Letter from The Chair
by Greta Boeriger
Covington & Burling

What is a Documents Librarian worth?

In my former life as a GPO Depository Library Inspector, I had the honor of meeting literally hundreds of Documents Librarians. Someday I will write a novel. But today I just want to talk a little about what makes our work so very valuable.

Generally we don't think of our work as all that valuable. Yet our salaries, as reflected in the AALL salary survey, do place us just slightly ahead of computer librarians and reference librarians. Then I learned something else about our value when I decided to try my luck in the private sector.

In spite of my passion for documents, I began feeling like I needed a change a year and a half ago, so I fired off a few applications to law firms, "just to see." The response was fast, compared to the leisurely hiring cycle of academia. I scheduled my first two interviews for the same day soon afterwards. I challenge any of you to interview with two law schools in the same day, or even the same week!

Two things surprised me. One was the overwhelming desire to work there, I mean work here, that enveloped me half way through the first interview. The other was how often I referred to my documents experience. I worked it into almost every answer. We talked about the SEC, the IRS, and legislation. And I wasn't just bluffing (although I doubted that at the time). My documents experience has provided me with a firm foundation for law firm reference work.

Even more amazing, the folks I serve are making money from the documents I provide them. As a Documents librarian and a Federal Depository Librarian I've always thought "free" when I think of documents. Yes, I knew that they weren't really free, and that it cost the library to process and house them. And of course I knew that documents are vital to democracy and are valuable in that sense. But documents are also vital to commerce. And being able to locate those documents is worth money to certain people.

Way back when I started ranting about how all the academic libraries that didn't want to be open to the public ought to resign their depository status, I knew I would have to eventually recommend an alternative career path for us. So here it is:

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Try law firm work. Law firms will be grateful and might even share some of the money they make from your work with you!

And all you law firm librarians who are looking for a change of pace—cross over into academic or court documents work! You have a whole lot to offer a depository because you have actually been using these materials for years!

Maybe none of this is news to you, but I hadn't realized it. We have valuable skills. Carpe Diem!

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2001-2002 GDSIS ELECTION OF OFFICERS

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Submitted by Pegeen G. Bassett
Chair, Nominations Committee

Candidates for Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect

Kevin Fredette

Kevin is an Associate Librarian and Head of Public Services at the West Virginia University College of Law Library. He received an MLS from the University of Michigan in 1983 and a BA in American History from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in 1977. In his current position, Kevin supervises the acquisition, processing and maintenance of federal depository materials. He also supervises the functions of reference services, bibliographic instruction, circulation services and interlibrary loan. Kevin participates in providing reference assistance to faculty, students and other patrons of the library. He also conducts bibliographic instruction sessions for law and non-law students and assists in collection development.

Prior to joining the Law Library, Kevin served from 1995 to 1998 as the Head of the Government Documents Department at the Wise Library at West Virginia University. In this position, Kevin also served as the Regional Librarian for the state of West Virginia. Before that, he worked at the University of California-Irvine Main Library from 1988 to 1995, first as the Assistant Head of the Government Documents and Microforms Department and then as the Assistant Head of the Reference Department. From 1984 to 1988, Kevin was the Documents Librarian at the Indiana University College of Law Library in Bloomington. His publications include: “American Statistics Index Non-Depository Collection: the Good News and Bad News for Depository Libraries” 19 Microform Review 210 (1990), “Building a Better Beast: Designing a WWW Home Page for Government Resources” 23 DTTP 111 (1995) and “Electronic Government Information: Benefits and Drawbacks for College and Undergraduate Libraries” 4 College and Undergraduate Libraries 46 (1996). Kevin served as the editor of JURISDOCS from 1985-1987 and was a member of the GODORT Legislation Committee from 1989-1991.

My plan of service:

While I have recently returned to law librarianship after
working for several years in larger academic libraries, I have been involved with government documents and government documents librarianship throughout my career. I was a member of the Government Documents SIS from 1984 to 1988 and served as the editor of JURISDOCS from 1985 to 1987. After moving on to a government documents position at the University of California-Irvine, I became active in GODORT and served on the GODORT Legislation Committee from 1989-1991. When I returned to law librarianship in 1998, I rejoined the Government Documents SIS and have attended meetings and programs at the last three annual conferences.

