

# NewsRelease

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## INTERNATIONAL SCHOLAR TO STUDY FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY PROGRAM AT GPO

WASHINGTON—A research scholar from Japan will spend a year at the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) and the Library of Congress to learn how the U.S. government makes the documents of its democracy available to the public. Professor Nobuhiro Igawa hopes to take what he learns at GPO and propose a similar program for the citizens of Japan. Professor Igawa is from the International University of Kagoshima, Japan and will study the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). The FDLP is made up of approximately 1,250 depository libraries throughout the country. GPO works with the library community to provide free, open and permanent access to government documents.

Link to photo: <http://www.gpo.gov/news/images/index.html>

“I am honored to study and learn how the United States disseminates government information to its citizens,” said Professor Nobuhiro Igawa. “If I could introduce a system similar to the Federal Depository Library Program in Japan, it would benefit all citizens who want to learn more about government information.”

Professor Igawa's visit is being facilitated by the Library of Congress, where he has already performed some analysis on production, dissemination and use of federal public information in the Library's Government Documents Section. Following his studies at GPO, he will return for further research at the Library. GPO's Library Services and Content Management staff will provide introductory and advanced topics for his research. In addition to conducting his own research, Professor Igawa will also study the many challenges facing the FDLP and provide a fresh analysis.

"I am thrilled that Professor Igawa is spending a year with GPO studying how the agency keeps America informed through the FDLP," said Acting Superintendent of Documents Ric Davis. "The GPO staff looks forward to a year of information sharing, collaboration, and learning. We are excited to help Professor Igawa learn about the FDLP's strong tradition of safeguarding the public's right to free access to Government information."

The GPO is the Federal Government's primary centralized resource for gathering, cataloging, producing, providing, authenticating, and preserving published U.S. Government information in all its forms. GPO is responsible for the production and distribution of information products and services for all three Branches of the Federal Government. In addition to publication sales, GPO makes government information available at no cost to the public through *GPO Access* ([www.gpoaccess.gov](http://www.gpoaccess.gov)), and through partnerships with approximately 1,250 libraries nationwide

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participating in the Federal Depository Library Program. For more information, please visit [www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov).

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