

# Remarks from the Public Printer, U.S. Government Printing Office, Robert C. Tapella



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## FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL MEETING BUFFALO, NEW YORK APRIL 26, 2010

Good Morning,

I'm Bob Tapella, Public Printer of the United States.

Welcome to the Spring 2010 Federal Depository Library Council Meeting here in beautiful Buffalo, New York.

I'd like to thank our Council for their hard work in these challenging times. Your dedication is appreciated. And also, to all of you, thank you for your continued hard work and commitment to Government documents.

As many if not all of you know, President Obama has nominated my successor.

I am very pleased by the President's selection of Bill Boorman to be the 26th Public Printer of the United States.

Bill is no stranger to the GPO, as his career took him other places he remained a strong champion and friend of the GPO, and I hold him in the highest personal regard.

Bill still needs to be confirmed by the Senate and I plan to remain in place until his appointment and am working with him to ensure a smooth transition.

Today, I am going to update you on a number of important items of note at the GPO.

### **FY 2011 BUDGET**

It's appropriations time once again and I've testified once before both the House and Senate.

For FY 2011, GPO is requesting a total of \$166,560,000. This funding will enable us to:

- Meet projected requirements for GPO's Congressional printing and binding and information dissemination operations during FY 2011 and recover the shortfall in this account accumulated in FY 2009 and projected for FY 2010;
- Fund the operation of GPO's statutory information dissemination programs and provide investment funds for necessary information dissemination projects;
- Continue the development of FDsys and implement
- other improvements to GPO's IT infrastructure, perform essential maintenance and repairs to our aging buildings, undertake necessary continuity of operations (COOP) initiatives, and provide funding for employee retraining and workforce development.

For S&E funding specifically, we are requesting \$44,208,000 for FY 2011, and increase of \$3,297,000 over the level approved for FY 2010.

As part of the appropriations request for the FDLP for FY 2011, GPO is seeking funding to continue three specific projects funded in the appropriation for FY 2010:

**First:** \$500,000 for modernization of legacy computer systems supporting the FDLP.

These systems are essential for meeting program needs and must be migrated to current and stable hardware and software solutions.

The systems to be modernized include:

- Shipping Lister,
- Item Lister,
- Depository Distribution Information System (DDIS),
- Acquisitions Classification and Shipment Information System (ACSIS),
- and Automated Depository Distribution System (ADDS).

**Second:** \$500,000 to support the digitization of historical public domain Government publications, to be made available for permanent, no-fee public access via online dissemination by GPO.

This project will help citizens overcome barriers to public access to depository collections due to geographic distance, protect and preserve valuable information content from damage and deterioration, expand public access to Federal information resources for a broad range of educational and other purposes, and promote greater openness and transparency in the relationship between citizens and their Government.

Funding for this initiative will be directly applied to the costs of the actual digitization process for FDLP materials, pending approval of GPO's plan by the Joint Committee on Printing (JCP).

**Third:** \$200,000 for establishing performance measures and survey instruments for evaluating depository library access, collections, service, and cooperative efforts.

This data will continue to build a foundation for ongoing program assessments.

As part of the appropriations request for cataloging and indexing for FY 2011, GPO is seeking funding to continue a specific project funded in the appropriation for FY 2010:

- \$500,000 for special cataloging and indexing projects, including completing the creation of MARC21 (Machine Readable Cataloging) records for current and historic serials, and investigating a long-term solution for bibliographic record distribution. As part of this project, bibliographic records will be distributed from GPO's integrated library system to Federal depository libraries.

While I'm pushing for full funding, this is going to be a very tough budget year. Both the House and Senate have told us that flat funding is a likely outcome. Under that scenario, I am recommending that the S&E appropriations be fully funded, less some unspent prior year funds that we could carry forward and we'll absorb any funding reductions in other areas of GPO.

## **FDSYS**

Now I'd like to talk about FDsys.

For Release 1, there were five main goals:

1. Establish the foundational infrastructure;
2. Establish a preservation repository;
3. Replace the current public access site;
4. Perform a large scale data migration from GPO Access to FDsys; and
5. Provide operational continuity for the system, ensuring uninterrupted access to Federal publications

### **FOUNDATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

The foundational system is in place. The FDsys search component went live in January 2009, and the FDsys CMS component went live in March 2009.

### **PRESERVATION REPOSITORY**

The preservation repository, built on the OAIS model, went live with the CMS launch in March 2009.

### **PUBLIC INTERFACE**

The public site went live and the search component was launched in January 2009.

### **DATA MIGRATION**

Data migration began with the launch in January 2009. As of now, 29 of the 40 content collections have been completed. Remaining collections will be migrated by June 30, 2010.

### **OPERATIONAL CONTINUITY**

The Continuity of Access site will be operational by August 10, 2010, and the full system failover will be operational by December 2010.

The GPO Access to FDsys transition is in full swing, and once completed at the end of this fiscal year, FDsys will assume the role as GPO's electronic system of record.

Additionally, there were two other major FDsys projects of note:

1. A new publication, the *Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents*, was released in February 2009.
2. A pilot project for the digitized Statutes at Large was developed, demonstrating converted content preservation and access in FDsys.

On Wednesday, April 7, 2010, I convened a Program Review of FDsys.

The objective of the meeting was to receive a program status update and to discuss program successes, issues, and opportunities with key stakeholders including LSCM, the Office of the Federal Register (OFR), and representatives from the Federal Depository Library Council.

In short, we discussed about the good, the bad and the ugly!

I invited observers from all business units of GPO, our oversight committee and appropriations committee.

