

Depository Library Council

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

DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL SPRING MEETING

May 1 – 2, 2023

MINUTES

MONDAY, May 1

1:00-2:00*

I. Call to Order

The fall meeting of the Depository Library Council was called to order at 1:05 pm Eastern Daylight Time by Chair Lisa Pritchard.

II. Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Lisa Pritchard, Depository Library Council Chair,
- Hugh Nathaniel Halpern, Director, U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO)
- Scott Matheson, Superintendent of Documents, 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. 1st Business Meeting, Chair, Depository Library Council

Business from the Secretary

- Roll Call

Renée Bosman took roll call. Council members present: Rick Mikulski, Renée Bosman, Julia Ezzo, Jennifer Morgan, Lisa Pritchard, Vicki Tate, Valerie Glenn, Jen Kirk, Richard Leiter, Allen Moye, Susanne Caro, Hayley Johnson, Amy Laub, Robert Mead, Kelly Smith.

Renée Bosman stated that we have a quorum.

- Fall 2022 Meeting Minutes

Renée Bosman introduced the minutes from the Fall 2022 meeting

<https://www.fdlp.gov/file-repository-item/fall-dlc-meeting-october-17-19-2022-minutes>. Hayley Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes and Jen Kirk

seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

** All times Eastern Daylight Time*

IV. Old Business

- DLC Fall 2022 Recommendation

Reviewed the recommendation on mentoring that resulted from the Fall 2022 meeting. It was transmitted to GPO on 12/5/22.

- GPO Response to the Recommendation

LSCM will commit services, resources, and time during FY24 to explore and research networking models. The full response can be read on the FDLP website.

V. New Business

- Letter to Director Halpern regarding Censorship

Council transmitted a letter on behalf of the depository community; several Council members surfaced this issue in a monthly call after hearing from other depositories. Council felt the issue needed a response from GPO regarding guidance on local and state ordinances and how they might impact the work of depositories. Thanks to all who reached out with questions and concerns. This serves as a good example of the work that Council does on behalf of the community.

- Depository Library Council Annual Report: 2021-2022

Council finished this report on behalf of last year's Council. We would like to reincorporate this drafting of this annual report into the regular work of Council.

- DLC Information Guide for Members

This guide is a new product of Council, suggested by Jen Kirk. It will be an onboarding guide for new Council members. Council thought it would be good to introduce it as part of the 50th anniversary celebration. It is in the final stages of formatting and will be available for incoming Council members.

- The 50th Anniversary of the DLC

Council acknowledged the 50th anniversary of DLC and recognized those who have served. A survey was sent to former members; thanks to those who responded. For those who still wish to respond, Council will continue to collect feedback and memories through the remainder of the year. These recollections speak to how important Council members' voices are. One example is the creation of the UCUP Working Group, which is working to help smaller institutions become active members of this community. Much of the work Council is doing this year has direct ties to previous work. We want to use this 50th anniversary celebration to lift up the work of Council.

VI. Election of Secretary

Jen Kirk nominated Hayley Johnson to serve as secretary for the 2023-2024 Council. Hayley agreed to serve. If there are no other nominations, we will approve by unanimous consent. Congrats, Hayley!

VII. DLC Discussion

Jen thanked Lisa for presenting new business to increase transparency of how Council operates, and show the work we have been doing.

Rob thanked Director Halpern and Scott Matheson for approving the ongoing work of UCUP. Lisa agreed and was glad that the approval was shared before the Spring meeting. Jen seconded these words of thanks and also thanked Aimée and Allen for their work chairing the group. Allen thanked the group members for their hard work; there is still much work ahead, but they are up to the task. Lisa noted that GPO has been very responsive to Council requests, such as extending UCUP, and our recommendation regarding mentorship. Lisa also thanked Renée and Jen for championing the mentorship recommendation for more formal guidance. In addition, the FDLP 101 session is a direct response to attendee questions from the fall meeting, and Lisa encouraged the community to attend.

Susanne added in Chat that the two censorship bills in North Dakota have been passed into law.

Meeting adjourned at 1:43 EDT.

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

2:00-2:15 Break

2:15-3:15 “Speaking My Language” – Providing Government Information Services in Multiple Languages” (Program of the Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Working Group)

- Alex Estabrook, Nashua Public Library (New Hampshire)
- Jane Canfield, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico
- Deborah Yun Caldwell, University of North Texas Libraries
- Kapena Shim, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Library

This program of the Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Working Group (UCUP) focused on the challenges depository libraries may face when they do not have adequate Government resources in the native languages of their community of users. We reached out to those depository coordinators who responded to our survey that they provide some kind of language services, other than English, for their patrons. Our panelists represented a range of depository libraries within the public sphere who discussed these challenges and their creative solutions.

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

3:15-3:30 Break

3:30-4:30 FDLP 101: Collection Management Basics (Program of the Collection & Discovery Services Subcommittee)

- Moderator: Valerie D. Glenn, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Vicki Tate, University of South Alabama
- Jennifer Morgan, Indiana University Maurer School of Law
- Kelly Smith, University of California San Diego
- Ashley Dahlen, Library Services & Content Management, GPO

Often, FDLP coordinators are working with outdated procedures and don't know what tools are available to help manage their depository collections. This presentation was designed to highlight some resources provided by GPO to help evaluate and manage FDLP collections. It also covered best practices for managing and weeding those collections regardless of format.

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

TUESDAY, May 2

1:00-2:00 To "Serve a Useful and Salutory Purpose": A Look at 50 Years of the Depository Library Council

- Marie Concannon, University of Missouri Libraries
- Daniel O'Mahony, Brown University Library
- Sandra Peterson (Retired), Yale University Library
- Katrina Stierholz, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Library

The Depository Library Council was established to advise GPO on the administration of the FDLP. On the occasion of DLC's 50th anniversary, councilors from the 1980s through the 2010s highlighted Council's efforts to engage the

community in order to generate meaningful recommendations. Through its ups, downs, tragedies, and triumphs, we learned a great deal about what it takes to work together effectively. Those takeaways were included in this session.

