Remarks from the Director of Library Services and Content Management, Ric Davis

FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL MEETING
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Good Morning,

I want to start by thanking all of you for joining us. It is great to be here in Buffalo where we have a long-standing partnership with University at Buffalo: State University of New York to provide the enhanced shipping list service.

While you are here I hope you get to see some of the sights. Buffalo offers a variety of tourist attractions, including the Buffalo Zoo and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. Its downtown architecture is legendary, with the spectacular Art Deco masterpiece of Buffalo City Hall towering over the lakefront. A complex system of parks winds through the city, the country's oldest such system. Niagara Falls and the Canadian border are both only an hour's drive from downtown Buffalo. Now, with all that to enjoy, I want your time with us here to be just as pleasant over the next several days.

I have a lot I would like to cover with you today, including some of the exciting initiatives going on in Library Services & Content Management (LSCM) as well as some general Program-related announcements. But fore that, I want to comment as a customer/stakeholder on GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys). Mike Wash and Selene Dalecky and their team built this system. The Library unit I manage and all of you as stakeholders helped and continue to help define requirements. Our job is to continue to tell when what we want! Let's also remember to thank them for what has already been delivered.

FDSYS

At the Federal Digital System (FDsys) Program Review that Bob talked with you about, I spoke from a voice of customer perspective in terms of key successes, issues, and opportunities for the future. I'd like to share with you my high-level points.

SUCCESSES

Ease of Search

> The FDsys capability to search across all content, the filtering capability that allows users to narrow their search, and the precise nature of the search are all top notch features of FDsys.

Metadata Files

> The MODS and PREMIS files, as well as the ZIP files that provide all format and metadata files, are convenient and beneficial features.

Authentication

> The continuation of the authentication efforts that were begun in the library unit is exactly the direction we want to head in. It is important that we continue to work with content originators as well, to ensure the chain of custody of electronic information made available when feasible.

Preservation

- FDsys is being built to handle a variety of file formats for ingest, for deposited, harvested, and converted content. Born digital materials are at particular risk, and it is critical that agencies be able to make this content available for easy ingest into FDsys, and that GPO enable this capability.
- Of equal importance, is the recognition that any content made available today will require a flexible platform to migrate and refresh this information in the future, as these formats continue to change.

XML

> The Federal Register and Code of Federal Regulations in XML, as part of the open government initiative, is also something that is extremely beneficial for us, in terms of enabling new applications to be developed in personalized and customized ways.

ISSUES

Schedules

> Understanding the challenges of setting up a world-class system such as FDsys, it should also keep in mind the importance of adhering to the deadlines for releases that we promise the user community. It is important that as timelines are put forward by the Program Management Office (PMO) in the future, consideration be given as well to the likelihood they will be met according to specific dates. Additionally, an update of the Systems Releases and Capabilities document or comparable project plan made publicly available would help show a clear plan of what is coming, with associated milestones and deliverables.

Costs

> It is important to have a detailed cost schedule for the remainder of FDsys implementation as well as an operating cost budget that can be planned for. The FDLP S&E appropriation will support the operation of FDsys in terms of providing in-scope FDLP content, just as we have done with GPO Access for the past 15 years, at approximately 2 to 2.5 million per year. It is my hope that through the automation technologies FDsys will enable as a world class system, daily operating costs incurred should actually decrease, so we can use our limited funds for other FDLP priorities.

OPPORTUNITIES

Original Requirements

> It is important that the original requirements worked on years ago be considered going forward and revalidated with the business units at GPO and the library community. Additionally, it is important to demonstrate to the library community and other stakeholders a checklist that maps the requirements to what has been actually implemented. In other words, what "features of FDsys" (e.g., access, metadata, persistent name associated with PURLS) have addressed which "requirements." We should be able to "check-off" on each requirement and state it was addressed in FDsys implementation.

Finally, it should be validated that all current *GPO Access* functionality continues in FDsys before this system is shut down as the system of record.

Continuity of Services

There is concern among the FDLP community that in the transition from GPO Access to FDsys that there could be legacy system failure, loss of data, service interruptions, etc. If the primary servers operating FDsys today were to fail, there needs to be an assurance that there is both a backup of all data and that service can be restored seamlessly to customers through a real-time failover to backup servers.

