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### Message from the LPSS Chair

*Rosalind Tedford, Wake Forest University*

Hello - I hope all of you are having as beautiful a fall as we are here in North Carolina and that you are managing to get outside some in between the always-busy fall instruction schedule.

We will be having LPSS meetings in Boston for ALA Midwinter. I hope many of you will brave the weather and join us at Midwinter in Boston. The LPSS Executive Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. along with any committee that needs to convene at that time. The general membership meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. Location information will be posted in ALA Connect and on LPSS-L as soon as it's available. I have requested the two meetings to be held in the same room. Members are encouraged to attend either or both of these meetings. At the general membership meeting we have some interesting things to discuss.

At ALA Annual in San Francisco a conversation was started about the possible need to change the name of our section to better reflect our membership and our focus. As very few law librarians are members of ALA and even fewer members of our section the possibility of dropping the law portion of the name and replacing it with terms that better represent our membership was discussed. The LPSS Executive Committee discussed a name change in our September virtual meeting and has decided to proceed with it. We will have several options to discuss when we meet in January, and will get membership feedback then and in the spring. At this point the following options have been put forward but are not the final list by any means:

- Politics, Policy and International Affairs Section
- Politics and International Affairs Section
- Politics, Government, and International Affairs Section

Between now and Midwinter, if you have any ideas about possible new names for the section, I would welcome them. You can email me at [tedforrl@wfu.edu](mailto:tedforrl@wfu.edu). Once we decide to go forward with the name change we will poll the membership with options.

Another issue the Executive Committee discussed was encouraging more of our members to join the lpss-l listserv and more of our listserv members to join LPSS. So messages will be going out soon to the members that are not on the listserv to remind them how to subscribe and to members of the list that are not LPSS members reminding them that membership in sections is now free for all ACRL members. In this way we hope to be able to increase communication with more of our members via the listserv.

More issues may arise between now and the meeting in Boston and I will have a final agenda posted in ALA Connect in December.

For now, I hope the fall semesters continue well for all of you and I'll see you in Boston!



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## Member To Know - By Chad Kahl

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### Rebecca Hyde

The LPSS member to know is Rebecca Hyde from Saint Louis University's Pius XII Memorial Library. Rebecca is from Miami, Florida and received her MLIS from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the Dominican University while working as a Library Assistant in the Government Publications Department at Northwestern University with her mentor, Beth Clausen. This is also where she first experienced "winter."

She has been working as a Research & Instruction Librarian at SLU since November 2011, specializing in U.S. Government Information and working with the Center for Sustainability, Pre-Law Program and the Political Science program. Prior to that, she worked as a Government Information Librarian and Assistant Department Head for Data, Government and Geographic Information Services at the University of California, San Diego.

When she's not posting as Lil' Pius, her library's crocheted Pope social media mascot (@piuslibrary), she has full days of helping students, teaching and managing the government documents collection. She is excitedly planning for the sesquicentennial of her library's Federal Depository Program in March 2016.

Rebecca became involved in LPSS through the Statistical Resources on the Web Guide working group that explored the feasibility of adopting, updating and maintaining Grace York's *Statistical Sources on the Web Guide*. She is also active in GODORT, currently serving as a co-chair of the Membership Committee and as a member of the Program Committee.

In her scarce spare time, she likes to garden and bake and looks forward to getting back into archery. She also extols the managerial genius of Captain Picard as she re-watches the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* series.



*Is there an LPSS member whom you'd like to know better through a profile in the LPSS News?  
Is there a member you could profile in 500-600 words who would interest the rest of the section?*

*Email your suggestions to the editors at*

[merrill.stein@villanova.edu](mailto:merrill.stein@villanova.edu) or [dennis.lambert@villanova.edu](mailto:dennis.lambert@villanova.edu).

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## E-Learning Forum

Submitted by Jodi Carlson Grebinoski and Lynn M. Thitchener

LPSS Professional Development Committee hosted its first e-forum discussion on May 19-20, 2015. The three areas discussed included: data and statistical literacy; strategies for finding data and statistics; and purchasing, housing, and distributing datasets. Our moderators were Lisa DeLuca, Sarah Elichko, and Catherine Morse.

**Data and Statistical Literacy** was led by **Lisa DeLuca** the Social Sciences Librarian at Seton Hall University, where she is the liaison to the School of Diplomacy, Political Science & Public Administration and History Departments.

**Strategies for Finding Data and Statistics** was led by **Sarah Elichko** the Social Sciences Librarian at Swarthmore College, she serves as liaison to the Political Science, Economics, History, and Sociology/Anthropology departments and as the subject specialist for government information.

**Purchasing, Housing, and Distributing Datasets** was led by **Catherine Morse** the subject specialist for US Government Information, Law, and Political Science at the University of Michigan, where she also manages the collection budgets for the Clark Library for Maps, Government Information and Data Services, at the Hatcher Graduate Library.

The forum tackled such questions as the distinction between data and statistics, teaching statistical literacy, finding data and statistics, and the role of librarians in data analysis and data management. Participants discussed both free and fee-based sources and shared their favorite resources. A number of participants jumped in to support the strategy of using the secondary literature for clues about data sources.

