From the Editor(s)

Dear GD-SIS Members,

Change. Tis the season for it! You may have noticed, this issue of JURISDOCS is later than most Fall issues. That is because we are in a period of change.

Rebecca Kunkel has decided to step back from serving as editor of JURISDOCS but continues to serve as GD-SIS Vice Chair. Meanwhile, Charlie Amiot has agreed to serve as Editor of JURISDOCS and has been learning the ropes and getting her feet underneath her! Thanks to mutual support and the sharing of experiences, this issue of JURISDOCS has been a joint effort that we hope you enjoy.

This is not the only change however. The United States has a new Superintendent of Documents; we wish to congratulate GD-SIS Member, Scott Matheson, on his new position! Scott hit the ground running the week of the Fall 2022 Depository Conference and has been busy settling in. Most recently, in a nice touch, Scott was at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, his undergraduate alma mater, to celebrate the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library’s 100th year as an FDLP Member.

The expansion of the Universe illustrates the never-ending change that is life. We can’t stop change, we can
only manage how we react to it. This is what GPO appears to be attempting to do with the Federal Depository Library Program as they continue to evaluate whether there should be an All-Digital FDLP. You can read more about that in the JURISDOCS article, *Federal Depository Library Conference Report, Fall 2022*. So it goes.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Kunkel and Charlie Amiot, Editors

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**Veronica Maclay Grant Report**

Jamie Flood
MLIS Student, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Outreach Specialist and Wikipedian

I came to librarianship in a roundabout way, like a zig-zagging line across a map, but once I made it, I knew it was where I belonged! I started at the National Agricultural Library (NAL) because of my experience editing Wikipedia, particularly on agriculture-related topics. Being a Wikipedian at the library means updating and editing Wikipedia with content and research produced by the USDA and the library. In my position, I also train others on how to edit and utilize Wikipedia. I specifically look for research to improve articles on agricultural and equity issues, and look for graphic illustrations of concepts and individuals (think scientists, past librarians, etc.) Over time, Kirstin Nelson, Senior Law Librarian, saw the value of outreach through Wikipedia and asked me to join the Agricultural Law Information Partnership team. It created an intersection where I thrived, between sharing important information (legal and government documents and programs), outreach, and active community assistance and engagement. Even before coming to librarianship, I was passionate about information access and working with farmers and consumers in Southern Alabama. That was how I arrived at Wikipedia editing – in my mind; there is no easier way to reach people than editing and sharing quality information and research.

After encouragement from my mom, who unfortunately passed in February of last year, and Kirstin, I finally decided it was time to take the next step and start the MLIS program at the University of Illinois. Throughout my years with Kirstin, she’s always spoken highly of AALL and the annual conference, so when the conference was back in-person this year, she wanted us to go. Through the generosity of GD-SIS, I was able to attend my first
librarian conference. I had a great time; it was wonderful to meet many people I have heard so much about or with whom I had corresponded. I focused my session attendance on equity programming, which was thought-provoking and inspiring. Kirstin and I also presented a poster on Environmental Justice. In the poster we talked about the intersection of not just environment, but also climate, health and nutrition, and land/property issues. Historically excluded communities are disproportionately affected by health issues related to pollution, nutrition, and food issues due to access, and land loss. We enjoyed sharing resources and information on a topic for which we are passionate.

During the conference, I particularly enjoyed the GLL-SIS Business Meeting presentation by Beth Wright, Staff Attorney at the Native American Rights Fund. I learned from Beth about federal Indian boarding schools, the path forward for reconciliation for the children and families affected by them, and the federal policy that caused their dispossession. There were two crucial takeaways for me: first, reconciliation can look different from person to person and community to community, and it’s our job to listen to and honor those needs. Second, was the need to document and create resources related to Indian and tribal law; and support institutions like the National Indian Law Library (NILL) that prioritizes the collection and accessibility of Indian law resources.

