

## **END OF FUNDING PERIOD REPORT**

### **LAUC Statewide Grants, Research & Professional Development Committee**

Primary Applicant(s): Yolanda Blue  
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### **TITLE OF PROJECT: *Civic Literacy in a Diverse Southern California Community: Sustaining Local Political Knowledge***

Time Period of Grant: FY2011-2012  
Amount of Award Received: \$500.00

#### Original Abstract as Submitted:

In the U.S. the right to vote and the use of the vote are seen as pillars of responsible citizenship and a healthy democracy. Open access to political knowledge and preservation of this information helps citizens understand a broad range of past and current community issues that impact their lives.

In 2010, librarians at the University of California in Santa Barbara started a project to focus on a crucial but somewhat allusive literature – that of electoral campaigns geared toward the local multicultural communities. From our research, we found that California was only mandated to collect ballot measures, campaign finance information, candidate data, and election results.

We determined that in many instances, websites, election flyers, social networks, digital media and printed campaign materials collected and preserved by libraries and repositories were limited in scope. Also, many of the local candidates' websites from the most recent election were no longer available.

The paper presentation and/or panel discussion will highlight some of the various archiving tools and services that would serve as models for sustaining and making accessible local political history for citizens. In addition, this archive would provide information on the ways candidates and citizens articulate social, economic and other community issues. It will assist diverse communities to view how their representative/government officials have articulated issues. Archiving will serve as a foundation to understand persistent issues, formulate informed current and future strategies, solutions and develop coalition-building efforts.

This presentation is a continuation of a poster session exhibited during the IFLA 2010 conference. The poster was entitled, *Local Elections, Campaign Literature and diverse Communities: Access Issues & Sustainable Solutions*.

## I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION

- Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.

The panel discussion and power point presentation provided an opportunity to convey our project propositions to a broad range of international audiences. We successfully conveyed the general need for archival tools that will sustain open access to political information for diverse communities.

The co-chair of the European Conference on Information Literacy (ECIL) was impressed with our panel discussion and presentation on civic literacy. We were requested to submit a proposal for the 2013 ECIL in Istanbul, Turkey.

- What would you do differently next time, if anything?  
I would have made more handouts of excerpts from the power point. However, the paper submitted for the conference is now available online on the IFLA website.
- What advice do you have for others applying for LAUC research grants?  
To focus on a project that has a benefit not only for the research community but also for information professionals and their various institutions.

## II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED? Yes X No\_\_

If No, what is needed to complete the project? Is more time needed? Or more funds?

## III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Airfare: Roundtrip airfare from Los Angeles, CA. to Riga, Latvia - \$1756.15

Shuttle/Taxi: Santa Barbara Air Bus Shuttle Roundtrip - \$80.00

Registration - \$317.00

Hotel- \$100 x 4 nights = \$400.00

Meals & Incidentals: \$64 (Maximum allowed) x 4 days= \$256.00

Total cost: **\$2809.15**

Minus Professional Development \$1000.00

Minus LAUC Grant \$ 500.00

*Balance-* \$1309.15

#### **IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS**

**See website for programme, participants, and papers:**

IFLA Satellite Pre-Conference

**Information for Civic Literacy**

8-10 August 2012, Riga

<http://www.lnb.lv/lv/iflariga2012>

#### **V. NOTE**

Information included in this report may be reprinted or posted on the web for dissemination to UCOP, other UC Libraries, and future potential LAUC grant applicants.