In addition to finding datasets and statistics, participants also discussed the issue of librarian competencies around working with data. Some schools are fortunate to have “data librarians,” but in many libraries, this responsibility falls to the general subject librarian who may or may not have experience with data analysis. Should all subject librarians have some comfort-level working with data and, if so, how do we get there?

The Professional Development Committee is hoping to develop a web presence with more information and useful resources on this and other topics, including the full summary of the e-discussion, in the upcoming year. Stay tuned!



### ACRL Fall e-Learning

ACRL is offering two webcasts in November to meet the demands of your schedule and budget. These interactive webcasts last 60-90 minutes and take place in an interactive online classroom; group discounts are available. Full details and registration information are available on the [ACRL website](#).

#### [The Neoliberal in Your Library: Resisting Corporate Solutions to Collection Development](#)

(November 4, 2015)

What is the 21st century library? Will it be a makerspace, a learning commons, or a sustainer of collections? Through an examination of collection development trends, explore the political currents converging in libraries and higher education that are obfuscating our community-oriented values in favor of privatization. This webcast will provide a frame to support librarians as they articulate the value of collection development, and sustainable collection management, that affirms our core values.

#### [Introduction to Critical Library Pedagogy](#) (November 10, 2015)

Investigate critical pedagogical approaches for library instruction with the greater goal of improving our teaching, how students feel about using the library, and the image of the librarian. As we strive to make our teaching, our libraries, and our campuses as inclusive as we can, there is still a lot of work to be done.

Complete details and registration information for e-Learning webcasts are available on the [ACRL website](#). Contact Margot Conahan at [mconahan@ala.org](mailto:mconahan@ala.org) for more information.



### Anniversary Reception

During the 2015 ALA Annual Conference, SAGE/CQ Press, and the Association of College and Research Libraries, Law and Political Science Section (LPSS) celebrated their anniversaries and 20 years of collaboration at a reception located in the heart of San Francisco. Honored guests included recent and past recipients of the Marta Lange/SAGE-CQ Press Award, established to honor the late Marta Lange, a past LPSS chair .

Together representing outstanding achievement and leadership in law and political librarianship, the award winners beheld the venue's sweeping city views, mingled with one another, and discussed best practices for impacting the college campus. For more information about this event visit <http://connection.sagepub.com/blog/sage-connection/2015/07/08/tips-on-impacting-the-college-campus-for-law-and-political-science-librarians/>.

### ACRL Marta Lange/SAGE-CQ Press Award – Reminder

Nominations for the Marta Lange/SAGE-CQ Press Award are due **December 4th!** The award recognizes an academic or law librarian who has made distinguished contributions to the library profession through research, service to the profession, or other creative activity. It honors the late Marta Lange, LPSS chair in 1990-1991, whose spirit of collegiality and professionalism inspired many others.

While the award had been made continuously from 1996 to 2014, no award was made in 2015. Hopefully, a suitable recipient can be identified for 2016. See the LPSS website for more information on the award and details on how to submit nominations.

Nominees should have achieved distinction in one or more of the following areas:

- Planning and implementation of a model bibliography/information services program in a law or political science library.
- History of contributions to the field through research, publications and other activities displaying active participation in the advancement of law/political science librarianship.
- Service to the profession through ACRL or related regional and national organizations.
- Promotion or development of an education program for law and political science librarianship that has served as a model for other courses and programs.

The award recipient receives \$1,000 and a plaque sponsored by SAGE-CQ Press.

Nominations should be submitted with the name and contact information of the nominee as well as a short narrative supporting the nomination. The narrative *must* speak to the impact of the nominee's work on librarianship in law/political science through the areas of distinction. The committee will contact the nominee's supervisor for more detailed information and a CV, which will be considered along with the nominator's narrative. Individuals may nominate themselves or others.

For more details about the award or to learn about previous recipients, visit <http://www.ala.org/acrl/awards/achievementawards/martalangeccq>

## Review of Sources for Country Studies

By [Nadine Hoffman](#), [Sarah Maximiek](#), [Carol Spector](#) and [Catherine Morse](#) (Chair) on behalf of the 2015-2016 LPSS Vendor/ Publisher Liaison & Review Committee.

Country information is often sought by political science and legal researchers for general information about a country or to compare countries. Our committee began this comparison discussion by realizing that country studies, or information about countries, can be found in many places and many formats. There are many sources for country profiles that are freely available on the internet. They are produced by IGOs (e.g. [FAO](#) or [UNDP](#)), news organizations ([BBC](#)) as well as government departments ([CIA World Factbook](#)). There are also a number of sources we traditionally associate with business information.

The sources we describe below focus on current content, however historical coverage can also be very valuable. Historical country profiles can be found in a series like the *Statesman's Year-Book*, found in many library collections as well as available digitally from 1864 to 1922 in [HathiTrust](#).

Our review focuses on in-depth publications that offer current coverage. We put together a list, by no means fully comprehensive, of five resources that are available for purchase or subscription.

