



# DocumentOr

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A Newsletter of the Documents Interest Group of Oregon

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## Message from the President

By  
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DIGOR President  
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This will be my last "Message from the President" for the Documentor. Ted Smith will be taking over as President as DIGOR becomes part of OLA in September. Throughout the years DIGOR has gone through many ups and downs and changes and I am confident that we will grow stronger and welcome more members as part of OLA. We are at a crossroads in the distribution of government information on all levels of government and I believe that DIGOR has an important role to play in insuring public access to that information. The program Ted has put together for OLA-WLA is an excellent example of the kind of program DIGOR has been providing to librarians and the general public for the last 17 years. Informing people what government information is available has been our central mission all these years. Our other mission, insuring that government agencies continue to make information available, no matter what the format, may become, however, a more important mission in the near future. I believe that there will be some major battles over this issue in the next few years. DIGOR in the past has fought hard for access to government information, and will, I believe, be called upon to continue this fight in this era of budget cuts, simplistic solutions and the electronic elitism of some officials.

In August I will be going to Minneapolis to a special meeting called by the GPO for Regionals. We are going to discuss preparing for the electronic future and how we can help selectives cope with a new electronic depository system. I'm still unsure exactly what we will be doing, I should know considerably more after the Depository Library Conference in April. However, the Officers Council has decided that at the September meeting, to be held at Central Oregon Community College in Bend, we all need to talk about the new realities of being a depository library. I will talk about the Minneapolis meeting and we will also discuss the new draft guidelines for electronic products and the self-inspection forms. I don't think we

are due for inspections until 1998 or 99, but we need to discuss this new inspection process. I hope that many of you will be able to attend. These are vital issues for depositories today. The future of the depository system really is in the balance this time.

I'd like to take this time to thank the Officers and others who've worked on DIGOR projects the last year and a half. I know all of us are pulled in many different directions these days, and it's not always easy to find time for outside projects. I think we've accomplished quite a lot this year. In particular I wish to thank Tom Stave for revising the by-laws so we could join OLA, Arlene Weible, Craig Smith and Carrie Ottow for creating the web page, Ted Smith for planning programs and Jey Wann for watching over our finances. They have all been good officers to work with and I appreciate all their advice and support. Thanks also to everyone who came to meetings and contributed to the group. I hope to see all of you at the Business meeting and program on the 25th at OLA-WLA. We have a good slate of candidates for office for the next year and I look forward to a successful year as a Roundtable of OLA.

## NEXT DIGOR MEETING

**April 25, 1997**

**OLA/WLA Annual Conference  
Jantzen Beach Red Lion Hotel  
Portland, OR**

### Agenda

**2:00 pm – Business meeting**  
**3:45 pm – Program: Building a Virtual  
Depository Using Internet Sources of  
Government Information**

### Presenters

**Ted Smith - Introduction**  
**Arlene Weible - Legislation**  
**Carolyn Ottow - Statistics**  
**Deborah Hollens - Government Policy**  
**Dena Hutto - Government Reports**

## *Agency Libraries Column*

### Oregon Employment Department Web Page

<http://www.emp.state.or.us>

By  
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Many of Oregon's state agencies are now using the World Wide Web to disseminate information. The Oregon Employment Department's Web page is a good example of how government agencies are using the Internet to provide access to information that makes a real difference in people's lives.

According to Communications Manager Jon Stubenvoll, the Department's goal is to provide "news you can use", and one of the best examples of the fulfillment of this goal is the Employment Services, or JOBS Web site (<http://www.emp.state.or.us/EMPLSVCS/>). Here users can locate current jobs offered by employers from throughout the state. The listings are updated several times a day. State and federal government job listings are also provided, as well as detailed information about the services offered at the field offices of the Employment Dept., which are located throughout the state.

Another section of the Web site provides information about unemployment benefits, such as what is needed to qualify for benefits, how to continue receiving benefits, and additional frequently asked questions. Information for employers is also available.

