

Depository Library Council

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

Depository Library Council Meeting

April 11-12, 2022

Spring Meeting (Virtual)

MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The spring meeting of the Depository Library Council was called to order at 12:01 PM, Eastern by Chair Stringfellow.

II. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

- a. Will Stringfellow, Chair, Depository Library Council (DLC)
- b. Hugh N. Halpern, Director, U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO)
- c. Laurie B. Hall, Superintendent of Documents and Managing Director, Library Services & Content Management (LSCM), GPO

During this opening session, the meeting was officially called to order, and opening remarks were delivered.

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

III. GPO Update

- Kristene Blake, Senior Advisor, GPO Task Force on a Digital Federal Depository Library Program, GPO
- Suzanne Ebanues, Supervisory Management Analyst, LSCM, GPO
- Kate Pitcher; Chief, Federal Depository Support Services; LSCM; GPO
- Jon Quandt; Deputy Program Manager, govinfo; Programs, Strategy, and Technology; GPO
- Jessica Tieman, Digital Preservation Librarian, LSCM, GPO

GPO staff provided updates on major projects and initiatives.

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

IV. DLC BUSINESS

Will Stringfellow introduced what would be covered during this meeting. Will took roll call.

COUNCIL MEMBERS 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	Allen Moye
	Lisa Pritchard	Aimée Quinn
	Vicki Tate	

*Richard Leiter (2021-2024) was absent.

Secretary Laura Sare introduced the minutes from the Fall 2021 meeting <https://www.fdlp.gov/file-repository-item/fall-2021-dlc-meeting-minutes> and moved that they be accepted. Jen Kirk seconded the motion. Eleven voted yes and one abstention for the acceptance of the minutes. Will then asked for the nomination of the next secretary. Aimée Quinn submitted Renée Bosman as a nominee, and Lisa Pritchard seconded. There were no other nominations. Council voted eleven for and one abstention for the acceptance of Renée as the incoming secretary. Her duties start in June 2022.

Working Group Reports

Collection and Discovery Services Working Group

Jennifer Morgan reported that in the Spring 2021 meeting they held an open forum and submitted a final report to Council on lessons learned. Jennifer moved that Council accept the report, Jen Kirk seconded. Eleven voted for the acceptance of the report with one abstention. At the Fall 2021 conference the working group held an open forum about a new CGP and asked the FDL community to help plan the catalog that would best help them and their patrons. They completed their report on what was learned in this forum and transmitted report to Council last week. Jennifer moved that Council accept the report, Jen Kirk seconded. Eleven voted for

the acceptance of the report with one abstention. The working group has prepared a program to review the two reports and she asked everyone to attend the next session after this business meeting.

Digital Deposit Working Group

Julia Ezzo reported that the working group submitted their final report to Council on March 25, 2022, and they have the following five recommendations:

1. The Digital Deposit Working Group recommends that GPO adopt the following definition of digital deposit: The practices, services, and workflows for the collaborative acquisition of born-digital and digitized Federal government information for the National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information.
2. As a model to inform GPO and libraries of workflows needed to implement the distribution of born-digital content, the Digital Deposit Working Group recommends the scoping and implementation of a pilot project that explores the GPO-to-Library approach to digital deposit. GPO should undertake a pilot project with one or a small number of libraries to work out the details of a digital deposit service, in particular a service where GPO facilitates the delivery of digital files to FDLP libraries. The pilot would:
 - 2.1. Use the findings from this group's interviews toward the project.
 - 2.2. Explore delivery issues (push vs pull, file types, etc.) that were brought to light by this group's interviews.
 - 2.3. Draft a high-level workflow for notification and push/pull delivery mechanisms.
 - 2.4. Document the necessary training requirements to support delivery mechanisms.
 - 2.5. Identify opportunities for technical solutions or enhancements to support delivery mechanisms.
 - 2.6. Report back to the Depository Library Council on the findings and outcomes of the processes explored in the pilot project.
3. GPO should take steps to outline a vision of how policy, coordination, and support for digital deposit could fit in with current and future models of the FDLP.
4. The Final Report of the Digital Deposit Working Group should be presented to the recently announced Taskforce on a Digital FDLP.
5. To address knowledge gaps related to digital deposit, notifying GPO of unreported publications, and to better develop the search skills of government information professionals, the Digital Deposit Working Group recommends the following FDLP Academy sessions:
 - Introduction to Digital Deposit.

