

News

World Digital Libraries 3(2): 175–176

The UF Libraries Latin American Collection

The UF Libraries' Latin American Collection contains one of the finest collections of Latin American materials in the USA. It consists of over 500,000 volumes, some 50,000 reels of microfilm (many unique and very scarce), renowned newspaper and government-document holdings, and a growing access to computer-based electronic information resources. Areas of collection focus include all disciplines, although literature, the humanities and the social sciences are best represented. All regions of Latin America are also well represented, with the Caribbean, Circum-Caribbean and Brazil having the deepest holdings. Materials on women's issues are strong.

Other units of the UF Libraries also contain important resources and researchers are encouraged to utilize them as well. The UF Map Library houses approximately 500,000 maps and atlases, some 50,000 of which deal with Latin American topics.

Source: <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/lac..>

News Release: Digital forensics and born-digital content in cultural heritage collections

by Matthew G. Kirschenbaum, Richard Ovenden, Gabriela Redwine

While the purview of digital forensics was once specialized to fields of law enforcement, computer security, and national defense, the increasing ubiquity of computers and electronic

devices means that digital forensics is now used in a wide variety of cases and circumstances. Most records today are born digital, and libraries and other collecting institutions increasingly receive computer storage media

as part of their acquisition of "papers" from writers, scholars, scientists, musicians, and public figures. This poses new challenges to librarians, archivists, and curators to accessing and preserving legacy formats, recovering data and ensuring authenticity. The methods and tools developed by forensics experts represent a novel approach to these demands. For example, the same forensics software that indexes a criminal suspect's hard drive allows the archivist to prepare a comprehensive manifest of the electronic files a donor has turned over for accession.

Source: <http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub149/pub149.pdf>

RAPTOR: Understanding your users' use of e-resources

Understanding e-resource usage in an institution is of utmost importance to decide which resources they need to keep subscribing to, the JISC-funded RAPTOR (reporting, analysis,



and presentation toolkit for usage of online resources) project is building a software toolkit for the purpose. The reporting e-resource usage statistics will be done by analyzing log files from relevant software systems. Initially, supported software will be the Shibboleth Identity Provider, EZProxy, and OpenAthens LA, but the RAPTOR software is easily extensible so should be able to work with any such system. It can also be extended to be able to interface with local identity information (e.g., through LDAP) to pull in additional information for enhanced reporting. The RAPTOR software is designed such a way to be easy for system administrators to install and configure, and its web interface is easy to use for both technical and non-technical staff. The RAPTOR project is due to complete and release its first full release in April 2011.

For more information on RAPTOR, visit <http://iam.cf.ac.uk/RAPTOR>.

Source: D-lib Magazine, January/February 2011]

President Obama Signs Museum and Library Services Act of 2010

The President signed into law the Museum and Library Services Act of 2010 (S. 3984) on December 22, 2010. The new law reauthorizes

- The existing programs of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) with some important changes.
- The updated language calls on IMLS to take an active role in research and data collection and to advise the President and Congress on museum, library, and information services.

- This Act also clearly recognizes how libraries and museums contribute to a competitive workforce and engaged citizenry.

The legislation advances the roles of libraries and museums in education, lifelong learning, preservation and workforce development. IMLS has been particularly active in providing leadership to align the activities of libraries and museums around our national priority for an educated workforce.

Source: D-lib Magazine, January/February 2011

National Archives contributes to improved digital records preservation and access system

The National Archives, USA has contributed to the update of a ground-breaking system that supports long-term preservation of and access to electronic records. The 'new and improved' version of this 'PRONOM' system was developed in partnership with the National Archives of the United Kingdom and the Georgia Tech Research Institute.

PRONOM is a web-based public technical registry of more than 750 different digital file formats that enables digital archivists, records managers and the public to precisely identify and confirm digital file formats. This identification is the first step to ensuring long-term electronic file preservation by enabling the identification of those file formats that are in danger of becoming obsolete.

Source: D-lib Magazine, January/February 2011