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

2:00-2:15 Break

2:15-3:00 Assessing the GovInfo User Experience

- David Walls, Library Services & Content Management, GPO
- Yian Gong, Graduate Student, University of Michigan iSchool
- Xilei Liu, Graduate Student, University of Michigan iSchool
- Zehan Ge, Graduate Student, University of Michigan iSchool
- Haoting Gao, Graduate Student, University of Michigan iSchool

A group of four students specializing in user experience research and design from the University of Michigan, School of Information, collaborated with GPO to evaluate the overall usability of GovInfo. The team utilized various UX research metrics, including user interviews, surveys, and heuristic evaluations, along with usability testing, to conduct the assessment and draw insights. Based on their findings, they made recommendations and created possible redesign prototypes for improving the site's user experience.

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

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-4:00 DLC Open Forum: Active Promotion of Digital Content

- Moderator: Lisa Pritchard, Depository Library Council Chair
- Members of the Depository Library Council

In this session, an interactive Open Forum was held on issues facing the FDLP and free public access to U.S. Government information.

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

4:00-4:15 Break

4:15-5:00 2nd Business Meeting, Chair, Depository Library Council

I. Working Group Reports

Collection and Discovery Services

Valerie shared a summary of the subcommittee charge and membership. Activities from the past year include a recommendation that GPO pursue the inclusion of CRS policy area terms in catalog records for publications. The transition from a working group to a subcommittee brings organizational and governance work to move forward. CDS presented the FDLP 101: Collection Management Basics session at the Spring Meeting yesterday and received positive feedback. They need additional subcommittee members and are recruiting two new members from the FDLP community, for a 2-year commitment. To submit a statement of interest, please contact Valerie. The subcommittee will elect a new chair in June.

Exploring the Durability of PURLs and the Alternatives

Renée shared a summary of the group's charge and membership. The group continued work on the final report and offered two recommendations to Council, ahead of the report. The first recommendation was to endorse the PID principles shared with Council ahead of the meeting, and to transmit them to the Director of GPO with a recommendation that they be adopted. The second recommendation proposed that training be offered on PURLs, including referral reports, how to create a report profile, and how the data can be used for promotion of government resources.

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

Rick stated that the group has examined and organized data from the 2021 Biennial Survey Question 6, and is drafting a white paper for Council. When finished, the complete report, data file, and R script for analysis will be made available to the community.

Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and FDLs

Allen stated that the group was charged with delivering a report to Director Halpern by March 31st. The report was submitted in early April. The group's recommendation to continue work for another year was accepted. The Working Group conducted a survey of depository coordinators from the affinity groups studied. But as the group reviewed the list of affinity-focused institutions, they realized we needed to expand the list to include additional affinity groups. The group sponsored the Spring Meeting session, Speaking My Language; the idea came from survey results that highlighted the need to translate government information

into other languages. The Working Group's next step will be to conduct focus groups.

II. Commendation

Lisa read the commendation to the Task Force, which will be formally transmitted to GPO.

III. Questions or Comments for the Depository Library Council

Q from Shari in chat, regarding community members participating in working groups: can Council consider whether to recommend that GPO provide coordination and facilitation for working groups? Aimée: there is at least one GPO staff member on every working group. Jen: the suggestion is noted, and there may be a need to structure working groups differently, or to agree to firmer expectations ahead of time. Valerie: The Task Force had dedicated facilitators that were GPO contractors, which provided more delineation of tasks. Lisa: this may have been added because of the timing of the Task Force, with an assertive deadline and dedicated resources.

Q from Charlie in Chat: she is still concerned about Selectives' participation in the FDLP in light of increasing digital demands that are less and less in alignment with institutional goals. It can be a challenge for academic libraries to continue to provide networked access for non-affiliates. This question prompted general chat discussion about providing access to physical and networked materials to community users.

Move to approve the commendation and recommendations.

Rob moved to approve, Allen seconded. Commendation and recommendations approved by unanimous consent.

IV. The 2023 – 2024 Council

Jen extended thanks to Lisa, Renée, and Rick for their service on Council.

- Officers: Jen Kirk will serve as Chair and Hayley Johnson as secretary. They will work with Lisa and Renée to transition the work of Council.
- New Council Members: term from 2023 to 2026. Welcome to Angela Bonnell, Sarah Erekson, Joshua Finnell, Angela Kent, and Gwen Sinclair.
- 2023 Fall Meeting: October 16-18, will be virtual.

V. Superintendent of Documents

Scott thanked Council members for all their efforts, and those who worked on the Task Force. The anniversary session showed the lasting impact of Council and its work. She also thanked all of the attendees and stated the hope that the 2024 Spring meeting will be an in-person event, though the virtual component will remain. GPO staff will be at ALA in June and are looking to gather information about changes they are planning. In July they will be at AALL with similar updates and in winter at the Public Library Association meeting. GPO hopes to hear from the community and would like feedback regarding what is working and what can be tweaked. Thanked departing Council members and reminded the community to consider serving on Council next time GPO puts out a call for new members.

VI. Survey

Kelly shared that an email will go out to participants tomorrow with archived material and recordings, and a link to a survey. GPO staff closely reviews the surveys to inform decisions about what to improve in the future.

VII. Thank You & Farewell from the Council Chair

Lisa thanked all of Council for their work. Many people, including community members, are working to make the FDLP a better program.

VIII. Adjourn

Adjourned at 4:54 EDT.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Bosman

RENÉE BOSMAN
Council Secretary