

FEDERAL LIBRARIAN NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

FAFLRT	
Past President 2017 ALA Annual Chicago Conference Membership Report	3-4
Fabulous Feds in The News	4
2017 Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table Awards Ceremony	5-6
In the Spotlight: Increasing the Visibility of ERDC Authored Reports by Using Linked Data.....	7-8
ALA Goes on the Record in Support of USGS Libraries	8-9
FAFLRT Board Business and Meeting Minutes	9
FAFLRT Board and Committees.....	10-12

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



Stephen V. Pomes
President, Federal and
Armed Forces Libraries
Round Table 2017-2018

Dear FAFLRT Members,

Welcome to the Fall 2017 issue of the *Federal Librarian!*

As you recall, earlier this year our membership voted to merge with the Association of Specialized & Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA). We are now in a period of transition. We will be working with members of the ASCLA leadership and the ALA Committee on Operations (COO) for a smooth transition.

Because this merger will form a new organization, the leadership of FAFLRT, ASCLA, and COO will be dealing with questions related to budgets, listservs, social media, membership activities at ALA, etc.

Recently, I sent out an email to a listserv, asking for your input regarding a new name for the combined FAFLRT/ASCLA organization. The new organization will have a different focus. Our FAFLRT organization focused on the needs of Federal and Military librarians, but the merger will bring in the ASCLA organization whose members represent a wide variety of libraries and stakeholders. We need



your input on a name change. As I said in my message, this name change is not merely a housekeeping function, but rather it is an opportunity to help define this new organization's goals and objectives.

Working on this merger will be this year's FAFLRT officers. I'm returning as the FAFLRT President. Janice M. Young, the librarian with the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information, will be serving as the Vice President/President Elect. Karl E. Debus-López is our Past President, and he is the Chief of the U.S. Programs, Law, and Literature Division of the Library of Congress' Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate. Serving as Federal Director is Virginia M. Sanchez, who is the Librarian with the Yosemite National Park, National Park Service. Also serving as Federal Director is Vicky Crone of National Agricultural Library's Acquisitions and Metadata Branch. Our Armed Forces Directors are Kathleen Hanselmann and Kimberly Megginson. Kathleen is the Chief of the Library Operations Branch at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office in Alexandria, Virginia. Kimberly is with the U.S. Air Force's Rome Research Lab. Our Treasurer, Richard Huffine, a FAFLRT Past President, is a librarian with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Last – but not least – is Julie Bramman, who serves as the FAFLRT Secretary. Julie is the Librarian at the USAG Rheinland-Pfalz Main Library.

I invite your comments and suggestions on FAFLRT's future activities. As we go into the FAFLRT/ASCLA merger, we will need your input and participation. The newly formed organization will still be an advocate for Federal and Military Librarians within ALA. We will be discussing future ALA programs and activities, so your input will be beneficial to the merger process. I look forward to your continued participation and enthusiasm.

Best Regards,

Stephen V. Pomes

President, Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table 2017-2018

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FAFLRT PRESIDENT'S MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2017 ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Karl Debus-López
FAFLRT Past-President 2016-2017
June 25, 2017

to being a fully functional round table, supporting the needs of federal and armed forces librarians and libraries worldwide. Highlights include restoration of the newsletter, awards, and programs at ALA. For the first time since 2014, the *Federal Librarian* newsletter was issued. Led by newsletter editor Janice Young, all three issues were published with interesting articles on new and innovative programs at federal and armed forces libraries, updates from the FAFLRT Board, and information on our awards and conference programming. Moreover, the



newsletter was a key conduit of information on the proposed merger with ASCLA. We also re-established the awards program. Kathleen Hanselmann took the lead on providing information on FAFLRT's three principal awards – the Distinguished Service Award, the Achievement Award, and the Rising Stars Initiative. We had three outstanding nominations, and were able to present the awards at the joint ASCLA/FAFLRT Awards Ceremony. Our success can also be seen in that according to official ALA membership rolls, the round table grew this year, from 237 members in



2016 to 289 members in 2017. Finally, we had a more robust series of programs at the 2017 ALA Annual Conference, with three programs on the topics of funding mandates, "getting more with less" (as a co-sponsor with ASCLA), and an inspirational presentation from retiring Dr. Ed Scott, Associate Dean and Director of the U.S. Air Force Academy Library. Janice Young is to be applauded for the work she did on this year's conference programming. Our social web presences were also kept up-to-date by Julie Bramman, Kelly Glaze and Stacey Bloomingdale, and our e-mail list continued to be maintained by Vicky Crone. Finally, the FAFLRT Board worked



throughout the year on the proposed merger with ASCLA. This took considerable time with multiple meetings with the ASCLA leadership, and a joint webinar on the merger presented by myself and Michael Golrick, ASCLA President. In April, the FAFLRT membership voted in support of the merger, with 76% in favor. The new 2017-2018 FAFLRT Board will work assiduously throughout the coming year to implement the merger with an effective date of September 1st, 2018. I want to thank the FAFLRT membership for their support of my presidency this year. In particular, I want to thank the members of the Board for their hard work and support of the round table and federal and armed forces libraries, in general. Many thanks to this year's Board members Julie Bramman, Kathleen Hanselmann, Richard Huffine, Stephen Pomes, Virginia Sanchez, Lance Wiscamb, and Janice Young.