- Reporting the Uncataloged, which would introduce the concept of uncataloged government publications and the processes for discovery and reporting.
- Explaining APIs and how FDLs can utilize govinfo.gov APIs for collection development.
- Exploring more effective searching within the Catalog of Government Publications (CGP).

Julia thanked the working group members and the depository community for their work and moved to have Council accept the recommendations. Aimée Quinn seconded. Eleven voted with one abstention for the acceptance of the final report and to consider the recommendations. Julia motioned to sunset the working group. Lisa Pritchard seconded. Eleven voted for and one abstained for the working group to sunset. Will thanked everyone on the working group for their hard work.

Exploring the Durability of PURLs and their Alternatives

Will Stringfellow reviewed activities since the Fall 2021 meeting includes continued research into PURLs and other PIDs, presentations, including two during this spring meeting, compiling findings, creating PID principles, drafting the final report, and drafting recommendations. The final report and recommendations should be finished in the next few weeks, and the submission of the final report will be at the Fall 2022 meeting, followed by a recommendation to sunset the working group.

Long-term Implications for FDLs of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Rick Mikulski presented the working group's charge and membership. This working group is still in the early stages, currently having members from only Council and GPO. Activities include compiling a bibliography for the eventual drafting a report. The group helped draft a question for inclusion in the Biennial Survey (Q6) and the group will analyze data from that question to look for trends and impacts. They hope to present preliminary findings at the Fall 2022 DLC Meeting but foresee this issue being revisited for several years as well.

Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations FDLs

Allen Moye reported this is the newest working group formed in January and the focus is on the challenges certain libraries face. At the Fall 2021 meeting a group of depository libraries who served underserved populations reported on issues they were facing. In December, Council sent a letter to Director Halpern to form a

working group, and they were charged to deliver a report to Director Halpern by March 31, 2023. So far there are only members from Council and GPO serving on this working group. Activities include deciding what types of FDLs are in the scope of serving underserved populations including historically black colleges and universities, tribal libraries, small and rural area libraries, and territory libraries. Barriers to access such as lack of broadband, and transportation issue, and lack of support of local government are some of the potential issues to explore.

Will asked if Council had any questions, and also requested anyone from the community to put questions in the chat. There were no questions.

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

V. The Future of CGP and 21st Century Technical Services: What We Learned From You!

- Jennifer Morgan, Government Documents Librarian, Jerome Hall Law Library, Indiana University Maurer School of Law
- Stephen Kharfen, Supervisory Librarian, Library Technical Services, LSCM, GPO
- Michael Maben, Cataloging Librarian, Jerome Hall Law Library, Indiana University Maurer School of Law

Last year, the Collection and Discovery Services Working Group held two open forums to discuss issues affecting the FDLP community. A lot of information, ideas, and suggestions were shared regarding technical services in the 21st century, the “next generation CGP,” and possible topics for future work of the Collection and Discovery Services Working Group. This session conveys what we learned from you.

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

VI. The Quest for Persistence: An Overview of the Challenges Associated with Ensuring Digital Content Remains Accessible

- Allen Moye, Associate Dean for IT & Library Services, DePaul University-College of Law
- Laura Sare, Government Information and Data Librarian, Texas A&M University

- Will Stringfellow, DLC Chair, Federal Depository Coordinator, Vanderbilt University Central Library

Preliminary findings and recommendations of the “Exploring the Durability of PURLs and their Alternatives” Working Group were shared.