I believe that I would bring a wide variety of job and professional government documents experience to the position of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Government Documents SIS. I would like to continue to enhance and strengthen the Government Documents SIS’ important role of educating other members of AALL about issues involving government information through timely and informative annual conference programs and publications such as JURISDOCS. It has been my experience that many of the changes faced by librarians over the past two decades, including microform as a storage medium, CD-ROMs, user fees, preservation of digital information, have arisen earlier or with more intensity in government documents departments. I think that government documents librarians will continue to be harbingers of things to come for some time. I would also view the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect position as an opportunity to work with many of the strong advocates of government information that have always been active in AALL. At the same time, I would welcome the chance to encourage the participation of new members to provide a solid base for the Government Documents SIS’ future.

Katrina Stierholz

Education:
M.S., 1993, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
M.L.A., 1992 Washington University, St. Louis

As Government Documents Librarian, Katrina Stierholz manages the acquisition of and access to government materials. She also oversees the Access Services of the Law Library, which provides the interlibrary loan services for students, faculty, and staff of the Law School and paging (retrieving research materials) for the Law School faculty. Katrina is one of a team of reference librarians who provide reference assistance to faculty, students, and other patrons of the Law Library.

Prior to joining Washington University, Katrina worked at Saint Louis University’s Law Library as a Government Documents and Reference Librarian. Before that, she was the Government Documents Librarian at Pius Memorial Library, Saint Louis University. Her article, “U.S. Government Documents in the Electronic Era: Problems and Promise” appeared in Collection Management in 1996.

Katrina currently serves on the committee for the revision of the State Plan for Missouri Federal Depository Libraries.

My plan for service:

As Vice-Chair/Program Chair, I will concentrate on creating high-quality, interesting programs that emphasize the continuing relevance of Government Documents and Government Documents librarians.

Government Documents librarians have special knowledge and experience that can guide the evolution of all law libraries. My goal would be to communicate this to the entire community of law librarians and to position our SIS as a leader in law librarianship.

Documents librarians have blazed a trail in the last few years during the federal government’s transition to electronic documents. The Government Documents SIS can capitalize on our experience. We can provide leadership by identifying problems common to information professionals working in an electronic environment. And we can promote the solutions that government documents librarians have discovered while working with issues unique to exclusively electronic information. The Government Documents SIS is a natural for teaming with other SISs to create programs that cross traditional boundaries and attract new audiences.

My philosophy on government information: All government information should be in the public domain and the information should remain accessible for generations to come.

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Candidates for Secretary-Treasurer

Sue Kelleher

Sue Kelleher is the Cataloger and Documents Librarian at the University of Arkansas Young Law Library in Fayetteville, AR. She received her BA in History from the University of Arkansas (1990) and her MLIS from the University of Oklahoma (1994). Ms. Kelleher has been involved with library work, in various capacities, since 1986. She has been the Documents Librarian at the law library since 1998. Currently, she is on the Grants Committee of the AALL GDSIS.

Colleen Manning

Colleen is the Reference Librarian and Interim Director at Ohio Northern University Taggart Law Library. She received her B.S. in Psychology (1988), a J.D. (1992), and a M.S. in Library and Information Sciences (1995) at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. As the Reference Librarian at ONU, Colleen is responsible for all bibliographic instruction. She provides approximately 15 workshops each year on how to access government information. As the Interim Director, she is responsible for maintaining the library’s depository status and providing document access to the public. Colleen is a member of the American Association of Law Libraries (Mentoring Committee, 2000-present, Placement Committee, 1997-1999, Grant Award, 1997, Volunteer, 2000), and the Ohio Regional Association of Law Librarians (Internet Committee 1997-present, Scholarship Award, 1998). She is also a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, the American Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association, and Ohio State Bar Association. Colleen teaches elder law and wrote the article, The Medicare Alzheimer’s Disease Demonstration (ELDER L.J., Spring 1993).

