

Depository Library Council

Advisory body to the Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office

Depository Library Council Meeting

October 18-20, 2021

Fall Meeting (Virtual)

MINUTES

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE:

Members serve three-year terms, beginning 1 June and ending 31May.

2019-2022	2020-2023	2021-2024
Will Stringfellow (Chair)	Renée Bosman	Jen Kirk
Laura Sare (Secretary)	Julia Ezzo	Valerie Glenn
Richard Mikulski	Jennifer Bryan Morgan	Richard Leiter
	Lisa Pritchard	Aimée Quinn
	Vicki Tate	Allen Moye

MONDAY, October 18, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The fall meeting of the Depository Library Council was called to order at 12:30 PM, EDT

II. CONFERENCE KICKOFF

- a. Will Stringfellow, Chair, Depository Library Council
- b. Hugh N. Halpern, Director, U.S. Government Publishing Office
- c. Laurie B. Hall, Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Publishing Office

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

III. KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Crosby Kemper, Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

IV. DLC PROGRAM

15 Amazing Facts about Digital Deposit You've Got to See to Believe and How They Could Change Gov Info Collections Forever

- Julia Ezzo; Government Information, Packaging, & Political Science Librarian; Michigan State University Libraries

- Robbie Sittel, Working Group Chair, Government Information Librarian, University of North Texas Libraries
- James Jacobs, Government Information Librarian, Stanford University

With more and more Government information published directly to the web, mechanisms should be in place to discover, collect, describe, and distribute born-digital material. The Digital Deposit Working Group was charged by the DLC to examine the value of digital deposit and how it applies to Federal depository libraries and the information we collect and share with our patrons. This session will present the facts, findings, and recommendations of the Digital Deposit Working Group.

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

TUESDAY, October 19, 2021

I. VIRTUAL SNACKS WITH COUNCIL

- Topic: Current Working Conditions COVID
- Facilitators: Renée Bosman, Will Stringfellow, & Laura Sare

II. VIRTUAL SNACKS WITH COUNCIL

- Topic: Promoting Collection Materials
- Facilitators: Lisa Pritchard, Jennifer Morgan, Vicki Tate, & Jen Kirk

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for these sessions.](#)

III. LSCM UPDATE

Laurie B. Hall, Superintendent of Documents, Managing Director of LSCM, GPO
 Kate Pitcher, Chief of FDSS, LSCM, GPO
 Fang Gao, Chief of Library Technical Services (LTS), LSCM, GPO
 Darryl Walker, Systems Manager, LSCM, GPO

An update was provided on major projects and initiatives underway in GPO's LSCM unit to support the FDL and Cataloging & Indexing Programs.

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

IV. DLC PROGRAM

Addressing the Unaddressed: The Significance of Tribal and Historically Black College & University FDLs

- Dana R. Chandler, University Archivist/Associate Professor, Tuskegee University
- Cheryl Ferguson, Archival Assistant, Tuskegee University
- Asteria Ndulute, Government Documents Librarian, Tuskegee University
- Todd Scudiere, Technical Services Librarian, LTS, GPO
- Celeste Welch, PhD, Technical Services Librarian, LTS, GPO

This panel discussion explored Tribal and HBCU FDLs and provided a firsthand perspective from an HBCU FDL. The panel consisted of professionals from both GPO and Tuskegee University who discussed the unique needs, experiences, and challenges of these FDLs. Additionally, the panel discussed the current status of GPO initiatives that support these unique FDLs.

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

V. DLC PROGRAM

Listening to Our Youth and Sharing Federal Information: Connecting Students with Government Information

- Aimée C. Quinn; Ellensburg, WA
- Jen Kirk, Government Information Librarian, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University
- Will Stringfellow, DLC Chair, Government Documents Coordinator, Vanderbilt University Central Library

This program covered Government information outreach to students of various age groups and education levels. Librarians shared experiences about collections, outreach topics and methods, and lesson plans for students. The presentation explored outreach for three different education groups: middle and high school, undergraduate, and graduate students.

