

Depository Library Council

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

Depository Library Council Fall Meeting

Held in conjunction with the Federal Depository Library Conference

October 21-23, 2024
Fall Meeting (Virtual)

MINUTES

MONDAY, October 21, 2024

I. Conference Kickoff/Library Award Presentations

- Susanne Caro, Depository Library Council (DLC) Chair, New Mexico State Library
- Hugh N. Halpern, Director, U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO)
- Scott Matheson, Superintendent of Documents, GPO

During this opening session, the event was officially called to order, and opening remarks were delivered. Awards for the 2024 Federal Depository Library of the Year and Federal Depository Website of the Year were also presented.

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

II. DLC: Managing FDLP Digital Publications in Your Library Catalog: Survey Findings

- Angela Bonnell, Head of Government Information and Maps, Illinois State University, Milner Library
- Michelle Colquitt, Continuing Resources and Government Information Management Librarian, Interim eResources Coordinator, Clemson University Libraries
- Kate Irwin-Smiler, Reference & Government Documents Librarian, Wake Forest University School of Law
- Libby McDaniel, Head of Cataloging & Metadata, William & Mary Libraries

Managing catalog records and discovery of digital FDLP publications are topics that often raise questions and concerns. The transition to a digital-first FDLP makes these issues more pressing. To respond, in spring 2024, the DLC's Collection and Discovery Services Subcommittee conducted a survey that addressed these issues. During this session Council members shared survey findings and what they discovered about library practices and needs. They shared actions and next steps that may be taken to assist depository libraries with digital collection development and management.

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

Community: FOIA Libraries – Ready for Collection Status?

- Lisa DeLuca, Assistant Dean for Public Services, Associate Professor, Seton Hall University, University Libraries

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, is a Federal freedom of information law to allow any person the right to request access to Federal agency records maintained by agencies within the executive branch of the Federal Government. The Electronic Freedom of Information Act (E-FOIA) amendments of 1996 require agencies to provide the public with electronic access to any of their "Reading Room" records that have been created by them since November 1, 1996.

Lisa DeLuca shared background and statistics about FOIA Libraries, now numbering more than 450. Lisa has been tracking and advocating for the use of FOIA Libraries since 2019. FOIA Libraries collectively include millions of "responsive documents," by Federal/sub agencies as well as administrative manuals, directives, and FOIA Logs, which are a record of information requested by the public from a specific agency. Attendees learned more about how these resources (in many file formats and with redactions) can be utilized by Government (and all) academic librarians.

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

III. Keynote: A Conversation with the Archivist of the United States

- Dr. Colleen Shogan, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
- Hugh N. Halpern, Director, GPO
- Scott Matheson, Superintendent of Documents, GPO

Keynote address of the Fall 2024 Federal Depository Library Conference.

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

IV. Community: We're Not Dead Yet: Turning Government Documents from a Collection to a Necessity

- Sarah Dobransky, General Research Collections Manager, Cleveland Public Library

Now that we're in our digital era, it may be hard to sell the value of the FDLP. Have no fear - data is here! This program shared how to work with nonpublic staff on Government information for grant writing, business support, facilities management, and more. Attendees learned about the value of census data for grants, industry standards for construction projects, and other resources you can provide. We might not have the print collection we once cherished, but we DO have data and other online resources to support the library and other administrative staff.

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

GPO: Cataloging Roundtable: Making Online Government Publications Discoverable to Patrons

- Moderator: Valerie Glenn, Business and Public Affairs Collections Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Stephen Slovasky, Unit Head, Cataloging, Connecticut State Library
- Ariella Mason, Special Collections Coordinator, Fresno County Public Library
- Sarah Causey, Georgia State Documents Librarian, Interim Head, Map and Government Information Library, Interim Federal Regional Depository Librarian, University of Georgia
- Paul Arrigo, Director, Lee College Library
- Karyn Meyers, Cataloger, United States Marine Corps University Research Library
- Will Mayer, Electronic Resources & Innovation Librarian, Lee College Library

This roundtable session featured representatives from public, academic, state, and Federal agency libraries who discussed different methods of making online Government publications discoverable to library patrons. With the transition to the digital FDLP and the end of the Cataloging Record Distribution Program, many FDLs are considering how to adapt their workflows to the changing landscape. Attendees learned about a wide range of methods for making their Government documents discoverable including leveraging their websites, updating library guides, importing records into their catalogs, enhancing catalog records, and using GPO's tools, such as the Catalog of U.S. Government Publications and FDLP Data Manager. This session aimed to provide libraries with potential workflows for making their online documents discoverable.

