J U R I S D O C S

From the Editors

Dear Fellow GD-SIS Members,

As you may have seen from the information distributed recently from GPO, the upcoming Depository Library Council meeting and FDLP conference has been extended an extra day (Thursday, October 20) to include a special all-day, focused discussion on the future of the FDLP. Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish has entitled this session "Creating Our Shared Vision: Roles and Opportunities in the FDLP."

In September 2010, the U.S. Government Printing Office GPO contracted with Ithaka S + R (Ithaka) to develop practical and sustainable models for the future of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) in a changing information environment. During Ithaka's study, it solicited comments from the librarian community and released a [website](#) detailing draft documents and public comments (caution: the site is no longer active). This past Spring, GPO received Ithaka's final report. After months of review, GPO determined that the models presented by Ithaka were not practical and sustainable to meet the mission, goals, and principles of the depository program. However, GPO has reproduced an archived version of the Ithaka study Web site called "[Future Direction of the FDLP: Modeling Initiative](#)" in PDF format on the FDLP Desktop.

GPO's goal now is to engage the community and conference participants in a discussion to determine next steps to plan for a sustainable depository library system, including potential changes to Title 44. One of the goals of this solicitation will be to conduct an environmental scan, gathering information on the current conditions and anticipated changes at depository libraries in each state. This information will help inform the development of targeted changes to Title 44 to enable the FDLP to move forward in ways that meet the 21st century government information needs of libraries and users.

Recognizing that only a small portion of the 1,200 FDLP libraries will be represented by attendees at the conference in DC, and that even a smaller portion will be representing law libraries, GPO is planning to solicit feedback from ALL depository libraries following the conference so that every state and every type of depository is represented in future models. One of the ways that we will help GPO is to keep the community informed of developments through JURISDOCS. Our next issue will focus on the fall conference to keep our readers informed, and to encourage future participation in modeling discussions. Reviewing this current issue and previous issues of JURISDOCS will also provide readers with crucial background information.

Government Documents Special Interest Section

What's Inside

If you cannot make the meeting, or if you would feel more comfortable privately sharing your visions for GPO, or even the future distribution of federal government information, Depository Library Council member Camilla Tubbs is happy to give you a call or discuss this over [email](#).

Sincerely, Camilla Tubbs & Kate Irwin-Smiler, Your Editors

Report from the Chair

It's hard to believe that more than a month has already passed since the 2011 AALL Meeting in Philadelphia! It was great to see so many of you there—some whom I met for the very first time, and some of you whom I see regularly at these things, though that's the only time each year.

It was a busy few days, for each of us individually, and for the GD-SIS. The Section sponsored or co-sponsored numerous programs and one pre-conference workshop, held its annual breakfast and business meeting, and continued its outreach to AALL membership through its table in the exhibit area. Speaking of the activities table, this year we raffled off a goody basket; congratulations are in order to the winner, Charles Condon, Director of the Appalachian School of Law Library.

The activities table, along with all of the other things we as a section are able to accomplish, is possible only through the dedication of our numerous volunteers, who make time in their busy schedules to help out in ways both large and small. So thank you very much to everyone who is either a new volunteer with GD-SIS, or a returning volunteer. And for anyone reading this who may not have been able to attend the Philadelphia meeting, or who may not have stepped yet forward to volunteer, but would like to do so, please feel free to contact me at any time.

I mentioned at the business meeting in Philadelphia that this coming year I would like to see the Section work on both its bylaws and its strategic plan. To the best of my knowledge, our Section has not reviewed or revised its bylaws in quite a few years. We did complete a strategic plan for the period 1998-2003, but I could not find any record of efforts in this area since then. (My apologies if I am incorrect in either case.) I do believe it's time for the Section to take care of these pieces of housekeeping. I do not have the entire plan for these efforts yet—but I hope my writing it down and presenting it to you will spur me to keep working on it!

I am grateful to be able to serve as your Chair this coming year. I hope that we have a rewarding year working together.

