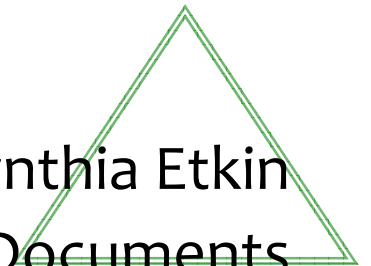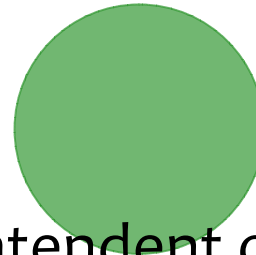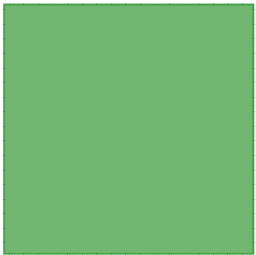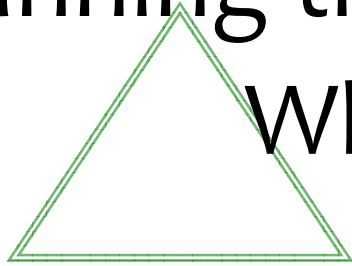# Planning the FDLP of the Future: What Shape Will it Take?

Cynthia Etkin

Office of the Superintendent of Documents

21st Annual Interagency Depository Seminar

US GPO: Washington, DC

July 31, 2008

# Words of wisdom

*"It is not the strongest or most intelligent species that will survive but the one that can best adapt to change."*
-- Charles Darwin

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*"Organizations that adapt to change while at the same time retaining their core ideology are the most successful and lasting."*
-- Collins & Porras

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*"The best way to predict the future is to create it."*
-- Peter Drucker

# Principles of Government Information

▲ The public has the right of access to government information;

▲ Government has the obligation to disseminate and provide broad public access to its information;

▲ Government has an obligation to guarantee the authenticity and integrity of its information;

▲ Government has an obligation to preserve its information; and

▲ Government information created or compiled by government employees or at government expense should remain in the public domain.
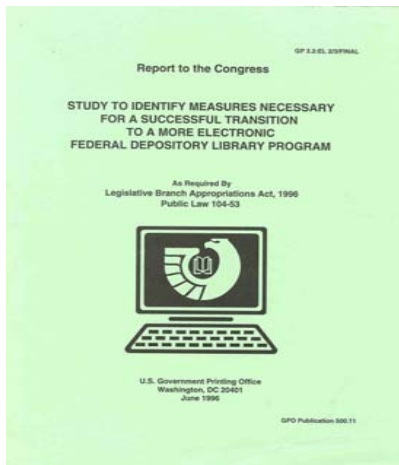
# Whirlwind of Activity
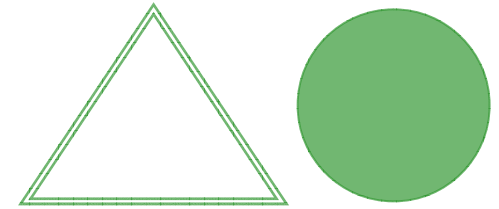
- Transition to a primarily electronic FDLP
- Systems modernization
- *Strategic Vision for the 21st Century*
- Council's *Knowledge Will Forever Govern*
- Report to the JCP on regional depositories
- FDLP strategic planning process
- Ongoing changing external influences

# We've transitioned

- 1996 : *Study to Identify Measures Necessary for a Successful Transition to a More Electronic Federal Depository Library Program* (Report to Congress)
- 5% of titles distributed to depositories were electronic – mostly CD-ROMs
- Electronic Capabilities of Federal Depository Libraries, 1994
  - 428 depositories provided public access to the Internet, including less than ½ of regionals
  - 346 depositories were hard-wired to the Internet

- Today 93% of new titles are available online, whether or not they are also available in tangible form
- 235,000 titles on GPO Access and another 60,000 titles linked from GPO Access
- All depository libraries have Internet access
- 59% of libraries are substituting online resources for tangible depository materials
- Almost 38% of depositories want to receive access derivative files pushed from FDsys

# Systems modernization

## ▲ At GPO – enterprise wide

- GPO's Federal Digital System
  - Tool to handle the life-cycle of information products
    - Ingest
    - Verify and track
    - Authenticate
    - Disseminate
    - Preserve
- GPO Oracle Program
  - Supports and facilitates the migration of legacy systems and business processes to an integrated system of Oracle software and applications

## ▲ Within LSCM

- Integrated Library System (ILS)
- Mainframe legacy applications being replaced
  - Depository Distribution Information System (DDIS)
  - Acquisitions, Classification & Shipment Information System (ACSIS)
- FDLP Desktop
  - Content management system
  - Incorporating Web 2.0 features
  - New services available
    - Events calendar
    - Discussion forums

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*Free Information, Dedicated Service, Limitless Possibilities*

