Distance learning: digitization
The Illinois Digitization Institute at the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign is offering a suite of three workshops about digital projects that may be taken separately or in combination. Track 1 is a one-day, in-person workshop that introduces the basics of planning and implementation. Track 2 is a three-week Web-based distance education course that covers benefits and costs, planning, design, selection, equipment, scanning, image manipulation, metadata, and evaluation. Track 3 is the Web-based course plus two days of hands-on, in-person training with scanning devices and methods.

Track 1 and 3 workshops are unscheduled as of this writing, but will be offered again in Illinois in 2004. The Track 2 online course is scheduled for February 23–March 12, 2004, April 12–30, 2004, and August 2–20, 2004. The cost is $200. For more information contact: Amy Maroso, project coordinator, 452 Grainger Engineering Library Information Center, 1301 W. Springfield Ave., Urbana, IL 61801; phone: (217) 244-4946; fax: (217) 244-7764; e-mail: maroso@uiuc.edu; URL: images.library.uiuc.edu/project/IDI/.

Distance learning: Disaster plans
SOLINET has developed a Web-based workshop, “Developing a Disaster Plan,” which allows remote participation. The workshop will be offered in three two-hour segments on February 18, March 10, and March 31, 2004. It will cover plan structure, information gathering, risk assessment, resource list development, setting recovery priorities, recovery procedures, plan development, and working with disaster recovery vendors. Participants will be assigned homework between segments, and may submit a completed plan for review at the end of the workshop.

The workshop costs $135 for SOLNET members or $185 for nonmembers. Early bird discounts and late registration fees apply. For more information, please contact Vanessa Richardson, 1438 West Peachtree Street NW, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30309-2955; phone: (800) 999-8558; fax: (404) 892-7879; e-mail: vrichardson@solinet.net; URL: www.solinet.net.

Digital preservation
The National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) at the Library of Congress has mounted “It’s about time: Research challenges in digital archiving and long-term preservation” on the NDIIPP Web site. This is the final report of a conference sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Library of Congress on April 12–13, 2002. Chaired by Margaret Hedstrom of the University of Michigan, the conference considered priority areas for research into models, methodologies, and tools for long-term preservation of digital information.


A*CENSUS
The Archival Census and Education Needs Survey in the U.S. (A*CENSUS) has begun. The working group, charged with designing and implementing the survey, held its first meeting on November 14–16, 2003, in Chicago. A*CENSUS is intended to define who today's archivists are and how they are working with their collections, to determine the knowledge and skills they need both now and in the future, and to provide data to support recruitment and training of new archivists. The working group intends to reach everyone who works with archival materials in the United States, and will seek the participation of all archival associations, as well as organizations in related fields. The survey is scheduled to occur during Spring 2004.

For more information, contact Debra Mills Nolan, meetings director, Society of American Archivists, 14 Bay Tree Lane; Tequesta, FL 33469; phone: (561) 745-6812; e-mail: dnolan@archivists.org; URL: archivists.org.