Eric Parker
Pritzker Legal Research Center
Northwestern University

Addie the Eagle

**Government Documents
Special Interest Section**

American Association of Law Libraries

Addie the Eagle Revealed!

Designed by Stacey Fowler and Scott Matheson, named for Adelaide Hasse.

Report from the Depository Library Council Meeting

April 4-6, 2011

I was very grateful for the opportunity to attend the Spring DLC meeting in San Antonio, Texas. The conference had many interesting speakers and topics, and was very worthwhile.

First, some statistics: there were 165 people in attendance including vendors and GPO staff. Of these attendees, 16 of us were from law libraries. The traditional Law Librarians' & Friends Dinner on Tuesday evening had around 23 of us enjoying Tex-Mex and margaritas. A good time was had by all.

Bill Boarman, the new Public Printer of the United States, addressed the conference on Monday morning. His words were well-received, as he spoke about advocating for the FDLP and the need to explain to congress as often as necessary exactly what the GPO and FDLP do, and why funding should continue. Mr. Boarman seemed very approachable. He spoke of inviting the entire GPO staff to visit him in his office and to receive a signed copy of "GPO - The First 150 Years." Many staff, who have been with GPO for many years, had never before been invited to the office of the Public Printer.

Mary Alice Baish, Assistant Public Printer and Superintendent of Documents, also addressed the conference with an update on GPO. Due to budget constraints, fewer GPO staff were able to attend this meeting, and **this is the last spring meeting that will be held**. The annual meeting in October will alternate locations between Washington, DC, and other cities every other year. (Fall 2011 will be in DC.)

As Superintendent of Documents, Mary Alice's goals are transparency, collaboration, partnership, and training. These are not new goals for the GPO, but she acknowledged that they need to be strengthened; the FDLP of the 21st century can only be successful through collaboration with the library community.

A number of attendees expected to discuss the report from Ithaka S&R; however, their contract had been extended to the end of May and the report was not yet ready for comments from either GPO or Council.

Discussion of the FDsys site dominated a large part of the conference. FDsys is now the official system of record for the GPO and FDLP. The old site, GPOAccess, is being archived and will be taken off-line later this year. All the URLs to GPOAccess will be redirected to FDsys. (Update your links!)

FDsys is both a content management system and a public access site. Its contents are replicated and archived, so down-time should be virtually non-existent. The Administrative Office of the Courts has agreed to allow federal case decisions and bankruptcy court decisions to be archived on FDsys. Also

coming soon (or already added) are the House Journal, 2000-2006, constitutional authority statements, the Unified Agenda, and *Constitution of the United States of America, Analysis and Interpretation*.

The FDLP Desktop is also undergoing revision and should launch prior to the biennial survey due this year. GPO intends to create library email accounts, e.g., yourlibrary#@gpo.gov. This will insure contact consistency, even as individual depository library coordinators come and go. The redesign includes Ben's Guide (http://bensguide.gpo.gov/) and staff unveiled the new "Ben" for us. It also includes a new FDLP community site, which is still in design mode

I sincerely thank the Grants Committee for selecting me to receive funds to attend the conference. Even though I got caught up in the Southwest flight cancellations debacle, I still got to San Antonio safely and in time.

Janet Fischer

(in lieu of a Chair-elect report)

Secretary/Treasurer's Report - GD-SIS Annual Meeting
Philadelphia, PA - July 26, 2011

Item 1: The financial situation of the GD-SIS continues to be solid. Financial statements through April 30, 2011 show an ending balance of **$32,729.01** as detailed below. Documentation for all transactions is on file with the Secretary/Treasurer.

