

U.S. Congressional Hearings Hot Topics Project:

Strategies for Promoting Government Information Through Increased Awareness of One Resource Type Click to edit Master subtitle style

Federal Depository Library Conference & Fall Depository Library Meeting Arlington, VA, October 18, 2010

Carmen Orth-Alfie

University of Kansas Libraries





Background Information

- Expectation to integrate government information into all disciplines as appropriate by working with subject liaisons
- All processing and maintenance integrated into technical services, access services, etc.





Challenges of the structure

- Subject liaisons, reference generalists and information literacy instructors:
 - Are unaware or unconvinced that the government information is relevant to their specific area of responsibility
 - Don't know enough to distinguish between different types – it is all just "GOV INFO"
 - Have limited opportunities to promote their own agendas and the purchased/licensed resources





Maybe I can promote one type of government information?... What is most likely to be relevant to the most users early in their college career AND is an easy segue to other information, including government information?





Solution:

Congressional Hearings Hot Topic Project





Government Information Literacy

Brunvand, A., & Pashkova-Balkenhol, T. (2008). Undergraduate use of government information: what citation studies tell us about instruction strategies. *Portal: libraries and the academy, 8(2), 197-209.*

Burroughs, J. M. (2009). What users want: assessing government information preferences to drive information services. *Government Information Quarterly, 26(1), 203-218.*

Hollens, D. (2004). "Documents to the ... freshmen!" : early exploration of government publications. *DTTP*, 32(4), 15-17.





Congressional Hearings Literacy

Heitshusen, V. (2007). Types of Committee Hearings. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Research Service.

Palmer, B. (2007). Hearings in the U.S. Senate: a guide for preparation and procedure. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Research Service.

Sevetson, A. (2007). Hearings and the LexisNexis® Congressional Hearings Digital Collection: LexisNexis.

U.S. Congress. House. (2003). Our American government. Washington, D.C.: GPO.





Challenges to Address with Librarians and Library Staff

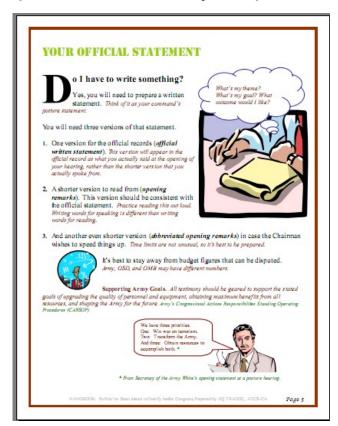
- Relevancy to their work with class instruction and reference consultation
- Information Literacy Skills needed to identify and recommend use of specific government information
- Understanding of hearing topics
- Search strategies to find topics specific hearings (covered under Student Challenges)

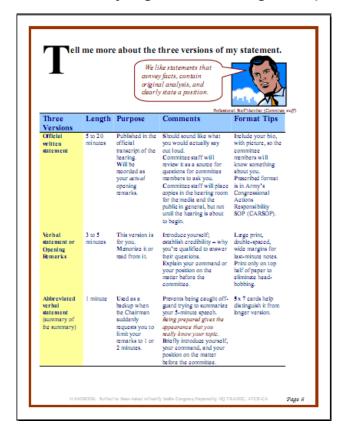




Handbook: So You've Been Asked to Testify Before Congress

http://www.tradoc.army.mil/tpubs/misc/HANDBOOKTestifyingBeforeCongress.pdf









Relevancy to Library Instruction and Reference

University Mission

"dedicated to preparing its' students for lives of learning and for the challenges **educated citizens** will encounter"

- · "Civic Engagement" trend
 - Provost calling for "service-learning" & "civic engagement"
 - White House Issues-- "Service"

"civic engagement and service should be a lifelong commitment whether at the school, community, city, state, or national level."





Government Information Literacy Skills Strategies

- Ask if they have ever read an official transcript, watch a video, or listened to an audio of a congressional hearing
- Challenge them to describe a hearing (purpose, content, etc.)
- Build on what they know
- Give visuals!





