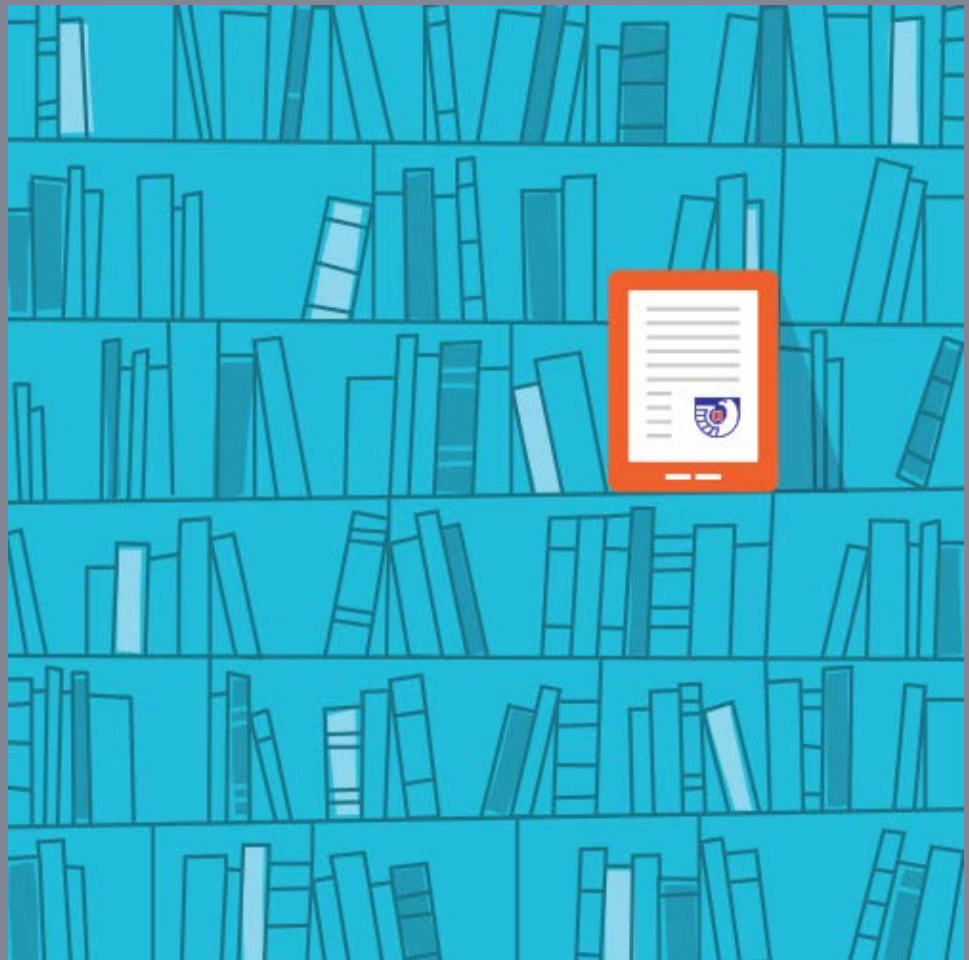


# Recommendations of the Depository Library Council to the GPO Director, Spring 2016



FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY PROGRAM

<http://www.fdlp.gov>

## INTRODUCTION

This document presents the recommendations of the Depository Library Council from the spring 2016 Depository Library Council Virtual Meeting and the U.S. Government Publishing Office's responses to those recommendations.

## ACRONYM GUIDE

- U.S. Government Publishing Office: GPO
- Federal Depository Library Program: FDLP
- Federal Depository Library: FDL
- Library Services & Content Management: LSCM
- Depository Library Council: DLC
- Catalog of U.S. Government Publications: CGP
- Federal Depository Library Directory: FDL D

## DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE, SPRING 2016

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### **Recommendation 1 – Incorporate social media outlets into Federal Depository Library Directory profiles**

Council commends the GPO for their embrace of social media as a tool for outreach to the depository community and the general public. Council also commends the work the GPO has done in soliciting news from the depository community to share on their various social media feeds, and encourages depository libraries to take full advantage of this opportunity in order to widely disseminate information about the impact they have on their local communities. Finally, Council commends the GPO for the release of their new [Federal Depository Library Program Guide to Social Media](#), which provides information on best practices and a suggested events calendar for Federal Depository Libraries (FDLs) to post to their own social media outlets.

