



HUGH NATHANIAL HALPERN
Director



May 23, 2023

Ms. Lisa Pritchard, Chair
Depository Library Council
Jefferson College Library
1000 Viking Drive
Hillsboro, Missouri 63050-2441

Dear Ms. Pritchard:

Lisa

Thank you for your letter dated March 31, 2023 transmitting the *Report and Recommendations of the Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Working Group*. I am pleased to offer the Agency's responses.

Thank you for your work on this project and please convey my thanks to the members of the Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Working Group (UCUP) for their hard work resulting in the report and the thoughtful recommendations. This effort will contribute to improving the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).

I still believe the work of UCUP is important, and upon your recommendation, its work will continue as a subcommittee of the Depository Library Council (DLC). Through the Superintendent of Documents, I directed Library Services and Content Management (LSCM) staff to move forward with the action items outlined in the U.S. Government Publishing Office's (GPO) formal responses, which are attached, and to collaborate with the DLC as work progresses.

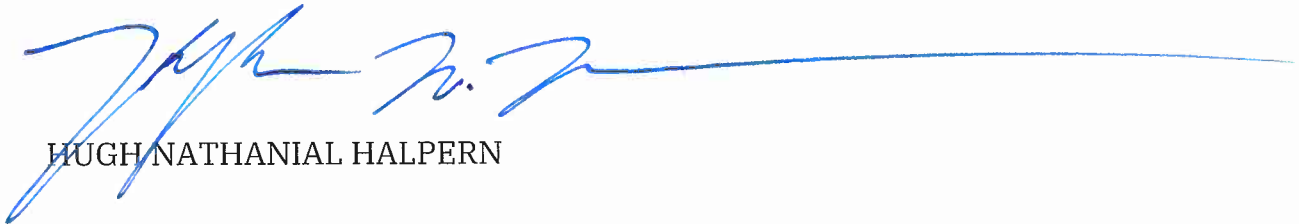
The UCUP report and recommendations, and GPO's responses, are part of the permanent record of GPO's work. They will be published on [FDLP.gov](https://www.fdlp.gov) for the FDLP community and the general public to access.

Ms. Pritchard, DLC Chair

Page 2

I realize that UCUP members have given generously of their time, and I thank them all for their work, dedication to the FDLF, and their continued guidance through the DLC. Should you have any questions about GPO's responses to the recommendations, please contact Superintendent Matheson.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hugh N. Halpern", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

HUGH NATHANIAL HALPERN

Attachment

1. UCUP Recommendations and GPO Responses

CC:

1. Mr. Scott Matheson, Superintendent of Documents

Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Working Group Recommendations and GPO Responses

May 23, 2023

Recommendation 1:

Review training resources, refresh as necessary, and develop educational resources identified in this report and resources that are targeted to particular demographics of the library segments studied.

GPO Response:

It will be part of the new FDSS training administrator's charge to work with the depository community to plan and develop focused training opportunities, such as [those identified](#) in the report of the Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Working Group (UCUP) on page 2.

Recommendation 2:

Establish a primary point of contact (POC) for depository library segments addressed in this report. The POCs should engage in outreach and they should be encouraged to attend conferences and workshops that focus on these groups.

GPO Response:

Federal Depository Support Services (FDSS) and Library Technical Services (LTS) will continue to develop and define roles for outreach to the depository library segments identified in the Working Group report. Liaison activities will incorporate outreach, guidance, and opportunities for learning and networking at conferences and workshops focusing on these library segments and their communities.

Recommendation 3:

Extend the life of the Working Group by making it a permanent subcommittee of the Depository Library Council.

GPO Response:

The work of UCUP will continue as a standing subcommittee of the Depository Library Council (DLC) with a membership not to exceed 13. A charter that describes its functions and governance will be written and reviewed every two years. The subcommittee will continue until it is determined there is no longer a need.

Recommendation 4:

Facilitate continued research and identification of segments of depository libraries by including the following fields in the Federal Depository Library Directory (FDLD):

- Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (ANNH);
- Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI);
- Rural Libraries; and
- Urban Libraries.