***Political Risk Yearbook*** is an often overlooked, yet valuable source of information that pulls together timely political and economic analysis in one place. The analysis is both thorough and easily accessible for students, providing a succinct outlook into the political and economic climate of a country and how they interact with one another. Of particular value to the researcher are the forecasts, which provide possible scenarios to the business and economic climates given most likely regime changes.

***Europa World Plus*** provides summaries of countries and major IGOs' current political, and economic affairs. Entries for countries provide basic statistics covering demographics, health, finance, industry, transportation and telecommunications. Entries also include directories listing names, addresses and contact information for government and other organizations.

***Nations of the World*** provides lively, in-depth analysis of a country's recent political events. This is a strength of this publication. Each country report contains three sections: the in-depth "Country Overview," a "Country Profile," and a "Business Directory." The print version includes two additional sections: "Regional World Overview," which consists of an essay on each of the five major regions of the world, and "Global Overview."

In publication since 1928, the strength of the ***Political Handbook of the World*** is the thorough coverage of the historical political situation in each country. Particularly noteworthy is the coverage of individual political parties, of major international conferences sponsored by the United Nations (1945-2014), and a table indicating member countries of the United Nations and its related agencies.

[continued p.6](#)

### [Review of Sources for Country Study \(cont.\)](#)

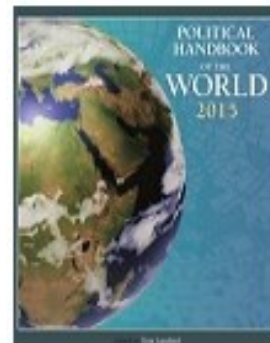
The entries in the Intergovernmental Organization Directory are detailed, and cover the organization's origin and development, structure, recent activities, as well as quick facts. The advanced search and browse features facilitate finding countries by regime type, party system, electoral system, system of government, and geographic region.

**Factiva** is not the most intuitive database to use, but it is filled with all kinds of good content. Known for world-wide news sources and company information, Factiva also has reliable country and regional profiles. The academic subscription is on the same interface as the corporate subscription, but has fewer sources, some embargos, and less functionality than the commercially-available database, largely due to licensing restrictions and IP recognition limitations. The “Search Builder” feature is a powerful way to search across sources.

[Table follows p. 7.](#)

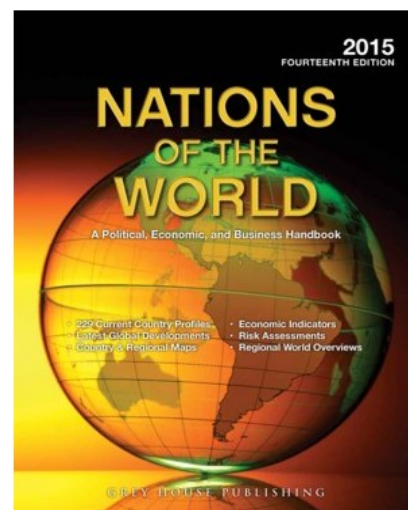


**Europa World Plus**



**Factiva**

<b>FACTIVA®</b>	
<b>Founded</b>	1999
<b>Parent</b>	Dow Jones & Company
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.factiva.com">http://www.factiva.com</a>



[Review of Sources for Country Studies \(cont.\)](#)

	Political Risk Yearbook	Europa World Plus	Nations of the World	Political Handbook of the World	Factiva
Vendor	PRS Group. Also available via selected EBSCO databases	Routledge	Grey House Publishing	CQ Press	Factiva platform available to academic libraries through ProQuest; content by Dow Jones
For more info:	<a href="#">Ordering Information</a>	<a href="#">About Europa</a>	<a href="#">Ordering Information</a>	<a href="#">Ordering Information</a>	<a href="#">Factiva Overview</a>
Topics Covered	International and economic indicators; basic demographic statistics; focus in on economic and political analysis as it relates to business and fiscal markets/risks. Information on key political players and events is given. Forecasting based on three different regime scenarios (covering 5 months and 18 months) is provided.	Overview of contemporary political history; economic affairs; constitution and government; regional and international cooperation; basic statistics; and government directory	In-depth analysis of current political situation; overview of economy; and basic information on wide variety of topics	Extensive coverage of government and political landscape, provides both historical context and synopsis of current situation, profiles on political parties, and basic information on the legislature, cabinet, and intergovernmental representation; also includes basic country data as "Quick Facts"	Factiva is known for news sources, including much country or regional information in many of these sources.
Geographic coverage	100 countries (developed/developing)	250 Countries plus International Governmental Organizations	235 Countries	205 Countries	200 countries; 26 languages
Dates of coverage	current year	current year	current year's report (which includes key indicators for the past 5 years and a timeline of historical political events)	current year	varies
Update frequency	annually	annually	annually	annually	weekly to monthly (depending on sources).
Types of materials included	summary and analysis, statistics	summary and analysis, statistics, government directory	summary and analysis of recent political events, country data, and business directory	summary and analysis of political history and current events, basic country data	full-text newspapers and wire feeds, magazines, trade journals, blogs, podcasts, websites, reports, and other sources.