Secondly, I enjoyed hearing from Mavis Gragg of HeirShares and Francine Miller of the Center for Agriculture and Food Systems at Vermont Law School. While I did some behind-the-scenes assistance (put together the handout) and have heard from Mavis and Fran before, I still learned so much from them. The conversation and discussion born out of their panel were exciting and enlightening. As with Ms. Wright’s presentation, my takeaway was the importance of resource creation and looking for innovative ways to support property owners and legal professionals facing heirs’ property or land fractionation issues. As a Wikipedian and librarian school student interested in information organization, I also enjoyed hearing how other law librarians utilize the Wikidata platform to increase research and collection access and the presentation and discussion regarding inclusive descriptive practices. I feel like I packed a lot into the weekend and was not afraid to attend multiple presentations in the same time slot.

At the heart of almost everything I attended is the importance of community, not only as librarians and information professionals, but to also be involved in the communities we serve. Ensuring appropriate information curation, inclusive language (particularly in our organizational language), and representative collections is critical. I look forward to the coming year, and I am inspired to take my Wikipedia efforts and the work of the Agricultural Law Information Partnership in new directions. For NAL, that includes looking at our cataloging descriptions, and for Ag law, editing and creating content that brings awareness to indigenous law, environmental justice, and land loss issues, and involve the community to ensure that we are covering important and timely topics to them.

I hope to see everyone next year in Boston to share our successes and lessons learned during the upcoming year. I am profoundly grateful to GD-SIS for selecting me to receive the Veronica Maclay grant to attend AALL 2022.

I look forward to more conferences and working together in the coming years.

For more information about the GD-SIS Veronica Maclay Travel Grant please see: https://www.aallnet.org/gdsis/awards-grants/.
Conferences serve an important role in professional development. They provide an opportunity to network, reunite with friends, exchange information with peers and receive their feedback, and obtain new information with which to advance one’s knowledge. Conferences are often the primary component of a law librarian’s continuing education, and the more specialized a librarian, the more important specialty conferences can be. Such is the case for those of us who specialize in government information.

Many conferences transitioned from in-person to virtual in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Attendees know that virtual conference experiences can vary widely. At this early stage in my career, I’ve attended more virtual conferences than I have in-person conferences. As an introvert and compulsive over-packer who finds traveling solo stressful, I love it. As someone who likes the opportunity to see a new city, reunite in-person with friends, and get a lot of vendor and event swag—I collect ALL the stress toys—I miss it. Finally, as an academic law librarian, there’s not always money for an in-person conference, and as we all know that means when the only conference option is in-person, you may not get to go. This is not to say that virtual conferences are the solution either, even when there are no registration fees. It’s not always easy to find the time or institutional support to attend a virtual conference, issues I know impact many government information librarians. However, it does mean that a librarian who is geographically disadvantaged for travel has an actual chance at getting to attend a conference.

This summer, GPO made the decision to hold the Fall 2022 conference virtually. Having relocated to Baltimore this year, I was a bit disappointed as I could’ve easily taken a daily train to the conference, and I love traveling by train. That disappointment aside, this conference was—by far—the best conference I’ve attended to date. This was also the first time I was able to attend the Fall conference from start to finish, and on top of that I was able to also watch nearly all the sessions I had missed. All sessions were recorded and uploaded to the FDLP Academy Training Repository the following day, along with chat transcripts, autogenerated audio transcripts, and presenter slides and handouts. GPO did an outstanding job programming and executing this conference; Kudos to them!

While I highly recommend that my fellow law librarians watch any of the twenty-three sessions that are of their interest, I am providing a recap of the Conference Kickoff and brief synopses of the sessions I think many would benefit from watching.

Conference Kickoff and Library of the Year Award Presentation

Lisa Pritchard, Depository Library Council (DLC) Chair, called to order the Fall 2022 Deposito-
ry Library Council Meeting and FDL Conference and expressed her thanks to the current councilmembers, all of whom serve for three years, working towards the objective of America Informed. Included are GD-SIS members Jennifer Bryan Morgan (2020-2023), Richard Leiter and Allen Moye (2021-2024), and Robert Mead (2022-2025). DLC members have been hard at work on various task forces including exploring a primarily digital FDLP and continued work by the Long-Term Impacts of COVID-19 Working Group.

Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) addressed the conference to champion the work of FDLs and those of us that work to “ensure free, equitable, and perpetual access to government information.” Rep. Lofgren serves as Chair of GPO’s Oversight Committee, Chair of the Committee on House Administration, and a member of the Select Committee on the January 6 Attack, to name a few of her roles. Her address can be viewed on and shared from https://youtu.be/B3yGnhTJFvo

Hugh N. Halpern, 28th Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office, briefed attendees on recent developments. His theme was one of change, both in personnel moves and GPO responsiveness. According to Halpern, his recent appointments were “all centered on ensuring that our next generation of leadership is ready when the agency needs them. Scott Matheson was appointed the new Superintendent of Documents, effective October 11, 2022;

Laurie Beyer Hall, previous Acting (2016-2017) and immediate-
past appointed Superintendent of Documents (2017-2022), will remain in her long-held role as Managing Director of Library Services and Conant Management (LCSM).

Steve LeBlanc was appointed as GPO’s Chief of Staff;

Greg Estep was appointed as Manager of Plant Operations.

Congressional passage of Pub. L. No. 117-213, A bill to amend section 301 of title 44, United States Code, to establish a term for the appointment of the Director of the Government Publishing Office. [The Act was signed by President Biden the first day of the conference, October 17, 2022.] Halpern believes the Act will help in “professionalizing this role and ensuring that GPO enjoys consistent leadership.” Halpern credits Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO), Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Chairperson Lofgren, and Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL) for their support of the bill and of GPO. The text of the bill can be read at https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4791

XPub, the GPO’s next-generation composition engine, formerly known as GPO’s Composition System Replacement (CSR), was recently released for customer testing. Halpern hopes XPub will be used by the House and Senate the first half of next year.
XPub allows the production of information in a responsive HTML format, with embedded metadata, that is far more accessible than those published under GPO’s MicroComp system. XPub was previously used to publish the 2018 Main Edition of the United States Code. For more information, you can visit https://github.com/usgpo/xpub.

The All-Digital FDLP Task Force, established in 2021, was charged with determining whether an all-digital FDLP was feasible. The task force delivered their initial report for public comment on September 14, 2022. The comment period closed on October 14, 2022 and members are currently reviewing public comments before finalizing their report, which will be delivered to Dir. Halpern in December. Halpern expressed his gratitude to the Task Force members, who have been working hard on their charge. Related information, including a timeline and the draft report, can currently be accessed at https://www.fdlp.gov/project/task-force-digital-federal-depository-library-program. GD-SIS Members on the Task Force include Jennifer Morgan (Impact on Depository Libraries Working Group), Richard Leiter (Impact on GPO and Library Services and Content Management Working Group), Stephen Parks (Title 44, Legislative and Policy Issues Subgroup Working Group), and Scott Matheson (Implementation and Strategic Framework Working Group, lead; Impact on GPO and Library Services and Content Management Working Group).

Scott Matheson, who started his appointment as the new Superintendent of Documents a week prior to the conference, spoke next. Matheson previously served on the DLC (2014-2017; 2017 Chair), as well as GD-SIS Chair (2005-2006), and as a member of the current All-Digital Task Force, along with a long history of involvement in government information librarianship. Matheson lauded the GPO staff’s work on the National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information: Strategic Plan for FY 2023 – FY 2027. That report can be downloaded at https://www.fdlp.gov/sites/default/files/file_repo/national-collection-strategic-plan-fiscal-years-2023-2027.pdf. Matheson believes that the National Collection Strategic Plan and the All-Digital Task Force Report build on each other and encouraged attendees to learn more about both reports, both by reading them and by learning about them during the conference; he believes they have ambitious but achievable goals that we will need to work towards together.