Quick Assessment of Information Literacy Skills

- For each sets of images identify the following:
 - Publication or Information TYPE
 - 1-3 Resource you would use to find specific examples
- Do you feel competent in describing this information type and the discovery/access resources to an undergraduate student?





Eating Well Marian Burros

HE egg, its once envisible reputation as a bemutrients of nutrients of top-quality source of top-quality source in the cholesterol contract to the control of the cholesterol control smirched by its high cholesterol content, is under new scrutiny after a report last is under new scrutiny after the figure of the perfect Centers for Disease According to the Perfect Centers for Disease. week implicating it in satmonella outbreaks.

According to the Federal Centers for A segs in According to the Federal Inspected Grade A segs in Control in Atlanta, clean inspected for an Hemideonic rice.

Their shells are responsible for an Hemideonic rice. Comrol in Atlanta, clean inspected Grade A eggs in their shells are responsible for an "epidemic rise" in calmonals infaction in passels in the clean control in calmonals infaction in passels in the clean control in the their shells are responsible for an "epidemic rise" in salmonella infection in people in the East, and cluding New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

iew England.
The centers recorded 2,119 cases and 11 deaths in an 11. The centers recorded 2.119 cases and 11 deaths are in the centers of 50 outbreaks of Salmonella in an 11attributed to 65 outbreaks of salmonella in an 13-year period, according to the new report. Of the 35 outbreaks to which a food source was identified, 77 outbreaks to which a food source was demanded to the containing New England. outbreaks in which a food source was identified, 77
percent were caused by eggs or foods containing

eggs.

Writing in the April 8 issue of The Journal of the eggs.

Writing in the April 8 issue of The Journal of the eggs. Writing in the April 8 Issue of The Journal of the American Medical Association, the scientists at American Medical Association, the scientists at the Federal center said that the problem was especially become the homotopic was a problem. the frederal center said that the problem was espe-cially worrisome because the bacterium involved. cially worrisome because the bacterium myolved, salmonells enertidis, might be in eggs and could be recommend for the least balmonella enervidis, might be in eggs and could be transmitted by the her.

In the past, salmonella outbreaks have been as sociated with cracked or order page.

In the past, salmonella outbreaks have been as sociated with cracked or solled eggs, the egg and solled with cracked or the outside of the egg and that the bacterial was on the contaminated the months of the past intermediate handling had contaminated the past intermediate. that the bacteria was on the outside of the egg and that improper handling had contaminated the contaminated

tents-Salmonella is a severe problem in poultry. It is often found on freshly laid eggs, but proper sanita-often found on freshly laid eggs, but proper bills ing of the ease before they reach the market bills often found on freshly laid eggs, but proper sanitiz-ing of the eggs before they reach the market kills

the organisms on the outside.

All Grade A shell tegs are washed and sanitized

All Grade A shell tegs are Denorment grading.

Salmonella study suggests that eggs should be treated with gr

not buy the perishables below, Ten provide fet Eggs shoot more than At home, carton and erator, it is also helps from the re Just as 3 milk purch Louis said ! less likely

SUPER BOWL

A Common N.F.L. Question: How Many Fingers Do You See?

By FRANK LITSKY

Special to The New York Times

ATLANTA, Jan. 25 - What does Troy Aikman remember about the concussion that knocked him out of the Dallas Cowboys' 38-21 victory over the San Francisco 49ers Sunday?

"I don't remember," the Cowboys' quarterback said today with a straight face. Then he smiled.

'Yeah, I remember most of it now," he said. "I'm O.K. I'll play Sunday."

Kevin O'Neill, the Cowboys' trainer, said Aikman was fine and would be ready to face the Buffalo Bills here in Super Bowl XXVIII. But "fine" is a relative word. And Aikman's concussion has focused attention on a dangerous and recurring injury in the National Football League.

Two of the four starting quarterbacks in Sunday's championship games — Aikman and Kansas City's Joe Montana - were knocked out of their games with concussions. A concussion, which is caused by a blow to the head, can cause temporary loss of consciousness and can affect some neurological functions, such as speech, balance and memory. Some players seem to be more susceptible to concussions and, in extreme cases, repeated concussions have ended careers.

