Value of Participating in the FDLP: How Depository Coordinators Can Effectively Convey this Message to Library Administration (a response to Recommendation #5, Fall 2001)

Summary of a Presentation by Barbara Ford, Assistant Commissioner, Chicago Public Library

Depository Library Council Meeting, April 23, 2002

THINK LIKE A LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR, who has several different priorities and see how the depository fits into the larger picture.

Find ways to inform without making administration feel like they're poorly informed.

Sometimes the only time depository staff speak with administration is when there are problem or problematic issues. Instead, speak with them at other times about users of government information. Share praise received from depository users. Take initiative. Be proactive.

Work with public relations staff. Many administrators are very proud of Web sites and can use that to advantage.

Find ways to collaborate with partners and stakeholders. For example, sponsor projects with community organizations such as museums.

Work to include government documents in library strategic plans.

Regionals play a role in promotion.

Those depository staff in larger settings with more staff need to be aware of colleagues in smaller settings. Focus outward, work with other colleagues.

BE POSITIVE. A carrot goes a lot farther than a stick.