HOW TO COMPILE A STATE LEGAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

By G. LeGrande Fletcher

Government Documents/Microforms Librarian

Brigham Young University

Howard W. Hunter Law Library

Here’s a checklist of twelve suggestions and types of sources to consider when compiling a bibliography of a state’s legal publications. Ann Jarrell and I followed many of these steps when putting together the most recent state legal bibliography in the series published by AALL’s Government Documents Special Interest Section (GD-SIS).

Nevada State Documents Bibliography: Legal Publications and Related Materials, Second Edition (July 2000) is now available from GD-SIS for $15.00. To purchase the Nevada bibliography or any of the prior state legal bibliographies (from 40 other states, the District of Columbia and two Canadian provinces), contact Rob Richards, GD-SIS Secretary/Treasurer, at University of Colorado Law Library, (303) 492-2706, rrichard@stripe.Colorado.edu. The list of available bibliographies is on the GD-SIS website at: http://www.aallnet.org/sis/gd/statelaw.html. To update and/or compile a current state bibliography, contact
Katrina Stierholz, GD-SIS Publications Committee Chair, at Washington University Law Library, (314) 935-6450, stierhol@wulaw.wustl.edu. Katrina is very interested and supportive of any of you who would like to contribute to the series.

I'm writing these suggestions as if you had just agreed to compile or revise your state's legal bibliography for GD-SIS. The first two suggestions are general overviews, the next six cover acquiring vicarious information (data about a title's existence), steps nine to eleven discuss physically looking at the titles you want to include in your state legal bibliography, and the last suggestion is on putting it together. I recommend mixing the order of your searching indexes and looking at physical materials since you need to do both types of gathering information almost simultaneously. Compiling a bibliography is a circular not a linear process. Also remember that no one covers all the sources listed below—this listing is suggestive of resources and approaches, not a mandatory listing.

1. **Recognize the value of what you’re doing.**
Congratulations on thinking about pulling together in one place information useful to your fellow state librarians (in law, academic and public libraries), acquisitions librarians, catalogers, and reference librarians. Your work will be useful to subject specific researchers doing multiple-state research on a topic, compilers of related bibliographies (business, political science, natural resources, history), and potential authors/publishers of legal materials in your state (looking at what’s being printed and what’s not). Others outside your state and unfamiliar with its legal publications will turn to your work more than you know. It was very helpful to Ann and me to have others encouraging us to compile Nevada’s bibliography for GD-SIS. If the project gets overwhelming at times, just remember you’re doing something of lasting value to yourself, your institution, your state, and your profession.

2. **Think about your audience, scope and format before you start.** Every bibliography has a limit, and if you think briefly about the boundaries of your project at the beginning, it’ll be more manageable in the middle and the end.

   1. For example, if your intended audience is acquisitions librarians, you may want to have publisher information, ISBNs and even prices. If you’re compiling for catalogers, think about including OCLC numbers for bibliographic records.
   2. What scope are you looking at (time frame, subject breadth, depth)? Will you include only current materials or will it be a "union list" of all historical and current legal publications in your state, or maybe something in-between? Will you include quasi-legal documents (political, governmental, textbooks, histories, directories)? How about depth, that is, will you have books, book chapters, periodical articles, serial titles?

3. Finally, how about format (of the overall bibliography, of the individual entries, and of the types of materials included)? Look at other state bibliographies in the series to get a feel for layout, breadth, and what to include or exclude.

   i. Will you annotate and describe (at what depth) each title?
   ii. For each entry, what style will you follow? Possible choices are *The Bluebook*, *ALWD Citation Manual*, *AALL’s new Universal Citation Guide*, *the Chicago Manual of Style*, or something else. For example, will you include pagination, number of volumes, or whether titles have an index?
   iii. On serials, will you mention enumeration and chronology, only latest editions, all issues, title changes?
   iv. Will you tell readers about reprints and multiple formats (CD-ROM, microforms, online)?
   v. Will your compilation include practice books, CLE seminar materials, legal self-help manuals, and/or pamphlets?

All of these choices about audience, scope and format will impact how much information you need about each title (and which titles to exclude or include) in your bibliography.

