



Chair's Corner

Terri Clark, NALIT Chair, Director of Technical Services of the Kansas State Legislature

With most of our legislative sessions wrapping up, it's time to consider opportunities for training and professional development during the interim.

The Executive Committee has planned a very successful agenda for the upcoming Legislative Summit in Chicago. I've found the high volume of sessions available at the Summit can be a little overwhelming, so I use the NCSL event mobile app to help manage my schedule. The event app was upgraded last year, and has been upgraded to be faster and easier to use. I use NALIT agenda as the base for my personal agenda, then add other sessions to it.

In September, look to the NALIT Professional Development Seminar (PDS) to build on your technical skills in application and infrastructure technologies, as well as exploring relevant policy issues. We'll also spend most of a day touring the Indiana Capitol, with demonstrations of their systems.

I would like to recognize the time and effort many people have invested in planning both of these events, in addition to their regular jobs. The Executive Committee tackles the NALIT agenda at the Legislative Summit, in addition to the regular business of our group. The PDS planning committee, with Jeff Ford and his team, are planning an exciting four days in Indianapolis this September.

The third committee I'd like to recognize is the XML Standards Workgroup. This group is still getting oriented, but just reviewing the Akoma Ntosa documentation is a daunting task.

AKOMA NTOSA ("LINKED HEARTS" IN THE AKAN LANGUAGE OF WEST AFRICA) DEFINES A SET OF SIMPLE TECHNOLOGY-NEUTRAL ELECTRONIC REPRESENTATIONS IN XML FORMAT OF PARLIAMENTARY, LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIARY DOCUMENTS.

I deeply appreciate the professionalism and dedication of everyone involved in NALIT, especially Pam Greenberg, our NCSL liaison. Pam does a tremendous job shepherding us through the event planning process.

My reading list this summer: "Disrupt Yourself" by Whitney Johnson. A quick read and a practical guide to moving into new thought patterns and practices to bring a little disruptive innovation into your life. That's a lot of buzz words, but I've found the ideas useful in all areas of my life.

"Peak Performance" by Brian Elms and J.B. Wogan. Denver's Mayor Michael Hancock initiated a program to empower employees and create an innovative environment. In four years the Peak Academy program saved Denver \$15 million by teaching employees how to make small, impactful changes. This book has not been released yet, will have to let you know if it lives up to the advertising!

—Terri Clark

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NALIT Meetings: Register Now!

NCSL Legislative Summit

Make your plans now to attend NCSL's 2016 [Legislative Summit](#) in Chicago and the NALIT Professional Development Seminar in Indianapolis for the best professional development opportunities for legislative IT staff.

The Legislative Summit offers great keynote speakers and opportunities for professional development and soft skill building. Join us in Chicago for a welcoming NALIT Dutch treat dinner and informative sessions for IT staff, including:

- Making the Most of Mobile.
- Protecting Legislative Data: Wherever It Is.
- Staffing for Cybersecurity.
- Seismic Demographic Shift: Generations and the Office.
- Cybersecurity Showdown: Challenges and Strategies for States

NALIT also will recognize award winners and elect NALIT officers at the annual NALIT Business Meeting. All legislative IT professionals are welcome. Check out the [NALIT Summit agenda](#) for more information.

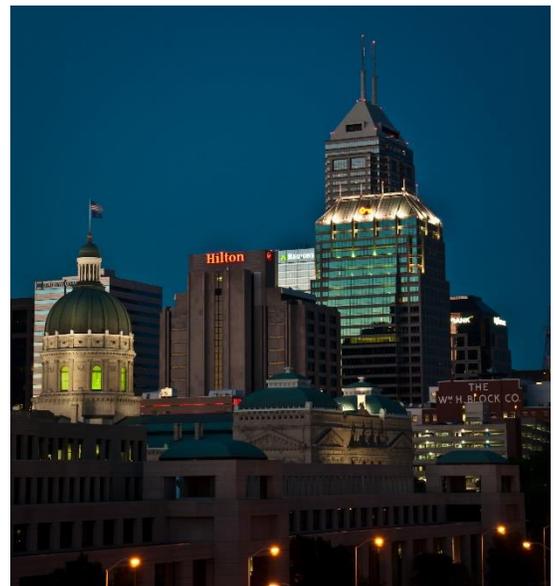
NALIT BUSINESS MEETING AND BREAKFAST

In Chicago, be sure to attend the annual NALIT Annual Business Meeting on **Tuesday, Aug. 9, from 7:30 to 8:45 a.m.** At the meeting, NALIT members will elect new officers, recognize the winners of the NALIT Legislative Staff Achievement and Online Democracy awards and consider other business of the association. All NALIT members—legislative IT professionals who serve the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths and territories—are welcome.