Date	Description			Amount
4/30/2010	**Ending Balance 4/30/2010**			$30,175.09
	REVENUES			
5/1/2010	Dues - 2d Q 2010			$82.50
5/26/2010	Royalites - State Bibliographies			$4,621.00
	EXPENSES			
	Awards -			
4/30/2010	Travel Grant to Spring DLC Mtg	($500.00)		
5/3/2010	Travel Grant to Spring DLC Mtg	($372.89)		($872.89)
7/27/2010	Honoraria - VIP Guest to AALL 2010			($66.97)
7/27/2010	Misc. expense - Candy for GD-SIS Table at AALL 2010			($31.21)
7/31/2010	**Ending Balance 7/31/2010**			$33,907.52
	REVENUES			
9/1/2009	Dues - 3d Q 2010			$2,242.50
	EXPENSES			
7/13/2010	A/V Equipment - Conf. Room			($182.00)
7/13/2010	Food & Beverage -Business Mtg. Breakfast			($2,373.88)
	Awards -			
8/9/2010	Travel Grant to AALL 2010	($500.00)		
8/5/2010	Maclay Grant AALL 2010	($1,000.00)		
7/30/2010	VIP Guest AALL 2010	($1,392.09)		($2,892.09)
	Misc. Expenses -			
7/14/2010	A/V @ Hyatt, AALL 2010	($94.26)		
8/1/2010	2010 Annl. Mtg. Program Eval. Fee	($80.00)		($174.26)
9/30/2010	**Ending Balance 9/30/2010**			$30,527.79
	REVENUES - none			$0.00
	EXPENSES			
10/22/2010	FDLP Grant Recipient			($394.63)
10/22/2010	FDPL Grant Recipient			($750.00)
11/23/2010	Souveners/Giveaways - T-Shirt			($25.15)
12/20/2010	**Ending Balance 12/30/2010**			$29,358.01
	REVENUES - none			$0.00
	EXPENSES - none			$0.00
3/31/2011	**Ending Balance 3/31/2011**			$29,358.01
	REVENUES			
4/29/2011	Hein Royalty Check			$4,826.00
5/1/2011	dues			$45.00
	EXPENSES			
4/6/2011	DLC Spring Grant Recipient #1			($750.00)
4/6/2011	DLC Spring Grant Recipient #2			($750.00)
4/30/2011	**Ending Balance 5/31/2011**			$32,729.01

Geeks ❤ Librarians

During the AALL Annual Meeting this year, I had the opportunity to work with some amazing people as I coordinated the session Mashup the Government's Copyright. I have known Lolly Gasaway for over 10 years, and have had the opportunity to work with George Pike for the last few years on the AALL Copyright Committee. This was my first time, however, working with Josh Tauberer.

Tauberer is not an AALL member, nor even a librarian. Instead, he is a self-titled "civic hacker." In his own words, this means "how to use technology to improve civic education and participation and to improve government transparency and accountability." I invited Tauberer to speak to our members about government mashups, or using technology to create new government information products based on public domain information generated by the federal government.

Mashups are not a new concept. For instance, technology has been used for years to generate weather reports based on government information. What is new about mashups is the availability of both technology and government information for the masses. Thus, we have had an explosion of new information products on the market, some more useful than others. These new products are also often available to the public, either for free or a small fee.

Tauberer spoke about some of the mashups that he has created, such as GovTrack.us, which allows users to track legislation through the U.S. Congress, and POPVOX, which facilitates communication between Congressmen and their constituents. One of the things that I found most surprising during this discussion was that Tauberer had run into difficulty obtaining the information about Congress. He was denied access to aggregated data, including some of the databases maintained by the Library of Congress. Instead, Tauberer was forced to write small programs that go out and harvest or "scrape" information off a variety of websites, which then recombine to form a new database. The new database is available for free to web developers.

Tauberer's final slide was titled Geeks ❤ Librarians. He went on to explain that geeks have the know how to build these mashups, but they lack the knowledge of what people need and want. He views librarians as the gatekeepers of this information, since we are working with the public on a daily basis and witness the information seeking behaviors and information needs of the populace. We also are the experts on where the information is located, and, especially with regards to our government librarian colleagues, may even be the aggregators and creators of some of the information needed to create the mashups. Tauberer ended with a call to create a partnership between geeks and librarians.

Is Tauberer correct? Can we form a mutually beneficial relationship? I would like to think so. One of our primary missions as librarians is see that our patrons, be they the general public, students, faculty, judges, Congressmen, etc., get the information that they are seeking. In the past, we have been restricted to information that is already generated, but why can we not help those with the technological skills create the information that our patrons need and desire? This may even help us replace some publications that we are losing, such as the statistical compendiums from the U.S. Census Bureau. All it takes is some cooperation.