Integration of Legacy Applications

As we look ahead, it is important that legacy applications map to FDsys in the future. Of particular interest is establishing metadata crosswalks with the Integrated Library System (ILS) and the FDLP Desktop search capability, along with ensuring touch-points with other internal systems as appropriate. Wouldn't it be nice to eventually see a single search interface for all applications that are GPO related?

Digital Dissemination of Access Content Packages for FDLP Digital Depository

While having a repository of content available at GPO is critical, there are opportunities to facilitate the availability of digital collections in libraries. Some in the FDLP community have expressed strong interest in having Access and/or Preservation level files digitally deposited in FDLP libraries.

Next, I want to discuss activities in my unit, Library Services and Content Management (LSCM).

BIENNIAL SURVEY/NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The 2009 Biennial Survey was combined with a needs assessment as part of the work that we contracted with Outsell, Inc. to accomplish. The needs assessment was developed to help gauge the level of satisfaction with services that we provide to depositories and to determine future GPO actions to better support depository needs.

We have received a preliminary draft of findings from Outsell, Inc., and a summary of those findings will be shared with the depository community in the coming weeks.

We are reviewing the gathered data and are currently in the process of determining what actions need to be taken to better meet the needs of depositories and to increase the benefits for libraries to participate in the FDLP.

A preliminary Summary of Results for both the Segmentation Survey and the Needs Assessment can be found in the conference packets in the document entitled, "Customer Relations Program Status Report: Segmentation, Needs Assessment, & Value."

PURL ARCHITECTURE MIGRATION

Back in 1999, GPO initiated the use of persistent uniform resource locators (PURLs) to provide permanent URLs to Federal publications. In its use of PURLs, GPO identifies digital publications and resources on Federal Web sites and downloads a copy for posting to its own data repository. The initial PURL record links to the publication on host Federal Web sites. If the publication is no longer accessible on the agency's Web site, GPO staff modify the PURL and link to the copy on its own data repository.

We have awarded a contract to Zepheria, who has upgraded the PURL Server architecture and will be hosting the new solution on behalf of GPO. The new PURL architecture provides greater flexibility, new features and the scalability to face an increased demand for PURLs. We are currently in the process of migrating to this new architecture (PURLS to PURLZ.)

This transition has many benefits:

- A more robust system architecture (from a flat text database file to a SQL database);
- Immediate system back-up through synchronization;
- Immediate system fail-over (geographically separated primary and backup servers);
- Statistical reporting (PURL referral and system monitoring);
- Web referral reporting; and
- Improved speed for resolution of redirects.

The migration of the PURL database has been tested and validated by GPO. Report generation is currently being developed by the vendor. User testing continues, and GPO staff training is scheduled for May 2010. The expected date for the switch to this new architecture is summer 2010. The FDLP community will be updated as this migration progresses. I refer to this again as a "bridge of stability", recognizing that there may be additional persistent name requirements and deliverables we expect from FDsys in the future.

DIGITIZATION

GPO is embarking upon several digitization activities, pending approval by the Joint Committee on Printing. We have been working with the Library of Congress on a project to provide permanent public access to the digitized 1951-2002 volumes of the *Statutes at Large* in accordance with a specification acceptable to staffs of the Library of Congress and GPO. These volumes comprise approximately 147,000 pages of content. The Library has performed the actual conversion of the document from print to digital content via scanning and has provided GPO with the content. GPO now proposes to process it to allow for robust searching by users and content management capabilities, including creating archival as well as access copies that are authenticated. The processed content will then be made available online by GPO via FDsys, and GPO will provide the processed content back to the Library of Congress.

FDLP CONSULTANT

At the recommendation of Council, we are currently seeking library program consulting and modeling services to develop practical and sustainable models for the future of the FDLP.

This is now in the procurement process, and we will update you as this initiative progresses.

SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

We have recently been making significant progress with migration, enhanced stabilization, and fail-over capabilities for GPO legacy systems.

- The PURLs migration is progressing with a goal of having full implementation and launch of the enhanced application by early this summer.
- The WEBTech Notes migration has been completed with recent enhancements enabled for more efficient workflow processing.
- For our legacy systems such as the Lighted Bins, we have tested and enhanced our back-up and failover systems.

- Cross-training has been conducted on the maintenance of mainframe systems to ensure continuity of operations.
- We are currently doing a capability mapping based on current GPO enterprise systems for our Requirements Document that encompasses requirements for migration of the following legacy systems: DDIS, ACSIS, ADDS, Item Lister, and Amendment of Item Selections.

