

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS AND PRIORITIES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Within the Depository Library Council vision statement “Knowledge will Forever Govern” we have suggested a number of paths to the future. Council acknowledges the challenges facing GPO and the federal depository libraries in pursuing these paths. In order to accomplish the proposed goals of the vision statement Council presents the following recommendations for both GPO and depository libraries. These are listed in priority order.

1) Council recommends that GPO expedite development of FDsys. This includes incorporation of content currently on the WAIS platform. GPO’s commitment to rapidly moving off of the WAIS platform is encouraged.

GPO: Adhere to aggressive timeline as stated in Techline no. 3. Ensure compliance with the RLG/OCLC Trusted Digital Repositories: Attributes and Responsibilities and the subsequent certification document. Ensure that digital government information is authentic and versioned.

FDLs: Participate in beta testing and provide feedback.

2) Council recommends that GPO review current projects and initiatives with the goal of seamless integration, interoperability and ease of access.

GPO: Integrate the library directory, Browse Topics, CGP, ILS, FDLP Desktop, and FDsys to enhance ease of access and use.

FDLs: Provide comment to GPO.

3) Council recommends GPO harvest web-based documents hosted by government agencies. Council attaches a high priority to the development and establishment of a stable web harvesting program integrated into systems currently under development.

GPO: Energetically pursue web harvesting of critical agency material. Collaborate with regional federal agency offices and depository libraries to identify fugitive material.

FDLs: Provide GPO with guidance in discovering agency information and associated metadata critically time sensitive, elusive and endangered.

4) Council recommends that GPO establish a registry of depository librarians who are expert in specific parts or functions of the U.S. government. This registry would provide a list of depository librarians with expertise in subject areas, who could be consulted by other depository librarians.

GPO: Implement the new FDLS directory which will provide an opportunity for libraries to list areas of their expertise.

FDLs libraries: Add specific institutional expertise information to the directory. Participate in Browse Topics, contributing content and identifying areas of expertise.

5) Council recommends that GPO coordinate and support item level cataloging of digitized works to aid in the discovery of converted resources. Council believes retrospective cataloging to be a high priority for GPO and the FDLS community, both to support inventory functions required for long-term archival stewardship of digital collections, as well as to enhance user discovery and evaluation of sought after materials. The range of activities includes some or all of the following:

GPO: Recommend appropriate standards, work processes and costs. Partner with source libraries in the creation of new records, or in upgrading non-standard or incomplete records to a uniform standard. Coordinate opportunities for locating and sharing adequate local records. Recommend and support mechanisms for cost-effective enhancement of pre-1976 records. Identify funding sources to support or subsidize enhancement of cataloging records, and co-sponsor funding requests.

FDLs:

6) Council recommends that GPO partner with libraries and other institutions on digitization projects. Council further recommends that GPO focus its efforts on coordinating the dissemination of specifications for digitization and standardized partnership agreements. Libraries and other cultural institutions are interested in working with GPO, but need clear guidelines on how to proceed.

GPO: Focus on participating in the digitization community in order to better coordinate the specifications expected of potential digitization projects incorporating federal information. Promote acceptance of non-GPO collections meeting these specifications as authentic products. Establish and present uniform and public partnership agreements.

FDLs: Actively engage in meeting digitization specifications and best practices and pursue projects digitizing FDLS material.

7) Council recommends that GPO provide an online venue for collaboration, communication, training, and education for depository libraries. Council commends GPO's redesign of the FDLS web page and the potential for development of education and training programs in OPAL.

GPO: Redesign page, refine via testing. Provide communication site. Collect and promote the collection of training modules to be added to OPAL.

FDLs: Participate in the testing and evaluation of any new page. Use the web page to communicate best practices, new projects and training opportunities. Provide GPO with training modules to be added to OPAL.

8) Council recommends that GPO focus its digitization efforts on specific projects requiring unique treatments and with significant national value as identified by Congress or the depository library community.

GPO: Identify and complete specific projects for digitization.

FDLs: Assist GPO in identifying high value digital projects.

9) Council recommends that GPO evaluate any assessment proposals in the light of new expectations resulting from changes in emphasis in the depository program.

GPO: Review assessment expectations to ensure compliance with statutory requirements, but expand to include new components required to measure performance.

FDLs: Integrate depository assessment into local programs.



