The Government Documents SIS continued to have an active and productive year in 2012/2013. GD-SIS members continue to write and update the AALL State Documents Bibliography series. Since July, 2012, three new or updated bibliographies have been released: Maryland, New Hampshire, Georgia, and Rhode Island. GD-SIS’ 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 Online. Additionally, Hein sells print copies of both new and historical bibliographies. The Section expects to receive royalties from W.S. Hein & Co. Inc. in the amount of approximately $5,000. As of the date of our business meeting, July 16, 2013, our royalty check had not yet been received but is expected shortly. Our Section is in good financial health.

At our 2012 Annual Business Meeting in Boston, the membership voted to amend our grants policies as follows: the Veronica Maclay Grant was increased from $1,000 to $1,250; the Section will fund the attendance at the annual Depository Library Council meeting in Washington, DC, each fall for one officer – either the Chair, Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, or Secretary/Treasurer.

The GD-SIS awarded several grants to further librarians’ and one library school student’s educational opportunities. It awarded one grant of $750 to GD-SIS member Chris Pamboukes to attend the fall Depository Library Council Meeting in Washington DC. Jennifer Wondracek, the Secretary/Treasurer, attended as our officer representative. GD-SIS also awarded the 2013 Veronica Maclay Grant in the amount of $1,250 to Antionette Vanterpool to assist her attendance at AALL in Seattle. Finally, GD-SIS awarded two grants of $1,250 each to Rosalind Romain and Trina Holloway to assist in attending AALL in Seattle.

In 2013, the GD-SIS is pleased to have been able to sponsor one program in Seattle: “State Constitutions: Current, Historical, and How They Change,” program B8. The program was well-attended. The Section also sponsored a talk with Mary Alice Baish, Superintendent of Documents, GPO: “GD-SIS Coffeehouse Chat: A Conversation with the Superintendent of Documents on the Future of Government Information.” Approximately 40 people were in attendance. Also, Camilla Tubbs, incoming Chair, worked to get a special category added to the “Day in the Life” photo contest this year entitled “Government Information Librarians or Libraries.”

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, and to ask the Grants Committee to study and recommend further changes to our grants policy to allow members broader access to grants.
The Section continued work on developing an updated strategic plan, but this work has stalled. We hope to pursue this during the next year.

However, the Section successfully revised and updated the Section’s bylaws. The revision was approved by the AALL Bylaws Committee and presented to the membership for a vote. The membership voted to approve the revised bylaws in May, 2013. The members of the Bylaws Revision Committee were Ed Hart, Kate Irwin-Smiler, Larry Meyer, Joel Fishman, Eric Parker, and Janet Fischer.

Our election, held in May, 2013, was our first-ever electronic ballot. Rosemary LaSala, Chair of the Nominations Committee, made all of the arrangements with AALL’s technical department to great success. Along with approving the revised bylaws, the membership elected Edward T. Hart as Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, and Amy Taylor as Secretary/Treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Fischer
GD-SIS Chair, 2012/2013
25 July 2013