Yet another useful section of the Web site provides access to the publications of the Employment Dept. that are frequently requested in Oregon libraries. *Oregon Labor Trends*, *Resident Oregon Labor Force and Unemployment by Area*, and *Around the State*, are just a few of the publications now available on the Web site. The only drawback is that many of the publications are only available in .pdf format. While this means that the agency can quickly post the information on the Internet, those without powerful computers may have trouble accessing the files.

Despite this drawback, the Employment Department's Web page is already a hit with the general public. It was accessed more than 700,000 times last year. Even with this success, the Department plans to continue to distribute its publications in print, and views its Web page as yet one more avenue to distribute information to the citizens of Oregon.

## *Mark your calendar!*

*The Fall DIGOR meeting will be on  
September 26, 1997 at Central Oregon  
Community College in Bend.*

*Details will be published in the next issue of  
the Documentor*

## ORDOCS NEWS

### OH BRAVE NEW WORLD THAT HAS SUCH ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS IN IT

By  
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As the federal depository program slides inexorably toward primarily electronic access, inquiring minds may want to know what the Oregon Documents Depository Program is going regarding electronic publications.

The answer is: currently not much, but we'd like to. We have always treated and distributed publications on magnetic media (floppy disk, video, etc.) just like other OrDocs. Recently, the Dept. of Revenue and Dept. of Geology & Mineral Industries produced the first OrDoc CD-ROMs (not yet cataloged and shipped at this writing).

But what about publications that are only mounted on the World Wide Web? In January, the Racing Commission became the first agency to cease a paper publication in favor of Web publishing; their annual report (OR Y/R11 .1) is no longer being printed, and is available only at their Web site ([www.orednet.org/~orc](http://www.orednet.org/~orc)). The Office of Minority, Women, and Emerging Small Business is planning to

switch their directories from paper to the Web-only in the near future. This is surely just the tip of the iceberg, and more agencies will undoubtedly follow as they continue to look for ways to save money.

In addition to formerly paper publications that may now be available only on the Web, there's all the information that's never been published in paper format at all. A visit to Oregon Online's Oregon State Government Web Pages list (<http://www.state.or.us/governme.htm#100>) links you to a wealth of information - from what the major industries in Marion County are (<http://www.econ.state.or.us/midval.htm>), to whether this is a good week to go hunting desert sage rats (<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/ODFWhtml/RecReports/Hunting.html>) - accessible only through these agency Web pages.

The current OrDocs Depository Program is set up to address actual, physical publications only, whether they are paper, microform, magnetic or optical storage. Our definition of a public documents loses its meaning when we try to apply it to the world of electronic government resources. Other state depository programs are currently putting electronic state publications on their Web sites - see, for example, New York State Library's program at <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/nysdep.htm>. There's also Washington State's Governor Work Group on Commercial Access to Government Electronic Records, which recently published in final report *In the balance: toward a model for public stewardship of electronic government records* (available in paper format, and at <http://www.wa.gov/dis/commaccess>).

In Oregon, Senate Bill 315, among other things, would establish "...guiding principles for public access to government information in electronic format." (Link to the Legislature's home page from the Oregon State Government web pages list above for a copy). The bill had its first reading on Jan. 30, and was referred to the Technology Committee on Jan. 31. It's possible that this is the last we'll hear of the issue for this session, but it's sure to come up again.

When the OrDocs Depository Program was re-designed two years ago, DIGOr played a key role. I think it's time for us to do so again. The issues of access to electronic publications, and of archival storage of such publications, are vital to our patrons now and in the future.

If you're interested in serving on a committee to confront these issues, please let me know.

## ALA Midwinter Conference Report

By  
Susan Tulis  
University of Virginia Law School

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As always, the first major Government Documents Round Table meeting was the Federal Documents Task Force (FDTF) update on Saturday, February 15, 1997.