Laurie Hall, immediate-past Superintendent of Documents, welcomed everyone next. Hall voiced her gratefulness to be back to a single role with GPO, the Managing Director of Library Services and Content Management, also known as the person who makes sure
GPO day-to-day operations run. Hall was proud of GPO accomplishments, particularly their innovations and adaptations over the last few years, “keeping America informed.” Hall specifically thanked GPO employees and library communities for their service and resilience through the pandemic: “This community, this FDLP community really did go above and beyond.” Hall also thanked attendees of the new FDLP Pre-Conference that was held the week prior to the Fall Conference in an effort to allow for more content during the Fall Conference. Hall solicits feedback from attendees, as GPO would like to repeat such scheduling. [The recording of the Pre-Conference can be viewed in the FDLP Academy Training Repository under Conference Proceedings.] Hall also reminded attendees to have fun and work on their Conference Bingo card throughout the entire conference.

Indiana State Library won Federal Depository Library of the Year Award for 2022. Collecting federal documents since 1825, the honored library was introduced by Matheson, who spoke of their history, preservation and (significant) outreach initiatives, and their role as an FDL Preservation Steward, permanently preserving print GPO collections. The Public Papers of the Presidents, Acts of Congress, and Statutes at Large are some of the collections included in the agreement.

GPO: The National Collection Strategic Plan and the National Collection Service Areas

Discussion ensued.

Think Like an Archivist: A New Paradigm for Government Information

Excellent and a tad concerning. Any librarians facing departmental changes should check this session out. Change is inevitable, and there has been a growing trend of change in libraries to move, consolidate, and realign departments. Information discovery and delivery experienced rapid changes during the pandemic. Response to these changes has taken on various forms. Learn from the experience of librarians that have recently been through such change and consider what changes may look like for you.

Peeling the Onion with Fewer Tears: Cataloging in Primo/Alma to Enhance Discovery and Access

If you ever wanted to learn about the intersection of Alma/Primo cataloging and government information—while also thinking you are listening to a professional radio broadcast—this is a valuable session for you. I’ll be honest, half of this session was lost on me due to my current lack of cataloging experience, experience the presenters were not short on, so I am almost certainly underselling this session.

Feeling Democracy: Connecting Students with Civics Using Primary Sources and Government Documents

If you are a librarian who provides instruction as part of your job, including displays and guides, you should attend this session. Allan Van Hoye shares techniques for triggering an emotional response with government information for others. A kind of personal connection that we likely formed as we got into government information. While this
session’s focus is not on law students, the information provided is easily extrapolated and adapted to most environments.

**GPO: New GovInfo Content and Enhancements**

If you haven’t stayed current on GovInfo.gov changes this year, this session is a great way to get up to speed quickly. If you have a new librarian or library student who could use an introduction to what GovInfo has to offer, this is the session for them.

**Regional Libraries Meeting**

Discussion ensued.

**What Does the Green Dot Mean? Documenting Your Collection’s History**

I cannot personally stress this enough: document everything. It is important to record institutional memory and I suspect a lot of us could be a lot better at doing so. And no, telling the new librarian that “the files” are on the shared drive is not good enough. Librarians new to an institution shouldn’t have to spend hours combing through disorganized documents and attempting to make sense of them; this does not set our colleagues or institutions up to succeed. We have a responsibility to our successors to not only provide background information in a coordinated manner, but also to include the information that can’t be found in those documents but is known by those who were there. Okay, rant over. Bottom line, go watch. Be ready to laugh. Presenters even provided a handout to get you started.

**Virtual Snacks with Council: Tips, Tricks, and Tech**

Many of the suggested tools below were briefly covered by presenters, while others were suggested by attendees (indicated with an asterisk*). Links to each tool are provided, but in the event a link does not work, it is recommended you search using your preferred search engine and the context you have been given for a tool. Many are free or have free versions; if a tool has a known fee, it will be mentioned. Privacy-concerned users are encouraged to evaluate each tool in accordance with personal comfort levels.