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[Review of Sources for Country Studies \(cont.\)](#)

	Political Risk Yearbook	Europa World Plus	Nations of the World	Political Handbook of the World	Factiva
Yes/No options					
Search within full text	N/A	yes	With the online subscription, you can search within the full-text of an individual country report (PDF format), but you cannot search across multiple country reports	yes	Yes. Best to search within source(s) or by region
Advanced search	N/A	yes	no	yes	yes - called "Search Builder"
Limit results by publication dates	N/A	no	only current year's reports are available	only current year's reports are available	yes - many options
Limit results by document type	PDF documents in EBSCO databases;	no	only one document type is available - country reports available as PDF	only one document type is available	yes - many options
Relevance sorting	N/A	no	no	you can sort results by the number of "hits" -- this is the default sort	can sort by date or relevance - default is most recent first
Save searches	N/A	no	no	yes	not for the academic subscription
Export citations	no	no	no	CiteNow feature for APA, MLA, Bluebook and Chicago	yes
Included in discovery systems	no	no	no	no	no
COUNTER-compliant usage stats	no	no	can view usage data and can limit by date	usage statistics are available in the administrative portion of the platform	yes
Perpetual access options	yes, it is a purchase	no	no - access to the year you subscribe to for a duration of 2 years	this is available	no
Stable URLs	no	yes	save the pdf to your desktop	you can email yourself the report and you will get a link to the report	only if the administrator sets it up
Mobile Friendly	no	no	PDFs are viewable on mobile devices	yes	not for academic



## Review of voxgov

By Jeremy Darrington, Politics Librarian, Princeton University Library



voxgov is a relatively new database that provides near real-time access to official documents from all branches, offices, agencies, and elected officials of the U.S. Federal Government. The range of document types is extensive and includes legislation, the Congressional Record, committee reports, and other Congressional documents; the Federal Register and other regulatory documents; Executive Orders and other presidential documents; and publications, press releases, newsletters, bulletins, speeches, testimony transcripts, social media posts (Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube), and more. The site contains more than 10 million documents and continuously harvests documents and posts from over 10,000 web locations, with more than 13,000 new documents added daily. Given the host of document types and sources, it's hard to generalize about temporal coverage. The bulk of the collection appears to be post-2000; however, some large collections of legislation-related documents go back to the early 1970s, with presidential documents picking up in the 1980s, Congressional documents in the 1990s, and releases from individual legislators and officials primarily from the late 1990s.

The search interface for voxgov is well designed and executed. When entering a query, search suggestions appear below the box. Unlike many systems, where the suggestions rely entirely on popular queries, voxgov's suggestions also include terms drawn from its extensive metadata—including names of officials, offices and agencies, and the names of legislation—and the different kinds of suggestions are clearly labeled as sources, keywords, legislation, etc. (see Fig. 1). The system is highly responsive, with results of searches or filtering options displaying in fractions of a second. voxgov also enables an impressive array of post-search filters (all available as pre-search options through the advanced search form). You can filter by date; by branch of government; by party; by legislative group (e.g., House Republicans, Senate Democratic Leadership); by gender; by state; by source (e.g., a specific Representative's office, a Congressional Committee, or an executive agency); by Congress number; by topical category; and by content type. Results are sorted by relevance, but can also be sorted by date (new or old). voxgov also supports Boolean logic, including a fuzzy phrase search using quotes and a tilde, e.g., "*energy consumption*"~2 will also return results for "consumption of more energy". Two nice touches are the ability to search within results as well as prompts for refreshing your search if the system detects that new results have become available (see Fig. 2). In addition to searching, you can also browse for content using voxgov's extensive taxonomy of subject categories.

Although voxgov could be used for a variety of applications, its primary utility seems to me to be in the realm of political media and communication studies. Partly, this is because of its great collection of unedited news and communication releases, especially social media, from individual elected officials and government agencies, a source of content that generally has been very difficult to find, let alone in one place and tagged with extensive metadata. But its utility for studying political communication is also a function of voxgov's extensive filtering capabilities for analyzing the frequency and differences in those communications along a host of variables. In addition to studying political media, the speed and ease of searching and filtering voluminous content sources like the Congressional Record and Federal Register also allow researchers to do detailed analysis and comparisons of the topical coverage of the work and preoccupations of a diverse range of actors within the Federal Government over time.

Results display with filters in the left column, most documents in the center column, and social media results in the right column (though content types can be swapped across columns). One of the more interesting features of voxgov is the graph which shows at the top of search results depicting a frequency count of search terms for the past 12 months by issuing source, mainly party (see Fig. 3). However, to be truly useful, the graphing capabilities need to be more extensive to allow users to easily compare counts along variables other than party, such by leadership vs. rank & file, by state delegation, or by gender. This can be partially accomplished through the Compare tool nestled in the page header (see Fig. 4). However, the variables available to compare are limited, it doesn't support date filtering, and it only allows for bivariate comparisons (though multiple groups can be aggregated into the two camps being compared). Similarly, researchers

