

**Library of Congress  
Office - Rio de Janeiro**

**Field Trip to Brasília - DF and Palmas - State of Tocantins  
November 23 to December 3, 2003  
by Elda Mulholland and Marli Soares - Acquisitions Section**

**November 23 - November 30**

This was my first LOC trip to Brasilia. The infrastructure for librarians is excellent. Hotels, snack bars, restaurants and especially the taxi driver, Mr. Cardoso, who knows all the places that should be visited, remembers which places were visited before and where librarians received bibliographic material, and also the working hours of government offices.

This trip was also part of my training and traveling with Marli Soares was a unique experience since she really knows her métier and also knows almost every librarian in Brasilia.

Brasilia was a revelation to me and also a good demonstration of how public service is structured - quite a different situation from private universities and academic libraries.

Marli and I visited governmental and non-governmental institutions as well as the Catholic University of Brasília - UCB and UnB - University of Brasília.

Brasília is a place either to be visited several times a year or to have a local representative who could collect much more material than the librarians on their 3-4 trips a year.

I suggested to Marli that in addition to the "thank-you letters" that are usually sent after each trip, LOC should keep close contact with the suppliers of bibliographic material, either through e-mail, or short notes, as a means of reminding them of LOC's function.

People in general were very helpful and congenial. We also had an invitation from Mrs. Andrea McGlinchey, from IRC, to celebrate Thanksgiving with some friends from the US Embassy at her home.

Although we had planned to visit 45 institutions, we were not able to complete our program. Some of the places we went to had all their surplus material in boxes, which made it extremely difficult to select and/or search for wanted books and/or periodicals.

During our visit to the Arquivo Público do Distrito Federal (Public Archives of the Federal District) we were shown the archives of films/documentaries on the whole history of the construction of Brasília. These films are badly in need of restoration and cleaning. This material is the only document of the building of the new capital of Brazil. The librarian, Elaine Marly Leal Lima, asked us if it would be possible for them to develop a joint project with the Library of Congress for the recovery of the films. I asked her to formalize the request and to send the basic information on the films.

When we visited the Sub-Secretaria de Bibliotecas do Senado Federal (sub-Secretariat of Libraries of the Federal Senate), we were able to obtain 126 pieces (books and periodicals).

This was the first time we were allowed in that specific area, where we were seen to by librarian Claudia, since our contact, the Director of the Sub-Secretaria ,Ms. Sinaide N. da Silva Santos, was unavailable.

We visited the following bookstores:

Casa do Livro, Brasília Jurídica, Livraria Acadêmica, Livraria Musimed, Livraria Siciliano, Livraria Nobel, Livraria da UnB, Livraria Café com Letras.

Since all books and periodicals of the library of the Ministério do Meio Ambiente (Ministry of the Environment) were being kept in boxes due to their moving to another room in the same building, unfortunately we were unable to check the material and bring what we needed.

The library at Fundação Palmares has been closed for the last three months since they do not have a professional librarian working there. There is plenty of material, but we were not allowed in. They told us they have to check them first before we can check the duplicates.

At the Universidade de Brasília we were received by the Director of Libraries, who showed us the duplicate area. All books and periodicals were in boxes (one on top of the other) since they are buying new shelves. We manage to check some boxes, but it became extremely difficult to see all of them since they were very heavy and Marli and I together could not lift them.

Although we tried several times to contact the INEP (National Institute of Pedagogy Studies) librarian by phone and in person (we went to INEP twice) we met with no success. She was unavailable.

The same situation was repeated at the SESI (Social Service of Industry) library, where the librarian was absent and therefore the library was closed.

At the Supremo Tribunal Federal (Federal Supreme Court) we managed to talk to Director Ranunzia Braz dos Santos, who gave us all the issues we needed of the Revista Trimestral de Jurisprudência (Quarterly Journal of Jurisprudence).

We were very lucky at the ANEEL (National Agency of Electric Energy) library where we garnered a good amount of material. We also asked them about the use of compact shelving and they told us they were going back to using the mechanical type since the electronic proved to be a problem.

At the Departamento Intersindical da Assessoria Parlamentar we were unable to search the documents at the library because the librarian was absent.

We spent almost an entire afternoon at IBAMA (Brazilian Institute of the Environment) gathering all the material we needed. The name of the game is endurance!

All in all, we think the trip to Brasília was very positive and productive.

Below we present tables with information about the places we visited and the number of pieces we collected.