NALIT Professional Development Seminar (PDS)

If you want to discover innovative applications and gain new ideas and skills, come to the [NALIT Professional Development Seminar \(PDS\)](#) to meet new colleagues and reconnect with friends from other states. Watch for announcements as your seminar planning committee and Indiana hosts plan exciting and informative tours, briefings and social events for the NALIT Professional Development Seminar in Indianapolis. Plans call for a packed [PDS agenda](#) covering a wide range of topics, such as:

- From Data to Insights: Data Management Tools.
- Smooth Streaming: Webcasts and Webinars.
- Services for External Access to Data and Pros and Cons of APIs.
- Why Would I Work There? IT Recruitment and Training in the Legislature.
- Wireless Management and Security.
- Tours and briefings at the Indiana State House and a taste of Indiana lunch.



Downtown Indianapolis (Photo courtesy of VisitIndy.com)

Legislative IT Profiles

In the Winter 2016 edition of the NALIT Newsletter, we began a series of articles profiling legislative IT offices, beginning with profiles of Alaska, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. This edition includes profiles for Colorado, Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee and Virginia.

Colorado Legislative Information Services

By Manish Jani, Information Technology Director

Colorado's legislature convenes every year for no more than 120 calendar days as per the state constitution. Article V section 7 of the state constitution declares that the general assembly shall meet in regular session no later than the second Wednesday of January of each year. The general assembly shall meet at other times when convened in special session by the governor or by two-thirds of each house.

The capitol is in the mile high city of Denver. The 13th step on the western side of the gold domed capitol building has a brass disc marking the elevation at exactly 5280 feet (1 mile) above sea level.

THE 13TH STEP ON THE WESTERN SIDE
OF THE GOLD DOMED CAPITOL BUILDING
HAS A BRASS DISC MARKING THE
ELEVATION AT EXACTLY 5280 FEET (1 MILE)
ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

The Colorado House of Representatives has 65 representatives while the state Senate has 35 senators. The legislators are supported by six professional legislative staff service agencies:

- House of Representatives
 - Non-partisan front desk and house services staff, partisan caucus staff
- Senate
 - Non-partisan front desk, and senate services staff, partisan caucus staff
- Legislative Council
 - LIS (Legislative Information Services) is part of this agency and as are the research/committee staff, fiscal

analysts, economists, accountants, constituent services, printers and visitor services.

- Office of Legislative Legal Services
 - Drafting and publication services, revisor of statutes, legal counsel and legal editors.
- Joint Budget Committee
 - 16 budget staff supporting the Joint Budget Committee to formulate the state budget.
- Office of State Auditor
 - Performance, financial and IT auditors.

In all there are about 250 full-time staff with about 40 session-

only staff. Legislators are allowed to have aides for a set number of hours.

Like most other state legislative IT offices, LIS is responsible for the entire gamut of end-to-end IT services. LIS

provides services from first touch with desktop support, to custom application development, to server/network infrastructure support and management. LIS consists of 18 people. The support team is made up of a support manager in charge of three system/network administrators and three desktop/helpdesk technicians. Additionally, 1.5 project managers, one Business Analyst and seven programmers complete the applications team. We are also in the process of hiring a QA analyst. The IT director reports to the Legislative Council director. LIS is split across two buildings, the capitol and the adjacent legislative services building. The legal and audit staff agencies have an IT

National Association of Legislative Information Technology (NALIT)

NALIT Officers:

Chair: Terri Clark, Kan.
Vice Chair: Linda Wettstone, Senate, Va.
Secretary: Kyle Forster, N.D.
Past Chair: Joel Redding, Ky.

National Conference of State Legislatures, 7700 E. First Place, Denver, CO 80230 | 444 North Capitol St., N.W., #515, Washington D.C. 20001

person each to support their specific technology needs. While they do not come under the purview of LIS, they work closely with the central IT team.

