Science Data & Information



Board on Research Data & Information 29 January 2009

Peter R. Young

Chief, Asian Division The Library of Congress Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Mission:

- The Library's mission is to make its resources available and useful to the Congress and the American people, and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and creativity for future generations.
- □ 138 million items in all formats
 - 32 million books
 - □ 13.2 million prints and photos
 - □ 5.3 million maps
 - □ 61 million manuscripts
 - □ 13,500 items received daily
- Library Services is responsible for the national library functions of the Library of Congress



- The Library's universal collections represent the single greatest knowledge repository in history
- The Library's science collections and programs must address the digital transformation of scientific research
- Linking digital resources to traditional publications is essential for the creation of new scientific knowledge in an increasingly competitive world
- The Library is developing strategies consistent with a national and global research system
- These strategies extend the Library's historic mission to incorporate digital research resources

The Library of Congress Digital Initiatives

- American Memory
 - Digitized American historical collections comprising 9 million items that document U.S. history and culture in 100 thematic collections
- National Digital Information Infrastructure & Preservation Program (NDIPP)
 - A collaborative initiative to develop a network of partnerships for collecting, preserving, and making accessible critical digital content
- World Digital Library
 - A collaborative project to digitize and provide access to primary cultural resources from around the world
- E-Deposit of Electronic Journals
 - A collaborative project to develop a production system for ingesting electronic journals through copyright deposit and to acquire electronic journal content for the Library's collections

The Library of Congress & eScience



- 2005 Report to the Collections Policy Committee from the Special Committee to Examine the Potential Role of the Library of Congress in the Collection, Preservation, and Access of Scientific Datasets
 - The Library should collaborate as facilitator, advisor, and coordinator
 - The Library should advocate for data curation rather than as a primary curator
 - The Library may decide that it is not our obligation to preserve datasets, but to see that they are preserved

The Library of Congress Science Data and Information

- eScience Team established 2009
 - To develop collection strategies for digital science resources and data appropriate for the national library
- LoC eScience Team purpose:
 - Explore & analyze digital challenges;
 - Identify digital research opportunities;
 - Develop recommendations for the Library's digital knowledge resources in cooperation with other science research organizations and institutions

Science Data and Information

- eScience Team @ LoC
 - Develop position papers and strategies for digital science resources appropriate for the national library
 - Develop digital collection policies for science
 - Create a framework of digital science knowledge resources and infrastructure
 - Recommend policies for data management and digital knowledge resources to support data-driven science

Science Data and Information

The number of people on the Internet surpassed one billion in December, according to comScore. Only between 15 and 22 percent of the world's population is on the Internet. Using the comScore numbers, here is the breakdown by country and region (in unique visitors as of December, 2008; some of the numbers are rounded):

■ Top 15 countries, by Internet population:

China: 179.7 million

United States: 163.3 million

Japan: 60.0 millionGermany: 37.0 million

United Kingdom: 36.7 million

France: 34.0 million
India: 32.1 million
Russia: 29.0 million
Brazil: 27.7 million

South Korea: 27.3 million
Canada: 21.8 million
Italy: 20.8 million
Spain: 17.9 million
Mexico: 12.5 million
Netherlands: 11.8 million

Worldwide Internet Audience

Asia Pacific: 416 million (41.3%)Europe: 283 million (28.0%)

North America: 185 million (18.4%)
Latin America: 75 million (7.4%)
Middle East & Africa: 49 million (4.8%)