Quarterback Jeff Hostetler of the Raiders was in and out of the lineup this season with concussions. Last season, Al Toon, the

Jets receiver, retired because of problems stemming from repeated concussions. The sight of players sitting groggily on the sideline has become common.

Ronnie Barnes, the Giants' trainer, cited two major causes of football concussions a helmet hitting an artificial or hard-grass surface, or a helmet hitting a knee. Some artificial surfaces are always hard; the turf under a pad may get harder over the years. Even grass can dry out and be hard.

Barnes also said that the way a player's helmet is set up is crucial. Helmets for most professional players are made up of the hard outer surface and an inflatable bladder inside.

"Players have to make sure they have enough air in the bladder of their helmet,' Barnes said. "If a bladder is under-inflated, the only protection may come from the shell of the helmet, and that isn't enough. This is a collision sport, and never mind malicious spearing."

Before a game, a player normally puts on his helmet and has an equipment man pump air into the bladder. But Dr. Dick

Continued on Page B9, Column 1

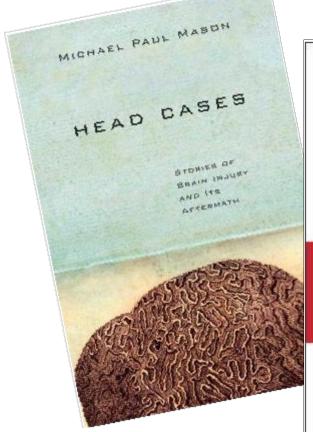
QUARTERBACKS ARE EASY TARGETS

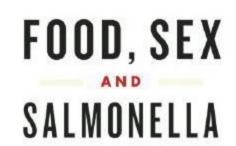
The very nature of the position, doctors say, make them prone to concussions. Page B9.





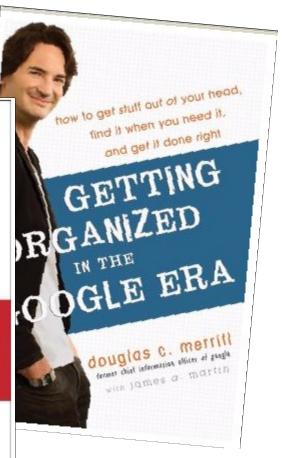






WHY OUR FOOD IS MAKING US SICK

Dr. DAVID WALTNER-TOEWS











Show Examples

- To build visual identification skills of official transcript, c-span and other video, and committee pages for hearings
- To illustrate the broad range of topics discussed in hearings





Confirmation



Oversight





Legislative

HOUSE HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION MARKUP, DAY 4, PART 4

JUL 30, 2009

House Committee Energy & Commerce

Veterans' Affairs



THE FHA REFORM ACT OF 2010



t Live Webcast

ious Webcast

iber 30 at 10 a.m. mmíttee Hearing le Cost of the War"

Hearings » Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3843, H.R. 4041, H.R. 5428, H.R. 5516, H.R. 5543, H.R. 5641, H.R. 5996, Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3843, H.R. 4041, H.R. 5428, H.R. 5516, H.R. 5543, H.R. 6127, H.R. 6220, and Draft Legislation

September 29, 2010 10:00AM

Room 334 Cannon House Office

Multimedia Link

EE ON TY OPPORTUNITY

IG

NCIAL SERVICES RESENTATIVES



Investigative







Strategies to Understand Broad Range of Topics

- Identify witness affiliated with your institution
 - Create exhibit
 - Invite "witnesses" to a panel discussion on civic engagement at the national level
 - Analyze by discipline, congress, presidency, frequency, LC classification, hearing type, ...





