

# JURISDOCS

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Law Libraries

Government Documents Special Interest Section

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## From the Editors

Dear Fellow GD-SIS Members,

Welcome to the Spring 2012 issue of your newsletter. In this issue we have reports from our Chair and Chair-elect, as well as information on the FDLP state forecasting issue and GPO's plans in lieu of holding a Spring conference. We also have a report on the GD-SIS programs and meetings for the AALL Annual Meeting.

The next issue of Jurisdocs will be out in late August 2012, and it will have a review of AALL Boston programs sponsored by our SIS, as well as notes and minutes of the SIS's annual business meeting.

As always, we love hearing from you! Submissions to *Jurisdocs* are welcomed and encouraged. Please consider contributing an article. Submissions can be forwarded directly to either Kate or Camilla.

Sincerely,  
[Kate Irwin-Smiler](#) and [Camilla M. Tubbs](#)  
Your Editors



## **Chair's Report**

**Eric C. Parker**

**Acquisitions Librarian**

**Pritzker Legal Research Center, Northwestern University School of Law**

Welcome Spring! It's actually been more summer-like than spring-like in my neck of the woods, but we'll take it just the same. I want to take this opportunity to discuss the efforts to date on strategic planning for GD-SIS, and on the study of the Section's by-laws.

It seems like quite a few of the other SISs have been or are currently updating their strategic plans, so I thought it would be a good time for GD-SIS to do so as well. I put together a committee consisting of the Executive Board (myself, Janet Fischer, Jennifer Wondracek) minus Dee Wood, who retired at the end of last year. To replace Dee, I included Sally Holterhoff, a past chair of GD-SIS as well as past President of AALL.

Starting last fall, we began by studying the previous strategic plan for GD-SIS (covering 1998-2003), as well as the current plans for other SISs. We also sent out a membership survey to all of you in the GD-SIS membership. The survey aimed to get a sense of which types of libraries our members work in, how long they've been Section members, the things they like and dislike about GD-SIS, whether they attend the GD-SIS programming at AALL (and, if not, why not), things GD-SIS could be doing better, how the Section's leadership can best communicate with members, and trends in librarianship that they believe may affect the work of GD-SIS in the next few years.

We were fortunate to be able to receive 48 responses to the survey, providing us with what I think is a decent snapshot of the membership and its concerns. Thank you to everyone who took the time to answer the survey!

So, what is next? I believe the strategic plan committee will be looking at the mission statement as well as drafting a new plan to present to the membership for comment. It had been my original hope to have that ready by the spring, but we are obviously not there yet. This isn't the fault of the other committee members—it is mostly because I have been too busy with my day job to devote as much time to the effort as I would like to do. I hope to have a good deal more to report to you, the members, by the time we meet in person in Boston!

At the last GD-SIS business meeting in Philadelphia, I asked for several volunteers to take a look at the Section's by-laws to see if they needed any updating. We are fortunate to have had several people volunteer for this work: Ed Hart (University of Florida), Larry Meyer (San Bernardino

County), Kate Irwin-Smiler (Wake Forest), and Joel Fishman (Duquesne/Allegheny County). As of this writing, they have forwarded to me a draft with some proposed language changes. I will be forwarding this on to the Executive Board for discussion and further action in the near future.



## **Vice Chair/Chair-Elect's Report**

**Janet Fischer**  
**Collection Development Government Documents Librarian**  
**Golden Gate University Law Library**

As I write, it is a beautiful spring day in San Francisco. This weekend, our clocks will “spring forward,” and we cycle our way to longer days and warmer weather. We also begin our preparations for AALL’s annual conference in Boston.

The Program Committee worked hard to evaluate and refine the programs that were submitted to our SIS for Boston, and I thank them for their time and attention to this important task. The Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC) has chosen two of our programs for the conference. Both speak to the preservation of government information.

### **Program A6 – The New FDLP: A Collaborative Future for Government Information**

Sunday, July 22, 2012 10:45am - 11:45am

Speakers: Mary Alice Baish, Superintendent of Documents, GPO

Arlene Weible, Regional Federal Depository Coordinator, Oregon State Library

Participants will gain a better understanding of the future of the FDLP in a digital world and will learn what options are available as libraries collaborate to provide regional FDLP sites (services). We will examine the future of the Federal Depository Library Program, now that the old print model of distribution is largely a thing of the past. How is GPO adjusting to the new world of digital information?

### **Program B3 – Digital Content: The What, the How, and the Where**

Sunday, July 22, 2012 1:15pm - 2:45pm

Speakers: Janet Fisher, Acting State Librarian and Director of the Law & Research Library, Arizona State Library Archives & Public Records

Victoria K. Trotta, Associate Dean for Information Technology and the Ross-Blakley Law Library, Arizona State University

Stephen Chapman, Project Manager-Digital Lab, Harvard Law School Library

David Walls, Preservation Librarian, GPO

Participants will be able to create a digitization policy for their libraries and will learn how to identify sources of costs in projects and in archiving digital content, considering in-house or

outsourcing options. This program will cover the basics of creating digital products, including best practices, specifications, metadata, workflow, quality control and assessment, and vendor relations. Additionally, participants will learn how to manage digital content, including making the content available for users, assessing user needs, ingest of content, access issues for digital content management, preservation options, and digital repositories. This program is co-sponsored by the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA).

Other programs on the schedule that may interest members of our SIS:

- ✚ Legislative Advocacy Training, Saturday July 21, 8:30-12:30
- ✚ Government Relations Committee Meeting, Saturday, July 21, 4:00-5:00
- ✚ H1: AALL Public Policy Update: Connecting Members to AALL's Advocacy Efforts, Tuesday, July 24, 8:30-9:45
- ✚ **Don't miss our Breakfast and Business Meeting on Tuesday, July 24, bright and early at 7am!**

Be sure to check out these and many other educational and networking opportunities at *My Conference Planner*: <http://aall12.sched.org/>.

We have also invited – and she has accepted – **Sharalyn Laster** to be our VIP (Valuable Invited Participant) guest at the conference. Shari is the incoming Chair of the Depository Library Council, and we are delighted that she will join us in Boston. Shari works at the Bierce Library, University of Akron, Ohio.

I look forward to a wonderful time in Boston as we meet to renew friendships and learn new ideas and skills that enhance our profession. See you in July!

Janet Fischer  
Vice Chair/Chair Elect



**Mid-Year Treasurer’s Report**

**Jennifer Wondracek**  
**Instructional Services Reference Librarian**  
**University of Florida, Fredric G. Levin College of Law**

**Dates covered: 5/31/2011 – 1/1/2012**

**Mid-year Treasurer's Report**

Prepared by Jennifer Wondracek, University of Florida, Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center

Dates Covered: 5/31/2011 - 1/1/2012

Item	Debit	Credit	Subtotal	Total
Starting Balance				\$ 32,729.01
<b>Revenues</b>				
SIS breakfast sponsorship		\$ 1,200.00		
Dues		\$ 3,050.00		
<b>Total</b>			\$ 4,250.00	\$ 36,979.01
<b>Expenses</b>				
AALL Misc Expenses	\$ 156.67			
VIP AALL Travel Grant	\$ 1,498.67			
AALL Travel Grants: Carullo, Eastman, Wondracek	\$ 2,959.72			
AALL Speaker Expenses: Tauberer	\$ 126.11			
AALL GD-SIS Breakfast	\$ 3,228.12			
AALL Sign, Room & AV Fees	\$ 1,000.42			
DLC Travel Grants: Fowler, Glassmeyer	\$ 1,318.36			
<b>Total</b>			\$ 10,288.07	\$ 26,690.94
<b>Final Total</b>				\$ 26,690.94



**GD-SIS Committees and Elections**

GD-SIS is looking for volunteers for 2012/2013! Specifically, we are looking for folks interested in serving on one (or more) of our several committees. Whether you have never volunteered for a GD-SIS committee in the past, or have volunteered many times, I would like to encourage you to volunteer for a committee assignment. There are numerous options, from grants, to nominations, to programs, to publications. More information on our committees is available at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/gd/committees.html>

## New Acting Public Printer



On January 3, 2012, Deputy Public Printer Davita Vance-Cooks became Acting Public Printer for the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), the first woman to lead the agency. Vance-Cooks assumes her new role taking over after the expiration of Public Printer Bill Boarman's term. As a recess appointee, Boarman led GPO for 20 months while waiting for confirmation from the Senate. During that time, he worked vigorously to recoup about \$30 million in unpaid fees from other federal agencies and initiated employee buyouts to save money.

Vance-Cooks is a seasoned business executive with 30 years of private sector and Federal Government experience. She has held a succession of senior management positions at GPO for nearly eight years including: Chief of Staff, Managing Director of GPO's Customer Services and Procurement business unit and Managing Director of Publication and Information Sales. Before coming to GPO, Vance-Cooks held several private sector management positions.

Vance-Cooks main focus will be the implementation of GPO's Strategic Plan for 2012-2016, which will be customer-centric and employee-driven with four main prongs:

1. **Satisfying the Stakeholders:** GPO will create and promote an internal organizational culture in which exceptional service, delivery and customer satisfaction will be encouraged and rewarded. GPO will continue to provide secure, authentic and permanent federal government information to the public utilizing all available technology. And it will enhance strategic partnerships to gain flexibility, build effective networks and manage processes to meet customer demands.
2. **Strengthening the Organizational Foundation:** GPO will invest in technologies that are in direct relationship with business goals and excellent customer service, maintain fiscal responsibility, continue to support environmental stewardship, and maintain COOP Operations.
3. **Offering Projects and Services:** GPO will increase the volume of documents distributed and preserved under Title 44 to fulfill its mission, and will continue to be the provider of choice for secure federal credentials for the Federal Government.
4. **Engaging GPO's Workforce:** GPO will continue workforce plans that focus on diversity and foster work life programs to meeting the changing employees.

## **Public Printer Appoints New Members to Depository Library Council**

Public Printer Davita Vance-Cooks has announced her appointments to the 2012-2015 class of the Depository Library Council (DLC). Among the new appointees is Rosemary LaSala, Government Documents and Reference Librarian for the St. John's University's Rittenberg Law Library and former GD-SIS Chair. In 2008, Rosemary was the recipient of the NYLA/GIRT Mildred Lowe Award. The Mildred Lowe Award is presented annually by the New York Library Association/Government Information Round Table for her significant contribution to government documents librarianship, access to government information, and encouragement of documents use in New York State libraries. Joining Rosemary is Steve Beleu, Director of the Oklahoma State Data Center Coordinating Agency; Christopher Brown, Reference/Government Documents Librarian at University of Denver's Penrose Library; Marie Concannon, Government Documents Regional Coordinator at University of Missouri, Columbia; and Larry Romans, Head of Government Information and Media Services at Vanderbilt University's Central Library in Nashville.



## **Summary of the Fall 2011 Depository Library Council Meeting & Federal Depository Library Conference**

Of particular interest at the Fall Meeting was the program [Introduction to the GPO/AOC PACER Pilot Program](#). PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records) is an electronic database operated by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AOUSC) that provides public access to case and docket information from Federal Appellate, District, and Bankruptcy courts. PACER is available to anyone who registers for an account, but historically, PACER has not been a part of the FDLP, and users still incur fees for document retrieval through this site. In 2007, GPO partnered with the AOUSC to undertake a pilot to provide free public access to Federal court records to 17 depository libraries.

GPO and the AOC are now ready to expand the number of participating libraries to fifty, with preference given to the libraries that participated in the initial pilot. Libraries participating in the PACER Access and Education Program will be exempt from the first \$50 of quarterly usage charges. In exchange for the discount, participants in this new pilot will develop training materials and conduct training sessions on PACER. Shared training materials will be housed in a centralized location on the [FDLP Desktop](#) so that instructors may download and adapt it to their own institution and patron base.

If you want more information or are interested in participating in the Program, review the documentation and register by using the "Questions about the PACER: Access and Education Program" form in [PACER: Access and Education Program](#).



Also during the meeting, conference participants were treated to a special showing of an exhibit hosted at the Government Printing Office to commemorate the agency's 150 years of service to the Nation. The exhibit was the creation of George Barnum, Agency Historian at the U.S. Government Printing Office, and tracked the distribution of government information from hand-set type to hand-held devices. For instance, the linotype machine that accompanied General John J. Pershing's headquarters staff in France during World War I was near computer kiosks providing access to GPO's Federal Digital System.

The exhibit's centerpiece was an original preliminary version of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, issued in September 1862 and printed by GPO. The document, on loan from the Library of Congress, shows proofreader's edits marking revisions that were incorporated into the final Proclamation issued on January 1, 1863. Other important documents on display included Thomas Jefferson's Bible, Warren Commission Report on the Assassination of President Kennedy, a signed copy of President George H. W. Bush's 1991 State of the Union address, and the latest Web 2.0 version of the Federal Register.

Portions of the exhibit are now on display at the State Library of Ohio – truly a tribute to George Barnum, who is a graduate of Cleveland State University and the Kent State University School of Library Science, and a former Depository Librarian at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.



George Carter, Head of Reference & Public Services at the San Bernadino County Law Library enjoying the exhibit.



JURISDOCS co-editor Kate Irwin-Smiler learning more about the Congressional Record.



Documents printed by GPO for the President's inauguration and reception dinner.

Link to video of exhibit: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFTu8a-PLao&feature=channel\\_video\\_title](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFTu8a-PLao&feature=channel_video_title)

On Thursday, October 20th, there was a special session of the fall 2011 Depository Library

Council Meeting & Federal Depository Library Conference. In that session, Superintendent of Documents, Mary Alice Baish, spoke about the need for the FDLP to change in order to embrace the digital world.

*While each of us is committed to the mission of the FDLP to provide for no-fee public access to Federal Government information now and for future generations and also to the values of the program, we are at a tipping point. If this Program, which is the very foundation of our democracy, is to grow and flourish and become more robust, it must change to embrace the digital world, while continuing to value the historic tangible collections in many of our libraries. It is not our goal today to dwell on the past, but to look to the future.... to work with you to determine... the changing needs of the Program.*

Daniel O'Mahony, Director of Library Planning and Assessment at Brown University's Rockefeller Library, gave an [inspired speech](#) (very much worth a read) addressing the steep challenges that are ahead for government documents librarians as we assess and implement necessary changes to the Program.

GPO then laid out its plan for a FDLP State Forecasting Project designed to work with the community to identify and document the most pressing needs of FDLP libraries and to assist GPO in determining a national strategy for the future direction of the Program. This will be part of a larger study to examine possible program models, and will incorporate the primary as well as the secondary data that was gathered in the past.

The first prong of the Project is a State Forecast Survey. The FDLP State Forecast questionnaire is designed to gather data about the conditions of all types of FDLP libraries, individually and in a state, and to identify issues that libraries are facing now and expect to face in the future.

The second prong is a State Focused Action Plan built on the information and issues identified in your State Forecast. The action plan will be composed of initiatives and activities to implement in the next five years to achieve the goals for all types of FDLP libraries in your state or depository region (the geographic area currently served by a regional depository). The action plan may contain specific initiatives for library types as needed.



## **Participate in the Shared Vision for the Future of the FDLP**

Following the conclusion of the Fall 2011 Meeting & Conference, GPO created [two online discussion forums](#) on the FDLP Community site to answer questions and gather feedback in response to their plan to generate a shared vision for the future of the FDLP. In addition, thirty individuals, comprised of Depository Library Council members and representatives from various library types, participated in a pilot-test of the State Forecast Survey. After receiving valuable comments and suggestions, the individual library questionnaire was refined and is now available. The State Forecast Survey is the first step in gathering data about the conditions of all types of FDLP libraries. The second step is a State Focused Action Plan built on the information and

issues identified in your State Forecast. GPO has provided [information](#) on the background and goals of this GPO initiative, as well as the questionnaire itself, online.

It is very important that law librarians participate in the State Forecasting and Action Plan process to ensure that the FDLP National Plan for the future of the Program will be one based on a shared vision with member libraries. As Sally Holterhoff recently noted in an email to the GD-SIS community:

*Law library depositories are a significant part of the depository program. Our perspectives on needs, opportunities, and roles will strengthen the national forecast, as well as those of our individual states. So, besides responding on behalf of our individual libraries, it's also important that we join with our colleagues in public, government and other academic libraries within our state communities, helping to create a state action plan for each of our own states.*

It is also recommended that FDLP members identify groups that can coordinate state level discussions. Individual library and state level FDLP Forecast questionnaires and State Focused Action Plans are due by June 30, 2012. But please be aware that the deadline for collaborating within your state might be much earlier than June 30.

GPO has already met with state forecasters in California, Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota, South Dakota, Colorado, Kansas, OK, Arkansas to discuss formulating plans; and they have scheduled meetings with librarians in Michigan, Maryland, DC and Delaware. Discussions are also in place with other state library groups. AALL will also be hosting a webinar to help answer questions entitled, "Law Librarians and the Federal Depository Library Program: Working Together for a Successful Future Date," on April 19 at 11:00 AM.

GPO will begin its quantitative and qualitative data analysis of state surveys in July, and will be following up with individuals and perhaps conducting focus groups to target specific recurring issues identified within the survey. It is GPO's hope to share the preliminary quantitative data findings at the 2012 Depository Library Council Meeting & Federal Depository Library Conference.



## **Spring 2012 Federal Depository Library Council Meeting with GPO**

In lieu of a Spring Depository Library Conference, members of Council were sent to Washington, DC on March 8<sup>th</sup> for a day-long meeting with Davita Vance-Cooks, Mary Alice Baish and the Library Services and Content Management team. Included in the discussion was an overview of the FDLP State Forecast Project, an update on FDsys training activities, ILS updates – including a review of the depository selections information management system, and an overview of the new FDLP.gov and Ben's Guide.

Select members of Council are also beta testing iCohere software with GPO to assess the viability of virtual FDLP conferences in the future.

At the Fall 2011 Meeting, Council made seven recommendations – which were addressed by GPO at this Spring gathering:

1. It was recommended that GPO work with Council increase use of the FDLP Community site to solicit feedback from the library community on GPO interfaces and systems.

GPO's Response: GPO shares Council's goal of active involvement of users by sharing its vision and progress with Council prior to sharing with the FDL community at the public, as well as hosting a "FDLP Web Services" forum on the FDLP Community site.

2. Council recommended that the document "Guidance for Federal Depository Libraries Relinquishing Regional Designation" be reviewed and expanded to include other possible Regional transition situations and be made widely available.

GPO's Response: GPO is reviewing the "Guidance" document with respect to the issues raised.

3. Council recommends GPO create a registry of government information teaching and training materials and make the registry available on the FDLP Desktop.

GPO's Response: The ability to share videos, tutorials, guides and other user-developed training materials might map to the future iteration of the FDLP Community site.

4. Council recommended that GPO embed any new training tutorials in FDSys.

GPO's Response: There are 33 educational videos planned for FDSys on topics such as basic searching, advanced searching, retrieve by citations, help tools in FDSys, and more. Once completed, these 3-7 minute tutorials will be made available on [www.fdsys.gov](http://www.fdsys.gov), [www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov), and [www.fdlp.gov](http://www.fdlp.gov). The first video is expected to be ready for launch this spring.

5. Council recommended that GPO continue to analyze whether the PACER subsidy is adequate to meet the needs of depository libraries and patrons.

GPO's Response: Ultimately, the decision for any changes to the waiver amount or addition of exclusive benefits for depository libraries rests with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and will have to be justified and supported with data gathered from participating libraries.

6. Council recommended the continued development of the FDLP web, including integrating the FDLP Desktop and FDLP Community sites and creating an improved Ben's Guide.

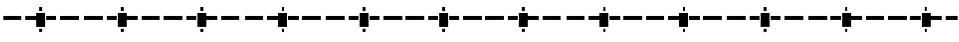
GPO’S Response: Based on feedback received from Council and community members, templates mockups for the FDLP Desktop and Ben’s Guide are being modified. Both sites will feature a phased rollout of features, which will be outlined on the FDLP Community site’s “FDLP Web Services” [Forum](#). Once the FDLP Desktop is finalized, GPO will begin mapping out timeframes and efforts to integrate other FDLP web services into a consistent design and bridge functionality.

7. Council applauded GPO’s efforts to engage the entire depository community in gathering system-wide information on the FDLP. This feedback will not only improve the depository program, but also inform our discussions on aspects of Title 44 and other regulations that may need to be changed.

GPO’s Response: GPO thanked Council for its support and willingness to assist GPO with the FDLP Forecasting study. Details of the State Focused Action Plan template and project page are available through the FDLP Desktop <http://www.fdlp.gov/project-information> where members of the community can access information and articles about the Project as well as Word and PDF versions of the Forecasts and State Focused Action Plans.



Gathering of Council, the Public Printer and the Superintendent of Documents at GPO.



**Upcoming Events**

AALL Annual Meeting  
July 21- 24, 2012  
Boston, Massachusetts

Follow on Twitter: @AALL2012  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/186091468161721/>

**OFFICERS**

Chair: Eric Parker	<a href="mailto:ecp278@law.northwestern.edu">ecp278@law.northwestern.edu</a>
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Janet Fischer	<a href="mailto:jfischer@ggu.edu">jfischer@ggu.edu</a>
Past Chair: Dee Wood	<a href="mailto:owood@email.uky.edu">owood@email.uky.edu</a>
Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Wondracek	<a href="mailto:wondracekj@law.ufl.edu">wondracekj@law.ufl.edu</a>
Advocacy Committee: Larry Meyer	<a href="mailto:larrym@sblawlibrary.org">larrym@sblawlibrary.org</a>
Grants Committee: Jill Sidford	<a href="mailto:JSidford@Shearman.com">JSidford@Shearman.com</a>
Listserv Owner: Michael Samson	<a href="mailto:ad4092@wayne.edu">ad4092@wayne.edu</a>
Nominations Committee: Larry Meyer	<a href="mailto:larrym@sblawlibrary.org">larrym@sblawlibrary.org</a>
Program Committee: Eric Grant	<a href="mailto:ecp278@law.northwestern.edu">ecp278@law.northwestern.edu</a>
Public Relations Committee: Jennifer Morgan	<a href="mailto:jlbryan@indiana.edu">jlbryan@indiana.edu</a>
Publications Committee: Edward Hart	<a href="mailto:hart@law.ufl.edu">hart@law.ufl.edu</a>
Webmaster: Eric Young	<a href="mailto:younge@nsu.law.nova.edu">younge@nsu.law.nova.edu</a>