

Special Libraries Association HAWAIIAN PACIFIC CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Spring 2007

<http://www.sla.org/chapter/chip/>

Microforms adjust to digitization age

By Carol Hasegawa
UHM Library

When “Lost” went scouting locales for filming, the lower level of the Law Library Microform Consortium at Windward Community College campus, on the grounds of the former Hawai‘i State Hospital, made the cut for being “real sizzly with lots of books.”

Jerry Dupont, LLMC founding and current executive director, grinned as he led our group single file down the corridors past 30 years of LLMC history and state-of-the-art scanners on a February afternoon.

On either side of the hallway, narrow cubicles like bee cells each accommodate one large machine or desk and one operator. Dupont and Associate Executive Director Jolyn Tamura described their work in an abandoned nurses ward.

LLMC got its start in the microform market as it existed three decades ago. The legal-microform publishers of that day were cherry-picking documents, reprinting mostly the popular titles used by lawyers, but not the less-used titles for which law libraries needed preservation and space-saving alternatives. In 1973, the average hardcopy reprint cost \$32. Astonishingly, the microform versions of those same titles sold for not much less, about \$30 per volume.



photo courtesy of HEATHER ST. CLAIR

Jerry Dupont, LLMC executive director, leads SLA-HPC members on a tour of the facilities.

Dupont was determined to address the libraries’ needs and get the industry pricing levels down. In 1976 Dupont, then Law Library director and sometime acting dean at the UH Richardson School of Law, found unused space in the Quarry, UH Manoa’s lower campus, and, partnering with Wayne State University in Detroit, began LLMC with a \$120,000 loan. The loan was soon repaid, the project moved to Kane‘ohe, and according to Dupont, “by 2003 LLMC was serving over 900 libraries in 21 countries with its fide product.” And, current price for LLMC microfiche is still \$2.25 each.

Five years ago, having already filmed 105,000 volumes, LLMC decided to also offer all of its products in an online subscription service. While

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photo courtesy of ALICE TRAN

Kathleen Robertson of the Institute for Astronomy Library demonstrates the creative ways special librarians deal with technological change, such as this card catalog turned OPAC computer stand. UHM LIS students toured the IFA Library March 16.

Playing Tourist

Students introduced to variety of special libraries

For a new student just embarking on the pursuit of a master’s degree in library and information science, librarianship can seem much like a foreign country. Stylized and stereotyped in popular media, librarians are a common image, yet at the same time exotic and not easily understood.

Thankfully for the LIS students at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, they have expert tour guides to lead them through this foreign land called librarianship.

This spring, the UHM Special Libraries Association/

American Society for Information Science & Technology Student Chapter sponsored a series of library tours designed to introduce students to the varied world of special libraries and the people who labor in them.

The tours were the brainchild of UHM LIS student Diane Kunichika, who built on a librarianship brownbag series put on by the UHM American Library Association Student Chapter in 2005-06. But instead of bringing the librarians to the students, Kunichika and the SLA/ASIST Student Chapter brought the students to the libraries.

“I thought it would just be

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President's Message

By Catherine Thomas, UH Law Library

Happy spring SLA members! I would like to extend a big mahalo to all of our outgoing board members: Ann Marsteller (director), Sara Rutter (membership chair), Linda Sjogren (past president) and Suzanne Uratani (secretary)! Big mahalos also go to Beth Tillinghast, who stepped down as director in order to pursue other projects. Thank you all for your invaluable support during the year. It was wonderful to work with such a great group!

I would like to welcome our newest board members: Diane Frake (vice president/president-elect), Carol Hasegawa (secretary), Luree Oasay (director), Kathleen Robertson (director) and Mabel Trafford (who would have been rolling off, but elected to stay on to fill the shoes of Sara Rutter in the director/membership chair position). I would also like to thank our members who are continuing on the board for this next year: Lois Kiehl Cain (international relations chair), Sunny Pai (treasurer), Lori Ann Saeki (newsletter/Web editor), Amy Saxton (past president) and Jan Zastrow (professional development chair). I look forward to working with all of you this year!