Challenges to Address with Undergraduate Students

- Search strategies that easily find topic specific hearings relevant to their assignments
- Engaging their interest with hearings that are reasonably "ingestible"
- Finding other relevant research material
- Citations! would use if they don't know how to cite





Search Strategy Challenges

- Not all resources provide the entire hearing's content
- Relationship of parts is helpful to overall comprehension, but not always present
- Students will stumble into parts/whole and need assistance
- Google results to individual parts







committee hearing h1n1 (senate or house) site:.gov

×

Search

About 6,120 results (0.20 seconds)

Advanced search

🛂 Everything

- Images
- Videos
- More
- Show search tools

Congressional Testimony, Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, NIAID, NIH

Dr. Fauci's Statement for the Record Submitted to **House Subcommittee** on Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations, for **Hearing** on National Institutes of Health ... The Role of NIH-Supported Research in the Response to 2009 **H1N1** Influenza. ...

www.niaid.nih.gov/about/directors/congress/Pages/default.aspx - Cached

OLPA - Hearings - 111th Congress First Session

Diabetes **Hearing** The **Senate Committee** on Homeland Security and ... olpa.od.nih.gov/**hearings**/111/session1/default.asp - Cached

DHS: Testimony of Secretary Napolitano Before the United States ...

Oct 21, 2009 ... Testimony of Secretary Napolitano Before the United States **Senate Committee** on Homeland Security ... In April, I testified before this **Committee** that DHS and our federal ... In all of the actions we are taking to counter **H1N1** flu, ... On July 2, 2009, DHS and the White **House** reached out to federal ...

www.dhs.gov/.../testimony_1256330738605.shtm - Cached - Similar

The Small Business Watchdog » » 2009 » September

Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship **Committee hearing** on the **House** Small Business **Committee hearing** on "The Impact of Financial **House** Small Business **Committee hearing** on The Challenges of the 2009-**H1N1** Influenza and its ...

weblog.sba.gov/blog-advo/?m=200909 - Cached - Similar

Worker Rights | Committee on Education and Labor

The **House** Education and Labor **Committee** held a **hearing** Tuesday, November 17 on how ... This Week: **Hearing** on **H1N1** and Sick Leave Policies, and **Hearing** on Literacy Skills U.S. **Senate** and **House** Introduce Employee Free Choice Act ...

edlabor.house.gov > Labor > Worker Rights - Cached - Similar

congress hearing head injuries site:.gov

About 132,000 results (0.11 seconds)

Hearing on: Legal Issues Relating to Football Head Injuries

Hearing on: Legal Issues Relating to Football **Head Injuries** Wednesday 10/28/2009 - 10:00 A.M. 2141 Rayburn House Office Building Full Committee ... judiciary.house.gov/hearings/hear_091028.html - Similar

congress hearing eggs site:.gov

About 27,400 results (0.25 seconds)

Hearing on "The Outbreak of Salmonella in Eggs"

Sep 22, 2010 ... The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a **hearing** entitled "The Outbreak of Salmonella in **Eggs**" on Wednesday, September 22, ... energycommerce.house.gov/index.php?...**hearing**...**eggs**... - Cached





Possible Solution to Google Search Problems

- Good search strategies for Google
- · "custom Google search engine"
- Promote other tools for discovery and access
- Encourage use of www.google.com/unclesam





Engage Student's Interest

- Offer multimedia experience by promoting use of video along with text
- Direct to short hearings with multiple worldviews represented (pros/cons)
- Direct to hearing that address questions student might find interesting
- Avoid confirmation hearings





Strategies to aid discovery and access

- Design LibGuide specific to "hot topic" research using Congressional Committee Hearings
- Tag "in scope" hearing found at Committee websites using Delicious and include tag cloud in LibGuide
- Focus on most current and free (committee webpages, Fdsys, and C-Span)





LibGuide Design Points

- Discovery and access to hearings
 - Hot Topic Pages with links to specific current hearings pages
 - Delicious tag cloud links to hearing lists and pages
- Citation help guide
- Guide to expand research