Wayne Kelley, Superintendent of Documents, began by talking about the trend to transfer federal government information from the public domain to private ownership. This trend is happening in a number of ways - agencies are establishing exclusive or restrictive distribution arrangements, agencies are charging fees or royalties for the reuse or redissemination of public information, and in some recent cases, government publishers have assisted in transferring copyright to a new owner.

Kelly then outlined what has happened with the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* (NCI) (previously a depository title.) For many years this title was procured through GPO. In 1987, GPO worked with NCI to help make it the number one journal in its field. In 1993, NCI began developing a Consolidated Services Program (as part of the National Performance Review) where all their electronic and print information would only be available through an Information Associates Program. In order to get the *Journal*, an Associates membership at \$100/year had to be purchased. In a letter dated January 1997, GPO received notice that the *Journal* had been privatized - ownership was transferred from NCI to Oxford University Press. Under the terms of a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA), the name of the publication will be retained and Oxford will assume all responsibility for printing and will hold copyright of the contents. Since it is no longer a publication of the US government, it is no longer in the FDLP nor being sold by GPO.

This new arrangement raises all sorts of questions - such as who is paying the editorial board - the American taxpayers but the staff is working for Oxford University Press? Is the Press sharing the revenues from the subscription with NCI? Will the copyright prevent a librarian from sending a copy of an article to another librarian?

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated case. Kelley worries that these cases will become precedence and the precedence will set an irreversible trend. Kelley doesn't question the motives or the goals of the agency

publishers who take this course. They are doing what they feel is right in a new environment which calls for cutting costs and generating revenues. They are seeking to preserve valuable govt information.

Kelley continued by raising all sorts of questions. What if this new trend drives future federal government information policy? The cornerstone of information policy in the United States has been the principle of universal access to federal information. This principle is being set aside without many of the usual checks and balances in our democratic society, without any high level policy debates, without any clear rules, without thought to the unintended consequences and often without full public disclosure of negotiations and agreements. Is all federal information with sufficient demand going to be sent to market? Does it mean a government agency may sell its name as well as the information? Does it mean that a wide array of private sector publishers, people who have taken and widely disseminated public domain information in the past will no longer have access to that information, to add value, to redistribute to many markets, in many different products? Will diversity disappear? Does it mean the public consumer must pay 2 or 3 times as much or more for the same information they were getting before? Does it mean that agency publishers will focus their attention on more popular, marketable information and eliminate other, more significant, but less marketable info? Does it mean that programs authorized by Congress will begin to move away from public needs to focus instead on market needs? Does it mean government employees working at taxpayers expense to support the information requirements of private firms? If it does, isn't that the definition of "welfare"? What if the Journal of the NCI, now owned by Oxford University Press, does not meet the profit goals of the new owner? Who represents the public in a bottom line information era? What is to prevent our nation's bridge to the 21st century from turning into a toll bridge for government information?

In 1989, the late OTA declared that Congressional action "is urgently needed to resolve federal information issues and to set the direction of federal activities for years to come." Now, eight years later, there is talk of some legislation to update the federal information policy to the electronic era. The critical issues at stake today are preservation of official information, public access, government accountability, and an informed electorate.

Kelley concluded by saying that Americans should not pass up this opportunity to define their own information future. Those best positioned to know the value and the power of information should take the lead. It is not an easy issue for the media because it lacks the essential of hot news. It is more significant than sensational. It is not an easy issue for politicians,

because there is no visible crisis and framing sound policy seldom delivers votes. So it may be up to those among us who are reluctant to get out front. Before it is too late, let the debate begin.

Gil Baldwin, Library Division Chief, reviewed the progress of the transition to a more electronic Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). He commented that while electronic technology has forever changed how government information is compiled, disseminated, located and used, it has yet to impact on the information policy area.