GPO Response:

FDSS will explore the recommended additions to the FDLD and develop a set of requirements for the identified segments in the directory. FDSS will work with the development team to incorporate this on the development schedule for GPO.

Recommendation 5:

Adopt the definitions of the segments used in this study.

GPO Response:

The definitions of the depository library segments, as used by UCUP for its study, will be adopted for use in the FDLP. Where appropriate, definitions were updated to reflect 2020 census data.

The definitions of the following library segments are in Appendix I:

- Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (ANNH)
- Junior or Community Colleges
- Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU)
- Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI)
- Rural Libraries
- Small Public Libraries
- Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU)
- Urban Libraries

Federal Depository Library Segment Definitions

Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (ANNH)

An Alaska Native-serving Institution is a postsecondary institution that receives Federal discretionary funding to improve and expand its capacity to serve Alaska Native students. At these colleges and universities, undergraduate students who identify as Alaska Native make up at least 20 percent of total enrollment. Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended ([20 U.S.C. 1059d](#))

A Native Hawaiian-serving Institution is a postsecondary institution that receives Federal discretionary funding to improve and expand its capacity to serve Native Hawaiian students. At these colleges and universities, undergraduate students who identify as Native Hawaiian make up at least 10 percent of total enrollment. Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended ([20 U.S.C. 1059d](#))

Junior or Community Colleges

As defined by [20 U.S.C. §1058\(f\)](#), a community college is an institution of higher education that:

1. Admits as regular students, persons who are beyond the age of compulsory school attendance in the State in which the institution is located and who have the ability to benefit from the training offered by the institution;
2. That does not provide an educational program for which it awards a bachelor's degree (or an equivalent degree); and that
3. Provides an educational program of not less than 2 years that is acceptable for full credit toward such a degree, or offers a 2-year program in engineering, mathematics, or the physical or biological sciences, designed to prepare a student to work as a technician or at the semiprofessional level in engineering, scientific, or other technological fields requiring the understanding and application of basic engineering, scientific, or mathematical principles of knowledge.

Depository libraries at community colleges can be identified in the FDLB by searching Academic, Community College in the Library Type field.

Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU)

The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as: "...any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary [of Education] to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation" ([20 U.S.C. §1061](#)).

Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)

An HSI is an institution of higher education that certifies to the satisfaction of the Secretary [of Education] that it meets the following criteria: An institution that has an enrollment of undergraduate full-time students that is at least 25 percent Hispanic; in which not less than 50 percent of the Hispanic students are low-income individuals (i.e., their families' taxable income for the preceding year did not exceed 150 percent of the poverty level) who are first generation college students; and in which another 25 percent are either low-income individuals or first generation college students. ([20 U.S.C. §1101a\(2\)](#) and [§1101a\(5\)](#))

Rural Libraries

Federal depository libraries are considered Rural Libraries if they are located in counties (or county equivalents) that have a rural population of 50 percent or higher, as reported in the 2020 census county data.

Small Public Libraries

The Institute of Museum and Library Services defines a public library as an entity that is established under state enabling laws or regulations to serve a community, district, or region, and that provides at least the following:

1. An organized collection of printed or other library materials, or a combination thereof;
2. Paid staff;
3. An established schedule in which services of the staff are available to the public;
4. The facilities necessary to support such a collection, staff, and schedule; and
5. Is supported in whole or in part with public funds.

The definition is found in the documentation of the Public Libraries Survey that IMLS conducts annually. It is in [Appendix F: Survey Questionnaire](#), page F-9. Small public depository libraries can be identified in the FDL by searching Public Library in the Library Type field and Small in the Library Size field.

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU)

TCUs are institutions of higher education that are controlled and operated by federally recognized American Indian tribes. They are eligible for federal funds under the Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) or the Navajo Community College Act (25 U.S.C. 640a note); or is cited in section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 ([7 U.S.C. 301 note](#)). In this Act they were authorized as Land Grant Institutions, and are specifically listed in the U.S.C.

Urban Libraries

Federal depository libraries are considered Urban Libraries if they are located in counties (or county equivalents) that have an urban population of 50 percent or higher, as reported in the 2020 census county data.