DLC Recommendations and Priorities

Depository Library Council

Denver, CO

April 15-18, 2007



Recommendations and Priorities

- Within the Depository Library Council vision statement “Knowledge will Forever Govern” we have suggested a number of paths to the future. Council acknowledges the challenges facing GPO and the federal depository libraries in pursuing these paths. In order to accomplish the proposed goals of the vision statement Council presents the following recommendations for both GPO and depository libraries. These are listed in priority order.



Recommendation #1

- 1) Council recommends that GPO expedite development of FDsys. This includes incorporation of content on the WAIS platform. GPO's commitment to rapidly moving off of the WAIS platform is encouraged.
- GPO: Adhere to aggressive timeline as stated in Techline no. 3. Ensure compliance with the RLG/OCLC Trusted Digital Repositories: Attributes and Responsibilities and the subsequent certification document.
- FDLP: Participate in beta testing and provide feedback.



Recommendation #2

- 2) Council recommends that GPO review current projects and initiatives with the goal of seamless integration, interoperability and ease of access.
- GPO: Integrate the library directory, Browse Topics, CGP, ILS, FDLP Desktop, and FDsys to enhance ease of access and use.
- FDLP: Provide comment to GPO.



Recommendation #3

- 3) Council recommends GPO harvest web-based documents hosted by government agencies. Council attaches a high priority to the development and establishment of a stable web harvesting program integrated into systems currently underdevelopment.
- GPO: Energetically pursue web harvesting of critical agency material. Collaborate with regional federal agency offices and depository libraries to identify fugitive material.
- FDLP: Provide GPO with guidance in discovering agency information and associated metadata critically time sensitive, elusive and endangered.



Recommendation #4

- 4) Council recommends that GPO establish a registry of depository librarians who are expert in specific parts or functions of the U.S. government. This registry would provide a list of depository librarians with expertise in subject areas who could be consulted by other depository librarians.
- GPO: Implement the new FDLDP directory which will provide an opportunity for libraries to list areas of their expertise.
- FDLDP libraries: Add specific institutional expertise information to the directory. Participate in Browse Topics, contributing content and identifying areas of expertise.



Recommendation #5

- 5) Council recommends that GPO coordinate and support item level cataloging of digitized works to aid in the discovery of converted resources. This should encompass a range of activities as appropriate to particular projects, including some or all of the following:
- GPO: Recommend appropriate standards, work processes and costs. Partner with source libraries in the creation of new records, or in upgrading non-standard or incomplete records to a uniform standard. Coordinate opportunities for locating and sharing adequate local records. Recommend and support mechanisms for cost-effective enhancement of pre-1976 records. Identify funding sources to support or subsidize enhancement of cataloging records, and co-sponsor funding requests.
- FDLP:
- Council believes retrospective cataloging to be a high priority for GPO and the FDLP community, both to support inventory functions required for long-term archival stewardship of digital collections, as well as to enhance user discovery and evaluation of sought after materials.



Recommendation #6

- 6) Council recommends that GPO partner with libraries and other institutions on digitization projects. Council further recommends that GPO focus its efforts on coordinating the dissemination of specifications for digitization and standardized partnership agreements. Libraries and other cultural institutions are interested in working with GPO, but need clear guidelines on how to proceed.
- GPO: Focus on participating in the digitization community in order to better coordinate the specifications expected of potential digitization projects incorporating federal information. Promote acceptance of non-GPO collections meeting these specifications as authentic products. Establish and present uniform and public partnership agreements.
- FDLP: Actively engage in meeting digitization specifications and best practices and pursue projects digitizing FDLP material.



Recommendation #7

- 7) Council recommends that GPO provide an online venue for collaboration, communication, training, and education for depository libraries. Council commends GPO's redesign of the FDLP web page and the potential for development of education and training programs in OPAL.
- GPO: Redesign page, refine via testing. Provide communication site. Collect and promote the collection of training modules to be added to OPAL.
- FDLP: Participate in the testing and evaluation of any new page. Use the web page to communicate best practices, new projects and training opportunities. Provide GPO with training modules to be added to OPAL.



Recommendation #8

- 8) Council recommends GPO focus on specific projects requiring unique treatments and with significant national value as identified by Congress or the depository library community.
- GPO: Identify and complete specific projects for digitization.
- FDLP: Assist GPO in identifying high value digital projects.



Recommendation #9

- 9) Council recommends that GPO evaluate any assessment proposals in the light of new expectations resulting from changes in emphasis in the depository program.
- GPO: Review assessment expectations to ensure compliance with statutory requirements, but expand to include new components required to measure performance.
- FDLs: Integrate depository assessment into local programs.