In the Strategic Plan for the transition, GPO envisioned 4 ways in which GPO could bring electronic government information products into the FDLP. The first was by identifying, describing and linking the public to government information products. GPO is doing this quite well through its Pathway Services, MoCat on the web, and so forth. Two and three, establishing reimbursable agreements with agencies and riding agency requisitions, are a bit more problematic since there are limits to what GPO can pay for. Four, obtaining agency electronic source files for information and making them available through GPO Access services - while workable from a policy perspective, the technical difficulties associated with the files may cause problems, and expensive ones at that.

As GPO works through the various electronic product scenarios, policy situations keep coming up - many of which have to do with interpretations of and compliance with existing laws and regulations.

As GPO exercises its legal authority and the avenues open to it to get content into the FDLP, they are accentuating the positive - agency cooperation with the FDLP, not stressing compliance and enforcement. The issues of compliance and enforcement have the attention and commitment of the Joint Committee on Printing though, which might improve the fugitive information situation.

Baldwin then gave a status report of the Strategic Plan goals:

- In terms of processing and mounting agency-provided electronic source files on GPO Access, GPO is currently exploring options to use electronic image files, such as those provided by the Department of Energy. If successful, this would provide access to products never before in the FDLP. However, investigations suggest that mounting agency source files is complicated and may prove expensive.
- Distribution of CD-ROMs continues to increase, but GPO expects this to taper off as agencies move to on-demand CD-ROM publishing of customized products. GPO is exploring options to keep such

information in the FDLP, when there is no production run to ride for copies, and the information is not available via the Internet.

- Scanning agency print products for mounting on GPO Access or disseminating in tangible format as text or image files is generally only appropriate as a last resort to obtain an electronic version of a product.
- GPO is closer than one might think to achieving a depository product mix of about 50% electronic, 30% paper, and 20% microfiche.

Baldwin closed with some specific initiatives and observations. Work is underway on the next generation draft workstation specifications. A new GPO Access project called "Core Documents of Democracy" is under development. It is a proposal for a basic electronic depository collection, one which will provide American citizens direct online access to the basic Federal government documents that define our democratic society - titles that contain information which is vital to the democratic process and critical to an informed electorate. The library community's concerns about the format and distribution for the bound Serial Set and the bound Congressional Record have been passed on to Congress.

Duncan Aldrich, Electronic Transition Staff (ETS), gave an update on the 4 categories of ETS projects: Pathway services, partnerships, FDLP administration web pages, and sundry projects as assigned. In terms of sundry projects - GPO is cosponsoring a working conference to plan for the preservation of U.S. Department of Agriculture information in digital formats; GPO staff continues to examine various avenues through which to make the enormous number of DOE reports available through the FDLP; and work progresses on the interagency agreement with NCLIS to do an assessment of standards for creation and dissemination and permanent access of electronic government information products.

The FDLP administration web pages continue to be enhanced and expanded to assist depository librarians in the ongoing administration of their collections. The Item Lister, which allows for the creation of an online list of a depository's current item numbers, is now available. Work continues on the creation of a Web form system that will allow depositories to amend their item number selections on the Web.

In terms of partnerships, GPO had already established one oriented toward providing services to assist librarians in their daily depository collection management - partnering with SUNY-Buffalo and UT, Arlington to provide enhanced online shipping lists. A second type of partnership is being developed to provide access to government information products held

by FDLP for remote access. The first content partnership - tentatively agreed to in principle by the University of Illinois at Chicago, the Department of State and GPO - has UIC holding for permanent access electronic information products that migrate off the Department of State's Web site.

Another way the skills of the depository library community are contributing to the FDLP is through the Browse Topics Pathway Service. Browse Topics is basically a Web based version of the Subject Bibliography series. So far, 11 librarians have responded to ETS's open invitation to adopt a topic. An addition to Pathway Services, under consideration, is Browse Federal Agencies. This page would provide a list of all Federal agencies and subagencies having Web sites, and link users to those sites. ETS welcomes input on this idea.