3. **Look at comprehensive existing legal bibliographies for your state.** (You may already have done this, and that’s why you’re motivated to improve on what’s been done before.) I can think of eight specific places to look for existing legal bibliographies for your state. (These are in addition to non-legal state bibliographies covering your jurisdiction, many of which include some legal titles.)

   - First, is your state one of the forty-one that already has a GD-SIS bibliography (done sometime between 1981 and 1997)? These are listed at the state bibliographies website given at the beginning of this article. Since the majority of these were produced before the Internet, legal CD-ROMs, and the merging of American legal publishers, most need to be updated to show today’s materials in your state.
   - Second, has someone published a state practice

- Third, is your state one of the series of thirteen “state-specific legal research guides” available from William S. Hein & Co., Inc.? These are listed in Hein’s online catalog at: [http://www.wshein.com](http://www.wshein.com).

- Fourth, has a law librarian or someone else compiled a bibliography for a legal research class, CLE seminar or to assist non-attorney legal researchers in your state? In smaller jurisdictions this may be a chapter in a practice manual. For example, chapter 1 of *Nevada Civil Practice Manual*, 4th ed. (1998) is “Sources of Nevada Law.” In more populated states, it will be much longer, such as Larry D. Dershem, *California Legal Research Handbook* (1997-).


- Eighth, check to see if your state is one of thirty-three in the Greenwood Press Series “Reference Guides to the State Constitutions of the United States.” The title of each is *The [state name] Constitution: A Reference Guide*. You can see all of them by entering the term “state constitution” in the title/sub-title search at: [http://www.greenwood.com](http://www.greenwood.com). Each includes a bibliographical essay at the book’s end on the state’s constitutional resources.

The last four of these sources combined will give the major primary legal publication titles of your state, and you could have a decent list based only on them.

4. **Talk to people.** As you let other documents and law librarians in your state know of your project, they can give you much needed moral support, additional eyes who will bring new titles to your awareness, and possibly feet to look up various titles for you in their collections. Don’t expect them to revise your list very much, however. Bibliography information is not like a prose text where you can dispute ideas, craft various arguments or reach different conclusions. Instead, either the books exist or they don’t, they fit in your bibliography or they don’t, and/or your bibliography structure, format and layout make sense or they don’t. Since you’re the one who’s looked at the various titles, most other librarians will assume your work there is correct and won’t second-guess you. They’ll be grateful you took the time to help them by compiling the bibliography. Talk to Katrina Stierholz and other GD-SIS people to let them know you’re working on your state’s legal bibliography and get their feedback on submission formats, deadlines and other helps. You may want to discuss your work with ALA’s GODORT State and Local Taskforce—see their website at: [http://www.library.arizona.edu/users/aranwan/stat.html](http://www.library.arizona.edu/users/aranwan/stat.html).

5. **Comb through legal publisher lists for your state titles.** There are collective and individual sources of title information available directly from publishers.

- You can start with collective publisher information in *Law Books & Serials in Print* (2000), *Books in Print* (2000), *Directory of Law-Related CD-ROMs* (2000), and online bookstores (which are helpful to find legal titles from non-legal commercial publishers). If your academic law library subscribes to the Rothman “green slips” which announce new legal publications, you could cull those for books from your state.


- You may be able to get lists of current publications from your state bar, CLE seminar providers and/or state university presses.

- Is there a state depository program in your jurisdiction? See the state publication checklists and shipping lists from 30 states compiled by the Documents and Law Libraries at the University of Illinois called *StateList: The Electronic Source for State Publication Lists at*: [http://www.law.uiuc.edu/library/check/check.htm](http://www.law.uiuc.edu/library/check/check.htm)

- Are there federal agency publications of value to your state-based legal bibliography? For current materials, take a look at GPO’s *Catalog of U.S. Government Publications [Monthly Catalog]*
(1994-) at:
http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/locators/cgp/index.html and the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at:


* Look also for publications mentioned or full-text online at state agency websites (such as the courts, attorney general, state “EPA,” etc.). Don’t forget local agencies, too!


