New Librarianship Specialization in E-Government Information Services

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The [Center for Library & Information Innovation](#) of the iSchool at the University of Maryland College Park, aunched its new online MLS program in e-government and digital government, with direct funding provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Science, in August 2010. The first cohort of students live and work in a diverse number of geographies and institutions in Arkansas, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia, and Washington DC. This unique program seeks to prepare future librarians interested in careers in information organizations as specialists in digital government information and e-government services. The program prepares graduates to take advantage of the evolving range of e-government services to develop government information services that are not based in physical collections. This program is an online extension and expansion of the College's successful face-to-face [e-government MLS program](#), and will educate the next generation of government information and e-government librarians through:

- **Coursework**. The specialized coursework will serve as the intellectual and conceptual basis for the evolving government information environment.
- **Practice**. Though internships with the [Government Information Online](#) program participants, students will develop applied government information skills.
- **Scholarship**. Though inclusion in the review process of *[Government Information Quarterly](#)*, students will publish government resource reviews, contribute to furthering scholarship in government information, and learn the publication process. The project principles will also work with students to publish manuscripts in key areas of government information and e-government.
- **Professional Interactions**. By bringing students together annually to attend the Fall Federal Depository Library Council meeting, students will become integrated into the larger government information community and engage key issues in government information.

John A. Shuler and John Carlo Bertot, will raise a series of questions, observations and lead a discussion with council members and the audience on how this graduate program relates to the proposed strategic plan fashioned by the Council and the Superintendent of Documents.