FABULOUS FEDS IN THE NEWS

Kimberly Megginson, Library Management Specialist, reports that the Technical Library at the AF Research Laboratory in Rome, NY began offering full access to SAFARI ONLINE BOOKS this May. SAFARI, which has an electronic collection of 40,000 books, videos, and interactive tutorials from over 200 of the world's best publishers, including O'Reilly, Pearson, Harvard Business Review, and Packt, mirrors customer's information requirements. The local contract compliments the Air Force's SAFARI access via the AF Portal and does not duplicate users. The response has been so positive that more seats were added beyond the initial agreement just to meet demand.

Janice Young, FAFLRT Vice President, was selected as a librarian advisor to the American Library Association's Public Programs Office project on "The Vietnam War," a film by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick. In partnership with the WETA Productions in Washington, D.C., Janice, the advisory team and ALA staff developed a programming kit for public libraries. This kit includes a programming guide and a copy of the full 18-hour documentary series on DVD, with public performance rights. Janice also served as a peer reviewer, assessing applications from libraries for the kit.

A free, digital version of the programming guide is now publicly available at <http://programminglibrarian.org/articles/%E2%80%98vietnam-war%E2%80%99-free-programming-guide>.

"The Vietnam War" is a 10-part documentary that will air on PBS stations beginning September 17, 2017. In "The Vietnam War," Burns and Novick tell the epic story of the conflict as it has never before been told on film. The film features testimony from nearly 80 witnesses, including many Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as Vietnamese combatants and civilians from both the winning and losing sides. Learn more about the film at <http://pbs.org/vietnamwar>.



2017 FEDERAL AND ARMED FORCES LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE AWARDS

PRESENTED AT THE JOINT ASCLA/FAFLRT AWARDS CEREMONY
SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017
CHICAGO HILTON, WILLIFORD C.

By Mary Kathleen Hanselmann, Chief Library Operations Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers

Award Recipients:

FAFLRT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:
Anne Harrison

FAFLRT DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: Vicky L. Crone

FAFLRT RISING STAR AWARD:
Heather Kiger

The Federal and Armed Forces Library Round Table joined the ASCLA group at their awards ceremony with a delicious breakfast and presented three awards.

Unfortunately, only one of our awardees was able to attend, but Vicki and Anne both provided acceptance statements. Heather Kiger accepted in person and we had a lovely time with our new colleagues in ASCLA.





Federal and Armed Forces
LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE



Karl Debus-López presenting the FAFLRT Achievement Award to Anne Harrison



Mary Kathleen Hanselmann presenting the FAFLRT Distinguished Service Award to Vicky L. Crone



Virginia M. Sanchez presenting the FAFLRT Rising Star Award to Heather Kiger



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) Library; increasing the visibility of ERDC authored reports by using Linked Data

By Molly McManus, Systems Librarian, Information Science and Knowledge Management Branch. U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Information Technology Laboratory (ERDC-ITL)