T.C. Evans, Office of Electronic Information Dissemination Service, summarized their efforts to not only increase the information we have access to, but the things they are doing to make it easier and faster for us to get at this information. GPO is in the enviable position of having put up a service that is extremely popular. As of Feb 1997, they were averaging 3 million document retrievals/month. That figure is expected to double within the next year, partly because of new information on GPO Access.

Evans acknowledged that they have been experiencing a decrease in response time of the system, due to increased popularity. A complete upgrade of materials and hardware has been undertaken to address this problem. They also need to increase the ability to process input and output in a faster way; this is currently being worked on but there isn't an exact date for completion. GPO was forced to close its web site to other indexers; a regrettable, but necessary action because it was literally bringing the system to a halt. The proposed upgrades should help the situation, but other options are being exploring in the interim.

New materials available on GPO Access: more and more titles of the CFR (13 titles are currently up), CBD net (still a work in progress), the budget information, updated PRF, FLITE database (1934-1976 Supreme Court decisions), annotated Constitution, more current compilation of Privacy Act notices. Things to come - NLRB has asked GPO to put up a web site on their behalf which will provide access to all NLRB decisions. A group is working on preparing a Congressional hearings application for GPO Access. OEIDS is also trying to expand opportunities for training librarians on GPO Access - possibly through OCLC network operations.

Sheila McGarr, Depository Services Chief, outlined GPO's outreach activities - tours of LPS, demos of GPO Access, the Interagency Depository Seminar, and the

Federal Depository Conference. The revised "Superseded List" and the "Self-Study of a Federal Depository Library" were distributed in October 1996. GPO has already begun using the self-study to evaluate libraries. This spring the depository libraries last inspected in 1991 in ID, IL, LA, MA, MT, NY, TN, TX, and WY will be notified to submit a self-study. Robin Haun Mohamed, Depository Administration Branch, announced that while GPO intends to automate the claims process, currently they are not prepared to receive, research, or fill claims in an electronic format. Work continues on clarification of the differences between E, EL, and Online in the "List of Classes" and the "Administrative Notes, Technical Supplement." Essentially, E is being used to indicate the material is available in an electronic format. This means products will be available only in an electronic format, either a tangible format or via an Internet site. When multiple formats are listed, material may be distributed in any of the formats listed. DAB has begun implementing discontinuance of serial publications in a tangible format when an online version is identified. But only after determining that the current web site maintains older issues, and that the new issues are complete. Other resources that are being discontinued are titles included on a tangible product, such as the "Energy InfoDisc." Not all of the titles, just those with lower item selection counts, and that are posted to the Internet in a much more timely manner than they have been sent to libraries in the past.

Some specific examples of titles distributed to depository libraries in an electronic only format are: Methyl Bromide Alternatives, STAT-USA: the Newsletter, BISNIS Bulletin, AFIP Letter, List of Serials Indexed for Online Users, Social Security Programs Throughout the World, Military Review, and the Postal Bulletin.

LPS has been successful in obtaining source files of the "Daily Treasury Statement" for mounting on the GPO Access server for a test project. The product looks good and LPS is working with Treasury to develop a timeline for when the daily paper product can be discontinued. This is a significant achievement because GPO has obtained the source files and can control future retention and access policies for the electronic files.

Possible changes/problems on the horizon - while libraries should have received the first issue of the FBIS on CD-ROM, GPO is unsure if they will be able to continue this product as the software will be changing and GPO doesn't currently have an agreement with the software vendor. The 1996 CIA World Fact Book will not be issued in print - only CD-ROM. The CD-ROM version of the "Historical Statistics of the United States" was done under agreement between the Bureau of the Census and Cambridge University Press. Despite what's

in the agreement, depository copies were not made available. Errors continue to plague the Digital Raster Graphic maps in CD-ROM format. Although USGS has said they will provide a CD-R for LPS to make a master and replicate for distribution to depository libraries, the economics of this situation are tremendous. There are approximately 945 CD-ROMs in the series, the cost of making a master of each is between \$350-600 per master, without the replication or distribution costs. As Robin succinctly summarized it - "This is a big step backward for the transition to an electronic FDLP ..."

