

Provost Tracy Remarks at WPA Celebration, Wednesday, September 5, 2012, 1:30 p.m.:

Good morning and welcome to the University of Kentucky. I am pleased you could join us here in the William T. Young Library to celebrate an occasion that vividly demonstrates what can be accomplished by the partnership and collaboration of multiple institutions.

UK Libraries, like research libraries across the United States, is facing unprecedented challenges to provide access to an ever increasing amount of information in a manner that meets the needs of our students, faculty, researchers and citizens. Even as we focus on the current research and scholarship, as a research university we also accept the challenge of preserving our history and culture.

It is always very satisfying to join a celebration marking the conclusion of a successful undertaking like the completion of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) leadership grant. I offer my thanks to UK Libraries and the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) for building a Center of Excellence for WPA publications here at the University of Kentucky.

It is my great pleasure to welcome the Archivist of the United States, David Ferriero, to our campus, and thank him for taking time out of a very busy schedule to be with us today.

I would also like to thank John Burger, Executive Director of ASERL, for participating today and for his leadership in this very important initiative.

Again, welcome to all of you and I hope you enjoy today's program.

Thank you.

David Ferriero will discuss the National Archives

Panel:

- John Burger will discuss role played by UK in the Assoc. of Southeastern Research Libraries' IMLS grant to test the concept of Centers of Excellence for specific federal agencies
- Heath Martin, Director of Collections for UK Libraries, will discuss WPA collection building process at UK and its effect on larger collection issues at UK
- Dr. Tracy Campbell, UK history professor of Co-Director of UK Libraries Wendell H. Ford Public Policy Research Center will review role played by WPA in Kentucky's history
- Bill Creech, WPA specialist at National Archives will discuss WPA records held by the National Archives, especially those related to Kentucky, and how they are used