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

V. Community: Gov Guide Glow-up: Creative Tips for a New Look

- Lauren Hall, Metadata and Collection Management Librarian, California State University, Stanislaus, Vasche Library

This presentation discussed the initial redesign of the California State University, Stanislaus Government Documents Research Guide. It also discussed some of the fun designs and topics they have created pages for on the guide, and how they used Adobe Express, Canva, Genially, and features within Springshare's LibGuides to make these pages interesting and aesthetically pleasing.

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

TUESDAY, October 22, 2024

I. DLC: Virtual Snack with Council: Promoting Digital Content

- Facilitator: Susanne Caro, DLC Chair, New Mexico State Library

- Chat Moderator: Elissa Lawrence, Government Documents Librarian, State Library of Ohio
- Bobby Griffith, Lead Government Information Reference Specialist, University of North Texas Libraries

Do you feel proud of your outreach efforts? Are you frustrated with digital formats? Attendees of this forum shared their strategies and struggles with promoting digital documents.

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

DLC: Virtual Snack with Council: The End of the CRDP and MARCIVE

- Facilitator: Gwen Sinclair, Chair of the Government Documents & Maps Department, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library
- Chat Moderator: Nia Rodgers, Public Affairs Research Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University, Cabell Library

This snack session was an opportunity to ask questions and discuss cataloging and metadata issues, such as the end of the Cataloging Records Distribution Program, the closure of MARCIVE, and related topics.

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

II. DLC: Understanding Government Mistrust and Enhancing Transparency

- Moderator: Robert Mead, State Law Librarian, Washington State Law Library, Administrative Office of the Courts
- Paul Helmke, Director, Civic Leaders Center, Professor of Practice, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University
- Jennifer Bryan Morgan, Government Information Librarian, Indiana University Maurer School of Law, Jerome Hall Law Library
- Amanda Dunn; Program Planner; Programs, Strategy, & Technology (PST); GPO

This session gave attendees the opportunity to better understand the mistrust of Government issue, how it varies across segments of the U.S. population, and what GPO is doing to instill trust in using its online system of access, GovInfo. Attendees left the program with a better understanding of the mistrust climate and how they can help eliminate this fear in their library users.

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

Community: Shared Responsibility for Shared Collections: What Can We Learn from Shared Print Programs?

- Valerie Glenn, Business and Public Affairs Collections Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Shari Laster, Head of Open Collections Curation and Access, Arizona State University

- Jesse Silva, Scholarly Resources Strategy and Federal Government Information Librarian, University of California, Berkeley
- Rebecca Crist, Program Coordinator for Shared Collections Resources, ASERL/Scholars Trust

Shared print and collective collection management have been active concepts in the library world for 75 years. Shared print programs, which typically coordinate a group of libraries in managing print collections, allow libraries to share responsibility for the long-term retention of materials as a distributed network. In this presentation, presenters explored the current state of shared print programs and how they are evolving to continue to meet the needs of libraries. This presentation also provided insight into two shared print programs: Scholars Trust, which incorporates holdings from the Association of Southeast Regional Libraries (ASERL) and the Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC), and the University of California's Federal Documents Archive (FedDocArc) program, which coordinates shared retention for U.S. Government publications within the University of California system. Building on this foundation, presenters connected the world of shared print with the stated goals of current FDLP programs including Preservation Stewards, the National Collection Service Areas (NCSAs), and the new print distribution framework for the FDLP.

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

III. **GPO: New GovInfo Content and Enhancements**

- Megan Minta, Collection Development Librarian, Library Services & Content Management (LSCM), GPO
- Amanda Dunn, Program Planner, PST, GPO

Attendees learned about new content and features added to GovInfo over the past year. Features include the launch of the Congressionally Mandated Reports collection and subsequent improvements, including functionality for relating reports in a series; associating historical Serial Set content into relevant established collections; making available digitized versions of the U.S. Statutes at Large collection from 1789-1951; customizations for new content; and so much more.

