



Annual Report of the Documents Association of New Jersey (DANJ) – 2018

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

We finally have online registration for the Conference this year! Thanks to the great effort of Caitlyn Cook, librarian of the State Library for making this possible. To encourage more participants to the 2018 conference, DANJ reduced its conference registration fee to \$30 and offered free registration to students. We look forward to more new members and the engagement of the next generation of librarians.

Owing to relocation and job changes, neither Rick Mikuisi, the elected DANJ president, nor Caitlyn Cook, the President Elect, could fill the 2018 DANJ President's position. The Board has approved Ma Lei Hsieh of Rider University as President and Susan Bucks of Monmouth University as Vice-President/President-Elect. This October, long-time DANJ treasure Wen-Hua Ren retired from Rutgers University. DANJ is in great need of new blood to serve on the Executive Committee and are calling all new or junior documents librarians to be a part of the DANJ's mission to promote the use of government documents. Serving on the Executive Committee provides the chance to learn from seasoned documents librarians and the opportunity to make a greater impact in shaping the Association and the documents librarians' profession. Leadership and service at DANJ will add great value and could lead to further career advancement in your institutions. Many of the DANJ Executive Committee members can speak to the doors that have opened to them through their engagement in DANJ.

DANJ continued to hold bi-monthly meetings of the Executive Committee and Documents Interest Groups throughout the year in 2018. During the coldest season in December and February, we held online meetings to avoid bad weather traveling.

Federal Documents Interest Group (FDIG)

The FDIG continues to be chaired by Laura Saur. The group met throughout the year and discussed various topics related to the work of Federal Depository libraries. Laura announced the launch of FDLP eXchange in June. Depository libraries should all upload their withdrawn documents on eXchange website. Newark Public Library (NPL), the Regional depository, has up to 90 days to review the offers. Some issues are still to be resolved but the new system helps NPL process submitted discards much faster.

State Documents Interest Group (SDIG)

Deborah Mercer and Caitlyn Cook co-chaired the State Documents Interest Group, keeping members informed about the efforts to preserve and digitize New Jersey state documents. Deborah oversaw the selection of the best NJ document and website.

Best Website of the Year: Casino Control Commission
<https://www.nj.gov/casinos/>

Best Document of the Year: The New Jersey Natural Lands Trust 2017 Annual Report
<https://www.nj.gov/dep/njnlt/pdf/annualreport2017.pdf>

International Documents Interest Group (IDIG)

The IDIG did not meet this year.

Membership The membership committee reports that we currently have 38 members. Conference attendance includes membership to DANJ for the following calendar year. Nonconference memberships are still available for \$15 per calendar year.

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 to promote DANJ activities.

Newsletter

Thanks to Rebecca Kunkel for publishing two issues of the DANJ newsletter in May and October. Archived copies of the Newsletter are available at <http://danj.org/pub.html>. Congratulations to Rebecca for giving birth to a baby girl this May.

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

The Government Information Resources course was offered in the fall semester. Students in the current class will be eligible for the best paper award and the winner will be announced in the spring newsletter.

Continuing Education

Ma Lei Hsieh continues as chair of Continuing Education. The 2018 conference "A Healthy Dose of Information: Health Resources for Personal and Public Research" takes place on October 26, 2018 at Thomas Edison State University. We appreciate the team of speakers, Dr. John George, Elaina Vitale, Robert Vietrogoski, and Caitlyn Cook. The conference comes together each year through the hard work of our dedicated members of the Executive Committee. Thanks to Caitlyn Cook for coordinating speakers and for speaking herself. Thanks also to Deborah Mercer who coordinated this year's venue again and gave DANJ awards. Thanks go to Susan Bucks for preparing the program packet and to all Executive Committee members for your support on the day of the conference. Last but not least, thanks to Library Link NJ, for its continued support for this program.

Special Awards

We gave two special awards this year. Professor Ren-Hua Ren received a *DANJ Lifetime Achievement Award* for more than 20 years of dedicated service to DANJ since 1992. She served as President, Treasure, Member at Large, Web editor, Membership Committee Chair, and Continuing Education committee Chair.

We honored Dr. Kay Cassell with an *Outstanding Educator's Award* for her contributions in passing down the knowledge of government document resources to the next generation of librarians at Rutgers University.

Travel Grants

DANJ offers two travel grants to encourage documents librarians attending the Depository Library Council Meeting & Federal depository Library Conference in Washington D.C. No grants were given this year. The Executive Committee will review the application policy.

Treasurer's Report

Wen-Hua Ren continued her excellent work and report as Treasurer this year before her retirement this October. We will miss her very much and we wish her well as she steps into this exciting stage of life.

It is my privilege and honor to serve DANJ as president. I am grateful for the wisdom and wonderful support of the dedicated Executive Committee colleagues. Please consider greater involvement in DANJ. We need you to continue carrying out DANJ mission.

Respectfully submitted by Ma Lei Hsieh, DANJ President