7. Look for bibliographies within periodicals. Useful articles on how to do legislative histories in your state, administrative agency analyses, state constitutional guides, and other pieces pertinent to a state legal bibliography may be found in bar journals, law reviews and even legal newspapers. Find these using the Index to Legal Periodicals (1908 to present), Current Law Index (1980 to present), print indexes to law reviews within your state, Shepard’s Law Review Citations, online services (Lexis-Nexis, Westlaw, and Loislaw), the Gallagher Law Library’s Current Index to Legal Periodicals (1968 to present), or using non-legal periodical databases (political, business, science and others).

8. Search library catalogs. Browse OCLC, RLIN, and the online catalogs of your state (and neighboring states) using title, subject, author and call number indexes.

9. Search library shelves. Browse the libraries in your state, particularly law school libraries, court libraries (including federal and state law libraries), county law libraries, university libraries, and large public libraries (including your state library). Look especially at reference and reserve collections in the 340s (for Dewey call number-based libraries) and KF-A-KFW (for Library of Congress call number libraries). You may want to visit District Attorney, government agency libraries and private law firm libraries. Expect to find surprises in such practitioner oriented institutions since many state legal publications are locally produced and collected, rather than part of the national legal publishing scene.

10. Look at footnotes, endnotes and indexes. In all of the materials you consult, you should scan them for information leading to additional titles. The author of one legal publication in your state may be the author of others, a preface will cite prior similar works, an Internet address will be listed for a print publication, or you’ll see something that raises (and/or answers) questions about other sources you’re consulting.

11. Browse the Internet and other online resources. In addition to looking for information about relevant titles, look for publications available online in full-text format. Use the various Internet browsers, indexes and collective websites. See also the fee-based computer-assisted legal research databases (LEXIS-NEXIS, Loislaw and WESTLAW) for their state legal information sources.

12. Compile the bibliography. Create a framework in an order that makes sense to you. Start putting titles into each section, then revise, refine and rearrange (probably repeatedly). The main goal at this point is to complete the bibliography in a timely manner in a form useful to your audience. Your bibliography will feel like it could never end, especially as you become aware of new editions, renamed Internet addresses, and other changes inherent in document and legal publishing. Even if you spent time at the beginning clearly defining your bibliography’s scope, you may need to think about revising its coverage in order to produce a finished product. One of the main purposes of such bibliographies is to first teach you about what your state’s legal documents are, and then, to share such information with your colleagues. Both steps are important.

Please consider updating your state legal bibliography. The tools and resources listed above should make the task easier for you (and your co-workers) than ever before.

The AALL Government Document Special Interest Group

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Section has a long tradition of supporting and disseminating such information. Come add your contribution.

1 The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (16th ed. 1996)
2 Darby Dickerson, Ass’N of Legal Writing Directors, ALWD Citation Manual: A Professional System of Citation (2000).
3 Committee on Citation Formats, Am. Ass’n of Law Libraries, Universal Citation Guide (1999).
Secondary legal material is covered in Committee on Citation Formats, Am. Ass’n of Law Libraries, The Universal Citation Guide: Tentative Drafts for Law Reviews and Court Rules, 92 L. Libr. J. 363 (2000).
4 Paragraphs 15.69-15.74 of The Chicago Manual of Style describe the humanities style of bibliographies, the style suggested in the Law Library Journal Author’s Guide.

GOVDOC SIS MEMBER NEEDS SURVEY

This survey will help focus the strategic planning committee toward the needs of Govdoc SIS members. It would be very helpful if you could thoughtfully complete this survey. This process will only work if the committee gets a representative number of responses. The committee wants the majority of the membership represented in the strategic planning process. Your responses will remain confidential if you mail this survey with no return address to Paul A. Arrigo, Reference Coordinator/Documents Librarian, Washburn University School of Law Library, Topeka, KS 66621.

An electronic form is also available at the Govdoc SIS homepage at http://www.aallnet.org/sis/gd/

1. What type of library do you work for? Please check one.

   ___ Academic Library  
   ___ Court Library  
   ___ Federal Agency Library  
   ___ Law Firm Library  
   ___ Military Library  
   ___ Prison Library  
   Other ________________________________

2. What percentage of the item numbers you select are in electronic format? __________________

3. Have you reorganized your government documents department in any way in response to the electronic transition? Please circle either YES or NO.