The last year was really an exciting one with many varied programs. First, we were "enlightened" by Dr. Richard Wainscoat, astronomer at the University of Hawai'i Institute for Astronomy, who discussed the effects of light pollution, not only on our sleep and safety, but also on the environment. Next, was an interesting talk in June 2006 on open source by Brian Chee, director of the Advanced Network Computing Laboratory at the University of Hawai'i School of Ocean and Earth Sciences and Technology and a Senior Contributing Editor at InfoWorld magazine. See our September 2006 newsletter to read more about these two events if you were unable to attend: <http://units.sla.org/chapter/chip/sept06news/index.html>

After a short summer hiatus was the ever-popular mentoring mixer in September, which was held at Lois Kiehl Cain's fabulous condo (thanks again, Lois!). And, in October we were "all shook up" not only because of the Oct. 15 earthquake, but because we had an incredible visit by SLA national's own vice president/president-elect, Stephen Abram (now president)! To read about his fascinating presentation on Web 2.0, see our Winter 2006 newsletter: <http://units.sla.org/chapter/chip/2006winternews.pdf>

You will also be reading in this issue about our most recent excursion to the Law Library Microform Consortium at Windward Community College in Kane'ohe earlier this year. This was a fascinating tour of their digitizing and microform facilities.

The current board is now hard at work planning and ironing out future events, so get out your calendar and keep checking our Web site <http://sla.org/chapter/chip/> for updated information throughout the year.

Our next event is just around the corner on Sunday, May 6, from 1:30 - 4 p.m. Come join us for a professional development talk at the University of Hawai'i Law School Library. After the summer break we will again be holding a mentoring mixer on Friday, Sept. 7, with the location to be determined. This has proved to be a very popular event, so I hope you can make it. And in the fall we will have a panel of environmentalists to share strategies and resources to help us do our part to battle global warming and protect our environment.

We look forward to seeing all of you throughout the year!

SLA Hawaiian Pacific Chapter Executive Board

President	Catherine Thomas
Vice President/President Elect	Diane Frake
Past President	Amy Saxton
Secretary	Carol Hasegawa
Treasurer	Sunyeen Pai
Director	Kathleen Robertson
Director	Luree Ohigashi Oasay
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Professional Development Chair	Jan Zastrow
Membership Chair	Mabel Trafford
Newsletter/Web Editor	Lori Ann Saeki



photo courtesy of HEATHER ST. CLAIR

Fiche Out of Water: Evidence of perusal are retrieved and mounted, specimens of a former life.

LLMC

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digitizing from the microfiche was an option, and is still used when necessary, the LLMC policy has been to digitally scan from the original paper whenever possible.

This was the process the SLA-HPC had come to observe.

Raw material for scanning flows into LLMC from scores of libraries worldwide. Some books received are rare and on loan. These materials are scanned on special machines (\$55,000 installed) designed to handle bound books gently. The pages are turned by hand, the text face up on a height-adjusting cradle over which the scanner head, like an upside down photocopier, descends at an average rate of 350 pages per hour.

However, the bulk of the materials received from LLMC's member libraries

are donations. These books are disbound using an industrial strength "guillotine," and their contents are fed through high-speed scanners (\$65,000 installed) at about 3,500 pages per hour.

Subsequent to scanning, all images must be proofed and "tagged," or matched up with the original pagination of the text. Finally, before going online, the images are put through a process of Optical Character Recognition, to make the texts searchable. The OCR and server duties are fulfilled by partner University of Michigan. LLMC successfully operates as a nonprofit funded by subscriptions.

As a librarian-run organization, LLMC conscientiously practices preservation. Since no digital media is guaranteed beyond 20 years, Dupont

said, LLMC has two backups. Working from the digitized images on a Dugufiche machine (\$85,000 installed), they are chugging out silver halide, preservation-quality, 500-year-rated microfiche. In addition, post-scan, the original paper blocks are shrink-wrapped and shipped to Kansas for storage in salt mines alongside some of your favorite Hollywood films.