- **Check My Links;** Chrome web browser extension that validates HTML links. https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/check-my-links/ojkcdipcgfaekbeaelaapakgnjflflf
- **Conifer;** captures interactive websites. https://conifer.rhizome.org/
- **Context Menu Search;** Chrome extension that allows you to quickly highlight text to run as search terms in any search engine you choose, including library catalogs. https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/context-menu-search/ocpcmghnefmdljkoiapafejohldoga
- **Current Awareness Resources (re: technology):**
  - **Hongkia;** “[O]ne of the leading go-to sites for all things related to tech, design, and technology.” https://www.hongkiat.com/blog/
Make Use Of; “[T]ech enthusiasts on a mission to teach the world how to use and understand the tech in their lives.” https://www.makeuseof.com/


Dualless*; Chrome extension that allows you to split browser windows into two. Excellent for Mac users. https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/dualless/bgdpkilkheacbbqjpsjgceipljhfpd

GoFullPage*; Chrome extension for entire-window screenshots, savable as PNG, JPEG, or PDF. No usage limit. Deluxe editing features available for $12/year. https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/gofullpage-full-page-scre/fdpohaocaehififmbbkbknolclacl

Knight Lab Online Storytelling Tools (Northwestern University); “[E]asy-to-use tools that can help you tell better stories.” Requires a Google Drive account. Integrates well with LibGuides. https://knightlab.northwestern.edu/projects/

Legibilii*; Chrome extension that modifies Westlaw and Lexis links for easier cognition/reading. https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/legibilii/folkioehaofcojkmndjadehgcfc

Library Extension*; Chrome, Firefox, and Edge web browser compatible. Allows you to check specified libraries for physical and electronic books, when viewing them on another website, such as Amazon or Goodreads. https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/library-extension/ckgcmmjoepekoegkedcpgfhpjmc

ListDiff; Provides shockingly useful web-based utilities, including Compare Lists, Text Fixer, CSV Delimiter, Text Columnizer, Column Extractor, and more. If you work with data, you will get a lot of usage. http://www.listdiff.com/

Print Friendly & PDF*; Chrome, Firefox, Edge, Safari web browser compatible, or use their Bookmarklet. Optimizes webpages for printing and PDF retention. http://www.listdiff.com/

TechSmith Capture (formerly Jing); captures and annotates basic screenshots and screen recordings. By the maker of Snagit and Camtasia. https://www.techsmith.com/jing-tool.html


Update Scanner; Firefox extension that monitors and alerts to changes on websites. https://sneakypete81.github.io/updatescanner/

Video Speed Controller* (by Ilya Grigorik); Chrome extension that lets you adjust HTML5 audio/video in speed increments of 0.10x. Note of caution, there are many extensions that utilize this same name; make sure you are accessing the correct one. https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/video-speed-controller/nffaoalbmmfgbngppjihopabppdk/

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The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) is seeking nominations for individuals to serve as members to the Depository Library Council. New members will serve a three-year term (June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2026).

The Depository Library Council is the advisory body that counsels the GPO Director and the Superintendent of Documents in matters pertaining to future trends, innovation, and new concepts in libraries; Government information dissemination and public access; and the enhancement of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). This includes elements of the management of electronic information, such as version control, authentication, and preservation of digital information. GPO is looking for individuals to be selected on the basis of their expertise and experience.

Council members must be able to devote time and effort in taking an active role in discussions of complex and difficult issues related to the future of the FDLP. All Council members are expected to participate in the annual Federal Depository Library Conference; an annual Depository Library Council Virtual Meeting; monthly conference calls with GPO; and other discussions, working groups, and events as needed.

The deadline for nominations is **February 13, 2023.** [https://qaz1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cSAN3DWNz62TJDE](https://qaz1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cSAN3DWNz62TJDE)
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