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021

I. VIRTUAL SNACKS WITH COUNCIL

- Topic: News from Your State
- Facilitators: Jen Kirk, Rick Mikulski, & Allen Moye

II. VIRTUAL SNACKS WITH COUNCIL

- Topic: Civic Engagement Literacy Opportunities in Your Communities
- Facilitators: Aimée Quinn & Richard Leiter

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for these sessions.](#)

III. DLC PROGRAM

No More Paper, No More Books: A Practical Overview of the Transition to a Digital Depository

- Kathryn Bayer, Senior Outreach Librarian, FDSS, LSCM, GPO
- Renée Bosman, Government Information Librarian, Davis Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Valerie Glenn; Head, Map and Government Information Library; University of Georgia

- Alice Wei Sherwood, Government Documents Coordinator, Houston Public Library

This session outlined the process of moving toward an all-digital or mostly-digital depository. From the initial conversations with your regional librarian and GPO, to the practical details of refining your item selection profile, weeding your physical collection, and planning for ongoing service as a depository focused on online resources. Panelists discussed all aspects of the transition and they offered multiple perspectives: those of two regional librarians, selective depository coordinators, and an FDLP outreach librarian.

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

IV. **DLC PROGRAM**

CGP of the Future

- Stephen Kharfen, Supervisory Librarian, LTS, LSCM, GPO
- Elizabeth McDonald, Technical Processing Librarian, University of Memphis Libraries
- Jennifer Morgan, Government Documents Librarian, Jerome Hall Law Library, Indiana University Maurer School of Law
- Will Stringfellow, DLC Chair, Federal Depository Coordinator, Vanderbilt University Central Library
- Patricia A. Duplantis, Systems Librarian, Systems, LSCM, GPO

It's been more than 15 years since the *Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* (CGP) was launched. Recently, GPO's LSCM received funding for a "next generation CGP." During this session attendees shared what features they would have in their ideal online catalog or discovery tool to best serve them and their library patrons. The session provided excellent feedback to help plan the new catalog

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this session.](#)

V. **DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING**

Call to Order – 3:30 PM by Will Stringfellow

Roll Call – Council: Will Stringfellow (Chair), Laura Sare (Secretary), Rick Mikulski, Julia Ezzo, Vicki Tate, Jennifer Morgan, Renée Bosman, Lisa Pritchard, Aimée Quinn, Allen Moye, Jen Kirk, Richard Leiter, Valerie Glenn

STANDING ITEMS

A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE DLC SPRING 2021 MEETING

Secretary Laura Sare presented the minutes of the spring meeting, April 21, 2021. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. Laura Sare moved to approve them, and Rick Mikulski seconded. Council voted and approved the

minutes. <https://www.fdlp.gov/file-repository/outreach/events/depository-library-council-dlc-meetings/2021-meeting-proceedings/2021-fall-federal-depository-library-conference/handouts-slides-1/5012-depository-library-council-virtual-meeting-minutes-1>

B. ELECTION OF NEXT COUNCIL CHAIR

Jennifer Morgan nominated Lisa Pritchard, Aimee Quinn seconded. Jen Kirk moved to close the nominations. Allen Moye seconded. Lisa was recognized as Chair-elect.

WORKING GROUP REPORTS & UPDATES

a. Collection and Discovery Services

DLC Members: Jennifer Morgan (Chair), Will Stringfellow, Vicki Tate, Valerie Glenn, Richard Leiter

GPO Members: Laurie Hall (FDO), Cindy Etkin, Fang Gao, Stephen Kharfen

Community Members: Michael Maben, Beth Downing, Stacy Fowler, Elizabeth McDonald.

Charge: “To assist in coordinating the thoughts, research, plans, and efforts related to cataloging and metadata and expanding and enhancing discovery and access services GPO provides to the depository community and stakeholders; and to engage the depository community in these processes. The Working Group was established at the request of GPO in the fall of 2019 and is a standing working group.”

Jennifer Morgan updated everyone on the Charge Summary of the working group to assist in coordinating the thoughts, research, plans, and efforts related to cataloging and metadata and expanding and enhancing discovery and access services GPO provides to the depository community and stakeholders; and to engage the depository community in these processes. Highlights include meeting more frequently, holding an open forum at Spring and Fall 2021 DLC conferences and projects such as the National Catalog Project Registry and a LibGuide.

Next steps for the group are the Report to Council of lessons learned from the open forums and to create a FDL community to connect libraries using the same ILS as well as providing educational/training programs.

b. Digital Deposit

DLC Members: Robbie Sittel (chair), Julia Ezzo, Will Stringfellow, Vicki Tate

GPO Members: Lisa LaPlant, Jessica Tieman, Cindy Etkin (DFO)

Community Members: Heather Christenson, James Jacobs

Charge: “To explore current and future needs related to digital deposit - both dissemination of content and acceptance of content by GPO. The working group was

established as a result of a DLC recommendation from their fall 2018 meeting. Work will be completed in spring 2021.”