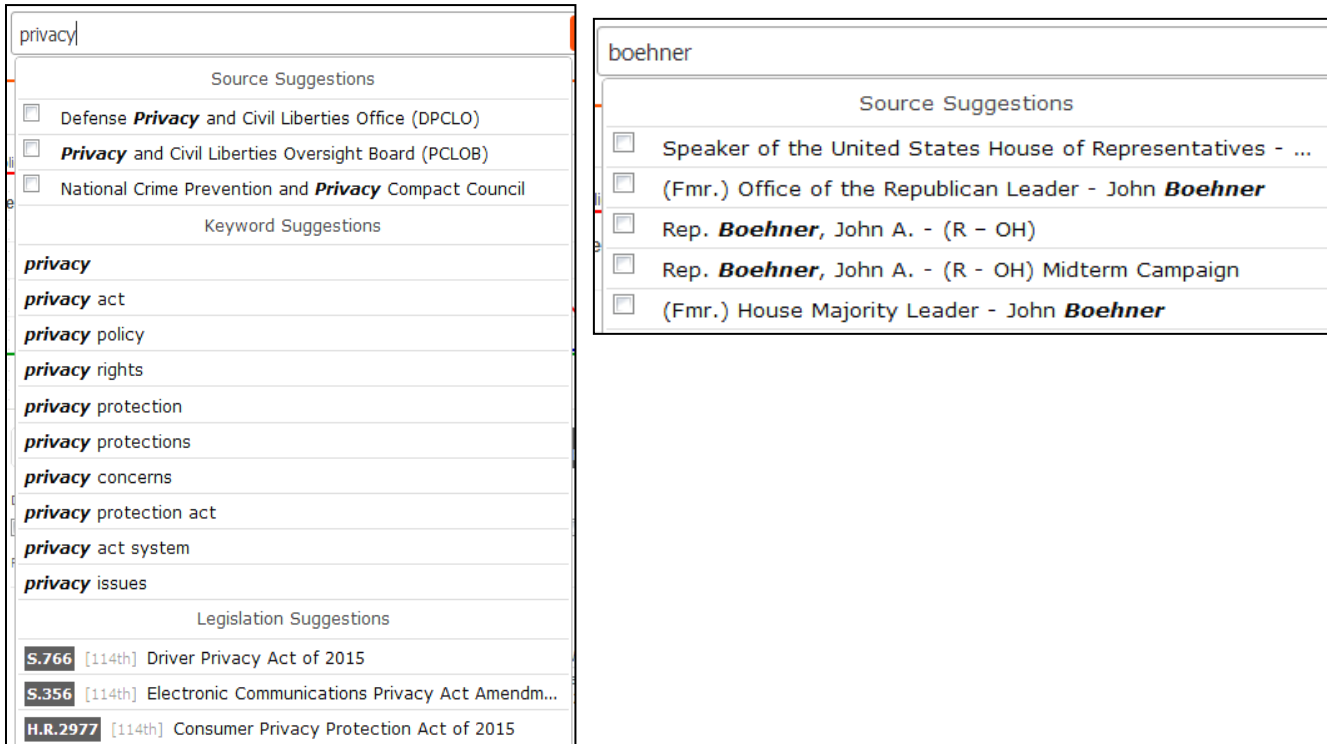
[continued p. 10](#)

[voxdgov continued from p. 9](#)

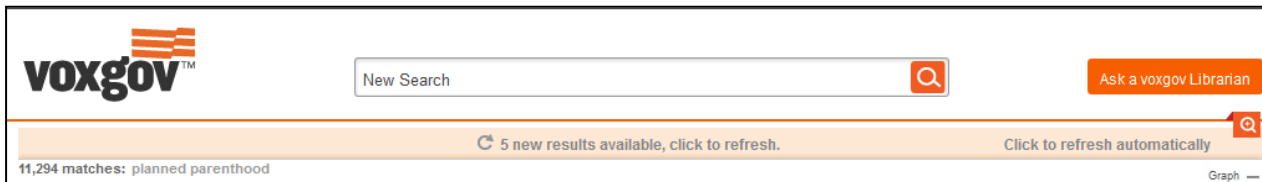
should be able to adjust the date plotting of the graph; unfortunately, it always plots on a scale of the past 12 months, even if you've filtered to previous years or a shorter period like 30 days. It's a promising tool and with a few tweaks could be quite powerful.

Perhaps the biggest drawback of voxgov is its somewhat awkward method for extracting content. Items for download have to be added to a "report" that then can be downloaded as a compiled PDF document. But users must first create a free account and login to enable this feature. You can add a full page of results to a report at once, but this option is somewhat hidden and only items in the center column are selected. But even once you've got 25 or 50 results in a report, by default they will only save to PDF in an abbreviated list form. Though not immediately obvious (to me, at least), you actually can get the full text of all releases in your report by clicking on a radio button somewhat obscured at the top of the report screen. As an additional benefit, voxgov allows post-graduate students and faculty to request bulk downloads for research analysis, although I would love to see them expand availability to graduate students as well.

voxdgov isn't cheap; pricing for academic libraries depends on FTE, and for a mid-sized institution like Princeton a year subscription is nearly \$16,000. However, voxgov is also a unique database with great content and powerful searching tools for studying the communications of actors within the federal government. ProQuest Congressional recently began collecting press releases and social media content (including video), but it only covers members of Congress and dates from around mid-2014. More importantly, it lacks the extensive metadata tagging of the content releases and actors in voxgov. For institutions that can afford it, I highly recommend voxgov.