For those who may be interested in hands-on digitizing, Dupont says the best workers have also been really good singers. "Lost" downstairs, "American Idol" upstairs!

UH Manoa users can access LLMC Digital via the E-Resources & Databases link on the library Web page at <http://library.manoa.hawaii.edu/>

For more information about LLMC, go to <http://www.llmc.com/>

UHM LIS offers course on OA

The UH Manoa LIS Program will offer a one-day professional development workshop with Dr. Péter Jacsó on "Power Searching the Web: Open Access Scholarly and Other High Quality Databases." The all-day course takes place Monday, May 14, on the UHM campus.

Power Searching the Web w/Péter Jacsó
May 14
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Shidler College of Business
room D101
Cost: \$149

The seminar will overview and demonstrate open access databases and digital archives appropriate for college, public school and special libraries. OA resources are essential for state-of-the-art reference services even for well-endowed and affluent libraries. There is a large variety of partially or fully open access scholarly databases ranging from indexing/abstracting and numerical/statistical databases to digital archives and repositories of full-text articles, conference papers and research reports.

Some of the topics covered in the program include:

- OA initiatives & movements
- Layers of OA
- Players in OA
- OA resources
- OA Sources about OA

Dr. Jacsó, an associate professor in the LIS Program, writes regular columns for several major LIS journals.

To register, visit http://www.outreach.hawaii.edu/pdf-Forms/nc_reg.pdf. The event ID is S09133.



TOURS

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a great way to network and meet librarians at the different libraries but also to find out what librarians really do,” said Kunichika. “I am one of the students who didn’t have any idea what librarians did ... all the various hats they wear.”

The tours have given students a glimpse of what librarians do in a wide variety of special libraries. Students this semester have toured the Institute for Astronomy Library, the Honolulu Academy of Arts Library, the Hawai’i Medical Library and even UH Press.

Kunichika said the staff at the libraries toured were flexible and great to work with, particularly when asked to focus on a specific topic.

“[At HML] the topic I asked for was librarians in transition since this library went from a noncorporate library to a cor-

porate library,” said Kunichika.

“They’re going through a very tough time with the possibility of being razed in the near future. They were great about letting the students come in and speaking to us for an hour.”

Kunichika also cited the tour of UH Press as valuable. Though not a library, students got a chance to learn more about publishing, that other strange activity so closely tied to librarianship.

“We got to speak to all the separate departments and learned about the publishing cycle at [UH Press],” said Kunichika.

Although Kunichika is graduating this semester, the SLA/ASIST Student Chapter plans to continue the series and sponsor more library tours in the fall semester.



photo courtesy of ALICE TRAN

A Joan Miro tapestry hangs in the library at the Honolulu Academy of Arts. Librarian Ron Chapman picked up the weaving in Mexico.

SLA Conference Get-Together



**Monday, June 4
5:30 - 7 p.m.
Strata Bar**

*(main level of Hyatt
Regency Denver)*

Catch up with Hawai’i librarians and UHMLIS alumni over drinks

Visit the UH Law Library!

Ever wonder what it’s like to be a law librarian? The Special Libraries Association Hawaiian-Pacific Chapter invites you to an informational tour and presentation by two librarians from the University of Hawai’i Law School Library. Diane Frake and Catherine Thomas will give you a tour of the Law Library while emphasizing some of the primary print resources used for legal research. The tour will be followed by an introduction to online resources that are helpful while conducting legal research.

**Sunday, May 6
Richardson School of Law Library
1:30 - 4 p.m.
Sign-in starts at 1:15**

RSVP by Thursday, May 3, to Carol Hasegawa at carolhas@hawaii.edu. Space is limited to the first 25 people who RSVP.

Free for SLA members and registered students; \$5 for guests.

For more information, visit <http://sla.org/chapter/chip/>