   If so please explain why and how.
   ________________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________

4. Does your library catalog government internet publications on a systematic basis? Yes or No

   What percentage of Internet documents cataloged are downloaded onto an in-house server for preservation purposes? __________________

5. According to the AALL salary survey do you think that Government Document Librarians are well compensated? Yes or No

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6. Should GD-SIS encourage partnerships with federal agencies? **Yes** or **No**
   
   If yes, then how should the SIS implement this?
   
   
7. What types of programs would be most beneficial for you at the Annual Meetings?

   
   
8. What type of distance education programs would be beneficial to you?

   
   
8a.) And in what format. You can select more than one.

   ___ Live satellite TV program       ___ Internet Video streaming
   ___ Internet Audio streaming       ___ Videotape
   ___ Audiotape                      ___ Web Course
   ___ CD-ROM

9. Should GD-SIS develop a list of core competencies for a Document's librarian in the Legal field? **Yes** or **No**

9a.) If yes, what should be included in the core competencies?

   
   
9b.) Would you be interested in participating on a core competency committee? **Yes** or **No**

10. Are you actively involved in information policy advocacy? **Yes** or **No**

10a.) If yes, which jurisdiction do you track? **State** or **Federal** or **International**?

10.b) What issues are you tracking?

   
   
How often do you track impending legislation? **Daily** or **Weekly** or **Monthly**

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10c.) If no, would you be willing to become an advocate? Yes or No

11. Do you have any experience writing grants? Yes or No

If so, would you be willing to participate in writing a grant for GOVDOC-SIS relating to preservation of government information or other government document related projects? Yes or No

12. Do you have any other suggestions on how Govdoc-sis can be of assistance to you?

Please return survey to: Paul A. Arrigo
Reference Coordinator/Documents Librarian
Washburn University School of Law Library
Topeka, KS 66621.

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MEMBERSHIP/COMMITTEE NEWS

INTRODUCING THE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

We have just started an advocacy committee to assist SIS members in lobbying their Senators and Representatives concerning the Federal Depository Library Program. As you know, the program has been in a serious crisis since last spring due to budget reductions by the House Appropriations Committee to GPO’s annual budget. The House proposed reducing the FDLP budget by almost 60%. If the House budget had been approved, the FDLP essentially would have been eliminated. After very determined efforts by the law library community and others, the Senate proposed a more reasonable amount and the Conference Committee reduced the FDLP’s budget by $2 million. Even though disaster was averted, the reductions have created serious difficulties for GPO in administering the program. It has been necessary to reduce staffing levels and to cut back sharply on the production of many print materials that depositories have received for many years. The disaster that was averted last summer could easily be repeated during the FY 2002 appropriations cycle.

The Federal Depository Program has served the people of this country well for almost two hundred years. Many of us have dedicated significant portions of our professional careers to developing the depository collections in our libraries and to providing services to our communities involving government information. The law librarians who have formed this committee are very concerned that this valuable program is in jeopardy. We believe that it would be tragic if the program were destroyed and that it is our responsibility as librarians to do what we can to prevent this result.

The primary purpose of this committee is to promote advocacy and educational efforts by SIS members directed towards preserving the FDLP. We recognize that many SIS members have already established relationships with the Senators and Representatives in the districts and the states where their depositories are located. We hope to encourage SIS members who have not established such relationships to begin to do so immediately. Since we are at the start of the 107th Congress, this seems like a particularly good time to establish such relationships.

To get this effort started we believe it would be useful to write to our Representatives and Senators and introduce...
the depositories we work in and the many services provided by our libraries. The following is a model letter which could be used for this purpose:

Hon.____________
Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman ________:

Congratulations upon your recent re-election to Congress. I have spoken with members of your staff on several occasions to request copies of hard-to-find materials and have always found them to be most helpful.

I am writing to encourage you and your staff to take advantage of our library's status as a federal depository library. Our depository agreement with the Government Printing Office stipulates that we serve the citizenry of the _________ Congressional District. We, along with other depository libraries in the area, welcome the public. We encourage you to refer constituents to our library, where they will have use of our entire collection of print and microform materials, as well as access to the Internet. We cannot dispense legal advice or allow the public to use sources restricted by educational contract, but as librarians we can assist members of the public to find the government information that they need.