# *Strategic Vision for the 21ˢᵗ Century*

▲ Released December 2004

▲ 5 of 7 goals relate to LSCM and the FDLP

- Develop a flexible digital information content system for Federal documents

- Prepare and equip GPO to provide the future services and products required by its customers

- Develop a new model for the FDLP which increases partner flexibility

- Serve the public's needs by increasing access to and the usefulness of, Federal information

- Increase the percentage of Federal documents procured by GPO pursuant to Title 44 of the U.S. Code and ensure that all pertinent documents enter the FDLP

http://www.gpo.gov/congressional/pdfs/04strategicplan.pdf

# *Knowledge Will Forever Govern*

▲ Depository Library Council's strategic vision for the FDLP of the 21st century

▲ Released September 2006

▲ 7 goals

- Respond to or anticipate U.S. citizens' need for government information when and where it is needed
- Provide access to information in appropriate formats
- Ensure continuing access to digitally available government information
- Provide training to deepen and expand knowledge of government information resources
- Provide high quality descriptive tools for access to all FDLP publications, portals, and information products
- Enhance collaboration or coordination of effort among federal depository libraries, non-depository libraries, GPO, agencies, and cultural memory organizations that deal with internet resources
- Expand awareness of both the Federal Depository Library Program and government information generally via excellent public relations and marketing

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/council/dlcvision092906.pdf

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# Report to the JCP on regional depositories

- ▲ Comprehensive study on current and projected organizational, financial, and technological conditions of regional depository libraries

- ▲ Determine how these conditions may inhibit access to depository materials

- ▲ Recommend changes to improve the Program by June 1, 2008

- ▲ JCP requested community comment on report

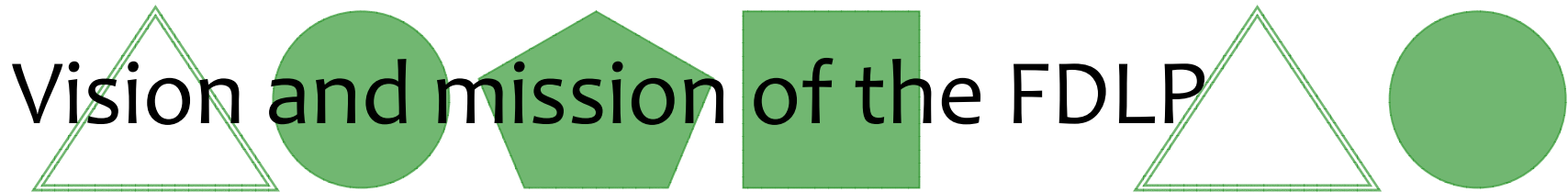- ▲ Final report submitted by the end of summer

http://www.fdlp.gov/regionals/study.html

# FDLP strategic planning process

▲ Working with the Depository Library Council

▲ Plenary session at Spring 2008 meeting to obtain input from the depository community

- Vision, mission, assumptions, ½ SWOT analysis

▲ Next steps:

- Make this material available on the FDLP Desktop
- Seek additional input from the community
- Conduct the other ½ of the SWOT analysis
- Establish goals, objectives, performance measures
- Deliver draft plan for discussion at the fall meeting of the Depository Library Council

# Vision and mission of the FDLP

▲ Vision: To provide Government information when and where it is needed

▲ Mission: To provide for no-fee ready and permanent public access to Federal Government information, now and for future generations

# Mission is achieved through

- ▲ Organizing processes that enable desired information to be identified and located;

- ▲ Expert assistance rendered by trained professionals in a network of libraries;

- ▲ Collections of publications at a network of libraries; and

- ▲ Archived online information dissemination products from GPO Access, Federal agency Web sites, and partner Web sites.

# Assumptions

- Developments in the larger library world are informing the future of the FDLP;

- Fewer Federal depository library professionals will be steeped in the FDLP or in Federal resources;

- Depository libraries must be allowed to adapt to technological and Program changes to perform their roles;

- Competencies to lead and manage the Federal depository of the future will be different than those of the traditional depository library;

- Collaboration and cooperation are essential;

- Government agencies and the private sector will continue to independently develop tools and resources to locate government information;

# A few more assumptions
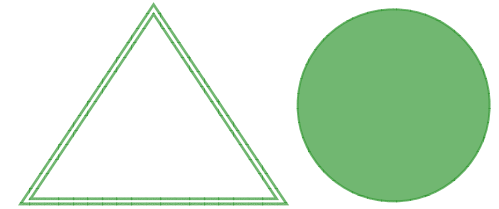
▲ Partnerships between the government and the private sector will continue to develop and increase;

▲ GPO needs to promote depositories, its resources and tools outside of the FDLP;

▲ An enhanced system is needed to ensure the persistent identification and description of Government information products available via Government electronic information services;

▲ A primarily electronic FDLP offers opportunities to make more information locally available to the public, with enhanced functionality; and

▲ As an unintended consequence of technology, the trend to shift costs from agencies to the user or to libraries will continue to occur.