Our server environment is primarily Windows servers on HP hardware, virtualized using VMware and on EMC storage. The network hardware is mostly Cisco for Cisco VOIP and wireless, mixed in with some HP network gear. The wireless in the legislative complex has three wireless LANs, one for the public, one for staff and one for members with varying QoS standards.

All staff and legislators are provided with the same model of HP laptops for ease of support and inventory. Some staff, such as administrative assistants, have desktops. Members also get iPads. These iPads are managed using the Airwatch MDM solution. Additionally, members may also use their personal laptops and iPads registered on the legislative wireless network.

The system administration team currently is working on the disaster recovery infrastructure to improve the recovery time and recovery point. The support team is focused on doing a complete PC refresh for all staff and members after four years. All Senate committee rooms are being renovated this interim to match the historical nature of the building. Taking advantage of this construction, we are completely redoing the audio video in these rooms with digital equipment and telephony gear to support remote testimony. The iLegislate iOS app for members also has a web version which is being completely rewritten using react.js and Play using java and scala.

The largest project currently in progress is a complete redo of the legislative website and moving the website to the Drupal platform. Existing legislative service agency websites currently siloed, are being consolidated into a single website. The website user experience is moving from being organizational-structure

centric to being user oriented. The new website is targeted for launch in late summer.

On another note, our staff economists needed help with extracting statistical data from various federal and other economic websites, scrubbing the data, storing in a centralized location and creating reports. This was done by LIS using SQL Server Reporting Services and R language. Additionally, an exploratory team is working on identifying an XML editor to replace the existing WordPerfect editor for the bill drafting system.

There are a number of other applications and projects in sustenance mode. That's all for now! If you happen to visit Denver in the future, please stop by, we would love to connect with our fellow legislative brethren. <http://www.leg.state.co.us>

Kentucky Office for Computing and Information Technology

By David Coles, Network Administrator & Engineering Manager

The Kentucky General Assembly consists of 38 Senators and 100 Representatives. The General Assembly convenes on the first Tuesday after the first Monday each January. In even-numbered years, the session must adjourn by April 15. In odd-numbered years, the session must adjourn by March 30.

The Kentucky Constitution limits Regular Sessions to 60 legislative days in even-numbered years and to 30 legislative days in odd-numbered years. Regular Sessions are held annually and Special Sessions are called at the discretion of the Kentucky Governor.

The Legislative Research Commission (LRC) was established in 1948 as a fact-finding and service body for the Legislature and is governed by a **16-member panel** consisting of the Democratic and Republican leaders from the **House of Representatives** and the **Senate**.

The LRC is administered by a full-time LRC director who presides over a staff of researchers, fiscal analysts, attorneys, information technology, librarians, secretaries and others who provide expert services to the legislators.



The LRC's IT environment is managed by the Office for Computing and Information Technology (OCIT) and serves all 138 members of the Kentucky General Assembly as well as staff. There are about 400 full-time, year round members of the LRC staff. During legislative sessions, OCIT staff serve more than 500 legislative staff members. Offsite support is also provided to the Office of Education Accountability and Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission.

LRC's 30 IT staff is managed by our CIO along with a Deputy CIO (who is also in charge of programming and web development), and three area managers for networking, service and support, and geographic information systems. OCIT staff members support all hardware and legislative applications during the session and the interim, including PCs, IRC chamber voting and video systems, server environments and training and support of Microsoft Office Professional suite.

The LRC utilizes Microsoft Active Directory, Microsoft SCCM, SQL, and hosts our own Exchange email services. OCIT supports BYOD for mobile devices and provides PC's to legislators and staff.

Kentucky is preparing to host the 2016 Southern Legislative Conference, which is one of the largest regional events of its kind, in July. LRC's OCIT staff was heavily involved in writing applications over the last few months to support transportation, youth and guest programming, and all conference-wide social events.

For more information on the Kentucky Legislature, please visit our webpage: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov>



Ohio Legislative Information Services

By Kurt McDowell, Director

The Ohio Legislature is a bicameral legislative body comprised of a Senate with 33 Senators and a House of Representatives with 99 Representatives. Elections to the Senate and House of Representatives are held in even-numbered years with terms of office beginning on Jan. 1 of the odd-numbered year following the election. Senators are elected to four-year terms with approximately one-half of the 33 Senators being elected every other year. Representatives are elected to two-year terms and the entire membership of the House is subject to election every even-numbered year.