We are continuing to make progress on the migration of all legacy applications to current and stable hardware solutions. Funding was received for FY 2010 to begin this work and has also been requested for FY 2011 as we continue along this path.

CATALOGING RECORD DISTRIBUTION PILOT

Among the initiatives funded by recent appropriations is a project related to enhancing the services GPO provides to members of the FDLP and the public.

We have contracted with MARCIVE, Inc. for a pilot project for the FDLP. A small selection of Federal depository libraries has been chosen to participate in this pilot program in which GPO bibliographic records are being distributed from GPO's ILS to these libraries. This is a new process and workflow for both GPO and MARCIVE, Inc.

47 Libraries are participating in the GPO Cataloging Record Distribution pilot project. Participating libraries will receive approximately nine months of records. To date, two batches of records have been distributed to libraries. A community forum has been established on FDLP Community for participants to discuss issues related to the project.

At the end of the pilot, libraries may keep the records they have received. GPO will evaluate the success of the pilot and report back to the FDLP community on outcomes and next steps. GPO will take lessons learned from this pilot to look at a long-term solution for bibliographic record distribution.

A brown bag lunch is being held on Tuesday, April 27th for all who are interested in learning more about the pilot project.

PRE-1976 SHELFLIST CONVERSION PROJECT

We are continuing with the transcription of the historic shelflist. In January 2010, contract staff began work at GPO to transcribe the shelflist cards into MARC records.

The focus of the transcription efforts is currently on the Y4 SuDoc classification numbers. Over 4,500 shelflist records are currently available through the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP), and more records will be available through the CGP as the transcription continues. Shelflist records are also being distributed to depositories participating in the Cataloging Record Distribution Pilot Project.

Additionally, we completed a project to digitize over 280,000 shelflist cards. We will be issuing a Statement of Work later this year for digitizing of an additional batch of shelflist cards. The digitized images will be used for internal GPO processes, especially SuDoc classification research purposes.

INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM

We've recently made progress regarding the ILS as well:

- New ILS hardware has been received and configured.

- We are testing Aleph version 20 on the new hardware, running parallel with existing hardware and Aleph version 18.
- The contract is now in place for assistance with the MetaLib User Interface.
- We've completed authorities update processing of Library of Congress subject and name headings.
- Finally, the new FDLP login page is expected to be released this summer as well. The FDLP Login page will give you access to authenticated services in the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications. These include the setup of Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) searches whose results can be returned via RSS or email; the ability to add desired records to the Bookshelf, create folders to organize and store them, and save them across sessions; the option to save to the authenticated users' local PC; and the option to set and save user preferences, such as number of results per page and result format.

MARKETING INITIATIVES

As a continuation of our Easy as FDL campaign, GPO has been disseminating Public Service Announcements to radio stations across the country. GPO staff have created two separate radio spots: one directed at stations on college campuses with a depository and another for public stations and for college campuses without a depository.

So far, we have over 50 college campuses with depositories airing the PSA and another 100 that we have reached out to and are awaiting reply. Outreach has just begun to disseminate the PSA for public stations.

If your depository is on a campus with a radio station or you have contacts at any public stations, please submit that information to us via askGPO. When writing in, select the category "Federal Depository Libraries" and the subcategory "Marketing Strategies/Radio Spots."

Additionally, we recently contracted with North American Precis Syndicate (NAPS). NAPS staff are working with GPO staff to disseminate informational articles about the FDLP to 10,000 print and online publications nationwide, as well as a radio spot to about 400 FM stations nationwide.

FDLP DESKTOP

The FDLP Desktop is designed to be a streamlined, dynamic, interactive, singular Web presence for the FDLP. The goal of the Desktop is to provide a centralized resource for all FDLP-related information.

Over the past several months, GPO staff have been working diligently to continue the migration of content from the legacy FDLP Desktop as well as posting new content, forms, and events.

Visit the Desktop to read the latest news, subscribe to news feeds, download documents, order promotional items, view FDLP-related tutorials, and register for FDLP events. New tools are continually being developed and integrated into the desktop.

Karen Sieger and John Dowgiallo will be on-site Tuesday and Wednesday to field any questions or comments related to the Desktop.