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# Ongoing changing external influences

▲ Technological innovations

▲ Economy and budgets

▲ User learning and information seeking behavior

▲ Libraries are re-examining their roles, what they do and how they do it

▲ Agency publishing practices

# "The Blur"

Described as the convergence of speed, connectivity, and intangibles that creates indistinguishable lines between products and services and buyers and sellers.

# "The Blur" – service or collection





1970 National Atlas of the US
-- Oversized, 12-pound, 400+
page book, with 765 maps

# "The Blur" – service or communication

## RSS Feeds for Recently Cataloged Titles

The University of Alabama Libraries provide the following RSS feeds for recently cataloged materials. You can click on the RSS icon below beside the topic you want to view. The resulting display will not be really usable, but you can copy and paste the URL of that page into an RSS reader for future use.

### Superintendent of Documents Classes

- RSS A: Agriculture Department
- RSS AE: National Archives and Records Administration
- RSS B: Broadcasting Board of Governors
- RSS C: Commerce Department
- RSS CC: Federal Communications Commission
- RSS CR: Civil Rights Commission
- RSS D: Defense Department
- RSS E: Energy Department
- RSS ED: Education Department
- RSS EP: Environmental Protection Agency

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION Online
Ask a Librarian

A communicating service

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# So what shape will it take?



**Access to Depository Materials**
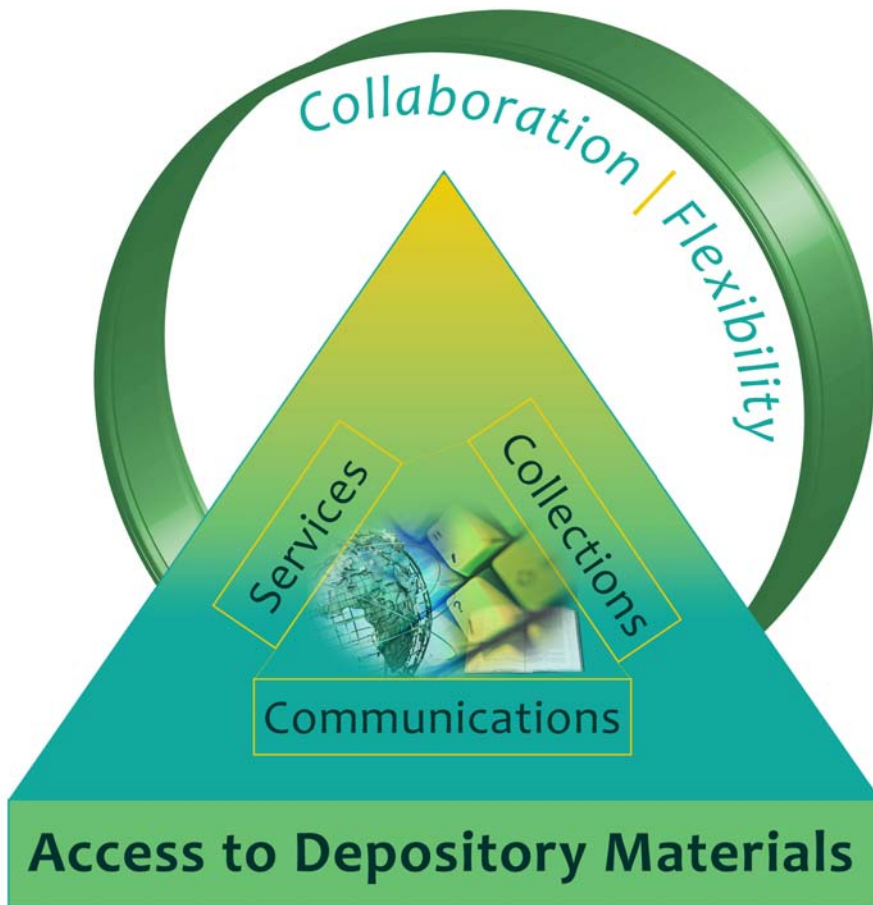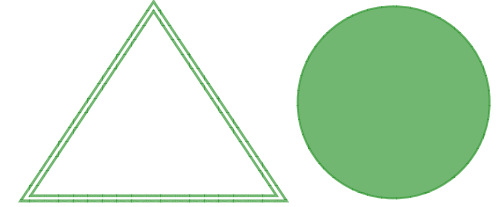
- ▲ Triangular pyramid
- ▲ Base or foundation –
  - ● ACCESS, it's all about access
- ▲ 3 faces representing –
  - ● Services
  - ● Collections
  - ● Communications
- ▲ Environment that surrounds and permeates the pyramid –
  - ● Collaboration
  - ● Flexibility
- ▲ Apex – "The Blur"

# Questions? Comments? Think of something later?

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