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

Community: Saving Democracy: LOCKSS-USDOCS and the Digital FDLP

- James R. Jacobs, U.S. Government Information Librarian, Stanford University
- Snowden Becker, LOCKSS Community Manager, Stanford University
- Mary-Ellen Petrich, Digital Preservation Analyst, Stanford University

This session focused on the long-standing LOCKSS-USDOCS project: what it is, how it works, and why it's crucial for preserving FDLP publications. As the FDLP transitions to an all-digital format, we see a vital need to ensure that these

important documents are preserved in a collaborative and distributed manner. The LOCKSS-USDOCS network provides a trusted, decentralized solution for libraries to protect digital Federal publications from loss, tampering, or obsolescence.

Presenters also explored how FDLP libraries can get involved in this preservation effort, contributing to the long-term safeguarding of our Nation's digital public records.

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

IV. Community: Regional Libraries Meeting

- Regional Government Information Librarians (REGIL)

The Regional Libraries Meeting was open to all. The meeting covered topics of relevance to regional FDLP libraries and was led by regional coordinators from across the country.

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

Community: We the Healthy: Utilizing Government Information for Health Studies Library Instruction

- Emily Alford, Government Information & Applied Health Studies Librarian, Indiana University Bloomington, Herman B Wells Library

This session described the integration of Government information resources to health studies. Hired as a Government Information Librarian, the presenter has since taken on roles as a Public Health Liaison and Social Work Liaison at their academic library. Much of the instruction and research resources provided to students in these departments are actually Government information resources. While this particular case comes from an academic library, the presentation was also pertinent to depository coordinators from public, law and special libraries, as examples of reference inquiries encompassed all types of library patrons.

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

V. GPO: Introducing DiscoverGov: Preview Our New Discovery Search Tool

- David Isaak, User Support Librarian, LSCM, GPO
- Catherine Bloom, Systems Librarian, LSCM, GPO

DiscoverGov provides simple, one-stop searching across multiple U.S. Federal Government databases including GPO's Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP) and GovInfo. A high-level preview was provided focusing on the features and functions of DiscoverGov.

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

Community: Becoming a Gov. Doc. Librarian: What I've Learned and How I Learned It

- Brylynn Ellis, Government Resource Specialist/FDLP Coordinator, Indiana State University, Cunningham Memorial Library

Not every FDLP Coordinator goes into their role knowing what to do. I know I didn't. This session instructed any Government Documents Librarian on how to start from minimal knowledge of the FDLP and Government information, showing how to build that knowledge, to becoming a specialist. The presenter shared experiences to demonstrate how someone fresh out of Grad School can take on this vital role.

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

WEDNESDAY, October 23, 2024

I. **DLC: Virtual Snacks with Council: Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and FDLs: Focus Group Results**

- Facilitator: Rob Mead, State Law Librarian, Washington State Law Library, Administrative Office of the Courts
- Chat Moderators:
 - Allen Moye, Director, DePaul College of Law, Rinn Law Library
 - Amy Laub, Regional Depository Librarian, University of Kentucky, W.T. Young Library

The Unique Challenges and Underserved Populations Subcommittee presented preliminary findings from librarian focus groups conducted this summer. Presenters solicited additional feedback from attendees about mistrust of Government, language barriers, budget and staffing issues, the digital divide, and other issues affecting libraries that serve underserved populations.

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

DLC: Virtual Snacks with Council: Ask a Mentor

- Facilitator: Susanne Caro, DLC Chair, New Mexico State Library
- Chat Moderator: Sarah Erekson, Regional Government Documents Librarian, University of Florida, George A. Smathers Libraries

Would you like to mentor a newer FDLP coordinator? Do you wish there was someone you could reach out to for guidance? Attendees brought their questions and expertise to this Snack where they connected with members of the community.

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

II. **DLC: National Collection Service Areas & Limited Print Distribution**

- Amy Laub, Regional Depository Librarian, University of Kentucky, W.T. Young Library
- Joshua Finnell, Interim Associate University Librarian, Colgate University, Case Library and Geyer Center for Information Technology

- Angela Bonnell, Head of Government Information and Maps, Illinois State University, Milner Library
- Jen Kirk, Government Information Librarian, Utah State University Libraries

Members of the four National Collection Service Area Steering Committees shared their committees' work to date.