FDLP COMMUNITY

FDLP Community is a secure, .gov-based, social networking environment that collapses geographic boundaries for the collaborative sharing of ideas related to the world of Federal documents.

The site currently has over 450 members, and membership to FDLP Community is exclusive to all librarians participating in the FDLP.

Based on the features and stability of the site, groups such as the Depository Library Council, the Gov Doc Kids Group, and GODORT Ohio have reached out to us to inquire about migrating from their existing sites to the FDLP Community. Our staff have been working closely with representatives from these groups as we continue to enhance the site.

I encourage you to attend the session on Wednesday from 10:30 – noon, and talk to Karen Sieger and John Dowgiallo to learn more about the site and share your ideas.

PUBLIC ACCESS ASSESSMENTS

The Outreach section of the FDLP Desktop now includes information about LSCM's interaction, communication, and consultation with you about depository management activities. This includes information about our consultation services relating to depository management, spotlight articles about depository libraries, and the Public Access Assessment program.

Since last fall, PAAs have occurred in the following states:

- Arizona
- Georgia
- Massachusetts
- Mississippi
- Oklahoma
- Texas
- New Mexico

As you can see, GPO staffers are on the go. Come see if we will be in your area and learn how to request a visit from GPO staff at your library or other local event, or request a Public Access Assessment. All of this can be found on the FDLP on the Go page, located on the Desktop.

If you're interested in knowing more about Public Access Assessments, we encourage you to see the document entitled "Preparing for a PAA," linked from the PAA page of the FDLP Desktop.

Education and Outreach recently announced positions for three more outreach librarians in an effort to double our current staff. Among their duties, these staff consult about depository management practices and conduct Public Access Assessments. Kristina Bobe, recently a coordinator at a D.C. library, also joined us in February.

PARTNERSHIPS

Since last fall's conference, we have had some new developments with regard to GPO's partnerships. We developed a new partnership with the Cornell University Law Library for a year-long pilot project to evaluate a conversion process of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) into XML (extensible markup language) format. The Cornell Legal Information Institute is in the process of converting various titles into XML and will then make them accessible on the university's Web site for research. GPO and Cornell will use the lessons learned from the pilot project to find ways of providing public openness to government documents.

Partnerships with Southern Methodist University for the Historic Publications from World War II Digital Library and with the Library of Michigan for regional depository library information were renewed. The

renewal of the agreement with the Library of Michigan also brought a change to the location of the regional information which was moved off the Library's Web site and onto the FDLP Community site.

The partnership with the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) to provide electronic access to *Public Health Reports*, which was announced in September 2009, was fully implemented in January. Almost 700 depositories now have electronic access to this journal.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank several institutions that recently celebrated anniversaries as GPO partners for all their efforts to increase access to U.S. Government information.

- University of Illinois at Chicago and DOSFAN- 13 years as a GPO partner
- Louisiana State University and the List of Federal Agency Internet Sites- 8 years as a GPO partner
- Oklahoma State University and Browse Topics- 7 years as a GPO partner
- Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and FRASER- 5 years as a GPO partner

EDUCATION MODULES

Expanding upon our education and outreach mission and current work with online learning, we have begun the development of Web-based educational modules for use by the depository community. The modules will be instructional in nature and accessible from the Desktop.

The first module provides an overview of WEBTech Notes. You can learn more about this module at the LTIS Update, tomorrow at 2pm.

Other upcoming modules include the FDLP Desktop and FDLP Community user functions. As modules are completed, we will announce their availability via FDLP-L and the FDLP Desktop.

PRESERVATION LIBRARIAN

I am pleased to announce that a Preservation Librarian has been chosen. David Walls, formerly of Yale University is joining our team, beginning today. We look forward to working together on the many preservation-related issues, including working on preservation policies and procedures in LSCM and liaison activities with FDsys. In June, David will be representing GPO at the Archiving 2010 conference in the Netherlands.

TRAVEL

Recently, GPO staffers have been on the go. We have visited Massachusetts, New Jersey, Illinois, Maryland, Oregon, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, and more.

Coming up this summer, the 2010 Interagency Depository Seminar will be held in Washington, DC from July 26 – 30, 2010. Advance registration is required, but there is no fee to attend the seminar. Register now on the Desktop. Look under "Upcoming Events" for more information.

I want to thank you all once again for joining us here in Buffalo, and I look forward to yet another productive and informative Meeting.