<b>Institution</b>
Agência Nacional de Energia Elétrica - ANEEL - Centro de Documentação
Arquivo Público do Distrito Federal
Câmara dos Deputados Distribuição
Câmara dos Deputados Biblioteca
Conselho Nacional dos Direitos da Mulher
Coodenação de Informação Documental Agrícola
Escola Nacional de Administração Pública _ ENAP
Fundação Assis Chateaubriand
Fundação Cultural Palmares
Fundação Nacional de Saúde FNS CENEPI
Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis - IBAMA CNI
Instituto Nacional de Colonização e Reforma Agrária -INCRA
Instituto Nacional de Estudos e Pesquisas Educacionais – INEP -
Instituto do Patrimônio Histórico Artístico Nacional
Ministério da Ciência e Tecnologia - MCT
Ministério da Comunicação
Ministério da Fazenda
Ministério da Saúde
Ministério do Planejamento, Orçamento e Gestão
Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil
Presidência da República
Senado Federal

Serviço Social da Indústria
Superior Tribunal de Justiça
Supremo Tribunal Federal STF
Tribunal de Contas da União
Tribunal de Contas do Distrito Federal
Tribunal Regional Federal 1a. Região Regional
Tribunal Superior Eleitoral
Universidade Católica de Brasília
Universidade de Brasília
<b>Number of bookstores visited: 8</b>
<b>Total Number of visits: 45</b>

Material gathered:

<b>Material (Gift)</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Monographs	271
Periodicals	148
Folders	40
CDs	14
Chap Books (Cordel)	1
Video	1
Posters	20
Maps	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>498</b>

<b>Material (Purchase)</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Monograph	1
<b>Total Acquisition</b>	<b>499</b>

## **PALMAS**

**November 30 - December 3**

This was the first trip by LOC acquisitions librarians to Palmas, state of Tocantins.

The State of Tocantins was created on the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1988. Its first Constitution dates from the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1989.

The State flower is the Sunflower. Tocantins is situated in the Amazon Region and shares borders with the States of Maranhão to the North, Goiás to the South, Maranhão, Piauí and Bahia to the East and Mato Grosso and Pará to the West. The total area of Tocantins is 286,706 square kilometers and Tocantins has 3.94 inhabitants per square kilometer. Two rivers run through Tocantins: the Araguaia (West) and the Tocantins (East). The State of Tocantins is divided into 79 municipalities.

In Tocantins there are still indigenous people from the following groups: Apinagé, Carajá, Xerente, Krahô, Javaés, Avá-Canoeiros, Tapirapés and Guarani. Their main income is obtained from fishing, hunting, arts and crafts and some farming.

The climate is predominantly tropical with heavy rains from October to April and dry season from May to September.

Palmas is a rapidly growing city with a population of nearly 160,000 inhabitants. According to some, Tocantins has more cattle than people: approximately 1.3 million people and more than 6 million cattle.

The first place we visited was Palmas Public Library. Once there we discovered that the Academia Tocantinense de Letras occupies one room in the Library, and we were able to talk to the President of the Academy - Mrs. Isabel Dias Neves, a poet - and received several books as gifts. It was also Mrs Neves who took us to the home of Pierre de Freitas, one of Palmas's well known painters and engravers. We visited his studio and saw many of his paintings and a large mural commissioned to decorate the entrance of the Governor's Palace.

We visited universities - ULBRA, UNITINS, Foundations, the Mayor's Palace, several State Secretariats, as well as NGO's and bookstores.

We were impressed with the development of Palmas and we are sure that this is one place that should be visited again.

We were very well received and I am convinced that they are willing to collaborate and establish some form of steady contact with LOC.

The librarian at ULBRA - Centro Universitário Luterano de Palmas, who is also in charge of the Public Library, was extremely active and very resourceful and gave us a very welcoming reception.

The NATURATINS, Foundation for the Environment of Tocantins, is closely connected to the social needs of the entire population, not just with the indigenous population. They hold seminars and courses for the low-income population as well as for the indigenous people.

The Fundação Cultural (Cultural Foundation) is connected with the arts and crafts of the region - artisans and indigenous people. Their library is small but varied and they hold the most important books published in Tocantins. The Fundação Cultural has just moved to a new address and it was not open to the public, nonetheless, the librarian let us in and showed us all the rooms and managed to select important works for LOC.

The bookstores have an area dedicated to local writers, which helped us to discover new titles and new authors.

Below we present a table of places visited in Palmas

<b>Institutions</b>	
Academia Tocantinense de Letras	Biblioteca Pública Municipal
Centro Universitário Luterano de Palmas - ULBRA	Federação da Indústria do Estado de Tocantins - FIETO
Fundação Cultural - Biblioteca	Fundação Nacional de Saúde - FUNASA
Fundação Natureza do Tocantins - NATURATINS	Instituto Brasileiro de Meio Ambiente e Recursos Renováveis - IBAMA
Palácio Araguaia - Secretaria de Comunicação	Prefeitura de Palmas - Secretaria de Comunicação
Pierre de Freitas (artist/engraver)	Ministério Público do Estado de Tocantins
Secretaria de Educação e Cultura - Assessoria de Comunicação	Secretaria da Indústria, Comércio e Turismo -Assessoria de Comunicação
Secretaria de Saúde - Assessoria de Comunicação Social	Serviço de Apoio às Micro e Pequenas Empresas do Tocantins - SEBRAE
Tribunal Regional Eleitoral	Universidade do Tocantins - UNITINS

### **Statistics for Palmas**

**Total number of bookstores visited: 5**  
**Total number of visits: 25**

<b>Material (Gift)</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Monographs	53
Periodicals	46
Folders	58
CDs	5
Video	2
Posters	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>175</b>

<b>Material (Purchase)</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
<b>Monograph</b>	18
<b>Total Acquisition</b>	<b>193</b>