Legal Blawgs: Collecting for the Future.
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July 25, 2009
Why archive legal blogs?
- Temporary
- Relevant
- Cited elsewhere
- Enhance collection
- Serve our mission
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- A Collection of Blawgs
  - Started capturing about 90 legal blogs in 2007
  - Added 38 in 2008
  - Goals:
    - Increase our international and comparative legal blogs
    - Anticipate capturing up to 200 blogs
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- Who worked on this collaboration?
  - Curators from the Law Library
  - Staff from web archiving in OSI
  - Staff from web services to design and integrate into LC/LL web pages
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• What did we need to do first?
  - Selection criteria
  - Organization
  - Workflow
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- How were blogs selected?
  - Variety
  - Authoritative
    - Frequently cited
    - Widely read
    - Honors or awards
  - Nominee Statistics
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- **Organization**
  - Categorize into bucket terms
  - Monitor
    - Still publishing
    - Scholarship
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Webcapture Team Mission

• Charged with
  - building a Library-wide process and technical infrastructure for capturing Web content.
  - identifying policy issues, establishing best practices and building tools to collect and preserve Web content.
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Web Archive Collections

- The Library has been collecting Web content since 2000.
- Eleven collections cataloged and accessible.
- Six collections in post-processing phase.
- Current ongoing collections include:
  - Congressional/Legislative
  - Indonesia General Election 2009
  - Legal Blawgs
  - Presidential Transition in Times of Crises
- Partnered with the Internet Archive since 2000.
  - Capture and access tool infrastructure
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Webcapture Team Tracking Tool

Manages and tracks the status of recommended websites from nomination to post-processing.
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Web Archive Permissions Process

Each collection has a permissions plan. Legal Blawgs content owners must give us permission to crawl and all but one thus far have given permission to display off-site. The tracking tool’s primary purpose is to manage the permission process.

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Web Archive Goals

QUALITY WEB ARCHIVES

Have to specify to the crawler what content to capture/links to follow.

Capturing the depth and breadth of a Web site can be an ongoing challenge in defining its boundaries.
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Collection Post-Processing

- A Metadata Objective Descriptive Schema (MODS) catalog record is created for each captured Web site.
- Metadata comes from several sources
  - From the tracking tool
    • On or off-site permission status
    • Language
    • Primary URL
  - From the archive
    • First and last capture date
    • HTML title, keywords, and abstract
  - From the catalogers
    • Other subject cataloging.
  - From the Web capture team
    • Any quality review comments to assist the catalogers.

Compiled into an XML file for cataloger review
Legal Blawgs Web Archive

Title: blackprof.com

Date Captured: September 6, 2007 - OPEN

Subject(s): Law--Blogs
African American law teachers--Blogs
United States--Race relations--Blogs

Language(s): English

Genre: Web site

Access Condition: None

URL at time of capture: http://www.blackprof.com/

Citation ID: http://www.blackprof.com/

Record ID: mrva0015.0057

Collection Title: Legal Blawgs Web Archive
**Web Integration Challenges**

- **How to integrate into loc.gov standard design?**
  - Use standard design and conventions to help user navigate
  - Make visible in search results with other resources
  - Webarchives materials should appear in context – not be in a silo

- **How to integrate into existing Law Library content?**
  - In context with other specific resources
  - Use Law design and navigation
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Working with the Wayback Application Data

- Interface Challenge: How to scale for captures of varying frequency and amounts, from 1 time only to daily over the course of many years.
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Working with the Wayback Application Data

- Our Approach: use a modified calendar format that breaks the archive for a site down by year, and for each year, into months.
  - Uses well-known organizational scheme
  - Uses date formats compatible with Wayback
  - Works with LOC standard design
The limit of 12 months in a year and max of 31 links in a month provides a browseable view of when the captures were made and link to the individual captures in the archive.

In cases of multiple captures in a day, a date links to a page with all the captures for that day.

This approach puts some extra clicks between the identification of the blog and the view of the archived page - But, the path is clear, organized, and leverages a familiar organizing principle - the calendar.

Legal Blawgs Web Archive

http://aidpblog.org/

*denotes when site was updated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>01/03/08 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February</td>
<td>02/07/08 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March</td>
<td>03/06/08 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April</td>
<td>04/03/08 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May</td>
<td>05/01/08 *</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td>10/02/08 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November</td>
<td>11/06/08 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December</td>
<td>12/05/08 *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 24 archived captures
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Header Bar

- Establishes LOC/Law Library as the source of the content
- Shows where capture lives within the collection
- Allows user to navigate through the collection from the archived site, without resorting to bouncing back and forth between the Law Library and archived site
- User can hide header

Opinio Juris

A weblog dedicated to reports, commentary, and debate on current developments and scholarship in the fields of international law and politics

UN and ID's | International Courts and Tribunals | International Law in US Courts | IL Theory and Teaching
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Future – Enhanced Searching, Bib Records, etc

- Planned Enhancements:
  - Conversion of the Web Archives site to standard design
  - Allow searching and browsing of catalog/bibliographic records
  - Better integration with other collections
Future challenges: What can you do?
- Collect and preserve if you have the resources.
- Help us to improve the site: Nominate blawgs, submit comments
- Recommendations for guidelines on blawg administration
- Standardize some practices
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- Biggest challenge ahead will be to keep pace with changes and trends in scholarly publishing. Books published a chapter at a time and articles published one by one are in our near future. Will Librarians need to become aggregators in order to collect and preserve?