**Figure 1. Search suggestions in voxgov**



**Figure 2. Notification of new results**

[continued p. 11](#)

[voxdgov continued from p. 10](#)

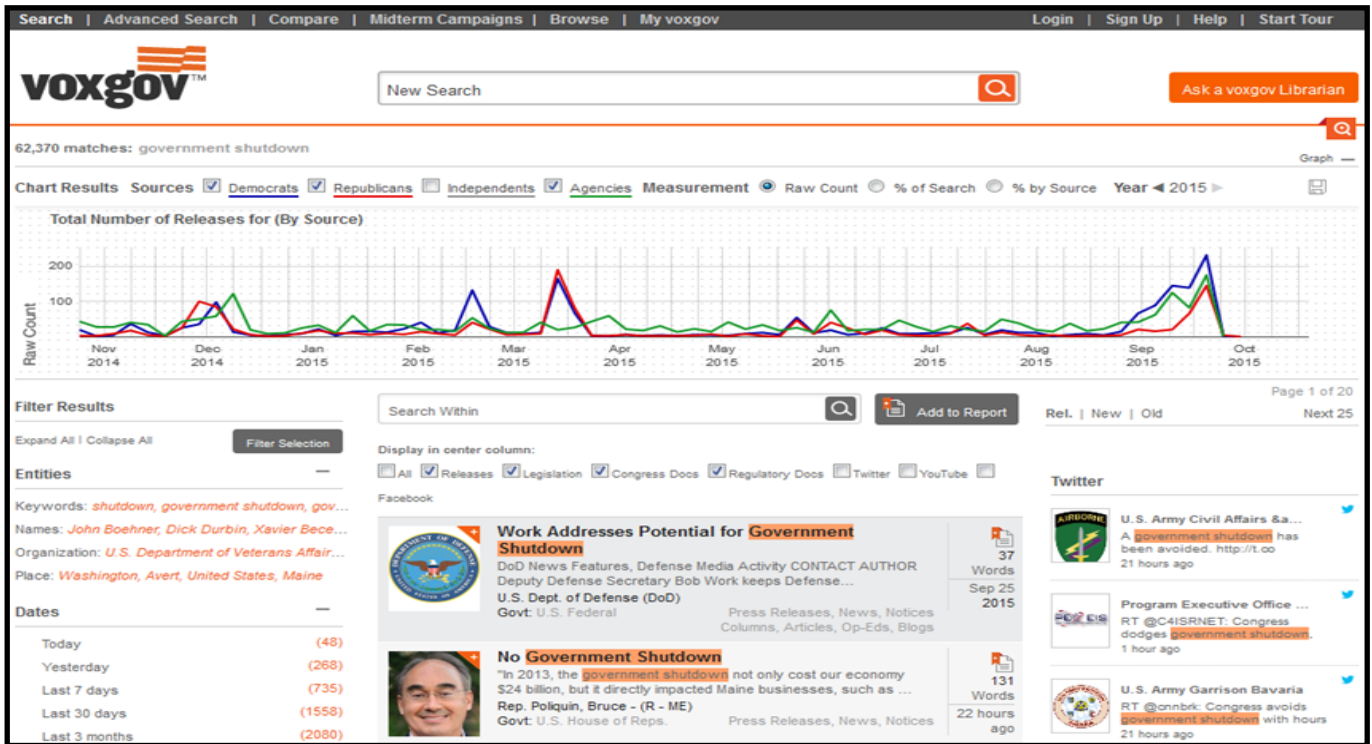


Figure 3. Search results in voxgov

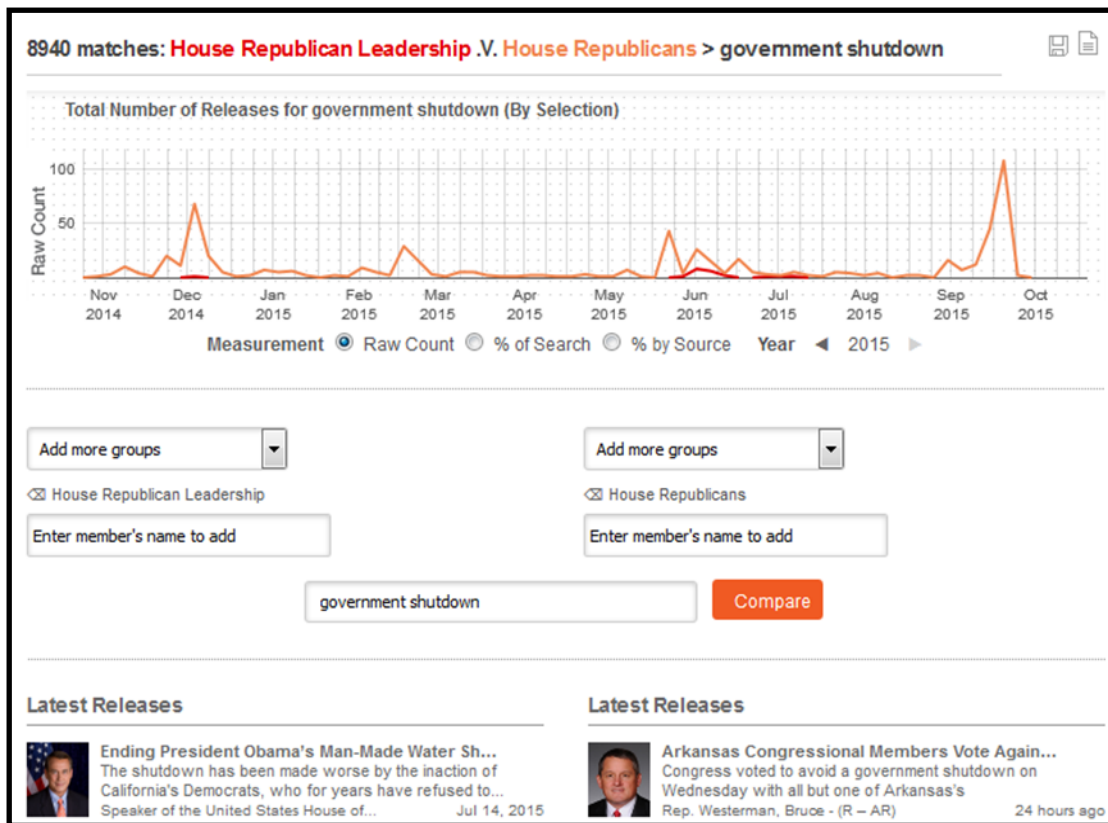


Figure 4. Comparison tool

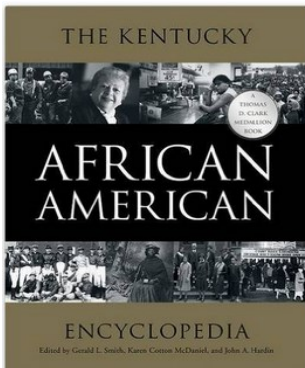


## News and announcements

- The Roper Center is moving to Cornell University on November 7. The entire public opinion archive, including over 20,000 datasets from the U.S. and around the world, over 600,000 survey questions in the iPOLL database, and the collection of exit polls will continue to be available to member institutions. Peter Enns, associate professor of government in Cornell's College of Arts and Sciences, will serve as the center's executive director.
- Christopher Lemery is now the liaison librarian for Political Science, History, and Urban Studies for the University of Pittsburgh Libraries. He also serves as the U.S. government documents librarian. He can be contacted at University of Pittsburgh, 207E Hillman Library, [clemery@pitt.edu](mailto:clemery@pitt.edu).
- Julie Leuzinger (University of North Texas) reports that Dr. John Ishiyama is the recipient of this year's APSA Distinguished Teaching Award. The committee agreed that John Ishiyama was most deserving of this award in recognition of his outstanding record of care, concern, and craft. A nationally and internationally acclaimed scholar and leader, his record demonstrates great love for teaching and mentoring as well as outstanding commitment to scholarship and service.

The award honors the outstanding contribution to undergraduate and graduate teaching of political science at two- and four-year institutions. For more information see:  
[http://www.politicalsciencenow.com/distinguished-teaching-award-recipient/?utm\\_campaign=shareaholic&utm\\_medium=email\\_this&utm\\_source=email](http://www.politicalsciencenow.com/distinguished-teaching-award-recipient/?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=email_this&utm_source=email)