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

TUESDAY, April 12, 2022

I. Gone Digital? An Introductory Discussion of Issues Related to Digital Government

- Renée Bosman, Government Information Librarian, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill⁶
- James R. Jacobs, U.S. Government Information Librarian, Stanford University
- Robbie Sittel, Government Information Librarian, University of North Texas Libraries
- Will Stringfellow, DLC Chair, Government Documents Coordinator, Vanderbilt University

This joint panel from the Digital Deposit and Exploring the Durability of PURLs and their Alternatives Working Groups provided a discussion of various introductory topics related to digital Government information, including: digital deposit, digital identifiers, and other issues related to digital Government information.

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

II. Retro Media: Accessibility of Removable Digital Media Formats in the University of Michigan FDLP Collection

- David Walls, Preservation Librarian, LSCM, GPO
- Catherine Morse; Government Information, Law, and Political Science Librarian, University of Michigan Library
- Margaret Grumeretz, Graduate Student, University of Michigan School of Information

- Marlaine Magewick, Graduate Student, University of Michigan School of Information

In the late 1980s, GPO began to distribute publications on CD-ROMs, connecting library patrons and researchers with new types of Government information. Today, outdated removable digital media formats, like CD-ROMs and diskettes, are still present in many constituent libraries around the country. Partnering with staff at the GPO, this student-run project aimed to assess a subset of removable digital media formats in the University of Michigan Federal Depository Library Program Collection. Successful processes for accessing these materials, alternative routes, and ultimate barriers to their use by library patrons were discussed.

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

III. DLC OPEN SESSION

- Will Stringfellow, DLC Chair, Federal Depository Coordinator, Vanderbilt University Central Library
- The members of the DLC

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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Richard Mikulski	Jennifer Bryan Morgan	Allen Moye
	Lisa Pritchard	Aimée Quinn
	Vicki Tate	Richard Leiter

Will Stringfellow held a brief update and introduced Council's recommendation and commendation from Fall 2021 and GPO's responses.

Council Recommendation:

Council recommends GPO continue to involve the Federal Depository Library (FDL) community in the development of the new Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP). We recommend that Library Services and Content Management (LSCM) pursue multiple avenues of community involvement, which may include conducting beta testing with the FDL community and soliciting

community feedback and input through various mechanisms including conducting open forums, surveys, focus groups, and other measures.

GPO Response:

GPO appreciates DLC's interest and support for the development of the next generation of the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP). GPO agrees it is important that the depository library community have the opportunity to convey their thoughts and share their ideas about the features and functionality of a new system. Incorporating user experience and feedback are important components of the system design process. We were pleased to have participated in Council's Collection and Discovery Services Working Group's open forum, "The CGP of the Future," during its fall 2021 meeting. Much was learned from that session on the needs of depository library staff as well as the needs of their users. As the next generation CGP system project gets underway, LSCM will keep the Depository Library Council, the library community, and all stakeholders informed of progress through webinars, information posted on FDLP.gov, and at sessions during the FDLP/DLC conferences. Additionally, The Systems Team in LSCM will be hosting a variety of opportunities for the community to provide feedback and input about the next generation CGP at various stages throughout the project lifecycle.

Council Commendation:

The Depository Library Council (DLC) commends the Government Publishing Office (GPO), led by the Library Services and Content Management (LSCM) and Program, Strategy and Technology (PST) units and the Law Library of Congress in their collaborative efforts to digitize volumes of the United States Congressional Serial Set, create metadata, and provide online public access to them on govinfo.gov.

GPO Response:

GPO thanks the Council for the commendation for the collaboration with the Law Library of Congress to digitize, create metadata, and provide free public access to the U.S. Congressional Serial Set through govinfo. Your commendation was shared with the Law Library of Congress. The Serial Set is an invaluable collection that tells the story of the United States as seen through the work of the Congress. It is fitting that we collaborate with our sister Legislative Branch agency, so that we will both have a complete digital collection available for free public use. Thank you, again, for recognizing this work with a commendation.