I cannot speak for all of us, but I can speak for this somewhat geeky librarian: Librarians ❤ Geeks. Let the cooperation begin!

<div align="right">Jenny Wondracek</div>

Editors Note: See page 7 for an attendee's reaction to this program

Chapter VIP Reports on AALL Annual Meeting & Conference

As chair of Depository Library Council (DLC), I was most honored and pleased to attend AALL 2011 in Philadelphia, PA, as a VIP of the Government Documents Special Interest Section (GD-SIS). My kind hosts Sally Holterhoff and Peggy Jarrett made sure that I was aware of and scheduled for the most important events of the conference – including an invite to an exclusive not-to-be-named party on Saturday evening. I hope that GD-SIS will continue to invite future DLC chairs as I found AALL conference to be extremely interesting and informative with many connections and opportunities for collaboration between the law and government documents communities. I only wish there were two of me because the conference was chock full of interesting and informative panels. It was truly heartening to see so much going on at the conference and meet so many active and engaged law librarians.

Before the conference began, there was a pre-conference on Legislative advocacy training that was especially pertinent given tentative draconian Federal budget cuts that could adversely affect the GPO and the development of FDsys, its next-generation content management system, as well as the Census Bureau's Statistical Compendia Branch (which publishes the *US Statistical Abstract* and many other vital statistical titles). The half day event included a PACER update, a discussion on the future of the FDLP – where I advocated the need for more law libraries joining the FDLP – and the low-down by Keith Ann Stiverson on the Uniform Act on Electronic Legal Materials (UELMA), an admirable effort to have states adopt common legislative requirements for preservation of and access to digital legal state materials.

Dahlia Lithwick, senior editor at *Slate Magazine*, started off the conference on the right note as keynote speaker, discussing the ins and outs of the Supreme Court with in-depth knowledge and humor. Throughout the 3-day conference, there were many panels that highlighted advocacy and digital preservation, two issues on which I'm particularly focused in my work with LOCKSS-USDOCS, a distributed preservation program of FDLP materials hosted on FDsys. There were too many to list, but the highlights for me included

- a who's who of a Law.gov panel with Sarah Glassmeyer, Carl Malamud, Keith Ann Stiverson, and Ed Walters;

- a panel on .gov data mashups – I'm really hoping Josh Tauberer will present a session at Fall Depository Library Conference!

- James Grimmelmann on the Google book settlement and orphan works;

- the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA) business meeting which highlighted their work in digitizing and preserving digital legal information via decreased subscription costs for LIPA members for Internet Archive's Archive-it web harvesting service and the Chesapeake Digital Preservation Group.

And to top it all off was a hilarious Battle Decks session – including a PowerPoint slide of "Sita Sings the Blues," a project near and dear to me (http://questioncopyright.org/sita_distribution) – that really turned AALL 2011 up to 11!

I found AALL 2011 to be extremely educational, with lots of practical information sharing for both law and non-law librarians alike. If my first impression is correct, then all librarians interested in a wide range of current legal topics related to libraries would be well-served by attending AALL 2012 in Boston.

I'd like to get in one last plug for the FDLP: the Fall Depository Library Conference in Washington DC October 16 – 20. The last day of conference will be a discussion on a shared vision of the future of the FDLP. Hope to see many of you there and in Boston!

<div align="right">

James Jacobs
Chair, Depository Library Council
Government Documents Librarian, Stanford University
Blogger, freegovinfo.info

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Veronica Maclay Grant Winner Delves into Documents Librarianship

This year, I had the privilege of being awarded the 2011 Veronica Maclay grant for attendance at the 104th American Association of Law Libraries annual conference in Philadelphia. I am profoundly grateful to the grants committee and the entire GD-SIS for affording me the opportunity to attend this year's annual meeting, as well as for welcoming me into the community of government documents librarians.

