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**PUBLIC PRINTER OF THE UNITED STATES
BRUCE R. JAMES
TO SPEAK ON INFORMATION AND SECURITY
AT *INFORMATION TODAY 2003* CONFERENCE**

Public Printer of the United States Bruce R. James, the chief executive officer of the U.S. Government Printing Office, will speak on the issue of “Information and Security” as part of a panel discussion on the subject at the *Information Today 2003* conference in New York City on May 7, 2003. Other panelists will be James Neal, Columbia University, and Aimee Quinn, University of Illinois at Chicago. The panel will convene at the New York Hilton, the conference site, from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

“Access to government information is a fundamental tenet of our system of government, but it now is being balanced with homeland security concerns,” said James. “This balancing act is presenting the libraries and the Government Printing Office, which distributes Government documents to 1,200 Federal depository libraries nationwide, with new circumstances and challenges.”

James will focus on the specific experience the GPO had in carrying out a Federal agency request to withdraw a publication from the Federal Depository Library Program following 9/11 and the system for working with the library community should any withdrawal requests be made again. Within the context of providing more effective public access to Government information, he will also discuss his vision for an electronic Federal Depository Library Program, including the results of the recent conference on this subject in Reno, NV.

James’s comments will complement those to be made by James Neal, who will focus on strategic developments in higher education libraries, information policy concerns raised by recent Government actions

involving national security and the library response to these conditions, and future developments to monitor. Aimee Quinn will discuss how depository librarians are voicing their concerns about the larger issue of Web-scrubbing, as well as the work done by the Federal Documents Task Force on Permanent Public Access including prospective changes to current information policy.

Bruce R. James was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be Public Printer in 2002. In office since December, he has been leading a program of broad-based change at the GPO to improve customer service, bring in new technology, and transform the GPO from a print-based institution founded on a 19th century business model into an information service facility staffed and equipped to meet the demands of the 21st century.

Headquartered in Washington, DC, the GPO is responsible for the production and distribution of information products and services for all three branches of the Federal Government. Many of the Nation's most important information products, such as the *Congressional Record* and *Federal Register*, are produced at the GPO's main plant, a 1.5 million square-foot complex that is the largest information processing, printing, and distribution facility in the world. In addition to its own production facilities, the GPO maintains a pool of thousands of private sector vendors across the country to produce print and other information products for the Federal Government ranging from publications for the Defense Department to Supreme Court reports and tax and census forms. The GPO disseminates Federal information products through its sales program, through distribution to a network of 1,200 Federal depository libraries nationwide, and online via GPO Access (www.gpoaccess.gov). This award-winning service features nearly a quarter of a million titles online, and is used by the public to retrieve more than 31 million documents every month.

For additional information, go to our Web site at www.gpo.gov.

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