Lisa Pritchard thanked Will Stringfellow for his service as chair. Will noted that all members of Council have made contributions and he appreciated all the work everyone has done in the working groups.

Aimée Quinn asked if Council should say anything about the retirement of the Archivist of the United States. A few members thought this was out of scope of Council. Jennifer recommended a commendation for Laurie Hall as she steps down from her role as Superintendent of Documents; this was supported by several members of Council and former members of Council. Will said Council will discuss this at a later time.

Open Forum

The next part of the meeting was an Open Forum focused on getting feedback for the Task Force. Ten minutes were spent on each question and participants were asked to answer the questions in the chat. Participants were asked to respond in the context of the impact of an all-digital FDLP. Please see the chat logs, transcripts and session recordings for details.

1. STAFFING

- a. What is the impact on staffing?
- b. How will staffing levels be affected?
- c. What skills are needed?
- d. Role of FDLP coordinators?
- e. Roles of other library staff?

2. TRAINING

- a. What skills will library staff and library users/other stakeholders need?
- b. What training content, methods, and resources are needed?

3. SERVICES

- a. What changes in services can be anticipated?
- b. Services from FDLs?
- c. Services GPO provides?

4. OPERATIONS

- a. What changes in operations can be anticipated?
- b. Regionals/Selectives relationship?
- c. Internal?
- d. Ongoing/New paper materials?
- e. Legacy tangible collections?
- f. Technology and equipment needs?

5. PARTICIPATION

- a. What are the pros and cons of library participation?
- b. Why will libraries want to be in the FDLP?
- c. Will this retain current FDLs?
- d. Bring new FDLs?

6. USER IMPACT

- a. How will users be impacted?
- b. Accessibility, functionality, content?

7. COLLABORATION

- a. What types of collaborations are useful?
- b. Are new collaborations needed?
- c. What would those look like?
- d. Collaboration among FDLs?

8. Share your top one or two concerns when you contemplate an “all-digital FDLP.”

9. What are you most excited about when considering an “all-digital FDLP”?

Kelly said that new promotional items will be coming later this year.

There was a poll question related to COVID-19 and the state of FDLs that are open. A majority of respondents are open, but eleven were closed due to local mandates.

10. Describe the current staffing landscape in your library.

Many participants said they were stable, but there were many libraries who said they were short-staffed. Reasons for understaffing due to retirements, hiring freezes, or administration not filling positions when someone leaves.

11. What are you interested in or excited about in the upcoming year related to U.S. Government information or Federal depository libraries?

Answers varies between 1950 census, GODORT anniversary, FDL anniversaries, and the hope of an in person Fall Council Meeting.

12. What are some of the successes you and your library has had over the past year?

Please see the chat logs, transcripts and session recordings for details.

13. What topics or challenges would you like the Depository Library Council to address?

Please see the chat logs, transcripts and session recordings for details.

Jennifer Morgan suggested the GPO create a general glossary page on FDLP.gov. Cindy Etkin said GPO was in the process of creating a glossary.

Will Stringfellow recapped the meeting covering the election of a new secretary and the accepted working group reports. Future steps include considering the recommendations from the Digital Deposit Working Group and then sunseting that group.

Laurie Hall thanked everyone for their participation and suggestions. She asked participants to make a submission for GPO's Pilot Project 2 <https://www.fdlp.gov/project-list/lscm-pilot-projects> and reminded everyone about the fall dates for the DLC Conference October 17-19, 2022. She also said we had close to 600 registrants.

Will Stringfellow thanked Council, the GPO, and the FDL community for all the work everyone has done making sure the public has access to government information. He also reintroduced Lisa Pritchard as incoming chair and Renée Bosman as incoming secretary.

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 PM Eastern.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Sare
Secretary, Depository Library Council