Robin ended on a positive note by saying that the NOAA Tide Tables, the FBIS on CD-ROM, and now the Environmental Health Perspectives, have all continued to be distributed through the FDLP because we asked!

Peter Young, NCLIS Executive Director, and two Commissioners gave a status report on the Interagency Agreement for a "Standards Assessment." NCLIS is talking with the National Academy of Sciences to do the Statement of Work which defines the tasks needed to conduct the assessment. NCLIS is currently searching for a contractor to perform the assessment. Information gathered by NCLIS will be used to help improve public access to government information made available to the FDLP and the general public.

John Kavaliunas, Bureau of the Census, gave the agency view from the trenches and hoped that it might put into perspective some of the policy issues talked about earlier. He began by talking about 3 general issues. First, usage of the Internet continues to grow and offers opportunities for agencies to reach a much broader audience than ever before. Census is rapidly moving towards making the Internet their primary means of data dissemination. As a result, they are trying to figure out how to strike a balance between print and electronic media, timeliness versus preservation of material. The Internet is attractive because you don't need a library card to access it and for the most part, access is free.

Second, a concurrent development - one that is at odds with the concept of free Internet - agencies are being asked to recoup more and more revenues through the sale of products.

Third, 1997 is a low point of the decade for Census in terms of new products, so they are taking advantage of the lull to plan for the future and come up with a balance for these often conflicting directions, goals and developments.

In terms of specific things Census is doing:

- moving very quickly into cyberspace, with several report series only available on the Internet - Current Industrial Reports, some of the Population Estimates and Projections Reports, FT 925 Imports and Exports by Commodities.

- Statistical Abstract on CD-ROM will be Internet compatible so that you can go directly from the CD-ROM with a web browser to the Census tables on the WWW with just the click of your mouse.
- Some of the reports in P-20, P-23 and P-60 series will go to biennial format - one year available in print, the next year the updated tables will be available on the Internet.

Plans are to begin a subscription service in March 1997 known as CENSTATS - will not resemble the CENSTATS described earlier on their web page. All the information and features currently available on the Census web site will remain on the free site. What will be available through the subscription service will be additional enhanced access to make it easier or more convenient for a user to access information which is available on the free site. This represents a cautious step forward in meeting some of mandates and directives given to agencies.

Some additional features on CENSTATS in March include a geocoding application - the ability to code online street addresses to census tracts and automatically pull up a profile for that census tract. An additional look-up capability for detailed information by product code for imports and exports from the FT 925 will be available, as well as access to many of Census CD-ROM products (USA Counties, County Business Patterns, etc.) CENSTATS will focus on access, rather than data itself. Future developments also planned include access to some historical databases which would includedemographic as well as business data. Most of this data is available in various pieces throughout the Internet site; the subscription service will try to pull those pieces together.

Census is working with GPO to provide free access to depository libraries to the subscription service. Kavaliunas clarified that Census never entered into a CRADA with Oxford University Press for the Historical Statistics. Census was approached by Oxford University Press, but it did not work out. He reminded us that free public access is a two edged sword - anybody can take public information and do anything they want with it. Oxford University Press is taking the historical statistics that Census put out years ago and updating it with other public information and coming out with a new Historical Statistics. Census is not involved in the production of this volume at all.

The next big thing on the horizon is the release of 1997 Economic Censuses. The first report is due out in 2 years. Need to be aware that this will be first Census to report its data by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) - which replaces the SIC code. NAICS geared toward service economy; SIC geared toward manufacturing economy. NAICS

Manual is scheduled for a fall release - coming from OMB. Census of Agriculture is no longer part of the Economic Censuses - it has been transferred to the Agriculture Department. Be aware that few printed reports will come from the Economic Censuses - more of information will be available on an Internet compatible format.

