Government Information Librarianship Competencies

A Panel Conversation

Speakers

- Kate Pitcher, Chief of Federal Depository Support Services, LSCM, GPO
- First Panel
  - Nia Rodgers, Public Affairs Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries
  - Susanne Caro, Government Information Librarian, New Mexico State Library
- Second Panel
  - Cass Hartnett, U.S. Documents Librarian, University of Washington Libraries
  - Jennifer Morgan, Government Information Librarian, Jerome Hall Law Library, Indiana University Maurer School of Law
  - Richard Leiter, Director of the Law Library & Professor of Law, University of Nebraska College of Law
- Jen Kirk, Utah State University, Depository Library Council, Moderator

Session Description

What does it mean to be a Government information librarian? This session will discuss expected competencies in the field, identify current training opportunities, explore library school curriculum, and speak with authors who have written on the subject.

Together we will explore:

- What is the critical need for current training?
- Where are there gaps?
- What recommendations may there be for the future?

Current Opportunities

- GPO
  - [FDLP Academy](#)
  - [DOTS Training videos](#)
  - [FDL Coordinator Certificate Program](#)
- GODORT
  - [Competencies](#)
  - [Education Committee](#)
  - [Help! I'm an Accidental Government Information Librarian webinars](#)

FDLP ACADEMY
Engage and Empower through Education

FDLP Academy

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Welcome to the FDLP Academy

The goals of the FDLP Academy are to:

- Inform and educate the Federal depository library community about U.S. Government information resources.
- Assist Federal depository libraries in better serving their communities.
- Advance Government information literacy.

Through this collaboration between the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO), Federal depository libraries, and other Federal agencies, FDLP library partners and the public will be better engaged and empowered with U.S. Government information. FDLP Academy, a service of GPO, enhances U.S. Government information knowledge through:

- Events and conferences coordinated by GPO.
- Webinars and webcasts on a wide variety of Government information topics, presented by GPO, other Federal agencies, or from the FDLP community.

FDLP Academy Mission:

Create and deliver enhanced educational opportunities to the FDLP community by fostering collaboration, by facilitating knowledge sharing, and through the application of new methods and use of multiple mediums.

Current state of Government Information

First Panel

Speakers

- Nia Rodgers, Public Affairs Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries

- Susanne Caro, Government Information Librarian, New Mexico State Library

- Moderators:
  - Kate Pitcher, Chief of Federal Depository Support Services
  - Jen Kirk, Depository Library Council

Questions

- What competencies are necessary for a successful Government documents librarian or professional?

- What is the skills gap in Government documents librarianship? i.e. what types of courses, training are needed?

- Are you asked to train other library staff in navigating/searching/finding Government information?

  - What resources do you use?

- What types of continuing education programming do you look for when seeking professional development?

Library School Curriculum

Second Panel

Speakers

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- Jennifer Morgan, Government Information Librarian, Jerome Hall Law Library, Indiana University Maurer School of Law

- Richard Leiter, Director of the Law Library & Professor of Law, University of Nebraska College of Law

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Questions

- What courses or sections do you teach that are relevant to Government information librarianship?

- What are your must teach or must cover aspects of Government information?

- What is missing from LIS programs that is essential for practicing librarians?

- What types of continuing education programs would be useful in supplementing traditional LIS programs?

Fall 2023
Federal Depository Library
Conference

Open Discussion

All panelists and community – weigh in via the chat box!

Questions

- Are you asked to train other library staff in navigating/searching/finding Government information?
  - What resources do you use?
- How will a digital FDLP change or evolve current expectations?

Q & A

Please contribute questions and comments in the chat box!