LIS IS GOVERNED BY A STEERING COMMITTEE THAT INCLUDES THE LIS DIRECTOR, THE SENATE CLERK, THE HOUSE CLERK AND THE LSC DIRECTOR.

The General Assembly convenes on the first Monday of January in odd-numbered years and meets during a two-year biennium that is divided into two annual regular sessions. Once convened, neither house may adjourn for more than five days, excluding Sunday, without the consent of the other house. Thus, the Ohio Legislature meets year round with multiple breaks throughout the biennium. The Governor or the presiding officers of the General Assembly may convene the General Assembly in special session by issuing a proclamation. Special sessions are called for specified purposes, and no other business may be conducted by the General Assembly during a special session.

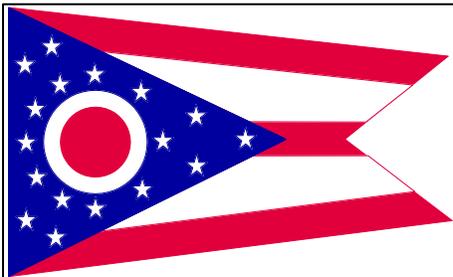
Legislative Information Systems (LIS) serves the Ohio General Assembly and the legislative agencies by providing computer network services, telephone services, development of new or improved computer applications, and computer education and training services. In addition to the legislative members, LIS also supports approximately 200 House staff, 150 Senate staff, 190 Legislative Service Commission (LSC) staff, and 80 staff of other legislative agencies. The LIS director functions as the General Assembly Chief Technology Officer (CTO). The CTO acts to improve cooperation, standards conformity, and security in all General Assembly IT organizations. LIS employs 21 full time

staff and is divided into an Applications Group (Developers and Business Analysts), Engineering Group (Network Administrators and System Administrators), and Support Center (Support Technicians). Both the House and Senate have independent IT departments that provide Client and Desk side support for caucuses and, in the Senate, server support for caucuses. LIS is governed by a steering committee that includes the LIS Director, the Senate Clerk, the House Clerk, and the LSC Director.

LIS uses Citrix for remote connectivity, so the legislature is device agnostic which allows members and staff to connect with any device that Citrix supports. However, each committee room is stocked with enough iPads for every committee member and staff to use to access a custom app to view committee meeting materials. The iPads are set up before each meeting and then returned to a special storage unit at the conclusion of the meeting. Members are also supplied with a laptop at their desk in each Chamber for use during floor sessions.

Current projects underway include continued development of our State of Ohio Legislative Application Repository (SOLAR) system. SOLAR accommodates the legislative workflow from the initial request to LSC, through the committee process and floor sessions, until the bill is ready for the Governor to sign. Components in the system include a committee management system, chamber interface, assignment tracking system for LSC use, bill drafting application, and legislative interface for use during floor sessions in the House and Senate. LIS is also working to update the electronic rule-filing system that is used by executive branch agencies to file administrative rules. LIS is also finalizing a network infrastructure upgrade that includes network switch and VMware host upgrades. The major benefit to this upgrade is the General Assembly will have a true disaster recovery site.

For more information on the Ohio Legislature and LIS, visit www.legislature.ohio.gov and www.lis.state.oh.us.



Tennessee Legislative Information Services

By Vinay Dattu, Director

The Tennessee General Assembly opens session each year at High Noon on the second Tuesday of January. On Jan. 10, 2017, we will begin the 110th General Assembly. Each General Assembly runs for two years and business not concluded in the first session may be continued in the second session. Tennessee's constitution allows for 90 paid session days to be split between the two sessions. There is no requirement on how to split the days between sessions and the legislature may meet more than 90 days in a General Assembly but they are only paid for the 90 session days.

OUR NETWORK AND DESKTOP STAFFERS
ARE PLANNING FOR THE MOVE OF ALL
OFFICES FOR THE ENTIRE LEGISLATURE TO
A NEW FACILITY IN 2017.

We have 99 state Representatives representing an average of around 64,000 citizens each. Tennessee also has 33 state Senators whose districts are roughly three times the size of a House district. Legislative staff (including the 132 legislators) goes from roughly 450 people out of session up to 550 during session.

