survey to collect information about current members.

DANJ Web Page/Social Media

DANJ continues to use the website, www.danj.org, Facebook (documentsassociationNJ), and Twitter (@docnj) to inform the public of news and information related to government documents, and promote DANJ activities.

Newsletter

Rebecca Kunkel took over this year as editor of the DANJ Newsletter. The informative Spring and Fall newsletters were circulated to members and are archived on the DANJ website.

Continuing Education

The DANJ 2016 Annual Conference recognizes the NPS centennial by exploring the depth and diversity of archival collections at area National Parks. "Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial" features guest speakers, John W. Roberts, Senior Archivist for the National Park Service, Jude M. Pfister, Morristown National Park, George Tselos, Ellis Island, and Leonard DeGraaf, Thomas Edison National Park. They are joined by Lara Flint, Outreach Librarian with the Government Publishing Office who will demonstrate *govinfo.gov*. Rider University hosts this year's conference on Friday, October 28, 2016. Our thanks to the Continuing Education chair, Ma Lei Hsieh, for skillfully managing the logistics of conference.

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

DANJ supports government information education by recognizing the best paper in the Rutgers University Government Information course. Of the several papers submitted by the course instructor, Kay Cassell, the DANJ committee selected, "Review of U.S. Government Programs and Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Childhood Obesity: A Bibliographic Essay," by Suzanne Kosempel to receive the 2016 Award, which includes a \$300 scholarship. This and previous winning papers are available on the DANJ website.

Treasurer's Report

Wen-Hua Ren continued her fine work as DANJ treasurer by submitting bi-monthly reports and an annual treasurer's report, as well as maintaining the organization's bank accounts. Mary Fetzer conducted the annual audit.

Conclusion

It has been my privilege and honor to serve DANJ as president. I am especially grateful to our active members, whose participation allows DANJ to carry out its mission.