Julia Ezzo reported their group was formed to explore current and future needs related to digital deposit - both dissemination of content and acceptance of content by GPO. Highlights include focus groups on how librarians found or reported uncatalogued government publications. A pilot project was conducted to look for unreported publications. Interviews with librarians were held to visualize digital deposit.

Next steps include recommendations to Council and to submit the final report and sunset the working group.

c. Exploring the Durability of PURLs and Their Alternatives

DLC Members: Will Stringfellow (Chair), Renée Bosman, Rick Mikulski, Laura Sare (Secretary), Allen Moye.

GPO Members: Ashley Dahlen, Alec Bradley, Cindy Etkin (DFO)

Community Members: Shari Laster, James R. Jacobs, Alicia Kubas, Robbie Sittel

Charge: “Since March 1998 GPO has used Persistent Uniform Resource Locators (PURLs) to provide federal depository libraries (FDLs) and other parties stable URL access to online federal information. Due to changes in library collection policies, advances in technology, and an increase in the amount of born-digital and digital-only federal information, along with an increased interest in some depositories becoming mostly or all digital depositories, Council created a working group to investigate the durability of PURLs and their alternatives and to present findings and recommendations to Council for consideration.”

Will Stringfellow reported this working group was created due to changes in library collection policies, advances in technology, and an increase in the amount of born-digital and digital-only federal information, along with an increased interest in some depositories becoming mostly or all digital depositories. Council created a working group to investigate the durability of PURLs and their alternatives and to present findings and recommendations to Council for consideration. This group has multiple subcommittees working on several projects. Highlights include conducting focus group sessions, creating a literature/background information document, creating a State of PURLs at GPO document, continued research on persistent identifiers (PID)s. The PID Principles subgroup was created this year and drafted principles. The working group has started to draft the Final Report.

Next steps include submitting Final Report to Council, draft and submit recommendations to Council and upon completion of these two items, sunsetting the working group.

d. Long-term Impacts of COVID-19 on FDL Access, Collections, and Services

DLC Members: Rick Mikulski (Chair), Lisa Pritchard (Secretary), Aimee Quinn, Allen Moye, Richard Leiter

GPO Members: Lara Flint, Abigail McDermott, Cynthia Etkin (DFO)

Charge: “This working group will examine the practices, policies, and procedures enacted by FDLs since March 2020 as they adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic, and it will assess the long-term impact of these efforts at the institutional and national level. It will examine pandemic practices, policies, and procedures enacted by FDLs and the GPO relating to services, procedures, collections, staffing, etc., and it will assess whether such policies may or should continue into the post pandemic era.”

Rick Mikulski reported the group will be conducting surveys and focus groups to collect information and create a report or white paper to document needs and supports that arise out of the pandemic and potentially make recommendations to Council and GPO. They are currently creating a literature review, sources for data, and drafted a question for the GPO Biennial Survey.

Next steps are to analyze the 2021 Biennial Survey data, collect additional data as needed and report findings at Spring 2022 DLC meeting.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, FEEDBACK ON WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Valerie Glenn asked about working groups working on final reports. Digital Deposit will be by the end of this year. Collection and Discovery Services will have the final report in time for the Spring 2022 Spring Meeting. PURL group is hoping for the end of the year, but Spring meeting at the latest. COVID expects this will be a multi-year working group and will not have data until early next year, they do not have a sunset date built into their charge.

Community member asked for clarification on the COVID-19 question in the Biennial Survey. Rick explained that this question will be on future surveys as well, so the question is more about what changes were made for COVID and what are still continuing now. For example, items selection profiles, or weeding, are these procedures being impacted. Cindy Etkin (GPO) also said the data could be used to show how the FDLP maintained access and services during the pandemic.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF CONFERENCE AND POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FALL 2021 MEETING

