

NUCMC PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT, FISCAL YEAR 2011

OUTREACH

Accessions of cataloging data totaled 2770. Staff worked with sixty-five repositories located in Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington (State), Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Nineteen of the repositories (29%) were new participants to the NUCMC program. Since the NUCMC program's inception in 1959 it has worked with about 1,800 repositories.

In addition to normal outreach activities, NUCMC staff developed an initiative to increase program participation by Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). To that end, a NUCMC staff member participated in the Spring 2011 meeting of the Society of North Carolina Archivists and initiated outreach with HBCUs in several states.

Program staff also met with staff of the Library's Center for the Book to discuss ways that the Center might advance a NUCMC outreach initiative. These discussions resulted in the development of NUCMC outreach text which served as the basis of a sidebar article in an issue of the Center's e-newsletter and as a press release distributed by the Library's Public Affairs Office. The same text was also massaged into a letter, sent out under the ABA director's signature, to all of the Center's state coordinators in order to familiarize them with NUCMC program services. It is hoped that they would then find opportunities to pass this information on to their statewide constituencies (one way might be to "move" the NUCMC prepared information into state and local newsletters).

Tentative planning began on future program outreach initiatives expected to coincide with NUCMC Web observances of the centennial of the opening of the Panama Canal (2014) and the bicentennial of the burning of Washington, D.C., during the War of 1812 (also in 2014).

NUCMC staff continued an initiative launched in FY10 which involves providing the Senate Historical Office and the House Office of Art and Archives with copies of bibliographic records describing new or improved access to papers of Member of Congress.

Finally, staff also continued another initiative launched in FY10 which involves sending information copies of newly-completed bibliographic records describing papers of college alumni to the institutional archives of the relevant colleges/universities.

CATALOGING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NUCMC staff produced 3,867 OCLC bibliographic records during the fiscal year. Cataloging production exceeded the fiscal year production target (3,650) by 217 records (6%). Since the

NUCMC program's inception in 1959 it has produced approximately 125,615 bibliographic records.

In addition to local, regional, and state historical societies, NUCMC staff members also produced cataloging for a variety of special focus repositories.

ONGOING PROJECTS

NUCMC Web site <http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc>

The Web counter recorded 31,569 "hits" for the fiscal year. Fiscal year searches on the WorldCat gateway totaled 30,774 and searches on the WorldCat gateway since 2001 totaled 410,140. OCLC staff estimate that over 1.5 million bibliographic records describing archival collections and individual manuscripts are now retrievable through the NUCMC/WorldCat gateway.

The first installment of the five year NUCMC Web observance of the Civil War sesquicentennial was mounted in January and highlighted program cataloging of the last quarter century as well as related visual content. This first installment focused on the causes of the war, the election of Abraham Lincoln, the secession crisis, the outbreak of hostilities, mobilizing for war, foreign public opinion, and the press. Planning subsequently proceeded for the second installment of the Web observance which is scheduled for mounting in January 2012 and which will focus on personal narratives of members of the Union and Confederate armed forces. Program staff members were assisted in this planning by an enthusiastic University of Michigan intern. Future installments of the Web observance will focus on the sesquicentennial of the Emancipation Proclamation and the African American experience from slavery to the end of the war (2013); the home front, women in the war, the role of charitable organizations, economic aspects of the war, and patriotic societies (2014); and the sesquicentennial of the death of Abraham Lincoln, Reconstruction, Confederate exiles, war memorials, and the rise of veterans' organizations (2015).

Other Web site initiatives included planning to ensure more timely highlights of recently cataloged collections and clarifying help instructions for researchers seeking to identify the repository location of collections described in bibliographic records retrieved through searches on the NUCMC/WorldCat gateway.

Streamlining Program Operations

A group of NUCMC staff was tasked by the COIN chief with producing a report that would flesh out earlier division recommendations for realizing efficiencies in the NUCMC program in the face of the current fiscal situation. The group subsequently met and completed its report. In response to a question from the ABA director the group worked on an addendum to its earlier report. The addendum was forwarded to the division chief who discussed it with the ABA director. The director has tentatively endorsed the report's recommendations, pending a final discussion by the ABA management team.

Tony Gonzales
NUCMC Coordinator