This was my second year attending the annual meeting and my first as a brand new government documents librarian. There were so many different programs and activities to choose from, but since I am in the process of learning what it means to be a documents librarian, I decided to attend as many programs as I could related to my new area of specialty. Of course, there were many programs that dealt with other areas. Among those, I attended sessions on Wikileaks, copyright, the Google Books settlement, customer service and evaluating electronic resources.

One of the government information programs I attended was "Peeping THOMAS: A Little Look at a Big System," presented by members of the Library of Congress team responsible for [THOMAS](). Their enthusiasm about THOMAS was quite obvious, and they provided many helpful tips about using the system, as well as previewed features that will coming down the pike in a forthcoming update of THOMAS. The most useful thing I learned related to persistent URLs. The presenters pointed out that the URLs that appear in the web browser's address bar users retrieve THOMAS content are not persistent. They are created in the course of carrying out each individual search, and cease to be valid 30 minutes after they are created, which means that one cannot usefully place one of these links in a Web page/blog post, embed it in an e-mail message, or share it in a social networking site. The THOMAS programmers have created a special share tool function so that content from THOMAS can be linked to or embedded – by clicking on the Share/Save icon on the top right of each screen, users can opt to share content on a social networking site, send a persistent URL via email, or copy and paste a link to a persistent URL in a website or blog post. This tip alone was worth the price of admission to the annual meeting.

I also enjoyed the "'Mashup' the Government's Copyright" program, which was sponsored by the GD-SIS. Among the presenters was Joshua Tauberer, creator of GovTrack.us, one of my favorite legislation tracking tools. In addition to speaking a bit about GovTrack.us and its creation, Mr. Tauberer spoke also introduced a new website he and his partners have developed called POPVOX.com. This new site is intended to make it easier for constituents to communicate with their Representatives and Senators regarding specific pieces of pending legislation. POPVOX counts the positions members of the public take on a specific bill and catalogs the messages so that Congressional staffers and others looking for information on an issue can assess what people are really saying. When using POPVOX, users select bills pending in Congress, choose to support or oppose the legislation, and write a message to Congress, tying users' input to a specific bill, and thereby asking legislators to take specific action. Users' comments are displayed publicly on POPVOX (with their screen name and Congressional district) as a part of the record for the bills one chooses. Users' comments are also forwarded onto members of Congress with the user's real name, address, and phone number — information they need to know to verify that you are a real constituent. This new tool will be very handy for those civic minded patrons (and librarians) who like to communicate with their Senators and Representatives.

There was also lots of time to network, catch up with colleagues who I met last year in Denver, including members of last year's CONELL class, and meet many new people. I attended several wonderful receptions sponsored by various vendors, and of course, spent a good amount of time in the exhibit hall. I also had the pleasure of meeting Mary Alice Baish at the GD-SIS breakfast, as well as many members of the GD-SIS. Overall, it was a wonderful conference experience. I arrived home slightly exhausted from everything I packed into 3 ½ days, but also thrilled anxious to put to use many of the things I learned at this year's meeting.

Personally, one of the more moving parts of this year's meeting was hearing people at the GD-SIS breakfast speak about Veronica Maclay, the former government documents librarian at the University of California Hastings College of Law, for whom the grant I received is named. Based on what I have read about Ms. Maclay, and hearing the fond recollections of her former colleagues, I know that she was a giant in her field. I am honored to be standing on the shoulders of one such giant and I am committed to following in her footsteps, as well as those of my many wonderful colleagues. Thank you to Veronica Maclay for giving us something big to aspire to, as well as to the members of the GD-SIS for allowing me to follow in those footsteps. I look forward to seeing everyone at next year's meeting in Boston.

Valerie Carullo

A learning experience in the City of Brotherly Love

I was thrilled to be awarded a $1200 grant to attend the 104[th]AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in Philadelphia from the GD-SIS. I jumped at the opportunity to apply for it as soon as I learned of the grant's availability from GD-SIS member Ed Hart. I wanted to attend this year's conference for a variety of reasons, primarily to refresh my knowledge of professional matters, learn of new products and continue building relationships with other government document librarians started at last year's annual meeting in Denver. The grant was needed as my Library sent me last year, and this year would be a reference colleague's opportunity to attend.