Will Stringfellow highlighted the Tribal/Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) FDLs session as informational and was concerned about the lack of internet access for Tribal communities. He wondered about how a move to digital deposit would impact these libraries and how will these communities be served. He wondered if there

were ways to support these FDLs that might have different needs than other FDLs. Richard echoed the need for internet access and to support that effort. Aimée cautioned a move to digital only because the internet is affected by geography, especially out west and where Native Americans have tribal lands, she wanted to hear ideas to address this issue. Allen Moye wondered if a private foundation or corporation could help fund this. Jennifer Morgan agreed but also wanted to have subject expertise and technological expertise, information literacy is needed as well. Lisa Pritchard recognized the GPO liaison that goes to the tribal library conference to outreach to these communities. Lisa wondered if there could be a similar project like the current GPO cataloging project to target assistance to these libraries. She also suggested doing a listening tour of these FDLs to see what areas of need should be targeted. Will Stringfellow asked if Council could recommend to GPO for the GPO Director or DFO (Designated Federal Official) to create a subcommittee, working group, or other entity to investigate and address potential needs, challenges, and issues related to Tribal and HBCU FDLs. Lisa seconded. The motion passed.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, FEEDBACK FROM THE DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COMMUNITY

Sarah Erekson asked if FDLs in the territories would be included in this recommendation. Ronnie Joiner suggested to get feedback from non-FDL Tribal libraries as well. Bernadine Hoduski encouraged participants to make funding efforts to get ALA to create an award for this work.

Sarah Erekson asked if in-person conferences would occur next year. Laurie Hall said they are looking at in-person options for Fall 2022 and will depend on hotel availability and the COVID situation.

Aimée Quinn thanked GPO for all their work on organizing this conference.

This session closed at 4:30 PM.

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for this meeting.](#)

DLC WRAP-UP AND CLOSING REMARKS

Working Group Reports

a. **Collection & Discovery Services** – Jennifer Morgan – Highlights are the Spring and Fall Open Forums, drafting report on lessons learned from Spring forum, potential future educational or training resources. Next steps include final reports on the Spring and Fall Open Forums and develop an ILS educational program/resource to serve community needs.

b. **Digital Deposit** – Julia Ezzo – Highlights include Focus groups, Unreported Publications Pilot Project, and conducting interviews for visualizing digital deposit. Next steps include drafting recommendations for Council, writing the final report, and sunseting the working group.

c. **Exploring the Durability of PURLs and Their Alternatives** – Will Stringfellow – Highlights include Focus Group sessions, Review of the State of PURLs at GPO, Literature Review/Background Information draft was completed and will be part of the report. Continued research on persistent identifiers (PID)s. The PID Principles subgroup was created this year and drafted principles. Started to draft Final Report. Next steps include submitting Final Report to Council, draft and submit recommendations to Council and upon completion of these two items, and sunsetting the working group.

d. **Long-term Impacts of COVID-19 on FDL Access, Collections, and Services** – Rick Mikulski – Highlights included creating a charge to form this new working group and recruiting members. They are creating a literature review and are identifying data sources and drafted a question for the Biennial Survey. Next steps include evaluating data from Biennial Survey, examine new literature on this topic in general, report to Council findings at the Spring meeting.

Council Highlights: 2021

Created COVID-19 Working Group

Council reviewed and provided feedback to GPO on the upcoming Biennial Survey, on the FDLs Relinquishing their Designation (SOD-DGD-1-2021), Regional Depository Libraries Online Selections (SOD-PPS-2021-1), and the LSCM Pilot Projects.

Council also had multiple open forums with the community.

Will Stringfellow congratulated all the working groups on all of their hard work this past year. He reminded everyone Collection and Discovery Services is the only ongoing working group the PURL and Digital Deposit are due to sunset soon.

Council Action Items

Submission of working group reports and possible recommendations to Council from: Digital Deposit, Exploring the Durability of PURLS and their alternatives, Collection and Discovery Services working groups.

Council Recommendation to GPO for the GPO Director or DFO (Designated Federal Official) to create a subcommittee, working group, or other entity to investigate and address potential needs, challenges, and issues related to Tribal and HBCU FDLs.

Open Forum – Will Stringfellow asked for questions from the community.

Bernadette Johnson asked if conferences would become hybrid, Laurie Hall answered that GPO will continue to record sessions so people who miss them can still keep up to date.