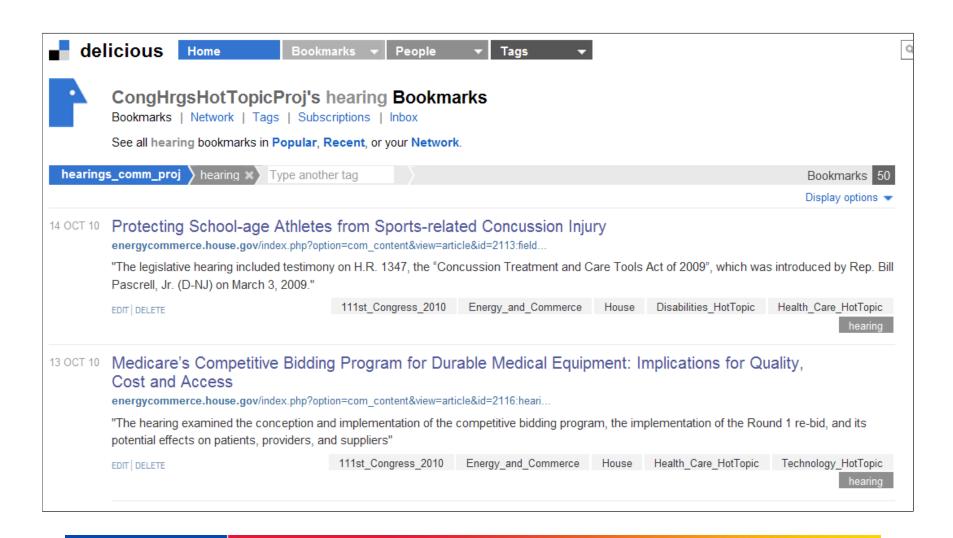




🥯 Congressional Committee and Hearings Webpages (add text 🖉) ■ hearings_comm_proj's Delicious Tags 111st Congress 2010 (52) 111st Congress_2nd_Session (15) Aging Agriculture_Nutrition_and_Forestry (1) Appropriations (4) Armed Services (3) Audio (2) Banking_Housing_and Urban Affairs (1) Breif Description (12) Breifing_Memo (1) Budget (3) Commerce_Science_and_Transportation (1) Committee pages (5) Committees list (2) Defense_HotTopic (1) Descriptive_Tags (2) Disabilities_HotTopic (9) Economic (13) Economy HotTopic (26) Education and Labor (1) Education HotTopic (2) Energy & Environment HotTopic Energy and Commerce (12)(7) Energy and Natural Resources (1) Energy Independence and Global Warming (10) Environment_and_Public_Works (1) Ethics (1) Ethics_HotTopic (1) Family HotTopic (5) Finance (1) Financial_Services (1) Fiscal Responsibility HotTopic (5) Foreign_Affairs (1) Foreign Policy HotTopic Health Care HotTopic Foreign Relations (1) (17)Health_Education_Labor_and_Pensions (1) hearing (50) Hearings_homepage (24) Homeland_Security (1) Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (1) House (61) House Administration (1) Impeachment Trial (1) Indian Affairs (1) Intelligence (1) Joint (14) Judiciary (2) LastTag_2010_10 (4) Misc_Issues_HotTopic (2) Natural_Resources (1) Opening Statements (20) Oversight_and_Government_Reform (1) Poverty HotTopic (2) Related documents (11) Rules_and_Administration (1) Rural_HotTopic (1) Science_and_Technology (1) Senate (2) Seniors & Social Security HotTopic (2) Service_HotTopic (1) Small_Business (1) Small_Business_and_Entrepreneurship (1) Summaries (3) Taxes_HotTopic (1) Technology HotTopic Testimony written (19) Transcript (7) Transcript preliminary Transportation_and_Infrastructure (1) Veterans' Affairs (16) Veterans HotTopic (14) Video (19) Ways & Means (11) Women_HotTopic (1) YouTube Channel (4) View Complete Tag Cloud on Del.ico.us Add/Edit Del.icio.us tag cloud Comments (0) | Disable Comments