### Reference book review -



"The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia," edited by Gerald L. Smith, Karen Cotton McDaniel, and John A. Hardin. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2015. 596p. \$ 49.95 Hard cover and Ebook.

Like the parable of the talents, the editors of this richly textured reference work, made wise investments of time, money and resources and our reward is this first of kind source which to quote one of the editors "gives voice to the missing and enriches everyone's lives." The three editors: John Hardin, historian from Western Kentucky University; Karen McDaniel, former Director of Libraries for Kentucky

State University, and Gerald Smith, historian at the University of Kentucky, an editorial staff of 16 and 151 contributors drew inspiration from an African American teacher in Logan County, Alice Dunnigan, who when called upon to teach a Kentucky history class in the 1930s lamented that none of the textbooks referenced the contributions of African Americans. She published her own "Fascinating Story of Black Kentuckians" in 1982 and along with seminal works on the "History of Blacks in Kentucky" by Marion Lucas and George Wright in 1992 expanded our knowledge of this once disenfranchised population.

With broad support from around Kentucky, especially from the state's public and private universities, along with individual, corporate and foundation funds and a home base in the M. I. King Library at the University of Kentucky, the editors made frequent trips around the state to promote the project and in doing so uncovered many new sources of information.

[continued p. 13](#)

### [Reference book review - \(cont.\)](#)

An attempt was made to include entries from as many counties as possible. While most entries are on individuals who were either born in Kentucky or spent their formative years here, there are also entries for places and historical events which shaped the regions history, and a few topical essays on business and civil rights. Sources included state, regional and national newspapers, major databases, archival collections and oral histories.

In an entry for Civil Rights Movement the author explores the activities, organizations and persons involved in the efforts to gain civil rights in public accommodations, employment, and housing for Kentucky African Americans. In the struggle for equal access to public accommodations the work began in the area of transportation when in 1870, a group of Black men employed "direct action, a lawsuit, and negotiations with city officials to secure desegregation of Louisville's streetcars." Two decades later the Kentucky Anti-Separate Coach Movement organized to stop racial segregation on trains in the state. It took countless demonstration and a 1959 "stand in" before drugstores, dime stores and lunch counters were desegregated in Lexington, Kentucky in October, 1960. Movie theaters followed in May of 1961. Using busing to desegregate public education especially in Louisville remained a contentious issue until recent times.

While many people may be familiar with the musical career of Louisville native Lionel Hampton who in a 1930 recording session with Louis Armstrong became the first jazz musician to be recorded playing the vibraphone and later played with Benny Goodman before founding his own big band, Peter George Hampton, born in Bowling Green in 1871, is less well known. As a teenager he began performing as a musician and vaudeville entertainer, later toured Europe and even played for King Edward VII at Buckingham Palace. He recorded more than 150 flat discs and cylinders and was the most recorded African American in the U.S. and Europe before his death in 1914.

One of the longer entries, although surprisingly with no picture, describes the life and career of Muhammad Ali. Born Cassius Clay in Louisville, Kentucky in 1942, he won his first of several heavyweight boxing championships after knocking out Sonny Liston in 1964. He became a Muslim and led opposition to the Vietnam War. He was convicted of resisting the draft and sentenced to five years in prison, a conviction overturned by the Supreme Court in 1970. He won his final championship in 1978 and retired in 1981. Since that time he has become a symbol of Black pride with a worldwide stature. He was recently honored with a Grawemeyer Spirit Award in 2015 from the University of Louisville and restoration of his boyhood home at 3302 Grand Avenue is almost complete.

The book is the story of a resilient people, who were long denied access to equal education and endured economic deprivation and racial prejudice. Hopefully it will inspire future generations and serve as a model for other states. To quote the motto of the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, "Be Great: Do Great Things."

Brian E. Coutts  
Professor and Head, Dept. of Library Public Services  
Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green



**LPSS Executive Committee:**

Rosalind Tedford (Chair, exp. June 30, 2016)  
 David Schweider (Vice-Chair, exp. June 30, 2017)  
 Jeremy Darrington (Past-Chairperson, exp. June 30, 2016)  
 Brett Cloyd (Secretary, exp. June 30, 2017)  
 Sarah Hogan (Member-at-Large, exp. June 30, 2016);  
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**Guidelines for Contributors**

The deadline for the next edition of the *LPSS News*, subject to decisions by ACRL, will be announced on the LPSS Discussion List.

Email articles, illustrations, and correspondence to: [merrill.stein@villanova.edu](mailto:merrill.stein@villanova.edu) and [dennis.lambert@villanova.edu](mailto:dennis.lambert@villanova.edu)

Length: 1–2 pages.

Write in short paragraphs. Use the most direct, energetic style you can muster. Have a point, and don't be reluctant to have a point of view, too. Write as an analyst or critic, or at least as a journalist, not a booster.

Write to be useful to the membership. The format and publication frequency make features the strength of the newsletter. The LPSS listserv is the best place to post, discover, and comment on breaking events. The [LPSS website](#) is the official repository of official reports and meeting minutes. - [Newsletter Archives](#) -

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**Did you know that LPSS-L has a searchable archive?**

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## ACRL Annual Survey Now Open

Since 1999 the ACRL Academic Library Trends and Statistics Survey has gathered statistics at the national level from all types of academic libraries in the United States and Canada. The survey is developed and overseen by the ACRL Academic Library Trends and Statistics Editorial Board. Earlier this year, the ACRL Board of Directors approved a recommendation from the editorial board that ACRL create and administer its own survey instrument to make it more relevant and responsive to the needs of academic libraries. Formerly, ACRL had been using the Association of Research Libraries survey instrument with permission. Following a ten-month development process involving scores of librarians and opportunities for review and feedback, the ACRL Annual Survey has been overhauled and will open on September 18, 2015, to collect data for the 2015 fiscal year. Fiscal year 2015 is defined as the most recent 12-month period that ends before October 1, 2015. Complete details on the new survey are available on the [ACRL Insider blog](#). Surveys will close on April 30, 2016.

## Call for ACRL Award Nominations

- **Excellence in Academic Libraries Award**

*\$3,000 and a plaque*

Sponsored by YBP Library Services

- **Academic/Research Librarian of the Year**

*\$5,000 and a plaque*

Sponsored by YBP Library Services

**DEADLINE: December 4, 2015**



More information about these and all other ACRL award opportunities can be found on the ACRL website: <http://www.ala.org/acrl/awards> or by contacting Chase Ollis at (312) 280-2521 or [collis@ala.org](mailto:collis@ala.org)

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ISSN 0885-7342

LPSS News is a publication of the Law and Political Science Section

Association of College and Research Libraries,  
ALA, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611-2795.

**Web:** [www.ala.org/acrl/lpss/](http://www.ala.org/acrl/lpss/)

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