The next big watershed is the 2000 Census. A dress rehearsal is scheduled for next year. Keep in mind that there is no guarantee there will be a long form questionnaire, which is where data on income, education, occupation, commuting or housing is gathered. Census does plan produce printed reports from the 2000 Census, but there will be fewer printed reports, CD-ROMS and predefined tables than in 1990.

In summary, Kavaliunas said:

- They are relying on the Internet as the principle dissemination medium for Census Bureau.
- They are making a cautious first step to recover additional revenues through a subscription service that will provide enhanced access to data.
- Products are changing to take advantage of some of the capabilities of the different media.
- They hope to continue to work with the depository community and GPO to develop solutions to some of the unresolved problems and get our input to make the information more accessible to users.

June Gable, National Center for Health Statistics, concluded the program with an overview of what information NCHS collects, how they disseminate it, and a demonstration of some of the functions of their new web site (<http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/nchshome.htm>).

The first information that comes out from a survey is in the public use data tapes - raw data or microdata. In order to get meaningful numbers you have to use statistical software. Many of the CD-ROMs have raw data as well. There is a software interface on disk and June has developed a demonstration for librarians on how it might be used in a library. If you want a copy of the demonstration - come in on the NCHS query site and ask for "The Joy of Sets."

### **Odds and Ends**

ALA President Mary Somerville has established an Inter-Association Working Group to work on developing a detailed outline of a legislative proposal for amending Title 44 of the US Code or at least that part dealing with depository libraries and government information dissemination. GODORT is represented on the working group and will be providing background

information and feedback throughout the process. The first meeting was held Feb. 19, with a plan to work intensively over the next few months.

GODORT Legislation Committee brought forward 3 resolutions for endorsement in principle: 1) funding Census data collection and access, 2) no-fee access to state and local government legislative and regulatory information, and 3) IFLA, human rights and freedom of expression.

GODORT Legislation Committee is working with the Federal Documents Task Force to develop case studies of titles/information no longer in the public domain or not accessible via the FDLP due to privatization, user or access fees, licensing limitations, copyright restrictions, or other situations which inhibit public access. This information will be used by the Inter-Association Working Group, as well as for other purposes to illustrate the erosion of public domain government information.

The Government Information Technology Committee is working on a CD-ROM Documentation Project with the following goals: 1) collect and organize documentation for government CD-ROM products; 2) make this documentation available via the GODORT home page; and 3) create and convey minimum-level benchmark standards for documentation.

Scanning project just getting underway at the Library of Congress will electronically preserve the Serial Set, beginning with the American State Papers through 1873, and including the papers and debates of the Continental Congress.

Rare and Endangered Documents Committee is developing a survey to gather information on the number of volumes missing or unaccounted for in the Serial Set. GPO will distribute through depository boxes.

The Center for Research Libraries Task Force on State Documents met during ALA to determine whether the collection 1) be disbanded, 2) be limited to pre-1950 imprints, or 3) be kept intact, despite the prohibitive costs and relative low use.

"StateList" - The Electronic Source for State Publication Lists  
(<http://www.law.uiuc.edu/library/check.htm>) now includes links to 20 state checklists.

### Minutes of the last DIGOR Meeting

December 6, 1996  
Oregon State University Library  
Corvallis, Oregon

Submitted by:  
Carrie Ottow  
DIGOR Secretary

Email: [ottowc@ccmail.orst.edu](mailto:ottowc@ccmail.orst.edu)

Present: Gwen Newborg, Carrie Ottow, Arlene Weible, Dena Hutto, Vicki Howe, Arlys Fones, Ted Smith, Jey Wann, Marjorie Napper, Tom Stave, Tom French.

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am.