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

Community: Adapting to Changes in Government Information Management: Strategies and Tools to Keep You Out of the Weeds

- Susie O'Connor, Access Services and Government Information Librarian, USC Aiken, Gregg-Graniteville Library
- Pam King, Support and Collection Service Specialist/Government Documents Coordinator, The Citadel, Daniel Library
- Brianna King, Federal Documents Librarian, South Carolina State Library

This session featured representatives from USC Aiken, The Citadel, and The South Carolina State Library, who shared their diverse approaches to navigating new, more efficient processes for cataloging Government information. Attendees learned about practical, low-cost strategies for metadata and cataloging and gained insights into adapting to a rapidly changing landscape as the FDLP undergoes restructuring and libraries increasingly shift towards digital collections. The speakers offered inspiration and actionable ideas for maintaining effective Government information services, including updating cataloging processes, enhancing library guides, and strengthening outreach efforts. This session equipped libraries with the tools and motivation to sustain their depository missions in the face of evolving challenges.

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

III. Community: End of Term Web Archive: Harvesting and Preserving the Federal Government Web Domain

- James R. Jacobs, U.S. Government Information Librarian, Stanford University

The End of Term (EOT) Web Archive captures and saves U.S. Government websites at the end of presidential administrations. The EOT has thus far preserved websites from administration changes in 2008, 2012, 2016, and 2020 and was accepting URL nominations for the End of Term 2024 Web Archive. Members of the project team from Stanford University and the Library of Congress spoke about the history of the project and how it came about, the nomination and archiving process and timeline, and how researchers use archived Federal .gov data from the archive. Attendees learned how they can get involved in preserving the .gov domain!

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

Community: A Balancing Act: Mediating Public Access Services in Academic Depository Libraries

- Natalie Bond, Head of Information and User Services/Government Information Librarian, University of Montana, Mansfield Library

The central mission of the FDLP lies in providing free access to Government information for members of the American public, as outlined in 44 U.S. Code § 19. This Federal mandate requires that all depository libraries provide access to their physical Government documents collections by ensuring their building is open to all depository users, including the general public. Academic libraries, however, operate in a unique ecosystem in which the scope and extent of public access services (e.g., printing, computer use, checkout services) available to members of the general public are often much more limited than similar services for university students and employees. Budgetary considerations, vendor restrictions, cybersecurity concerns, and staffing limitations are just some of the issues that academic depository libraries must necessarily grapple with when delineating between policies and access services for members of the public and university affiliates.

This presentation explored such dynamics within the context of the University of Montana's Mansfield Library, a four-year, medium-sized, public R1 institution located in the Rocky Mountain West. The presenter discussed exploratory research conducted around the use of Government information by local nonprofits and community action groups; the Library's current public access services and policies; results from a recent survey of regional depository libraries around public printing and computer services; and results of a recent environmental scan of academic public access services conducted by Library employees. The presentation sought to invigorate conversations within the depository community around the practical and rhetorical implications of access services and policies for members of the general public and provided some practical steps forward for other academic depository libraries seeking to connect their stewardship of Government information resources to community needs.

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

IV. DLC Business Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Susanne Caro called the meeting to order at 3:32 EDT

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Amy Laub took roll call. Council members present: Amy Laub, Hayley Johnson, Kelly Smith, Robert Mead, Susanne Caro, Angela Bonnell, Angela J.A. Kent,

Gwen Sinclair, Joshua Finnell, Sarah Erekson, Charlie Amiot, Elissa Lawrence, Nia Rodgers, Andrea Stelljes.

Amy Laub stated that we have a quorum

Amy Laub introduced the minutes from the Spring 2024 meeting <https://www.fdlp.gov/file-download/download/public/25795> . Gwen Sinclair made a motion to approve the minutes and Susanne Caro seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Suzanne commented on the transition to the digital FDLP and that it has been a significant change and has gone smoothly so far. She applauded GPO for being so responsive to the community's concerns regarding the loss of the CRDP and Marcive resources and for updating content on the FDLP website.

ELECTION OF NEXT COUNCIL CHAIR

Hayley Johnson nominated Angie Bonnell to serve as the 2025-2026 DLC Chair. Amy Laub seconded the motion. Angie agreed to serve. Council approved Angie as secretary by unanimous vote. Congratulations, Angie!

REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS, & NCSA REPS

Collection & Discovery Services Subcommittee (CDSS)

Angie Bonnell shared a summary of the subcommittee charge and membership. Activities from the year have focused on subcommittee governance work and creating a report and recommendations from their survey on catalog records and discovery. Earlier today the group presented on "Survey Findings: Managing FDLP Digital Publications in Your Library Catalog." The next steps are to explore potential projects/priorities for the coming months based on Fall Conference feedback. Angie read the subcommittee's recommendations and moved that council accept report. Nia seconded. Susanne called the vote on the report, and it was unanimously accepted by Council. Angie moved to accept recommendations in concept. Council unanimously accepted the recommendations in concept.