A General Assembly will open with the previous assembly's officers. New officers are elected by the body and then the General Assembly will go into an organizational session to set committees and leadership roles. Usually a two week recess follows the organizational session to allow time for office moves, staff changes and equipment set-up. Regular session will follow. Tennessee requires that the legislature pass a balanced budget each year and, usually, once this is done, the year's session will wind down.

Tennessee's legislative staff is organized in three main sections—House staff, Senate staff and Joint staff. The House staff groups are the Chief Clerk's office, Engrossing Clerk's office, House Research staff and, finally, the staffers serving individual legislators. The Senate staff is organized the same

way with the Chief Clerk's office, Engrossing Clerk's office, Senate Research Staff and staff groups for individual senators.

Joint staff sections are non-partisan. These include the Legislative Administration office, Legal Services, Legislative Budget Analysis, Fiscal Review, Facilities Management, Minority Affairs, Internship Program, Black Caucus and Legislative Information Systems.

Legislative Information Systems, LIS for short, is a non-partisan organization dedicated to serving the computer needs of the legislature. LIS consists of an overall director and three main functional groups—desktop support, network and development. The desktop team consists of a manager and four desktop support specialists. This team handles the day to day needs and questions of the legislators and their own support staff. The network team, one manager and two administrators and a SQL dba, is responsible for design, implementation and maintenance of our Windows-based network. The development team of one manager/developer and four developers is tasked with creating, maintaining and supporting the internal applications used by the legislature and its staff organizations in day-to-day operations as well as maintaining the Legislature's external website.



The network staff oversees a Windows network of 60 virtualized servers running on the VMWare platform, 650 individual workstations (whether desktop or laptop PCs), 20 networked copiers, 60 networked printers, 150 iPads (issued to legislators) and a number of cell phones issued to key staffers. Network infrastructure is nearly 100 percent Cisco.

The desktop support staff not only assist the legislative support staff on questions with Microsoft Windows 7 and Office 2010 products but also serve as the first line of support for questions about the in-house legislative applications.

The development staff is responsible for the applications used by both the legislators' support staff and the internal staff groups. Our in-house grown and maintained applications take legislation from conception to completion with each step along the way recorded for display in both our internal applications and on our external website.

Currently, we have two large tasks in progress. Our network and desktop staffers are planning for the move of all offices for the entire legislature to a new facility in 2017. This will entail a build-out of a completely new network and datacenter infrastructure. The development staff is working on a five-year project to refresh and replace the existing database structures and the in-house applications used by our staff. <http://www.capitol.tn.gov>

Virginia General Assembly

By Linda Wettstone, Senior Systems Analyst, Senate; and Troy Adkins, Network Administrator, House of Delegates

The Virginia General Assembly meets annually, beginning on the second Wednesday in January, for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 30 days in odd-numbered years, with an option to extend the annual session for a maximum of 30 days.

The present Constitution, which became effective in 1971, provides that the House of Delegates shall contain 90 to 100 members and the Senate shall have 33 to 40 members. Both houses presently have maximum membership. The terms of office are four years for members of the Senate and two years for the House members. The Governor may call a special session when it is deemed necessary or advisable, and must do so when petitioned by two-thirds of the members of both houses. A reconvened session is held on the sixth Wednesday after adjournment of each regular or special session for the purpose of considering governor's recommendations and vetoed legislation.

All members of the Virginia General Assembly and their legislative assistants are supported year round by the respective Senate and House IT offices. While in session, IT training and support is provided to various session staff including Administrative Assistants, Committee Clerks, Constituent Services, Support Services and Interns. In the Senate and House, approximately 650 personnel (Senate 250, House 400)

are supported during session. During the interim, members and their legislative assistants are assisted with state-owned hardware and legislative and email applications. The interim IT support is done off-site and can be usually be resolved over the phone, while the hardware can be mailed or dropped off to us in our office if repair is needed. In Virginia, the IT staffs do not support the caucuses.

Areas of Support

The Senate IT department has five full-time employees. The department provides support of the Senate's in-house Chamber voting system, Senate electronic calendar, Senate electronic docket system and end user support while the Senate is in session. During the interim, the focus of the department is on application development, audio-visual equipment systems, document imaging, network solutions, publications and hardware maintenance. The Senate supports BYOD, as well as providing iPads to Senators. Desktop computers are also provided to Senators and legislative staff. The computers remain in their respective legislative office. The iPads are used by Senators to reduce paper by providing access to electronic calendars, committee dockets, bills and resolutions. Some current Senate IT projects:

- Updating and replacing hardware for the voting system.
- Evaluating computers, iPads, iPhones and peripherals for possible upgrade.
- Application development.
- Redesigning network and hardware infrastructures for the renovation of the General Assembly Building.