#### I. MINUTES.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved.

#### II. OLD BUSINESS

##### *OLA-WLA Program.*

Gwen still hasn't heard from Linda in the Washington DocSer group about the joint program we are to do at the OLA/WLA conference in April. DocSer is doing their own program on vendors who provide electronic government information products, and it was questioned whether they really want to participate in our program.

Ted Smith passed out an outline for our program on "Building a Virtual Depository Using Internet Sources." We still need a volunteer to do section 5, "Agency directories, reports on agency activities." If no one is found we can just cut it and fold that information into other sections. The other sections are being covered by DIGOR members, and we will not depend on DocSer to provide help.

A discussion ensued on the kind of technology we will need for the program. Transparencies, a live Internet hookup and a canned Internet demo were considered. It was decided to use canned Internet demos. There is software available, such as Web Whacker, to capture Web pages which can then be used in Netscape for presentations. Ted will talk to Carol in OLA about reserving equipment. If none is available, some DIGOR members can get the necessary equipment from their institutions. Each person presenting a section of the program will create their own handouts and a bibliography of Internet sites. These handouts will be put up on the DIGOR web page for reference. Each section will take no more than 15 minutes.

### DIGOR'S Web Page

<http://nemesis.willamette.edu/digor>



**CHECK IT OUT!**





### III. NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gwen reported that we are officially a part of OLA. As president of a roundtable Gwen can go to the Executive Board meeting but cannot vote.

Jey needs to talk to the OLA treasurer about transferring our money, and to inquire about how long we should continue to accept new members outside of OLA. Jey will send out notices that current memberships will be extended until September, then members will need to join OLA to continue to be active in DIGOR.

Jey reported that we received \$8.00 in dues, bringing our balance to \$460.57.

It was suggested that we put an article in the OLA hotline announcing our acceptance in OLA and inviting people to join. We also need to promote our program at the OLA conference.

Gwen announced that there is a temporary cataloging position available at Portland State University. The duties include loading Marcive tapes into their OPAC and de-dupping.

#### *State Library News:*

- Barb Schultz, Documents technician has retired.
- There has been discussion at the State Library concerning agency web pages and how to archive them. Mike Freese, the state printer, thinks that the library should play a role.
- The Core list for state depository publications is still a draft. Jey will ask for comments from the core depositories.
- A question was raised about whether the State Library would be inspecting the depositories. Jey said that they did not have the staff or funds to do this, but they may try to check online catalogs to see if items are getting cataloged. They may also consider having depositories do self-studies, like they do for the Federal Depository Program.
- Tom Stave expressed his appreciation for all the work the State Library has done in running the Oregon Depository Program.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### *Future Programs and Meeting*

Our next meeting will be at the OLA/WLA conference on April 25th. It was decided not to have a summer meeting since the spring meeting will be held so late, and it is difficult to schedule a meeting around vacations. Suggestions for a site for the September meeting included Ashland, Bend and Newport.

#### *Nominations for Officers*

Gwen encouraged people to think about volunteering. Anyone wishing to run for office should contact one of the officers.

#### *Additional news*

Gwen reported that there will be a meeting of Regional Depository librarians in Minneapolis. They will discuss whose responsibility it will be to archive electronic government information.

A discussion ensued on the problems of dealing with electronic publications and CDs. It was suggested that we have a workshop on grant writing to enable people to seek funds to help them access electronic information.

Tom Stave reported on the European Union depository program. U of O now has access to EU databases including a database of legal materials such as treaties, directives, etc., a database of press releases, and a database for the Official Journal of the EU.

Tom Stave reported on the annual State Data Center meeting. They discussed plans for the 2000 Census and the new Continuous Measurement Program that will eventually replace the decennial census.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30. Lunch and a program by Adelaide Elm of Project Vote Smart followed.

#### **1997 DIGOR Officers (thru Sept.)**

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**Past President:** Kate McGann, Jackson Co. Lib.  
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**Treasurer:** Jey Wann, OSL  
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