DIGITAL - ONLY DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES: THE TRIUMPHS AND THE CHALLENGES

DLC 2019

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COUNCIL

SPRING VIRTUAL
MEETING
APRIL 15-17, 2019

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PANEL

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How do you become a digital-only depository?

- GPO is here to help if you decide to go digital-only.

- Who decides to go digital-only?
  - Existing FDLs who are changing their priorities
  - New FDLs

- What are the steps?
  - Consult and share information with GPO's Office of Outreach & Support (202-512-1119, fdlpoutreach@gpo.gov) and with your regional.
  - Adjust your item selection profile.
  - Make a plan for cataloging and/or providing access to online content.
  - Make a plan for providing services, including reference.
  - Weed your existing tangible depository collection (if needed).

How can you be an effective digital-only depository?

- Have a good website (or more than one).

- Have clear policies, review them regularly, and train all library staff on what they are.

- Provide superior reference services (and referrals as needed).
  - Take advantage of training and continuing education opportunities.

- Have a system in place for how you identify online resources and either catalog them or provide access to them.

- Have a system in place for evaluating the usage of your online resources.

- Continue to participate actively in the FDLP community to stay current on trends and issues.

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Surveying Current All Digital Depositories

- Items Evaluated
  - Web Page Access
  - FDLP Presence on Web Page
  - Working Links to Basic Online Federal Govt. Information
  - Contact Information

Surveying Current All Digital Depositories

- Results of Survey
  - Web Page Access
    - All 23 do have a web page but not necessarily an individual page for FDLP.
  - FDLP Presence
    - 4 Yes, 15 No, 4 Other
  - Working Links to Basic Online Federal Govt. Information
    - 12 Yes, 6 No, 5 Problematic
  - Contact Information
    - Varied Results

DLC Working Group – Digital – Only Depository Libraries
Best Practices Recommendati

- FDLP Logo – Homepage of website

- FDLP Logo – All web pages which references

   Federal Government documents

This library is a **congressionally designated depository** for U.S. Government documents. Public access to the Government documents collection is **guaranteed by public law.** (Title 44 United States Code)

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION | AT YOUR FINGERTIPS
FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

Library Staff Members are ready to assist you.
FREE Access to
U.S. Government Information

DLC Working Group – Digital – Only Depository Libraries Best Practices Recommendations *(Cont'd)*

- Links to Basic Collection
  - Budget of the United States Government
  - Catalog of U.S. Government Publications
  - Code of Federal Regulations
  - Congressional Directory
  - *Congressional Record* (daily)
  - *Federal Register* (daily)
  - **govinfo**
  - *Statistical Abstract of the United States*
  - United States Code

  - https://www.fdlp.gov/requirements-guidance/collections-and-databases/1442-basic-collection
- Contact person
- GPO visit or PSA

Loudoun County Public Library – Digital Only

- 10th Congressional District did not have a FDL

- LCPL Board of Trustees Chair introduced idea of joining

- Based on staff recommendations, Library Director decided on digital only

- Joined October 2018

Promotion and use

- https://library.loudoun.gov/federal-depository-library-program
- FDLP logo in footer of all LCPL website pages
- Link in Database and Homeschool Resources lists for Children, Teens and Adults and Site Index
- Logo stickers on 10 library branch and Library Administration doors
- Staff help customers use resources
- Web page has had very good traffic

MIDWAY UPON THE JOURNEY OF OUR DIGITAL DEPOSITORY

Loyola Chicago University Libraries' Transition to a Digital-Only Depository

- Katherine Tucker Paterson, Civic Engagement Librarian, Loyola University Chicago

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(Mostly) Recent History of Loyola's Depository

- 1966: designated a Selective Depository Library
  - Depository Library Number 0152A

- 2008: 32% selective (all print)
  - Wanted to reduce selections, focus on core collection, and catalog remaining selections in LC class
  - Strengths: Illinois, defense, print census, health, education

- 2009: 34.5% selective (1,209 print; 562 electronic; 341 other)
  - Starting to move towards electronic selections

- 2010: 12.7% selective (260 print selections; 848 electronic)
  - Wanted to weed aggressively

Recent History of Loyola's Depository

- 2014: 11.1% selective (60 paper selections; 890 electronic)
  - Annual report described collection as "under-utilized"

- 2016: Marianne Ryan hired as Dean of University Libraries
  - Almost all selections had been deselected & all offers were boxed

- 2017: Geoff Swindells hired as Associate Dean
  - FDLP Coordinator position vacated

- 2018: (0 print selections; 120 electronic)
  - Using Research Guides & Alma Community Zone Collection to accession

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The Position: Civic Engagement Librarian

- FDLP Coordinator position / Government documents librarian was left intentionally vacant for over a year (re-envisioning)
  - Weeding was ongoing during that time: part-time Government Documents Assistant
- Civic Engagement Librarian: "coordinate library programs and services that recognize and support the civic dimension of university life"
  - Also serve as depository library coordinator
  - Physically located in Congressional Archives
- First task: assess our participation in FDLP, devise a solution for providing electronic access to Government information
  - Government Documents as fully integrated, cross-disciplinary resource for students and community

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Process

- Research Phase (1 month)
  - Met with those who were familiar with our depository program
  - Discussed history & priorities with administration & others
- First One-on-One Meetings with Subject Specialists (3 months)
  - Assessed presence of Government information in Research Guides
  - Suggested improvements & changes to Research Guides & our selections
  - Discussed student & faculty use of Government information
- Back to the Drawing Board (1 month)
  - Had not settled on an approach, exploring options
- A Solution?

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Our Current Solution: WorldShare Collection Manager from OCLC

- Setup
  - Deselected anything we knew we don't want – in consultation with selectors
  - Selected missing items from FDLP basic collection
  - Sent FDLP number to OCLC

- Cost
  - Our OCLC membership includes an OCLC Cataloging and Metadata Subscription, so no additional cost

- Format
  - Can be used for print & electronic – we will use for electronic only
  - Can add public notes and choose format for records – we chose MARC

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Next Steps

Timeline
- Waiting (~1 month)
  - Takes time for selections to become active in WorldShare interface
- Checking & Assessing (~3 months)
  - Once loaded, checking records for accuracy and content
  - Assessing use of records in the catalog
- Adding & Refining (ongoing)
  - Continuing to develop collection

Goals
- Additions to Collection
  - In consultation with selectors
  - Collection Development Plan (library-wide)
- Integration into Research Guides
  - Using PURLs
  - More links to catalog where appropriate
- Curriculum & Promotion
  - Adding Government information to curriculum in multiple disciplines
  - Developing unique Government information curriculum
  - Promoting Government documents collection AND archival collections

Questions?

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OCLC WorldShare - GPO