North Carolina Experiences

History and Current Progress

Kristin Martin
Digital State Documents Librarian
State Library of North Carolina

Joel Sigmon
Data Services Manager
Office of State Budget & Management

6th Annual State GILS Conference
April 3, 2004
History: North Carolina State Depository System

- **Established:** 1987 by G.S. 125-11
  State Library administers the System

- **Purpose:** Enable citizens throughout North Carolina to have timely and easy access to current and historical publications of their state government.

- **Currently** the means for preserving and providing access to state documents
N.C. State Depository System
(continued)

Charge to the State Library:
“The State Library shall be the official, complete, and permanent depository for all State publications.”

Function:
- State agencies send documents to N.C. State Publications Clearinghouse (State Library)
- Clearinghouse receives, catalogs, processes, and distributes documents to depository libraries and the State Library
Changes in the Depository System

Decrease in the number of titles received

| New Titles (Monographs/Serials)(printed) | 1997 | 819 |
| Cataloged and Distributed through the North Carolina State Documents Depository System | 2002/03 | 413 |
| % change (est. 5 yrs.) | 50% fewer titles |
| Monographs and Serials Issues (printed) | 1997 | 8345 |
| Added to the State Library's State Documents Collection (permanent depository collection) | 2002/03 | 4264 |
| % change (est. 5 yrs.) | 51% fewer titles |
- Improve access to state government webpages and information: http://www.findnc.org/
- Designed to search NC GILS metatags
- Z39.50 links to specialized information sources
  - Library catalog
  - Geographic data Clearinghouse
- Began in 1998 as pilot project
  - full agency participation has never occurred
FIND NC (Cont’d)

- Powered through Blue Angel MetaStar Suite
  - Search functionality has never been ideal
  - Major platform upgrade this summer
- No significant work done since 2000
- Agencies not required to provide metadata
- No preservation component
Access to State Government Information Initiative

- 3-Phase Initiative, funded by LSTA, to ensure continued public access to current and historical state information in ALL formats
  - **Phase I – Action Research**
    - State Agency Publishing Practices
    - Challenges of permanent public access
    - State, national, and international Efforts
  - **Phase II – Plan of Action**
    - Workgroup of Stakeholders
    - Strategy for providing permanent public access to digital government information
  - **Phase III – Solutions Testing**
ASGI Initiative: Phase I


- **Conduct research and collect information**
  - North Carolina State Government publishing practices.
  - National and state projects for managing digital information.
  - Viable solutions for managing born digital information.

- **Educate** and improve stakeholders’ understanding of issues and challenges involved in preserving and providing long-term access to born digital state government information.

- **Build foundation for strategy development** in Phase II.
Phase I: Research Methodology

- **Investigate print titles in State Library Collection**
  - What titles are no longer received?
  - What titles are also available on the internet?

- **Examine state agency websites**
  - How is the information organized?
  - What publications are available online?

- **Interview agency staff** responsible for the dissemination of information to determine publishing practices and policies.
Digital Publishing in State Agencies

- 93% produce born digital publications
- 22% claim to produce at least 90% of publications in digital formats only
- Most agencies expect the percentage of born digital publications to increase in the next five years
Formats for NC publications

- Digital Only: 51%
- Paper/Digital: 29%
- Paper/Other Physical Format: 20%
Digital Formats Used

- PDF: 66%
- HTML/XML: 35%
- MS PowerPoint: 7%
- Other: 4%
- MS Word: 4%
- Real Player: 3%
- ASCII: 2%
Changes to State Agency Websites

Agencies anticipate:

- **Increase** in dynamically produced webpages
- **Changes** in structure/organization of website (34% claim major redesign in the next year)
- **Increase** in multimedia/interactive material
Challenges of Access

- NC Government sites contain 49.6 gigabytes of information in 457,000 files (non-dynamic)
- Government Information may get buried in search results
- Dynamic pages may not be searched
- Different word meanings can confuse results
- Websites are frequently rearranged/revamped, leading to broken links
Storage of Digital Publications

- Currently left up to each agency
- 38% of agencies do not currently store any digital publications offline
- Most agencies do not have list of publications stored offline
- Variety of devices
  - Individual content on creators’ hard drives
  - Server/network drives
  - CD/DVD
  - Magnetic tape/magnetic disk
Solutions Work Group

Managing Digital State Government Information Collaboratively
Work Group of Stakeholders

- **Information Facilitators**
  - State Library
  - State Archives and Records
  - State Data Center

- **Information Providers**
  - Agency public information officers and IT Staff

- **End users** represented by:
  - Depository Librarians
  - State Library Reference Staff

- **Digital Preservation and Access Experts**
Work Group Committees

- Work Group divided into 4 committees
  - Access
  - Preservation
  - Marketing/Education
  - Identification/Selection
- Different stakeholder groups provide multiple perspectives for how to approach issues
- Committees will present ideas to full work group for feedback
Projects for Next Year

- Illinois CEP project
  - Use Illinois-developed PEP software to crawl and capture websites
  - Illinois is hosting us for now

- Documentum RMA
  - Pilot in conjunction with Government Records
  - Manage records and publications through single system

- ENCompass
  - Capture and provide access to digital publications through library catalog
Projects for Next Year (cont)

- Digital repositories assessment
  - DSpace
  - OCLC Digital Archive

- Criteria for preservation/action priorities
  - Legacy collection of publications to remain in print
  - Determine important publications/groups of publications and websites
FIND NC Restructure

- Upgrade Blue Angel software
  - Consider other open-source search options
- Reconsider use of GILS metadata for all websites
- Try to combine forces with State Portal
- Improve search interface
- Test NC GILS metadata to provide access to specialized resources
  - LINC – North Carolina statistical data
  - CRIS – state grant funding for public and non-profits
Joel’s Material

- Creation of NC GILS Standard
- Use of NC GILS for CRIS
- Use of NC GILS for LINC
For More Information

Project Website:
http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/digidocs/ 

Kristin Martin
kmartin@library.dcr.state.nc.us

Joel Sigmon
joel.sigmon@ncmail.net