Traditional Model
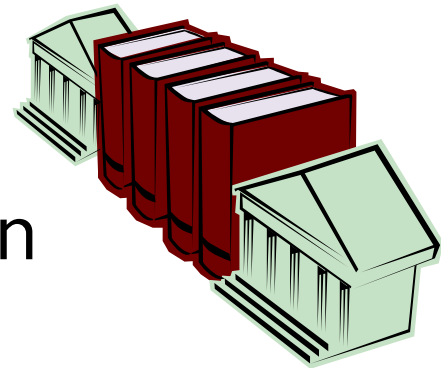
An Example

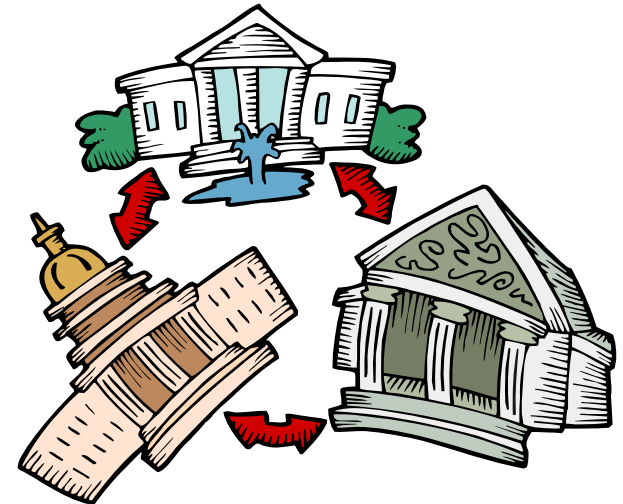# Introduction to Government Publications

Stephen J. Woods

Government Documents Librarian

Idaho State University

Forms of Government

- Federal
    - <u>Legislative</u> (Congress & Senate)
    - <u>Judicial</u> (Supreme Court, District Courts)
    - <u>Executive</u> (President)
- State
    - <u>Legislature</u>
    - <u>State Courts</u>
    - <u>Governor</u>

Forms of **Government**

- Local (County or City)
  - Council
  - Municipal Courts
  - Mayor
- Foreign Governments
  - http://www.library.nwu.edu/govpub/resource/internat/foreign.html
- International Government Organizations
  - http://www.library.nwu.edu/govpub/resource/internat/igo.html

Dissemination of Government Information

- Federal Depository Program
- State Depository Program
- United Nations Depository Program

Federal Depository Program

"A popular Government without popular information, or the means of acquiring it is but a Prologue to a Farce or Tragedy; or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: and a people who mean to be their own Governors must arm themselves with the power that knowledge gives." James Madison

- Guiding Principles
- Enabling Legislation
- Types of Material

Guiding Principles

- Public has the right of access

- Disseminate and provide broad public access to its information

Guiding Principles

- Guarantee the authenticity and integrity

- Preserve its information.

- Information created at government expense.

Enabling Legislation

- Title 44, Chapter 19 of the US Code
- Title 44 & OMB Circular A-130
- Title 44, Chapter 41 of the US Code

Depository Libraries (Stats)

1339 Depository Libraries
53 Regional Depository Libraries

- Academic (general) Libraries 50%
- Public Libraries 20%
- Academic Law Libraries 11%
- Community College Libraries 5%
- Federal Agency Libraries 3.5%
- State Libraries 3%
- State Court Libraries 2.7%
- Special Libraries 1.7%
- Federal Court Libraries 1.22%
- Military Service Academy Libraries .4%

Idaho and UN Depository Program

- **Idaho**
  - Mandated by <u>Section 33-2505</u> of the *Idaho Code*
  - Distributed by the State Library
- **United Nations**
  - Distributed by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library
  - 388 <u>depository libraries</u> in 144 countries
  - Available to the public free of charge

Types of Information

- Statistical (Census)
- Periodicals (PUBMED)
- Scientific reports or Technical reports (NASA Technical Server)
- Proceedings (GPO ACCESS)
- Hearings (Thomas)
- Informational (Pathway Services)
- Kids - curriculum's (Bens Guide)
- Photographs (American Memory Project)
- Maps (USGS)

Format of Government Information

- **Paper**
- **Microfiche (approved 1970, began 1978)**
- **Microfilm**
- **CD-ROM (began in 1987)**
- **Floppies**
- **Maps**
- **Internet**

Superintendent Classification

- Adelaide R. Hasse (Los Angeles Pub. Library)
- Organizes Information by Agency
  - Major Agency
  - Sub-Agency
- Organizes Information by Publication Type
- Not a decimal classification system like LC

HE 20. 3000

Level One: Department of Health & Human Services
Level Two: Public Health Services
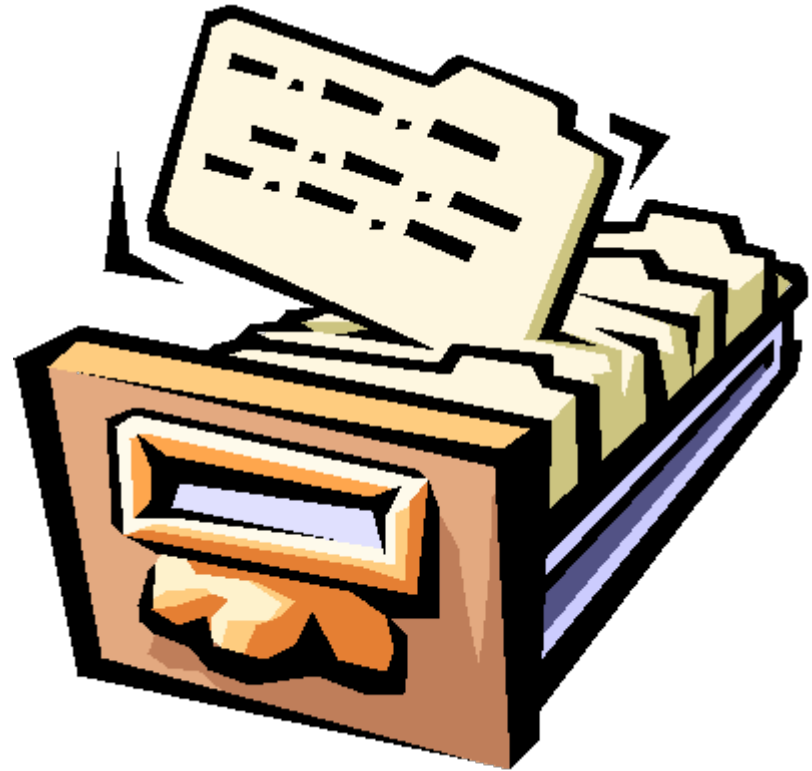Level Three: National Institutes of Health

SUDOC TUTORIAL

Click on the Link to Access the Tutorial

Indexes to Government Information

- ELI (Library Catalog)
- Catalog of U.S. Publications
- Congressional Universe
- Statistical Universe
- Government Publications Databases

Accessibility: Library Page