Laura Tolliver pointed out the need for very detailed behind the scenes "how to be a government documents librarian" and all the things that go into taking on this new role. Rick Mikulski recommended the recorded FDLP Academy webinars were extremely

helpful when I first became a docs librarian. The coordinator certificate training program (will be offered in the spring of 2022) is also excellent. Will Stringfellow also recommended to reach out to her regional coordinator and just any other coordinator for tips and tricks as well. Lisa Pritchard recommended the Help! I am an accidental Gov Info librarian. <https://nclaonline.org/Help!-Webinars>. Kathy Bayer recommended having this textbook around: <https://libguides.fdlp.gov/beyond-fdlpgov/textbooks>. Mary Ries proposed that Council consider having a formal mentoring program for new coordinators. Kathy Carmichael noted there are a number of FDLP LibGuides which provide information which are helpful to newer coordinators, such as the FDLP Coordinator Calendar, FDLP Content and more at <https://libguides.fdlp.gov/?b=p>. Valerie Glenn mentioned that documenting decisions/procedures is really helpful for future coordinators. Aimée Quinn posted the FDLP Guide for new librarians <https://libguides.fdlp.gov/information-for-new-depository-coordinators>.

Shawn King asked with the phasing out of microfiche tangible items, will there be some guidance or learning session on withdrawing microfiche collections if that is what libraries decide to do? Not saying that is in the plan but just wondering. Laurie Hall said GPO plans to have a series of webinars to deal with this change and to look at FDLP news alerts for these. Arlene Weible was not sure Regionals are going to be able to maintain comprehensive tangible collections of Congressional material without a MF option ... expectations for Regional collections will really need to be clarified as MF phases out.

Alicia Kubas pointed out that in addition to fiche, it would be helpful to better address other formats that are even more obsolete like floppies or VHS. This would help regionals if they could weed VHS and floppies. Laurie Hall responded that GPO has a project going in with obsolete formats, David Walls is heading up a new project. David Walls explained one of the outcomes of our task force on obsolete media is how we can provide access and preserve the content of the media online, such as on govinfo, or point to the site where the agency has migrated it, or if the content on the item is not recoverable, then provide guidance on what can be carefully discarded so that we can save some copies hoping for a solution when future technology may provide a solution.

Andrea Morrison would like to see more outreach at the state level from FDLP officials and Council members. It really raises the profile of the depository libraries. For example, speaking at conferences, etc.

DeAnn Isenhower asked about plans for future print documents. Laurie Hall said they will distribute print if agencies and Congress get GPO to print them and as long as libraries still request them.

Jennifer Morgan said the Serial Set PDF files in **govinfo** are very large, and suggested smaller PDF files (B&W scans) that are more useable. Beth Downing noticed that some of the reports and documents in **govinfo** are not included in the lists of reports and documents (i.e., budget materials that are in a separate silo). Jennifer noted some of her faculty prefer to read docs in print -- easier on the eyes. But PDFs are good for

searching for a particular language. Suzanne Ebanues said pages are scanned at 8-bit greyscale. Only pages with color ink are scanned in 24-bit color. The digitization specs from LC are available at <https://www.fdlp.gov/about-fdlp/23-projects/4473-digitizing-the-united-states-congressional-serial-set>. Suzanne is the contact for digitized Serial Set questions, sebanues@gpo.gov.

Susanne Caro asked if there are currently any best practices for weeding/ preserving/ converting obsolete formats? If not-anyone want to write them?

Vicki Tate noted that when given a choice of materials online vs MF, no one wants MF. Paper vs Online, these are what people are preferring either/or.

Phyllis Johnson asked about keeping ERIC microfiche titles that are not online. Laura Sare replied her library keeps the ERIC microfiche that are not online, because they cannot be digitized due to copyright limitations.

Mary Ries wondered how the trend to e-documents will impact attorney requests for print due to legal requirements.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CHAIR-ELECT

Will Stringfellow congratulated Lisa Pritchard as the next DLC Chair starting in June 2022.

Next Depository Library Council Meeting will be April 11 – 12, 2022 (online/virtual).

Laurie Hall asked to make a few closing remarks. She thanked everyone for presenting and attending. She reminded everyone to please fill out the survey with links to recordings that will be coming out in an email after this session. For this conference we had 855 registrants. She also asked people to please visit the poster sessions and that the BINGO winners will be hearing from GPO shortly. Will thanked GPO for all their hard work and thanked the community for their efforts.

Adjourn

Chair Will Stringfellow adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m. EDT.

[Recording, slides, closed captioning transcript, and chat log for the DLC Wrap Up and Closing.](#)

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Sare
Secretary, Depository Library Council