We hope you will consider linking to our library's website, located at _________________. We look forward to serving you, your constituents, and the _______ Congressional District.

Very truly yours,

If you have not already sent a letter of this sort, we encourage all SIS members, with the approval of their Directors, to send such a letter to their Senators and Representatives as soon as possible. We anticipate that the appropriations process for the FY2002 budget will begin in the very near future. This introductory letter could then be followed up with subsequent letters and contacts once the FY2002 appropriations cycle has begun.

If you believe that this committee can take any other actions that would promote the goals outlined in this message, we hope you will talk with members of the committee and let us know your thoughts. We very much would like to hear from you.

A. Hays Butler
Kelly Browne
Charlene C. Cain
Sally Holterhoff
Rob Richards

HELP! STATE BIBLIOGRAPHIES OUT OF DATE!

Many of the state bibliographies are out of date and in need of revision. Please consider updating a state bibliography. The current list of available State Bibliographies is located on the GD-SIS website at: http://www.aalnet.org/sis/gd/stateh.html. To update and/or compile a current state bibliography, contact Katrina Stierholz, GD-SIS Publications Committee Chair, at Washington University Law Library, (314) 935-6450, stierhol@wulaw.wustl.edu.

UNITED STATES
Alabama 1993
Alaska 1984
Arkansas 1988
Arizona 1984
California 1991
Connecticut 1985
Colorado 1987
District of Columbia 1985
Georgia 1991
Idaho 1989
Illinois 1986
Indiana 1982
Iowa 1990
Kansas 1984
Kentucky 1990
Louisiana 1990
Massachusetts 1985
Maryland 1981
Maryland 1996
Minnesota 1985
Mississippi 1987
Missouri 1991
Montana 1990
North Carolina 1987
Nebraska 1988
New Jersey 1984
New Mexico 1991
Nevada 2000
New York 1985
Ohio 1986
Oklahoma 1983
Oklahoma 1995
Oregon 1984
Pennsylvania 1985
Rhode Island 1993
South Dakota 1988
Tennessee 1988
Texas 1983
STUDENT GRANT OPPORTUNITY — We Need Your Help!!!!

Do you have any library school students working for you? Do you teach library school students? Do you guest lecture at library school classes? Do you know anyone who does?

The Government Documents SIS will award a grant in the amount of $400 to a student currently enrolled in an ALA accredited library and information studies master’s program. The grant is to be used to attend the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference to be held July 14-19, 2001 in Minneapolis, MN.

Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate interest in government information and a career in law libraries, and the GDSIS Grants Committee would like your help in getting the word out to qualified students.

We will post an announcement on a variety of listservs and will send it to all the library schools. But we would also like SIS members to forward the information to eligible students, or to librarians or library school educators who work with students.

The deadline for receipt of applications is April 30, 2001.

The application can be found at www.aallnet.org/sis/gd.

Questions about the grant can be directed to Georgia Chadwick, GDSIS Grants Committee Chair, (504) 568-5704 or gcchadwi@lasc.org

TUTORIAL - PROCESSING GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

The Government Documents Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries is pleased to announce that a three part tutorial on processing government documents, a cooperative project between ALA GODORT and AALL’s Government Documents Special Interest Section, is now mounted on the AALL server and ready for use.

Background
A little over three years ago, a survey conducted among AALL Gov Docs SIS members revealed that a web-based tutorial geared toward documents assistants (library paraprofessionals, graduate assistants, and undergraduate student workers) would be helpful to library workers learning to implement basic procedures for processing US federal publications and information resources.

The tutorial contains three modules 1) the basics of documents processing; 2) the basics of documents maintenance; and 3) a guide to the Superintendent of Documents classification system. Prerequisites for the tutorial include the usual basic computer skills, such as use of a mouse and desktop navigation. Previous knowledge of government information and publishing is not necessary.

The tutorial is located at http://www.aallnet.org/sis/gd/tutorial/
AALL ANNUAL MEETING/WORKSHOP GRANT

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