The following items were discussed:

- Release 1 Goals & Status
- Release 2 Goals
- Cost Summary & Analysis
- Program Risks
- Lessons Learned

Ric Davis, along with Council members John Schuler and Suzanne Sears and Mike White from the Office of the Federal Register presented. Ric will update you on his presentation in just a few minutes.

Key discussions at the Review included items such as:

- impact to the ILS when GPO Access sunsets (NONE);
- a continuity plan to recover data and rebuild the system in the event of a disaster (data is currently backed up off offsite to the Alternate Computing Facility, and the August milestone will provide full continuity of access);
- a list of tasks and schedule Release 1 completion activities (detailed task list and schedule have been created for Release 1 completion activities. Once completed, FDsys will assume the role as GPO's electronic system of record. Sunset of GPO Access is planned by the end of the fiscal year.)

The full report from the Program Review is now available at <<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsysinfo/documents.htm>>.

So, what's next for FDsys?

Release 2 planning is now underway, with the key new component being the completion of content submission capabilities.

The current system supports this to a limited extent today. Beyond submission, additional functionality will extend access functionality and data usability. A strong emphasis will be on bringing more content into FDsys.

## **TRANSPARENCY & OPEN GOVERNMENT**

In the fall, I spoke with you about the letter I wrote to President Obama laying out the ways that GPO could help support his vision for transparency and open Government, as well as digital access to much more information from the Government.

I proposed five goals that GPO is undertaking. I'd like to update you on those today.

- **First**, position GPO's Federal Digital System as the official repository for Federal Government publications
- **Second**, enable and support Web 2.0 functionality through FDsys to support comments on pending legislation
- **Third**, establish a demonstration project to apply Web 2.0 features to rulemaking documents;
- **Fourth**, participate in and lead efforts to standardize electronic publishing formats;
- **Fifth**, link the White House Web site to FDsys for public searches of Government documents.

FDsys, which is based on the concepts of interoperability and reuse, puts GPO at the forefront of the Open Government Initiative.

FDsys is making a difference. FDsys content is available in all major search engines.

In collaboration with the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the U.S. House of Representatives, the yearly virtual main edition of the U.S. Code collection was brought into FDsys in XHTML and PDF formats.

In support of OFR, XML content was developed and made available through data.gov (FR in September 2009 and CFR in December 2009).

Citizens are also finding new ways to interact with key public content through XML data, which includes sites like FedThread.org and govpulse.

Additionally, other government sites are relying on FDsys to enrich their user experience.

Regulations.gov uses FDsys metadata to power their public search, eliminating the need for OFR support.

Also, science.gov is now able to integrate GPO collections into the federated search gateway to government science information.

Looking ahead to the future, OFR and GPO are getting together a working group for creating a point-in-time system for regulatory information.

Additionally, in early summer, GPO is planning to host a meeting of experts for an authentication workshop. Experts in the fields of technology, academics, and the Federal Government will join to discuss the future of authentication and assess future needs.

GPO has worked with standard groups to create a standard markup schema for Government publications, starting with agency strategy publications.

We are also working closely with the law.gov groups where they are trying to define standard document metadata for legal materials (legislative and case law), and we continue to work with government groups, Library of Congress in particular, to develop standards for digitization and authentication.

As for a White House link to FDsys, the White House has lowered the priority for this initiative; however, GPO and FDsys are routinely cited by the White House for success in open Government initiatives.

## **FEDERAL JUDICIARY'S ELECTRONIC PUBLIC ACCESS INITIATIVES**

In other recent news, the Judicial Conference, at its March 16, 2010 meeting, approved measures that allow the Administrative Office of the United States Courts to explore how they can increase public access to court information and records. Specifically, the Conference voted to:

- Allow courts, at the discretion of the presiding judge, to make digital audio recordings of court hearings available online to the public through the Public Access to Electronic Court Records (PACER) system, for \$2.40 per audio file.
- Adjust the Electronic Public Access fee schedule so that users are not billed unless they accrue charges of more than \$10 of PACER usage in a quarterly billing cycle, in effect quadrupling the amount of data available without charge. Previously, users were not billed until their accounts total at least \$10 in a one-year period.
- Approve a pilot in up to 12 courts to publish Federal district and bankruptcy court opinions via FDsys, so members of the public can more easily search across opinions and across courts.

Court opinions are available through the PACER System free of charge, and that will not change. The pilot project to make bankruptcy and district court opinions also available through FDsys will enhance public access to those opinions.

More information on the opinion pilot will be forthcoming.

## **SOCIAL NETWORKING & GPO**

In case you aren't socially connected to GPO, I wanted to let you know where you can find us online.

Check us out on YouTube at <[youtube.com/user/gpoprinter](http://youtube.com/user/gpoprinter)>, and follow us on Twitter at <<http://twitter.com/usgpo>>.

Additionally, on March 30, GPO launched a Government Book Talk blog: <<http://govbooktalk.worldpress.com>>.

The new blog is a mix of informal, first-person reviews of Federal publications, discussion of past and present Federal content, personal stories about encounters with Government information, and updates about GPO information dissemination activities.

The blog has received almost 10,000 views so far and is another stride in informing our citizens about Government publications.

Finally, I want to take a moment to thank Lance Cummins and his staff for putting on yet another wonderful Depository Library Council Meeting.

My special thanks goes to:

- Lance Cummins
- Nick Ellis
- Yvonne Ellis
- Bridget Govan
- Debbie Smith

I hope you enjoy yourselves over the next several days, and we all look forward to the learning and collaboration that the spring meeting always brings.