In order to build social media connections with and between FDLs, Council recommends that the GPO maintain and share a directory of FDL social media outlets, building on the work of the Social Media Working Group posted in the [DLC File Repository](#). Ideally, this information should be incorporated into FDL profiles in the [Federal Depository Library Directory \(FDLD\)](#) so that all information about an FDL can be accessed at once; this would also provide opportunities to build social media lists by state or type of library. Council understands if the FDLD cannot be so modified at this time and would encourage the creation and maintenance of a separate social media directory until such time as the FDLD can be updated.

#### ***GPO's Response:***

GPO fully supports the addition of social media fields in FDLD profiles. This enhancement will enable patrons and other libraries to connect with FDLs via social media from one central location. LSCM staff developed requirements for social media fields for the next CGP enhancement phase. The field will be dynamic in that multiple social media types may be entered.

Specifically, the vendor shall create a field for social media type and a field for the URL, with added field options for multiples. The standard options may include: Facebook, Google +, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Pinterest, and RSS feeds. There also may be an “other” option with fillable fields for additional social media platforms and URLs.

LSCM anticipates these changes to be implemented in 2017. The directory of social media outlets created from the DLC social media survey results in 2016 will remain accessible in FDLP.gov's File Repository, but the FDLD will be the single point of access for up-to-date social media information for FDLs.

GPO thanks the DLC for their support of LSCM social media initiatives and resources.

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### **Recommendation 2 – Increase communication about the test phase and implementation of the Regional Discard Policy**

The Depository Library Council has a strong interest in the Regional Discard Policy and the important work

that the GPO is doing to implement it. Specifically, we look forward to the completion of the test phase currently underway and the resulting implementation phases. We also are aware of related plans and actions being considered by the GPO that will aid in the development and enhance the viability of a solid foundation for discards processes, including the FDLP eXchange needs and offers tool, and look forward to receiving updates on their progress as well.

Council recommends that periodic communication, both to the test phase participants and the depository community generally, be increased to regularly scheduled updates on a monthly or more frequent basis. This increase in communication will keep depository libraries informed about the Regional Discard Policy actions, developments, and guidelines to be used in determining permission to discard as well as any related projects that directly affect regional discard policies and practices.

### ***GPO's Response:***

GPO recognizes that the implementation of the Regional Discard Policy is an extremely significant initiative that requires frequent and thorough communication. In 2016, LSCM developed a Communication Plan for the implementation of the Regional Discard Policy. This Plan included communication strategies for the FDLP community, potential Preservation Stewards, the Regional Discard Advisory Group (formerly referred to as the test phase participants), the DLC, and internal GPO staff. In June, LSCM released a project page on [FDLP.gov](http://FDLP.gov) titled, "[Implementing the Regional Discard Policy](#)." This page serves as the FDLP community's one-stop-shop for all things "discard." Also in June, Acting Superintendent of Documents Laurie Hall emailed an information packet on the implementation of the Regional Discard Policy to all Regional Depository Coordinators. This packet is also available to anyone via the [FDLP.gov](http://FDLP.gov) project page. Additionally, LSCM released an informational [webcast](#) about the implementation of the Policy, as well as spoke about it to audiences at both the American Library Association's Annual Conference and the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Conference. In August, LSCM hosted two webinars related to the Regional Discard Policy. The first, a virtual discussion, was held August 2 and was focused on the role of Preservation Stewards. The second, a [webinar](#), was held on August 23 and focused on the kickoff of GPO accepting discard requests in fall 2016. Both sessions are recorded and available via the project page. There will also be significant discussion of this topic at the fall 2016 DLC Meeting and FDL Conference.