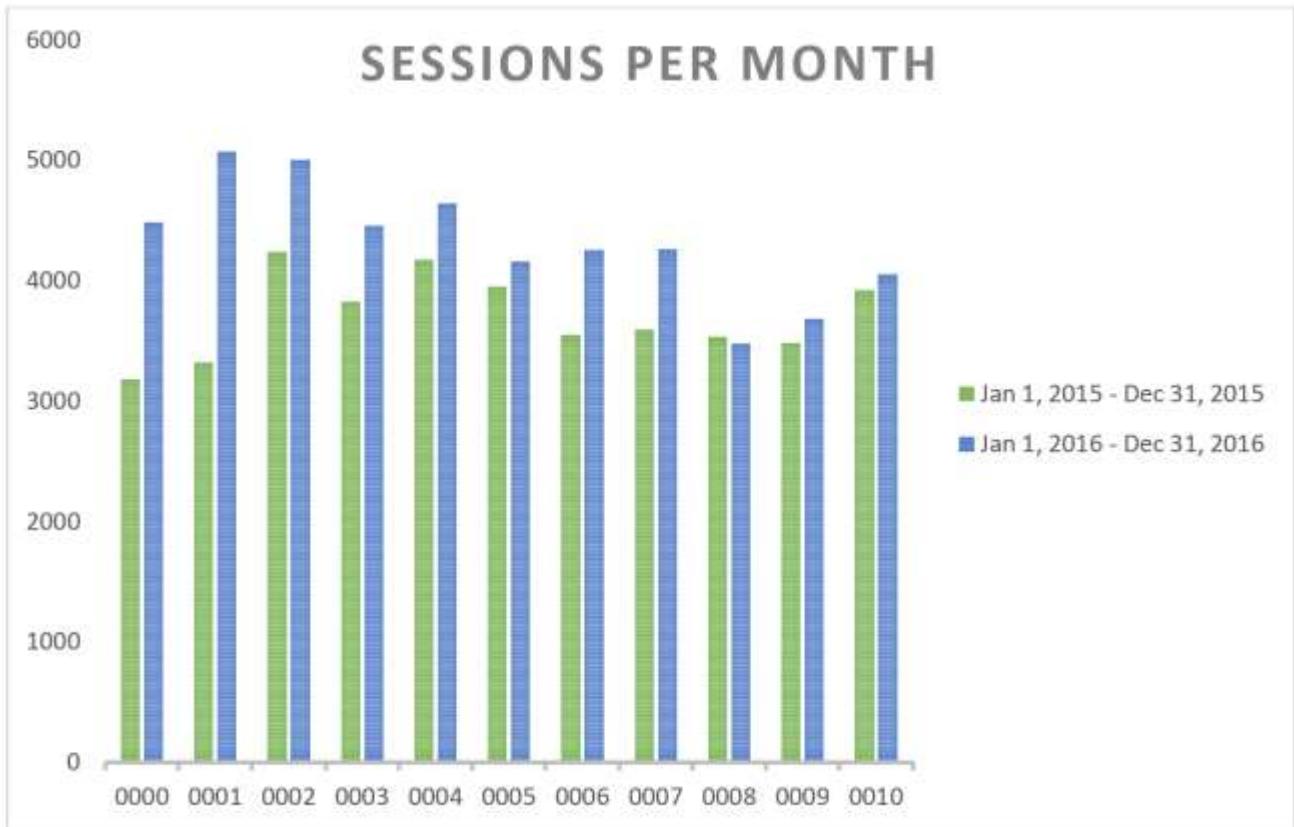
Ensuring that all publicly available Engineer Research Development Center (ERDC) authored reports and articles are visible by commonly used search engines (e.g., Google, Yahoo, and Bing) is an important part of completing the publishing process. Search engines are the first step for researchers to gather data and find experts on relevant topics. To increase the visibility of the ERDC's published knowledge, the Information Science and Knowledge Management Branch (ISKMB), Vicksburg, Mississippi, recently began publishing bibliographic data for ERDC authored reports, journal articles, and books using BIBFRAME.

Created by the Library of Congress, BIBFRAME is a Linked Data model used for expressing and connecting bibliographic data through the semantic web. Traditionally, library catalogs and the data they contain have not been search-engine friendly.

"The goal of the BIBFRAME model is to expose library metadata in a way that web search engines understand and index," said Denise Kitchens, chief, ISKMB.

This translates into more relevant search results for users and more users viewing and citing ERDC authored reports, journal articles, websites, other publications.

Prior to implementing BIBFRAME, the ERDC library was receiving an average of 3,500 sessions per month. After implementing BIBFRAME in October 2015, the number of sessions per month has been steadily increasing. In February 2016, the ERDC library catalog and repository had its largest number of sessions per month with 5,068.



“Our first goal with BIBFRAME was to increase visibility measured by the number of sessions each month. We are seeing great results and will continue to monitor the statistics,” said Jennefer Beyl, ISKMB librarian. “The second goal with the BIBFRAME project is to take our Linked Data and find ways to connect our data to other government and scientific data.” All ERDC scientists and engineers who publish technical and other reports using ERDC’s publishing process will have those reports automatically included in the ERDC library catalog and BIBFRAME implementation. The reports will be visible to search engines soon after digital publication.

“As part of the publishing process, scientists and engineers work closely with editors and library staff to create quality, consistent metadata that accurately describes the project and its results,” said Kitchens.

Quality metadata ensures that researchers find the most relevant ERDC report or article when searching on the open web. The ISKMB assigns Library of Congress subject terms and name



authority headings as metadata fields, this ensures that the metadata is consistently applied for all reports making them easier to find. In addition, the ISKMB assigns a Digital Object Identifier to each new report. The identifier is a permanent link to the document, even if the servers or systems that ISKMB use change, and will be displayed within the BIBFRAME construct.