The House of Delegates IT department has eight full-time employees and one part-time employee. The House IT department provides all technology and chamber support for the House of Delegates. It includes help desk, network infrastructure, hardware, application development, A/V & telecommunications and meeting support. The House supports BYOD, as well, and provides a computer and iPad to House staff. The House allows members to choose between an iPad or laptop

for mobile computing. Currently, 88 members use iPads and the remainder use laptops. Also, each member has an all-in-one desktop in their office. Some current House IT projects:

- Staff computer refresh.
- Server upgrades.
- VoIP.
- Committee voting system.
- Application migration from Lotus Notes.
- Application development.
- Redesigning network and hardware infrastructure for the renovation of the General Assembly Building.

The Division of Legislative Automated Systems has 18 full-time employees. While the Senate and House IT offices handle most of the day-to-day support of their members, this agency provides the Legislative Information System (LIS), bill drafting, electronic filing system, data center, web development and design, print production and supporting network infrastructure for the General Assembly. They also support all legislative agencies with their day-to-day computer support needs.

The respective Clerk of the Senate and House governs the IT offices; the Division of Legislative Automated Systems (DLAS) is governed by its director, who is appointed by the Virginia Joint Rules Committee. <http://virginiageneralassembly.gov>

THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS
SUPPORTED BY HOUSE AND SENATE IT
OFFICES AND A CENTRAL IT AGENCY.

While the Senate and House IT offices handle most of the day-to-day support of their members, this agency provides the Legislative Information System (LIS), bill drafting,



A System for UELMA Preservation and Security

Daniel Kruse, Systems Analyst/Programmer; Jason Duffing, Systems Analyst/Programmer; Jason Judt, Data Systems Project Manager

The Minnesota Office of the Revisor of Statutes has constructed KEEPS: a custom software solution to satisfy the requirements for preservation and security detailed in the [Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act \(UELMA\)](#). The Keep Electronic Edicts Preserved & Secure (KEEPS) system is in the testing phase and is scheduled for deployment in 2016 Q4.

UELMA Background

In Minnesota, UELMA was enacted in 2013 as [Minnesota Statute chapter 3E](#). UELMA establishes an outcomes-based, technology-neutral framework for providing online digital legal material with the same level of trustworthiness traditionally provided by paper publications. The Act requires that official electronic legal material be: (1) authenticatable; (2) preserved, either in electronic or print form; and (3) accessible. The KEEPS solution was specifically designed to satisfy requirement (2).

The UELMA requirements for preservation and security are in section 3E.07. Section 7 states that if official legal material is preserved in an electronic record, the official publisher shall:

- (1) Ensure the integrity of the record.
- (2) Provide for backup and disaster recovery of the record.
- (3) Ensure the continuing usability of the material.

System Description

The KEEPS system's primary goal is to ensure the integrity of official electronic records. The system makes backup and disaster recovery possible in several ways. The use of write once read many (WORM) disk drives and offsite tape backups created from separate document repositories ensures the continuing availability and usability of the material.

The software system was built in-house using staff programmers and existing commercial products (Figure 1). These products are: a virtual machine, write once read many (WORM) disk, a relational database, and a tape backup application. Additionally, a custom software application was deployed to the virtual machine.