As the implementation process continues, LSCM will continue to communicate with the FDLP community through FDLP News and Events email and RSS messages, the [FDLP.gov](http://FDLP.gov) project page, FDLP Academy webinars, and correspondence from the Acting Superintendent of Documents.

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### **Recommendation 3 – Set dates for future DLC Meetings**

Council commends the GPO for the overwhelming success of the 2016 Spring Depository Library Council Virtual Meeting. The feedback we received from the virtual attendees about the meeting itself was very positive; many people commented on how lively and engaging the sessions were with most of Council in the same building. Having the opportunity to meet with the Library Services and Content Management (LSCM) staff both formally and informally during our time at the GPO was enormously beneficial as well. Much of the credit goes to the LSCM staff and all of their hard work in accommodating an on-site meeting on such short notice; we thank them profusely for all of their efforts.

We are delighted that the GPO plans to use this meeting structure as a model for future Spring Depository Library Council Meetings, in conjunction with the more formal Fall Depository Library Council Meeting and Federal Depository Library Conference. Not only will this allow Council to return to a semiannual face-to-

face meeting schedule, incorporating a virtual component in both the Spring and Fall Meetings will ensure that all members of the depository community can attend and participate in Council sessions regardless of whether or not they attend in person. We recommend that the GPO work with Council to set the dates for future DLC Meetings so that all interested parties have the opportunity to plan their schedules in advance.

GPO's Response:

GPO appreciates the positive words from the DLC regarding the success of the spring 2016 DLC Virtual Meeting. The GPO staff recognizes the importance of developing a structured annual meeting and conference schedule to ensure that members of the FDLP community have significant advance notification of future FDLP events. In July 2016, LSCM [released](#) the dates of both the spring 2017 DLC Virtual Meeting and the fall 2017 DLC Meeting & FDL Conference.

In an effort to streamline the planning process for future events, LSCM will aim to schedule all spring Virtual Meetings for the Wednesday – Friday following tax day (April 15). LSCM will aim to schedule the fall DLC Meeting & FDL Conference for the Monday – Wednesday following the Columbus Day holiday. While LSCM will strive to consistently follow this schedule, it is important to note that budget and staff issues could impact future events.

LSCM will inform the FDLP community of concrete future event dates as soon as they are confirmed via the FDLP News and Events email and RSS service.

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### **Commendation 1 – Commending Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish for her service to the FDLP**

The Depository Library Council commends Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish for five years of exceptional service to the Federal Depository Library Program, to the depository community at large, and to our country. During her term as Superintendent of Documents, Mary Alice worked to expand the authenticated collections available in FDsys, expanded education and outreach programs to better serve and learn from the depository community, and obtained approval from the Joint Committee on Printing to allow regional Federal Depository Libraries more flexibility in managing their collections. But it is the National Plan for Access to U.S. Government Information that will serve as her legacy. This framework document, which sets and supports the strategic direction of the Library Services and Content Management business unit of the U.S. Government Publishing Office, will ensure that the corpus of federal government information will remain permanently and publicly accessible for this and future generations.

Mary Alice's influence extends beyond her passion and advocacy for government information and the depository community. Throughout her career, she has encouraged numerous depository coordinators and librarians – including many current and former Council members – to get involved in various organizations and projects devoted to improving access to government information. Many of these librarians have gone on to serve as leaders in our field and become passionate advocates in their own right, a testament to the impact that Mary Alice has had on our community over the years.

As a longtime champion of the library community and government information, it is appropriate that Mary Alice ends her career on such a high note. Due to her visionary efforts, the Federal Depository Library Program is rapidly moving forward to meet the needs of its 21st century users, and the depository community is eagerly anticipating working with the GPO to realize its possibilities. For this and all she has done for the Program and our community, Council extends a sincere and heartfelt thank you to Mary Alice Baish, the 23rd

Superintendent of Documents, and wishes her a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

***GPO's Response:***

The staff at GPO echo the DLC's commendation of Mary Alice Baish and thank her wholeheartedly for her service and countless contributions to the Federal Depository Library Program. Thank you, DLC, for this special recognition of our nation's 30th Superintendent of Documents.