

Fall 2026 DLC:
There's a GovDoc for That: Government Documents and Information in
Teaching, Learning, and Research
Chat Log

Jenny Aley:
Ben!

Sara Winger:
Ben

Emm Coats:
Ben!

Becki White:
Ben!

Bobby Griffith:
Ben

Bree Theodore:
Yes

Nykia Eaddy:
ben

Jenny Groome:
Ben

Amy Turnbull:
Ben

Bernadette Johnson:
Ben!

Jacob Jumbelick:
Ben!

Ella Shurr:
Ben!

Kaylea Hester:
Ben!

Myria Tolentino:
Ben!

Amy Ruhe:
Ben

Jenny Groome:
Ben!

Michelle Theodorou:
Ben!

Sara Winger:
ben

Bobby Griffith:
Ben

Amy Turnbull:
Ben!

Susanne Caro:
ben

Kaylee Kern:
Ben!

Amy Ruhe:
Ben!

Amy Fitch:
Ben

Shelley Doney:
there's BEN

Trina Magi:
Question for someone at GPO: A couple presenters have said their libraries were depositories on dates that fall before 1895. But I thought the depository program didn't start until 1895. I am aware that the government was distributing publications to select universities and libraries before 1895, but were those libraries called "depository libraries"? (I just want to be accurate when I talk about the history of the program.)

Kelly Seifert:
Bobby Griffith, you win! i will be in touch!

Bobby Griffith:
Thank you, Kelly!

Sarah Guthrie:
yea Bobby, enjoy!

Bobby Griffith:
Hi, Sarah!

Sarah Guthrie:
Hi Bobby, hope the comics are doing well:)

Kelly Seifert:
For the 1st Ben spotting, Jenny Aley was the winner! i will be in touch about your prize!

Sarah Dobransky:
Trina - the distribution program was started in the Interior Department in 1861. A lot of us were part of the program before the FDLP was actually established. AKA we're oldö~ ¤

Trina Magi:
@Sarah. Thanks!

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Sarah, this is what we have been running into when trying to figure out our depository date. We just know it is some time in the 1800s!

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Sarah, but it does date to before the founding of the FDLP as you mentioned.

Scott Matheson:
There is a history here that explains how the depository function moved around the government in the 19th century. GPO started managing the program in 1985. The current structure is from 1962.
<https://www.fdlp.gov/about/mission/a-brief-history-of-the-fdlp>

Sinai Wood:
Just to chime in, depository library or system is a generic term. There were also AEC depository libraries from the mid 40s to early 70s.

Scott Matheson:
Um - 1895 of course. Sorry.

Sarah Dobransky:
@Cassandra - does anyone at GPO have your official anniversary date?

Sarah Dobransky:
@Sinai - yes! We were also part of the PTDL (patent and trademarks) in the 1800s as well.

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Sarah, no one at GPO knows as far as we are aware. The earliest document that we've been able to find so far referencing the deposit of documents here is from 1887. Our virtual poster presentation is actually about our research so far:
https://www.fdlp.gov/sites/default/files/file_repo/An-Excellent-Adventure-A-Research-Journey-Into-Our-Depository-History.pdf

William Sudduth:

Trina, also see Brief History of the FDLP by Ridley Kessler - A BRIEF HISTORY OF

overnment Information, Vol. 23, No. 4, pp. 36Y-380, 1996

DEPOSITORY LIBRARY

ERSPECTIVE

SSLER, JR.â€?

Cassandra Wenzel:

Just as an interesting aside, I've noticed that there are a number of court libraries that do not have dates listed, unless they joined around 1972 when changes were made to Title 44 regarding "highest state appellate court libraries".

Eli Arnold:

I used to work at a small college, too, and I LOVED how easy it is to collaborate across the institution!

Sarah Guthrie:

this looks really fun!

Cassandra Wenzel:

@Trina, History of the Government Printing Office by Kerr (1880) was also helpful when I was working on depository date research: <https://archive.org/details/historyofgovernm00rwke>

Amy Ruhe:

This looks like a lot of fun.

Charlie Amiot:

<https://kahoot.com/>

Kaylee Kern:

What did administrative support look like during the development process of the KYR event series? Did you encounter any challenges regarding time, funds, or other resources spent? If so, how did you make your case? Your program looks amazing!

Jenny Groome:

Ben!

Michelle Theodorou:

Ben!

Bernadette Johnson:

Ben!

Sara Winger:

ben

Jenny Groome:
Ben!

Sarah Dobransky:
@Cassandra - George Barnum might have some insight. He's a volunteer at CWRU these days.
@Ella Shurr might have his information

Susanne Caro:
Ben!

Nykie Eaddy:
ben

Amy Turnbull:
ben

Shelley Doney:
bEN

Kelly Seifert:
Jenny Groome - you're the winner! I will be in touch

Jenny Groome:
Thanks! She certainly has several Bens in her slides.

William Sudduth:
The period between 1857 and 1859 was foundational for the modern Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). During these three years, the U.S. Congress shifted control over public document distribution away from the Department of State, effectively shifting the depository system from a closed historical archive into a public-facing system driven by congressional representation. The key legislative actions enacted during this period include: 1. Joint Resolution of January 28, 1857 This resolution fundamentally altered the infrastructure of federal document distribution: Transferred Authority: It stripped the Secretary of State of the responsibility to distribute government printing and transferred the execution of public document management to the Secretary of the Interior. Institutional Restructuring: It formed the legal baseline for a true network of "depositories" rather than a fragmented layout of selective historical.

Kaylee Kern:
Thank you so much for that detailed answer! I love the idea of collaborating with other departments, or maybe student groups.

Julia Bauder:
Does Beloit have many international students? When talking about "Know Your Rights," did you do anything specific for them, or were you just focused on the rights that U.S. citizen students have?

MONICA DORAME:
+1 Kaylee

Cassandra Wenzel:
@Sarah, thank you so much!

Charlie Amiot:
We've done a session on Zines!!!! They work, y'all.

Charlie Amiot:
<https://www.fdlp.gov/training/2026-spring-dlc-zine-making-101-zip-zap-zine>

Angie Bonnell:
+1 Charlie :)

Bernadette Johnson:
I remember that session, Charlie. I actually got to make some zines for a class I visited to give a talk.
:)

Sara Winger:
Ben

Julia Bauder:
That's awesome, Mary! Thanks for answering the question.

Amy Fitch:
+1 Charlie

Susanne Caro:
ben!

Charlie Amiot:
Send in the zines!

Charlie Amiot:
I want to see all your Zines.

Jenny Groome:
Good eye Susanne

Susanne Caro:
Bloodletting!

Jenny Groome:
Oh, I need to find time for Weird & Wonderful guide/blog

Priscila Hernandez:
Do you ever offer to give guest lectures in formal classroom settings?

Jenny Groome:

When in academic libraries, I would sometimes go to classrooms - but preferred to have students come to library's computer classroom. There are benefits with both approaches

Priscila Hernandez:
Thanks!

Susanne Caro:
Once gov docs, always gov docs.

Kaitlyn Moody:
Fantastic presentation!!! Thank you for being so detailed

Natalie Villegas:
new to the govdocs program! so this session was really great to start thinking about how to approach connecting people to the info!

Mary Martin:
I agree! Great presentation!

Katie Cooley:
Thank you so much! What a great session. :)

Diane Frigge:
Great presentation! I love your enthusiasm!

Amy Ruhe:
Awesome presentation!! Thank you

Lori Driver:
Fabulous presentation!!

Michael Perry:
Thank you so much this was great!!!