All of us use government documents in one form or another almost every hour of the work day. I do as a reference librarian at the LA Law Library and the reference librarian responsible for government documents. The LA Law Library is both a selective federal depository and a California state depository. Because of this library's extensive collection, a librarian can easily fall into the comfortable trap of thinking the library has everything. Attending 10 programs and two special interest section breakfasts, I was reminded of just how many ways there are to enhance my knowledge and think outside the comfort zone.

One of the first programs attended "Peeping THOMAS, a little look at a big system," organized by GD-SIS and RIPS-SIS, was one I was particularly looking forward to as I feel that I have never mastered THOMAS. It was interesting and informative to listen to 3 colleagues from the Law Library of Congress explain the history of the database (started in 6 weeks in 1993), recent changes (addition of social media options, a share/save tool bar, and highlighted text in search results) and future changes (tutorials and design changes which will be based on comments posted by users through the website's Feedback feature).

Other programs directly connected to my work included these three programs, "Finding business resources when you need them," "Teaching Advanced Google," and "The role of law libraries in Advancing law.gov: open sourcing America's Operating system."

In "Finding Business Resources," librarians from a public law library, an academic law library and Philadelphia's Free Library gave an overview of their libraries and explained the need and uses of business resources in their collections, and the practical applications of these resources by their patrons (academic and layman). One of the presenters suggested the use of LibGuides for creating access points to business resources. A valuable bibliography of some of the business resources available at these libraries is available. In "Teaching advanced Google," the moderator very ably presented live examples of how to conduct searches in the advanced Google mode. A panel of presenters, founders and contributors to the law.gov movement, discussed the need for librarians to contribute to this repository of primary government materials in "Advancing law.gov." While it is easy for many of us to find what we need on fee based services like Westlaw, Lexis, and fastcase, the presenters were passionate about keeping primary materials available for free through mediums such as PACER, public.resource.org, and justia.com (and the FDLP, though I did not hear that mentioned!).

Should I find myself having to evaluate a license or help in crafting one, my notes and the checklists for designing a license will be a tremendous starting point. The clever interviewer/interviewee concept in which the "Anatomy of a license agreement" program was presented gave the librarians on the panel, from different types of libraries, a chance to explain how they had handled the basic and beyond basic checklist items in their work with licenses. A useful bibliography of print and web resources was available (reprinted with permission from Licensing Digital content: a practical guide for librarians, 2nd Edition). Two of the web resources on it were the AALL Fair practice guide and California Digital Library's website which includes licensing information and a standard license agreement.

I was unable to come a day early to attend the GD-SIS sponsored day long "Digitizing government information" workshop, but I attended the conference program "Describing and preserving special collections." If I feel a little stressed about deciding how to weed government documents in this library's collection, hopefully I will be able to put on a pirate hat and gear as this program's presenter did in weeding her library's collection and in presenting her conference program. She also reminded her audience of the value of joining or forming consortiums (Lyrasis) to consolidate and preserve collections.

Things I took away from other programs included the importance of placing your library's ILL policy on your library website ("30 minutes to a more efficient ILL)," and that training resources and grant money are both available for establishing programs to help self represented litigants in partnership with the Legal Services Corporation ("Innovations in services to self represented litigants").

(Continued from page 8)

(I have been lucky - in the private sector, as well as the public one, I was permitted and encouraged to attend AALL conferences in years past. No matter how many programs I work into my conference schedule, I always regret the ones I have missed. Had there not been items scheduled at the same time, I would have gone to the GD-SIS programs on contemporary state constitutions and "Mashup the government's copyright," other sections' programs on authentication and Philadelphia's connection to the history of law.

Thank you again, GD-SIS, for this golden opportunity in the city of brotherly love.

Esther Eastman
Reference Librarian
LA Law Library

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Upcoming Event

Federal Depository

Library Council Meeting and Conference

17-20 October 2011