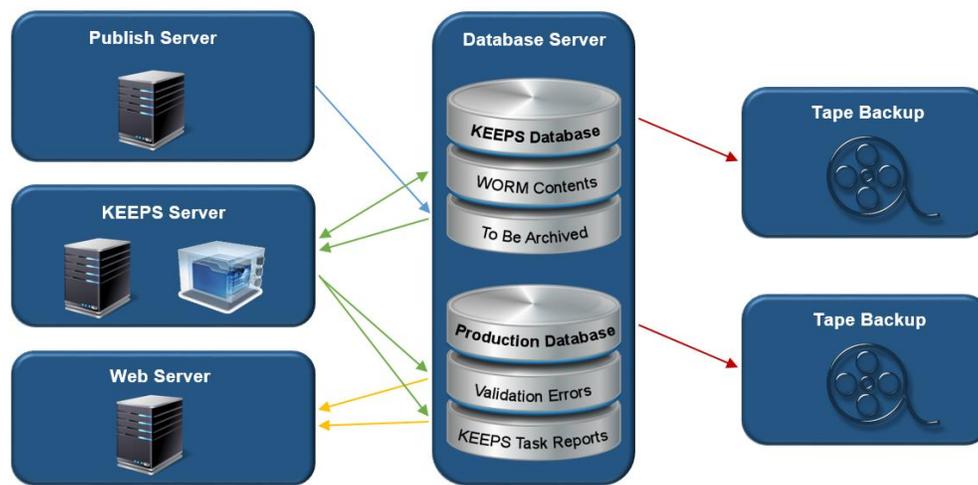


Figure 1 – System Diagram

KEEPS integrates with the legislative publishing system, a backend database, and a private intranet. The KEEPS server has exclusive access to the WORM Disk, and read/write access to the database. The web has read-only access to the database for the purpose of monitoring the system.

Write once read many (WORM) disk drives are an integral part of this system. WORM disks are essential to ensuring the integrity of the data and are the foundation around which this system was designed. The KEEPS solution will leverage [GreenTec WORM Storage Servers](#) as the hardware best suited for this system. These storage devices enforce write-once capabilities through hardware mechanisms rather than software running on a computer.

Development

The basic requirements for the KEEPS system can be summarized as:

- Preserve newly published documents.
- Catch any errors in our publically available legal material.
- Run independently of our other software without user intervention.

KEEPS Software was written using Java SE8 consisting of three primary modules (Figure 2): an Archiver that writes published UELMA-compliant documents to the WORM Disk, a WORM Contents Populator that records WORM disk contents in a database table which is used in the validation process, and a Validator that works with the database to validate the publically available legal material and populates the Validation Errors table. Each of the modules records its activity in a database table that can then be seen on an intranet page. The software is built and deployed using the Apache Ant and Ivy projects. The modules can be run at predetermined intervals or on demand and are synchronized by the Schedule Manager. The WORM disk documents and public UELMA documents are backed-up separately to tape. The tapes are stored offsite.