The ISKMB is working in partnership with Zepheira and SirsiDyinx, two leaders in library technology, to publish all ERDC bibliographic data in BIBFRAME. You can view the BIBFRAME data at <http://engineerradcc.library.link>.

For more information about ISKMB's BIBFRAME project contact Molly McManus at molly.s.mcmanus@usace.army.mil or 601-634-4122.

The screenshot shows a library record page for the ERDC Library. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with the text 'Engineer Research and Development Center Library', 'Services', 'Share', and 'Library.Link Network'. Below the navigation bar, on the left, is a 'Borrow it' button and a book icon. The main content area features the title 'Blast load simulator experiments for computational model validation, Report 2, Frank D. Dallriva, Carol F. Johnson, James L. O'Daniel, Andrew T. Barnes, and Cecil C. Dorrell ; prepared for Defense Threat Reduction Agency'. Below the title, there are fields for 'Creator', 'Contributor', 'Language', 'Publication', 'Extent', and 'Link'. The 'Creator' field lists 'Dallriva, Frank D'. The 'Contributor' field lists 'O'Daniel, James L.', 'Dorrell, Cecil C', 'Geotechnical and Structures Laboratory (U.S.)', 'Engineer Research and Development Center (U.S.)', 'United States, Army | Corps of Engineers', and 'United States, Defense Threat Reduction Agency'. The 'Language' field is 'eng'. The 'Publication' field is 'Vicksburg, MS, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Geotechnical and Structures Laboratory, 2017'. The 'Extent' field is '1 online resource (91 pages)'. The 'Link' field is 'http://dx.doi.org/10.21079/11681/21461'. On the right side, there is a 'Subject' dropdown menu with options: 'Blast effect -- Testing', 'Computer programs -- Validation', 'Computer simulation', and 'Detonation waves'. Below the subject menu is a 'Member of' field with the value 'ERDC/GSL TR, 16-27 rept.2'. At the top right of the main content area, there is a button that says 'Ask an ERDC Librarian'.

The ERDC Library's BIBFRAME implementation, shown above, publishes library bibliographic data as Linked Data which is sometimes called structured data. Search Engines can easily interpret and index Linked Data and this increases ERDC publications visibility.



ALA GOES ON THE RECORD IN SUPPORT OF USGS LIBRARIES

On July 10, 2017., the American Library Association sent a letter to appropriators in Congress expressing their desire to preserve the U.S. Geological Survey Library and access to its resources. The letter strongly objected to the USGS’s proposal in its FY 2018 Congressional budget justification to close at least three, and potentially all four, of its libraries and to place its collections into a “dark archive.” ALA noted that while such a proposal would preserve the information, it would become unavailable to researchers of all types that depend upon and use it regularly today. The letter from ALA was their effort to join with and support an earlier letter from nearly two dozen trade and non-profit groups that wrote to Congress on June 16, 2017 to affirm that “the USGS Library is vital to the economic prosperity and well-being of the country.” (See bit.ly/USGSLibraryLetter.)

The letter is posted on the ALA website (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/ALA%20Support%20for%20USGS%20Library%20Funding%20071017.pdf>). If you know of other efforts to close or substantially cut funding and support for federal libraries, please contact our ALA Legislative Assembly representative, Richard Huffine, at richardhuffine@gmail.com.

BOARD BUSINESS

Dates for Future Midwinter Meetings and Annual Conferences

Midwinter Meeting, Denver, CO
February 9-13, 2018

Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA
June 21-26, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

View the [minutes of previous meetings](#) of the FAFLRT Board and Membership.



**FEDERAL AND ARMED FORCES
LIBRARIES ROUND TABLE
BOARD AND COMMITTEES:
2017-2019**

The Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT) exists as an official round table under the American Library Association to promote library and information service and the library and information profession in the federal and armed forces communities; to promote appropriate utilization of federal and armed forces library and information resources and facilities; and to provide an environment for the stimulation of research and development relating to the planning, development, and operation of federal and armed forces libraries.

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Shared by FAFLRT Board members attend.

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IFLA LIAISON

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The **Federal Librarian** newsletter is the journal of the American Library Association's Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT) and published electronically. It presents recent developments and events of interest to the Federal and Armed Forces library community, including news and reports on international, federal, state, and local government issues.

The **Federal Librarian** is published three times per year. All issues are available online at: www.ala.org/faflrt/newsletters.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Summer	May 19 th
Fall	September 16 th
Winter	January 16 th

ADVERTISING RATES

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Full page 7w x 10h - 225.00

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