Unique Challenges, Underserved Populations, and Federal Depository Libraries Subcommittee (UCUP)

Amy Laub shared a summary of the subcommittee's charge and membership. The subcommittee conducted six focus groups this year and shared feedback from those focus groups at this morning's Snacks with Council session and presented a program yesterday on "Understanding Government Mistrust &

Enhancing Transparency.” Next steps are to complete the final report of the focus groups, identify any resulting recommendations, and review the 2023 Biennial Survey data.

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

Hayley Johnson shared a summary of the working group’s charge and membership. This year the working group examined and organized data from the 2023 Biennial Survey question 4 and Andee Oberosler, a student in the Data Analytics program at Maryville University, developed an R Shiny application compare and analyze the results from multiple Biennial Surveys. She expressed gratitude to Andee and the working group for doing such a phenomenal job and moved that Council accept the working group’s report. Seconded by Gwen. Unanimous approval. Hayley made a motion to accept the recommendations in concept. Elissa seconded. Unanimous approval. Hayley made a motion for Council to accept recommendations for consideration to transmit to the Director of the Government Publishing Office. Rob seconded. Unanimously approved.

Statistics & Metrics Working Group

Sarah Erekson shared the membership and charge of the working group. The working group analyzed responses from the last two Biennial Surveys to create a survey for depository coordinators, which was launched on August 8 and closed on September 16. 345 libraries responded to the survey and the working group has begun analyzing the responses for patterns and interesting data points. Next steps are to continue to analyze the data and to correlate it with FDL directory data to look for patterns. Sarah thanked the community for responding to the survey.

Council & National Collection Service Areas

Amy Laub, South NCSA DLC representative shared that earlier today there was a session on the NCSAs and limited print where representatives from each NCSA steering committee shared the process they went through to create a limited print distribution title reallocation plan for their area. She noted that GPO has accepted all these plans. Josh Finnell, Northeast NCSA DLC representative reminded everyone to share feedback with their NCSA steering committee/listserv. Angie, Midwest NCSA DLC representative shared that this has been a great collaborative experience for her. Gwen just became the DLC representative for the West NCSA steering committee and encourages FDL community members to volunteer to serve on their NCSA steering committee when a call goes out for new members.

REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF GPO RESPONSES TO SPRING 2024 DLC RECOMMENDATIONS

<https://fdlp.gov/sites/default/files/20241001-ltr-dlc-gpo-response-spring-2024-recommendations.pdf>

Director Halpern formally responded to Council's Spring recommendations on October 1, 2024, and Susanne read the recommendations and GPO's responses. She expressed Council's thanks to Director Halpern for addressing our recommendations.

Discussion:

Angela Kent: Have the drafts from recommendation three (talking points on the value of the FDLP) been circulated?

Kate Pitcher: Currently we are working on the two documents in our internal communications group. We do not have a draft ready yet to share.

NEW BUSINESS

Council discussion of conference

Nia: Thank you to Gwen for the session on the end of Marcive services. A lot of requests of GPO and recommendations came out of that chat. Gwen handled this discussion with great aplomb.

Gwen: Thanks, Nia. There is such a level of anxiety about this issue that we cannot wait, and we must come up with recommendations. In favor of adopting all the recommendations from the CDSS subcommittee, not just in concept but making them actual recommendations.

Susanne: We're running long and would like to ask Council if we can attend to a small amount of new business which is a letter of commendation for Laurie Hall which has been written by Council. [Susanne read the letter.]

Gwen moved to approve; Rob seconded. Unanimously approved.

Continuation of Council discussion of conference:

Elissa: There were a lot of great suggestions for making records accessible during the cataloging roundtable. Will be pointing selectives to the recording for this session.

Potential recommendations –no potential recommendations were discussed

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 EDT

DLC Wrap Up & Closing

Susanne thanked everyone for joining Council through all these sessions.

Scott: Thanked Council for a productive meeting and thanked all the presenters. Poster gallery and the virtual exhibitor galleries are available in the conference portal.

Kelly Seifert: Please complete the participant survey. It helps us improve future events.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Laub

AMY LAUB
Secretary, Depository Library Council