

August 24, 2011

Dear Potential dLOC Member,

The Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) is a premier international collection of Caribbean research resources. Established in 2004, dLOC has grown from the initial nine partners to more the twenty. dLOC is a content-contributing partner organization and all materials in dLOC will remain freely and fully available as **open access**. The project builds capacity in the region to support digitization and preservation to provide access to their holdings locally and internationally. The collection consists of more than 10,000 titles and 1.5 million pages of content and registers over 500,000 hits per month.

On behalf of the dLOC Executive Board, we are contacting institutions with interest in the Caribbean to request financial support to sustain and expand dLOC. To date, dLOC has been primarily funded by grant and in-kind support from partner institutions. We have been fortunate to receive two successive grants from the Technological and Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access (TICFIA) grant program by the Department of Education. Due to the unexpected cancellation of the TICFIA program as a result of the US Congressional budget cuts in the middle of the current cycle, dLOC must seek sustainable external funding immediately. The current grant expires in September 2011, two years earlier than expected.

The current administrative and technical hosts are committed to supporting dLOC as an ongoing program. However, additional support is required for the project to meet the current and future demands of scholarship worldwide. A collaborative funding model has been established so that dLOC can continue to develop new content and features. This funding will supplement institutional and grant funding sources.

We are inviting institutions to support dLOC at one of the following annual membership levels and are encouraging a three-year membership commitment.

- **Executive dLOC Member - \$10,000** (US and European members) / **\$2,500** (Caribbean members)
In addition to support for the general hosting and development, this membership level offers a the opportunity to identify up to 4,000 pages of eligible content to be priorities for digitization.
- **Sustaining dLOC Member - \$5,000** (US and European members) / **\$1,250** (Caribbean members)
In addition to support for the general hosting and development, this membership level offers a the opportunity to identify up to 2,000 pages of eligible content to be priorities for digitization.
- **Supporting dLOC Member - \$2,500** (US and European members) / **\$750** (Caribbean members)
In addition to support for the general hosting and development, this membership level offers a the opportunity to identify up to 1,000 pages of eligible content to be priorities for digitization.
- **Contributing dLOC Member - \$1,000** (US and European members) / **\$250** (Caribbean members)
This membership level provides support for the general hosting and development of dLOC. Supporting membership dues are pooled to cover the technical infrastructure costs, partner training and the development and promotion of the collections.

We also recognize that there are many individual supporters of dLOC who may be interested in investing in this valuable resource. Individuals may support dLOC at one of the following annual membership levels:

- Executive Sustaining Member - \$1,000 and above
- Sustaining Member - \$500 (US Members) / \$250 (Caribbean)
- Supporting Member - \$250 (US Members) / \$100 (Caribbean)
- Contributing Member - \$100 (US Members) / \$25 (Caribbean)
- Student Member - \$25

Please lend your institutional or personal support to strengthen this equitable model for continued development of dLOC and ensure that the Caribbean research resources are accessible online and for years to come. We would be pleased to discuss your interest in supporting the Digital Library of the Caribbean. Please contact:

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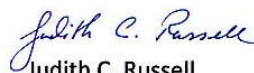
Sincerely,



Jean Wilfrid Bertrand
Chair, dLOC Executive Board
Director, National Archives of Haiti
Ministry of Culture and Communication



Laura K. Probst
dLOC Administrative Lead
Dean, University Libraries
Florida International University



Judith C. Russell
dLOC Technical Lead
Dean, University Libraries
University of Florida

DIGITAL LIBRARY OF THE CARIBBEAN (dLOC) is a cooperative digital library for resources from and about the Caribbean and circum-Caribbean. dLOC provides access to digitized versions of Caribbean cultural, historical and research materials currently held in more than twenty five archives, libraries, and private collections. Collections include books, newspapers, manuscripts, maps, photographs, government reports, legal materials and much more; for more information, go to www.dloc.com. The project is hosted by Florida International University Libraries and Latin American and Caribbean Center and the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries.