In This Issue:

From the Editors..................................1
Chair’s Report....................................2
GD-SIS Annual Report .......................3
Vice Chair/Chair-Elect’s AALL Report .........................5
Treasurer’s AALL Report ............6
What We Do Matters ......................7
No Such Thing as a Stupid Question ....................9
AALL Hackathon ........................11
GD-SIS Grants ............................12
Officers ....................................19

From the Editors

Dear Fellow GD-SIS Members,

We are very pleased to be here as the new editors of JURISDOCS! We hope you enjoy this latest edition, and please consider contributing an article to our next issue.

Sincerely,
Stacy Fowler and Michael Umberger.
Your Editors
Earlier this fall, it was very hectic as emails flew across the internet while Kate Irwin-Smiler led our efforts for program development for the 2015 AALL meeting in Philadelphia. Thanks to Kate, the program committee, and several devoted SIS members who made proposals. The SIS is also once again supporting a pre-conference hackathon. We look forward to seeing Shawn Friend and Jennifer Wondracek pull together this second edition. Thank you to all who contributed.

We should also give thanks to Kate and her co-presenters Rosemary LaSala, Scott Matheson, and Teri Taylor for their program Law Libraries & the FDLP: Past, Present, & Future presented during the Depository Library Council Virtual Meeting earlier this month. They reminded us that over 200 law libraries, including law schools and county law libraries, serve as depositories. It is through FDLP that many law libraries build collaborative relationships with other libraries and institutions. For an academic law libraries, these relationships may be with their universities’ main libraries or with local public libraries. For county law libraries, it provides an avenue for deeper outreach to the public.

I was disappointed to hear that the planned Spring 2015 face-to-face Depository Library Council meeting has been pushed back to Fall 2015. The lack of opportunities for professional development and networking should be a concern for all of us, especially for new govdoc librarians who may be faced with a prolonged gap before their first opportunity to meet their colleagues in our particular specialization of law librarianship. As we attend our law library meetings, whether AALL or your regional chapter, make the effort to meet your fellow govdocers and share your knowledge about the program and our commitment to connecting citizens with government information.

Keep in mind that the SIS offers grants to attend FDLP meetings, AALL, and this year one for the AALL Management Institute. We are able to do this through the generosity of our volunteers who compile and update the state documents bibliographies, which William S. Hein & Co. includes in HeinOnline and sells in print.

It’s hard to believe that nearly half the year has already gone since I took office. It went even faster, as this was the first semester for my new law school. After spending a year planning and setting up the library, I had not realized how lonely the place was without students. But after fourteen weeks of the semester, I am ready for the peace of the intersession. The peace to get ready for spring term.

To everyone I wish the sincerest happy holidays!
GD-SIS Annual Report

The Government Documents Special Interest Section (GD-SIS) continued to have an active and productive year. The officers of the GD-SIS during 2013-14 were Camilla Tubbs, Chair; Ed Hart, Vice Chair; Amy Taylor, Secretary-Treasurer; and Kate Irwin-Smiler, JURISDOCS Co-Editor.

GD-SIS members continue to write and update the AALL State Documents Bibliography series. We had two updated bibliographies, Georgia and Rhode Island. Volunteers are working on eleven bibliographies for future release. Our arrangement with William S. Hein & Company for the distribution of the bibliographies continues. Electronic versions of the new and historical bibliographies are included in the Spinelli’s Law Library Reference Shelf library on Hein, for which we received a royalty this year of $3,700. Hein also sells print copies of both new and historical bibliographies. This past year we sold 88 copies of print titles, for another $584 in royalties. In total, we received royalties from Hein in the amount of $8,926.00, a total that includes the delayed 2012-13 royalty check from Hein in the amount of $4,642.00. In addition to the contributing content to the AALL State Documents Bibliographies, three issues for Volume 35 of JURISDOCS, the GD-SIS newsletter, were released.

The GD-SIS was pleased to sponsor a workshop and two programs at the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio: (1) “Workshop W1: AALL Hackathon: Building the Information Future,” organized by Jennifer Wondracek, gave AALL members a full day to transform government datasets into new resources that will increase the data's accessibility and discoverability; (2) “Program C1: The Once and Future Federal Depository Library Program,” where Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish and focused on changes to the Federal Depository Library Program based on feedback from law librarians and other interested parties; and (3) “Program H4: Gov Docs Basics: Where There Is No Such Thing as a Stupid Question,” which featured a panel of government documents experts answering questions that were received throughout the year and building up to that program.

At our annual business meeting on July 16, 2013, the membership voted to create a new committee to continue the work of the FDLP Taskforce. The biggest accomplishment by that committee in 2013-2014 was a new Law Library Depository Community within AALLNET’s MyCommunities. Unlike other MyCommunities, which are automatically synced with rosters in the AALL membership database, this forum was specially created through individual invitations to bring together depository coordinators in law libraries that participate in the Federal Depository Library Program. The purpose of the group is for community members to share concerns, innovations, and ideas and to keep librarians connected with the GD-SIS and the Government Relations Office.
The Grants Committee awarded two $750.00 grants to attend the 2013-14 Federal Depository Library Conference. The recipients were: Erik R. Beck and Larry Meyer. For the first time, the Grants Committee awarded a grant for GD-SIS members to attend the AALL Leadership Academy. The recipients of the $400.00 grant were: Julie Graves Krishnaswami and Kate Irwin-Smiler. It awarded the Veronica Maclay Grant of $1,250.00 to attend the AALL Annual Meeting to Corrine Vogel.

Our election was held in May 2014. The membership elected Kate Irwin-Smiler as Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Cate Kellett as Member-at-Large (a 2-year appointment), and Amy Taylor as Secretary/Treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Camilla Tubbs and Ed Hart
July 31, 2014

The “Law Libraries and FDLP” poster made a special appearance at the Spring 2014 Depository Library Council Meeting and Conference!
DLC Report

The Depository Library Council has spent the last six months hard at work, advising the Government Printing Office on a number of policy initiatives. We have collected community feedback on a forthcoming policy permitting regional libraries to substitute authenticated electronic versions of some documents for print copies. While the policy is not yet in final form, and the implementation is still being debating, we anticipate that this measure will allow regional libraries to provide better service by freeing up shelf space and staff time.

We have also had various council working groups looking at different subjects. One has been working on best practices for offsite and closed stacks storage. With more libraries facing critical space issues, and documents departments being viewed as a vulnerable collection, the council and GPO are collaborating on a series of recommendations to best protect the physical and intellectual access to this material. Another working group has been continuing to follow up from the 2012 National Academy of Public Administration review of GPO operations, focusing on Recommendation 3, which advised GPO to create a comprehensive plan for preserving the tangible collection of government documents. This has led, in part, to the creation of a new National Plan for the Federal Depository Library Program.

You may have seen a call for responses from Rosemary LaSala on the GD-SIS or Law Library Depository Coordinators discussion lists, in advance of a conference session on law libraries at the Depository Library Council virtual conference. The law librarians on Council, along with Teri Taylor at the New Jersey State Library, are planning a session designed to educate non-law librarians about the strengths, challenges, and opportunities of being a law library and depository library. We believe there are misperceptions about law depositories and that we are uniquely poised to “mythbust.” We invite you to join us for this session and add your own thoughts during the chat sessions. We will also be asking all the participants for their ideas regarding potential collaborations between law and non-law depositories.

You can hear more about the work of the Depository Library Council at our Virtual Meeting, December 2-4. (The law library session is on Wednesday, December 3, at 4:10 pm Eastern time.) Recordings will be available via FDLP.gov. Plans for the next in-person conference are as yet uncertain but will hopefully be announced soon.
# Treasurer’s Report

Amy Taylor  
Access Services Librarian & Adjunct Professor  
Pence Law Library, Washington College of Law

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*Hein Royalties include delayed amount from 2012-2013 fiscal year - $4642.00
What We Do Matters: Gov Docs Librarians’ Advocacy Participation Counts

Peggy Jarrett
Reference and Documents Librarian
Gallagher Law Library – University of Washington School of Law

As GD-SIS members know, AALL has a strong and active government relations program. Our association has an outstanding Government Relations Office (GRO) director, Emily Feltren, three policy committees, and a rich collection of member resources available on AALL.net. The GD-SIS has an Advocacy Committee, chaired by Larry Meyer, and our SIS has long worked with other AALL groups to educate and to advocate. My goal here, as the Vice-Chair of the Government Relations Committee, a GD-SIS member, and a working “docs librarian,” is to encourage even more GD-SIS members to get involved and share our valuable experience and expertise.

Public policy advocacy is done by all sorts of law librarians, but GD-SIS members have a special place in the ecosystem. We have a unique perspective on access to government information since we work with the patrons and the materials. In our roles as reference, collection development, and technical services librarians, we know the value, utility, strengths, and weaknesses of the tangible and digital products. It is not that our colleagues don’t have this knowledge, but GD-SIS members have a deep and abiding interest in government information – a special interest that led us to join the GD-SIS!

Many GD-SIS members are also either Federal Depository coordinators or librarians who work in Federal Depository libraries. We need to continue to speak up as GPO moves forward on the National Plan for the Future of the FDLP. In August, many of us responded to a survey about a policy discussion document that would allow regional depository libraries to discard tangible depository resources under select circumstances, including the availability of the publications on FDsys. Our responses helped form AALL’s official comments.

Depository coordinators are also the AALL members who work closely with colleagues in other types of libraries and are involved in state documents organizations. We share our expertise about authentication and primary legal sources and learn about nonlegal government sources. We understand the broad issues of access to government information and practical challenges of delivering that information to our communities.
A case in point: this summer’s passage by the House of the Federal Register Modernization Act (H.R. 4195), which AALL strongly opposes. The GRO needed – and still needs as autumn quickly approaches – our stories and anecdotes about how we, and our patrons, use the Federal Register, CFR, and their indexes, in print. GD-SIS librarians have a practical understanding of how difficult it can be for our patrons to do regulatory research and to find a regulatory “snapshot in time.” We have stories to share from a world of research that is both digital and print.

OK, so GD-SIS members have the knowledge and experience – but what can an individual librarian do?

- Educate yourself. Check out the Access to Government Information webpage, which includes a section on the Federal Depository Library Program and a wide range of other issues.

- Keep up with developments by joining the advocacy team. Sign up for the Advocacy Listserv, subscribe to the Washington Blawg, and follow the GRO on Twitter.

- Use the Legislative Action Center. This amazing tool makes it a snap to tell your stories – stories that illustrate why an issue is important to you, your patrons, and your institution.

- Fill out the Print Resource Usage Log whenever you use or help a patron with a print federal legal resource. Encourage your public service colleagues to do the same.

- Find roles compatible with your personal strengths. Write, speak, or work behind the scenes – do whatever it is that you do best (and maybe even enjoy). AALL’s Advocacy Toolkit is a good place to start.

- Respond when asked! When the GRO requests member input, share.

Thanks for all you do to support no-fee permanent public access to official, authentic legal information. As we know well, the law is a government document!
No Such Thing as a Stupid Question!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the GD-SIS sponsored program *Gov Docs Basics: Where There Is No Such Thing as a Stupid Question*. Special congrats goes out to Alicia Brillon, Head of Acquisitions and Government Documents Librarian at the S.J. Quinney Law Library - University of Utah, whose name was drawn from the pool of questions (we included all online and in-person submissions). She is the winner of an autographed copy of Cass Hartnett’s book: Fundamentals of Government Information!

Here are some of the questions and answers received by our panelists:

**Question 1: How long must I hold on to shipping lists?**

Shipping lists need not be retained or maintained after they have been processed. Many depository libraries find it useful, however, to retain the lists for at least six months to ensure proper accounting of receipts. If marked properly, these shipping lists can help with a variety of collection management projects.

**Question 2: Does a depository library have to maintain a certain tangible item selection rate to remain a depository?**

As long as you are not a Regional, you can select as little or as much as meets the needs of the community. There used to be two item numbers that each depository had to select which provide guidance publications from the U.S. Government Printing Office (0556-C and 1004-E); however, it was announced at the 107th Annual Meeting by Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish that Selectives will no longer need to receive those items in tangible form.

**Question 3: Is there way for Selectives to limit their item selection profile on the Depository Selection Information Management System (DSIMS) by format?**

The best resource is most likely the Documents Data Miner 2 ([http://govdoc.wichita.edu/ddm2/gdxnavpan.htm](http://govdoc.wichita.edu/ddm2/gdxnavpan.htm)) which allows you to find, sort, and print out a list of the item numbers that are available in a particular format.

**Question 4: What is DSIMS?**

DSIMS, which is short for Depository Selection Information Management System, allows librarians to access their item selection profile. Use your depository library number and
GPO-issued internal password to log in. For information on how to use DSIMS, consult this [tutorial](#). Depositories may stop receiving publications at any time by dropping the item number from their library's item selection profile. Libraries will stop receiving the dropped publications within one week. Claims cannot be made to dropped publications. Depositories can now add publications at any time using DSIMS; however, receipt of the newly-added publication is based on format. Online (EL) publications are added immediately, while tangible publications are processed on October 1 of each year. Libraries will receive the publications on shipping lists for the new fiscal year. DSIMS does not let you search for an item number to deselect an item but does allow you to search for an item to add it.

**Question 5: What do you do when you hear about someone doing something bad to their documents collection?**

If you are a Selective, you can inform your regional coordinator, who can give you advice; or, if you do not get a response from the regional, you can contact GPO and also explain the situation.

**Question 6: What is the best way to check the status of a serial or when a serial was shipped?**

The best resource is most likely the Documents Data Miner 2 ([http://govdoc.wichita.edu/ddm2/gdxnavpan.htm](http://govdoc.wichita.edu/ddm2/gdxnavpan.htm)).
More than thirty people met at the San Antonio Meeting Center on Saturday, July 12, for the first-ever AALL Hackathon. Hackathons are events intended to draw people together to build new resources in a short amount of time. A civic hackathon, the model the AALL Hackathon followed, is where people get together to use government information to create new resources for the public.

At the AALL Hackathon, participants divided into four teams to work on projects. One team worked on creating a resource to make New York Education opinions more accessible and understandable to the lay person. Another team worked on creating a resource to harvest the administrative codes for all fifty states and put them in one location with a standard format. A third team worked on the State Working Group Inventory records. The last group created a program which would overlay a state’s court opinion page and allow individual search boxes to be aggregated into one search box. For example, if there were individual search boxes for opinions by date, opinions by attorney, opinions by party, this program would provide the user with a single search box that would run the several individual searches as one and de-duplicate the results. This last group won the $250 prize, which had generously been donated by GD-SIS. The group members donated most of the prize money to a start-up non-profit run by one of the group members.

The desired result of the Hackathon was to inspire attendees and prove to them that creating new information resources was within their abilities. Based on the evaluations, this was, indeed, the end result for most participants.
GD-SIS Grants

The GD-SIS Grants Committee for 2013-2014 consisted of the following members:

- Eric W. Young, Nova Southeastern University (Chair)
- Nancy Cowden, Oklahoma City University
- Peggy Jarrett, University of Washington
- Gail Whittemore, Pace University

The Committee awarded two $750.00 grants to attend the 2013-2014 Federal Depository Library Conference. The recipients were:

- Erik R. Beck, Digital Services Librarian, University of Colorado William A. Wise Law Library
- Larry Meyer, Director, Law Library for San Bernadino County

For the first time, the Grants Committee awarded a grant for GD-SIS members to attend the AALL Leadership Academy. The recipients of the $400.00 grant were:

- Julie Graves Krishnaswami, Head of Instruction and Lecturer in Legal Research, Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School
- Kate Irwin-Smiler, Reference Librarian, Wake Forest University School of Law Library (had to decline the grant)

The Committee awarded the Veronica Maclay Grant of $1,250.00, to attend the AALL Annual Meeting to Corrine Vogel, MLIS Candidate and Graduate Assistant, Albert E. Jenner Jr. Law Library, University of Illinois.

As a condition of receiving a GD-SIS grant, members are asked to write up a short article for JURIDOCs. Below are the contributions from our grant recipients:

**Transforming Government Documents – A Recap of the 2014’s DLC Meeting and FDLP Conference**

By Erik R. Beck

The official theme of 2014’s DLC Meeting and FDLP Conference was “Connecting Communities,” but it might as well have been “Transformation.” That was the central topic of Public Printer Davita Vance Cooks’s opening keynote speech (http://tinyurl.com/p24hs6w). The Public Printer described how the GPO was transforming itself from a “print-centric operation to a content-centric digital platform” and that the agency was seeking statutory and policy changes
to better facilitate this transformation, starting with a modification of its name from the Government Printer Office to the Government Publishing Office.

The theme of transformation was not limited to just the GPO. The Public Printer foresaw new and emerging roles for the FDLP as well. “Our vision for the Federal Depository Library Program is ‘It’s all about access,’” said the Public Printer. “[Access to government information] is the core mission of the FDLP, and to ensure that mission is carried out in the digital age we must adapt to changes that surround us. The FDLP must become modernized.”

That following day, in what Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish called “The most important discussion we will have throughout the week,” the GPO unveiled its vision to modernize the FDLP. Delivered by the Office of the Superintendent of Documents in a session entitled, “National Plan for the Future of the FDLP” (http://tinyurl.com/lld7yg3), this vision proposes a name change for the FDLP to the Federal Information Access Library Program (FIALP). It would also introduce new member classifications in addition to the traditional regional and selective roles. According to the new National Plan, the Federal Information Access Library Program would consist of the following member categories:

- **Regional Federal Access Libraries**: Identical to current regional depository libraries. These libraries would offer no-fee access, state/ regional coordination, collection management, reference training, and marketing.

- **Federal Access Libraries**: Identical to current selective depository libraries. These libraries would offer no-fee access, community engagement, and marketing.

- **Affiliated Federal Access Libraries**: A new designation, this category would mainly include small libraries that do not meet the current size requirement for inclusion in the FDLP. Affiliated Federal Access Libraries would offer no-fee access for online resources only. They would not house tangible items.

- **Federal Information Access Assurance Partners**: A new designation intended to recognize entities (not necessarily libraries) which take on new responsibilities to aid the overall program. FIAAPs would offer no-fee access, maintain comprehensive collections, uphold preservation standards and provide collection support services.

The Superintendent of Documents placed special emphasis on the Federal Information Access Assurance Partners role, and in a separate but related program directly following the National Plan presentation, she proposed the formation of a collaborative system for FIAAPs which she called the “Government Information Access and Preservation Network.” Member institutions would share responsibilities for cataloging government information, performing collection condition assessments, digitization, web harvesting, hosting, and preservation. The GPO would coordinate the efforts of the network, while an advisory board made up FIAAP library directors would act in a consultative capacity to the GPO on
behalf of the group. The proposal to establish the Government Information Access and Preservation Network was motivated by a report submitted by the National Academy of Public Administration recommending that the GPO “develop a comprehensive plan for preservation, cataloging, and digitization of all government information.” Of course, as we were reminded throughout the week, the GPO no longer holds the government information corpus, they do not have authorization to digitize the material even if they did, and they do not have the authority to award grants to other institutions that might accept the job. Therefore, in the absence of congressional funding to extend the GPO’s ability to catalog, digitize, and preserve, the onus of fulfilling the NAPA’s recommendation must fall on the shoulders of depository libraries.

When the Regional Depository Meeting (http://tinyurl.com/o585lvk) was convened the next day, regional coordinators held a spirited discussion regarding the National Plan. Concerns were raised over whether or not the Plan will prompt more Selectives to go all-digital. Many were apprehensive about accepting additional responsibilities and juggling the complexities of the new roles proposed. Regional coordinators were skeptical that their directors would buy into the plan and contribute additional resources to these new efforts. Questions were raised over who would cover the cost, what would be gained from contributing, and how the idea would be pitched to our respective institutions. This last question, at least, was answered for all of us by Marie Concannon, Government Documents & Data Services Librarian for the University of Missouri and Depository Library Council member. In her presentation for the session entitled, “The Comprehensive Preservation Plan for Government Documents” (http://tinyurl.com/m8luomj), Marie gave us a brief history of barn raising on the frontier and how it pertained to the FDLP’s situation today. Standing before a projected black and white photo depicting a mass of people standing before an enormous, partially constructed barn, she told us about how many families would get together to build one family a barn so that that family could survive. She said,

“We librarians are on the edge of a frontier, which is a digital frontier. And survival is still the issue; not personal survival but survival of the information of the past, the information that tells the story of our country… Until we build a structure to protect it, our legacy will be at risk of being lost… If you are part of the FDLP, GPO has already built your barn. Your barn has been built; think of some small way that you can help this community effort… We’re building this for the American people, so that the story of our great country can be preserved.”

It is anyone’s guess as to how successful the new National Plan will be. It is unclear if depository libraries will accept the new responsibilities of the Federal Information Access Assurance Partnership. Even more uncertain is whether GPO will be capable of providing effective leadership to coordinate such a complex enterprise. One thing that we should all be able to agree upon, and which Marie Concannon reminded us of so eloquently, is that our focus and common goal is and always has been permanent access to government information, and if we are to continue to provide such service now and into the future, we must work together and build a program that is relevant to the digital age.
Lessons from the Leadership Academy, or
Who Am I and How Should I Communicate?
By Julie Graves Krishnaswami

The AALL Leadership Academy aims to train midcareer librarians for leadership roles by teaching them how to unleash their personal leadership style while facilitating networking opportunities with a similarly situated cohort. Conceived to foster and create a new generation of innovative experts and administrators, the course provides a librarian—who may be pondering the direction or trajectory of her career—the space to reflect on and enhance her communication and interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence, and professional network.

In other words, to develop and enhance leadership skills. But really, what are leadership skills? My roommate at the Leadership Academy, Kate Irwin-Smiler, Reference Librarian at Wake Forest University School of Law, commented that she “was pleasantly surprised at their definition of leadership, [fearing] they would take a narrow view of leadership and limit it to exercise of management authority.” She aptly noted that the “entire Leadership Academy focused on ‘leadership’ as a way of identifying your priorities and using your skills to make your ideas come to life in the real world.” As it turns out, it seems to be the ability to communicate. Communication, which includes listening, isn’t rocket science, but it’s a skill that nearly everyone can stand to improve.

It is cliché to observe that communication is at the heart of every relationship, including our relationships with colleagues, patrons, and students. Most of the AALL Leadership Academy was devoted to discussing communication: understanding one’s own communication style, as well as the styles of others, including acknowledging verbal and nonverbal methods of communication. To be sure, meaning is derived from tone and visual cues even more so than words. Meaning is in the eyes. To understand one’s own communication style, one must know oneself. The Academy’s facilitators, Gail Johnson and Pam Parr, spearheaded an engaging and spirited two-day discussion about communication styles, pitfalls, and strategies. Participants were candid and excited to discuss challenges, failures, and successes.

At the Leadership Academy, I learned five distinct lessons that I can apply when I think about communication:

1. Taking the time to determine how you communicate is onerous but worthwhile. Of course, we can only control our own methods of communication, so when I communicate, I should ask myself: Am I being clear? What is implicit in my tone? Can any of the words I’m using be interpreted in multiple ways? Am I being ambiguous? Am I using ambiguous words or phrases such as “appropriate,” “soon,” etc.?
(2). Asking questions in invaluable. Listening to the response is just as important. More specifically, listening for common ground can help bring parties together and create productive feelings.

(3). Apply three rules when communicating by email: (1) keep it brief and clear, (2) use bullets but no more than three, and (3) if a response is required, say so.

(4). Always remember your behavior—words, tone, and body language—impacts everyone around you. And for some of us, the best we can do is use restraint or listen. When in doubt, listen!

(5). Remember how shared interests, traits, characteristics, and values bring people together and mitigate some of the complexities and midfields of communicating.

I left the Leadership Academy convinced that it is well worth the time and effort to think about my communication style. Indeed, we are perceived much differently than we think.

The Leadership Academy doesn’t end with the weekend. A follow up component includes an optional ongoing mentorship and online discussion forum that allows participants to keep working on various kinds of communication, verbal and written, as they discuss leadership topics over the following months and maintain the connections built at the Academy. After all, expertly communicating is an evolving skill.

Attending the San Antonio AALL Annual Meeting

By Corrine Vogel

Like many of you, I recently attended the 107th Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Association of Law Libraries in San Antonio. As the 2014 Veronica Maclay Grant recipient, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Government Documents Special Interest Section and its members for providing me with this Grant and allowing me to attend my first annual meeting.

The Annual Meeting was by far the highlight of my summer. I had heard many great things about past Annual Meetings, but it even exceeded my high expectations. I met and networked with librarians with many diverse and unique backgrounds. From meeting those newer to the profession like myself at CONELL to those I have previously read articles by in Spectrum and Law Library Journal, and meeting other runners at the “Un-Run” on Sunday morning, I felt welcomed and excited to be among those who share the same passion for law librarianship.
I was quite excited to attend the government documents session “The Once and Future Federal Depository Library Program.” I enjoyed hearing the Superintendent of Documents, Mary Alice Baish, speak about what the future holds for the depository program. This was of particular interest to me as I was concurrently writing a paper on the FDLP and the public – focusing on how academic law libraries treat public patrons in accessing government information amidst the transition to almost exclusively electronic resources. The suggestion that the FDLP may change its name to the “Federal Information Access Library Program” seemed quite fitting, as free public access has always been foundational to the depository program. I appreciated Baish’s emphasizing that even 153 years ago it was important for “the people” to know what the government was doing and hold it accountable, a critically important value that the depository program continues to facilitate today.

I attended many other sessions besides those related to government documents, including the HeinOnline and Fastcase presentation, as well as the Cool Tools Café. I also enjoyed visiting the various vendors in the Exhibit Hall as well as looking at the variety of poster presentations (in addition to presenting my own poster entitled “Pro Se Patron Policy: Show It to the World Wide Web.”)

I’m looking forward to attending the 108th Annual Meeting next year in Philadelphia and having the opportunity to attend more government documents programming and other informative sessions, as well as finding opportunities to become increasingly more involved in our profession. This grant has initiated what I expect to be the first of many great annual meetings and lifelong memories.
Have you heard? There is a new myCommunities Group called “Law Library Depository Community”

AALL has a new Law Library Depository Community! Unlike other MyCommunities groups, which are automatically synced with rosters in the AALL membership database, this forum was specially created through individual invitations to bring together depository coordinators in law libraries that participate in the Federal Depository Library Program. The purpose of the group is for community members to share concerns, innovations, and ideas and to keep you connected with the AALL Government Documents Special Interest Section and the Government Relations Office. If you notice someone is missing from this group (including yourself) who should be included, please email Camilla Tubbs. We tried very hard to reach out to as many people as possible, but sometimes invitations are missed or can end up in your spam folder.

Missed a session at the meeting? Is there one you’d like to review for reference? With AALL2go, you can access our most informative sessions from the 2014 Annual Meeting when it’s convenient for you. Purchase recordings or download the handouts from AALL2go. (Attendees who purchased a conference registration will receive free download access to these recordings in August.)

Upcoming Events

THE POWER OF CONNECTION AALL 2015
108th Annual Meeting & Conference
July 18-21 | Philadelphia, PA
OFFICERS

Chair: Edward Hart  edward.hart@untsystem.edu
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Kate Irwin-Smiler  irwinse@wfu.edu
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Secretary/Treasurer: Amy Taylor  amytaylor@wcl.american.edu
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Grants Committee: Eric Young  younge@nsu.law.nova.edu
Listserv Owner: Michael Samson  ad4092@wayne.edu
Nominations Committee: Rosemary LaSala  lasalar@stjohns.edu
Program Committee: Edward Hart  edward.hart@untsystem.edu
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