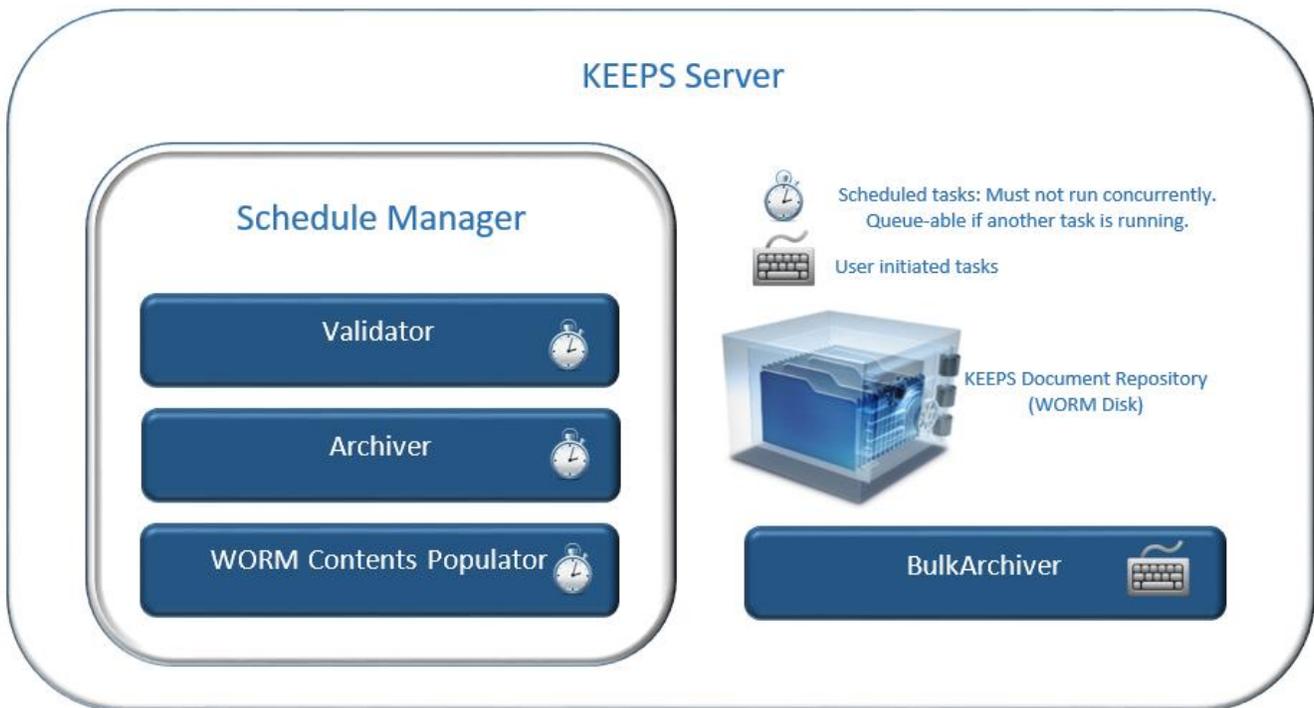


Figure 2 – KEEPS Architecture

Testing

Tests of the identified scenarios that constituted corruption or failure of the public UELMA documents system were performed. Tests covered: (1) an unauthorized document inserted into the production database, (2) a document removed from the production database, (3) changes of any type to an existing document in the production database, and (4) the inability to archive a document to the WORM disk. In all cases our validation system correctly identified the issue and reported it. Deployment is effortless and has been repeated many times to ensure the robustness of the software and the ease of installation.

Load testing was conducted on a virtual server with 4 GB of memory running Windows Server 2012 R2. For archive testing, 51,463 Minnesota Statute sections, in the form of PDF, totaling 6.3 GBs were published. Total archival time was 37 minutes. Validation testing occurs daily on 606,105 PDF documents totaling 65 GB. Daily validation completes in under 40 minutes. All load tests are considered successful in our environment.

The system is stable and has been running without programmer involvement since March 23, 2016. It handles errors gracefully and continues processing, providing detailed logs which can be used to troubleshoot issues.

“THE UNIFORM LAW COMMISSION PROVIDES STATES WITH
NON-PARTISAN, WELL-CONCEIVED, AND WELL DRAFTED
LEGISLATION THAT BRINGS CLARITY AND STABILITY TO
CRITICAL AREAS OF STATE STATUTORY LAW.”

Minneapolis, Minn. Written in PHP, it provided the basis for good estimates of the time required to validate our entire repository of legal material on a

Schedule

- Prototype: 2014-2015
 - The first prototype was developed as a proof of concept, by Stephen Segal, the Principal at System Specialties, Minneapolis, Minn. Written in PHP, it provided the basis for good estimates of the time required to validate our entire repository of legal material on a nightly basis.
- Build & Test: January–March 2016
 - The system was functionally tested as it was developed, and released to long-term testing.
- Testing: April–September 2016
 - The system is stable and running in a simulated production environment.
- Final Deployment: October 2016
 - Production environment will be completed.
 - GreenTec WORM Storage Servers will be purchased.
 - BulkArchiver will write all existing UELMA documents to the WORM Disk.
 - Archiver will write new UELMA documents to WORM Disk.
 - Validator will run daily.

Legislative Staff Coordinating Committee (LSCC) Update

By Terri Clark, NALIT Chair, Director of Technical Services of the Kansas State Legislature

The [Legislative Staff Coordinating Commission \(LSCC\)](#) oversees the legislative staff division of NCSL, coordinates and promotes the professional development opportunities, and reviews and evaluates NCSL services to legislative staff. One of the most pressing issues the LSCC has dealt with this year is the proposed merger of the Legal Services Staff Section and the Research and Committee Staff Section. Issues to consider included ensuring the interests of the members’ different job roles would be met in the future, transitioning the current officers of each group, and how this change would impact the membership of the LSCC. The LSCC voted to approve the merger, contingent on each staff section’s approval at their annual business meeting.

The LSCC subcommittees have been restructured, and assignments updated. Of particular interest to NALIT is the addition of social media, e-learning, and outreach to the Information Technology Issues subcommittee. The NALIT vice-chair has been assigned to this committee for several years. Look for details on the [LSCC webpage](#). And definitely check out the webinars and online training at NCSL’s YouTube station: <https://www.youtube.com/user/NCSLorg>.