Subject Taxonomy

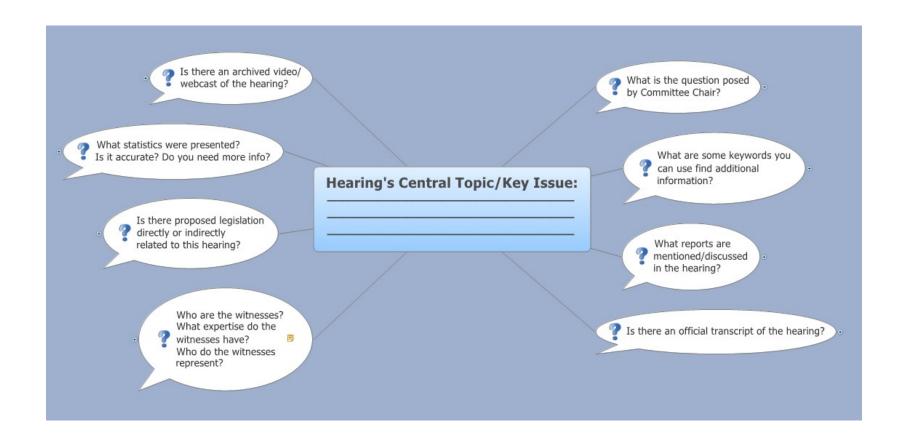
- · Idea in would be approx 20 broad topics
- Experimenting with "issues" from White Louse gov
- · Exploring other options

Homeland_Security_H	1
Immigration_HotTopic	1
Misc_Issues_HotTopic	3
Poverty_HotTopic	3
Rural_HotTopic	2
Seniors_&_Social_Se	3
Service_HotTopic	2
Taxes_HotTopic	2
Technology_HotTopic	8
Urban_Policy_HotTopic	1
Veterans_HotTopic	15
Women_HotTopic	2





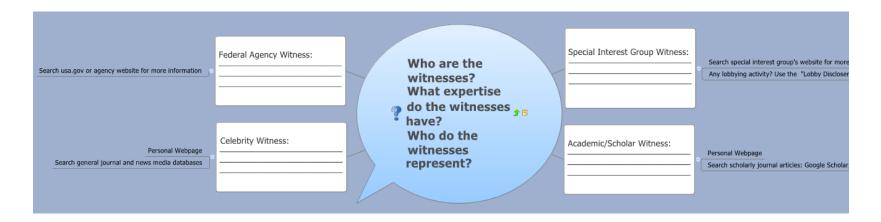
Mind Map Research Guide







Mind Map Research Guide



Agencies reports to Col	ngress: What report	CBO (Congressional Budget Office):	
Lexis Nexis Congressional KU Online Catalog Congressional Committe Reports or Documents:	are ? mentioned/discussed	GAO (Government Accountability Off	FDsys.gov advance search by collection
Ko Orinire Catalog		CRS (Congressional Research Service):	opencrs.com_





Challenges to Address with Faculty and Instructors

- Relevancy to their class assignments
- Worth taking the time to include library instruction
- Acceptance of government information





Strategies for Reaching out to Faculty and Instructors

- Work with liaisons to identify specific classes and instructors
- Promote the content of hearings:
 - "thesis statements"
 - Different views addressing the same question
- Guides and handbooks for witnesses
 - Real world examples of persuasive informative writing and speech





Content elements of hearings

- Opening statements by chair and ranking minority member
- Written witness testimony
- Oral remarks summarizing testimony
- Examination/questioning of witnesses
- Exhibits (articles, letters, reports)





Opening Statements

S. Hrg. 110-153

SECURING AMERICA'S INTEREST IN IRAQ: THE REMAINING OPTIONS

HEA

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR. U.S. SENATOR FROM DELAWARE

Chairman BIDEN. Folks, let me echo the comments made b

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
UNITED STATES SENATE

nas contributed more to American security than Chairman Lugar.

Today, we're brought together by a question that dominates our

national debate, and it really boils down to a simple proposition. What options remain to meet our twin goals of bringing American forces home and leaving behind a stable Iraq? Over the next 4





Witnesses

- Celebrities
- Academics
- Government Officials
- Representatives from Interest Groups, organizations, companies
- Other Private Citizens

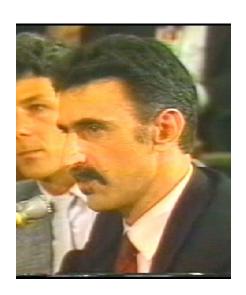




Celebrities Witnesses

















Thank you for your time.

FEEDBACK is WELCOME.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Carmen Orth-Alfie
University of Kansas Libraries
Coordinator, Government Information Services
Email: corthalf@ku.edu



