We the People’s Collection
The National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information

An FDLP Academy Webinar
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Library Services and Content Management
Mission and Vision

MISSION

To provide readily discoverable and free public access to Federal Government information, now and for future generations

VISION

To provide Government information when and where it is needed
The National Collection

The National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information is a geographically dispersed collection of the corpus of Federal Government public information that is accessible to the public at no cost.
The National Collection is not ... 

• a new collection that GPO is building.
• a dark archive.
• a duplicate library housed at GPO
• housed in one location.
• replacing any existing collections.
Why do we need a National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information?

- Government information is a national asset.
- Depository library collections of tangible and digital Government content are valuable to ensuring an informed citizenry.
- Public has a right to access its Government’s information.
- Government has the obligation to disseminate and provide broad public access to its information.
- Government has an obligation to guarantee the authenticity and integrity of its information.
- Government has an obligation to preserve its information, regardless of format.
- NARA retains records in accordance with schedules.
## Changing Scope of FDLP Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description Of Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1813</td>
<td>House &amp; Senate Journals and other Congressional documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Addition of executive departments publications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Addition of congressional hearings, bills, resolutions, and reports on private bills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Addition of publications not printed at GPO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Addition of microfiche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Addition of 5 1/4” floppy disks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Addition of 3 1/2” floppy disks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Addition of CD-ROMs and DVDs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Addition of online publications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Addition of websites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>First Internet publication cataloged for which there was no tangible product distributed to depository libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Addition of Congressional Research Service reports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Federal Depository Library Program

• Trace our roots to 1813; American Antiquarian Society designated 1814

• More than 130 libraries designated depository libraries in the 1800s

• From January 2018 to December 2019, the number of digital-only depository libraries increased from 22 to 62

• 65% of FDLs planned selective or extensive weeding of their tangible collection (2019 Biennial Survey)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library type</th>
<th># of FDLs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Community College</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic General</td>
<td>612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Law Library</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Agency Library</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Court Library</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest State Court Library</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Library</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Academy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Library</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Library</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,114</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paradigm Shift — LSCM’s Active Role

Ensuring future generations have access to Government information (GPO)

Ensuring community Government information needs are met (FDLs)
What’s in the National Collection?

• Tangible Content
  o Collected and selected Government publications held in Federal depository libraries
  o Shared Housing Agreements
  o Preservation Steward collections
  o Unreported publications

• Digital Content
  o **govinfo**
  o Content harvested by GPO
  o GPO partner content
  o Content hosted on agency websites
  o Unreported publications
Who manages the National Collection?

- Superintendent of Documents organization
  - Catalogers
  - Collection Development Librarian
  - Collection Management Librarian
  - Digital Preservation Librarian
  - Preservation Librarian
  - Technical Services Librarians

- Federal Depository Libraries
  - Depository Coordinators and other library staff
  - Guidance from GPO
From where is National Collection content accessible?

- Federal depository libraries, their OPACs, and their websites
- Federal agency websites, their libraries, and their OPACs
- National Libraries, their OPACs, and their websites
- Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)
- govinfo
- FDLP Web Archive
- Partner libraries and repositories
- Congress.gov
- Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)
- WorldCat
National Collection Strategies

Tangible
- Inserting LSCM into disposition of materials process of FDLs
- Looking for at-risk materials in FDLs to undertake digital reformatting
  - Agencies that no longer exist
  - Condition where physical and intellectual content threatened
  - Rarity is indicated
- Providing services: preservation, cataloging, collection condition assessments, and others

Digital
- Digitization priorities in govinfo collection plan
  - Historical content for existing govinfo collections
  - Agency annual reports
  - Administrative decisions
  - Major reports and studies
- Digitization pilots
  - Partnerships
  - Cataloging
  - Good steward of taxpayer dollars
Strategic Disposition of Depository Materials

- From January 2018 to December 2019, the number of digital-only depository libraries increased from 22 to 62
- 65% of FDLs planned selective or extensive weeding of their tangible collection (2019 Biennial Survey)
- Framework established to absorb tangible publications into depository libraries throughout the FDLP — the network that comprises our shared, geographically distributed National Collection.
FDLP eXchange

Through “needs and offers”, FDLP eXchange helps ensure Government documents are housed where they are needed.
Supporting GPO Digitization

GPO Digitization: GPO Needs Lists

GPO Digitization

GPO is actively digitizing content, with an immediate focus on adding historical, retrospective content to existing govinfo collections. GPO may accept materials from depository libraries for digitization.

If your depository is weeding any of the titles listed here, and volumes are not claimed within your region, please contact us at FDLPOutreach@gpo.gov. If any of the materials meet our digitization needs, GPO will cover the cost of shipping the material to GPO.

GPO’s needs are also listed in FDLP eXchange, and will automatically match to any depositories that are offering nationally.

GPO Needs Lists

- U.S. Congressional Serial Set
  SuDoc: Y 1 1/2:
  Publication dates: 17th Congress, 2nd session-100th Congress, 2nd session (select volumes)

- Congressional Hearings
  SuDoc: Y 4

- Congressional Directory
  SuDoc: Y 4 P 93/1/
  Publication dates: 1809-1963 (select issues)

- Pocket Congressional Directory/Congressional Pictorial Directory
  SuDoc: Y 4 P 93/1 P:
  Publication dates: 82nd, 83rd and 102nd Congresses

Preferred Condition

GPO prefers to acquire materials in Fine or Good condition for digitization. Materials in Fair condition will be considered on a case-by-case basis, depending on the extent and location of wear and/or damage.
govinfo Collection Plan

govinfo —

• Statutory authority in 44 U.S.C., Chapter 41
• GPO gained ISO 16363 TDR certification December 28, 2018
• Demonstrates capability to ensure access, viability, security, usability, and discoverability of its content for the long-term according to industry best practices
• Continued certification is a key GPO strategic initiative — recertification process has begun
• NARA Affiliate Archive since August 2003

Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)

- Primary finding tool of the National Collection
- GPO began producing the *Monthly Catalog* (MoCat) in 1895
- Joint Committee on Printing waiver in June 2007 allowed replacement of the MoCat with the CGP online catalog
- MoCat and predecessor titles will be accessible from **govinfo**
- Received funding for the “next generation CGP”
- Long-term goals:
  - Comprehensive catalog and a national bibliography of U.S. public documents
  - A union catalog of depository library holdings
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Public papers of the Presidents of the United States.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>United States. President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>[Washington, D.C.]: Office of the Federal Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SuDoc Number</td>
<td>AE 2.114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item Number</td>
<td>0574-A-02 (online)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>1 online resource (volumes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Frequency</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content Type</td>
<td>text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metadata Source</td>
<td>Description based on: 1991, bk. 1 (Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject-LC</td>
<td>Presidents -- United States -- Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Added Entry</td>
<td>United States. Office of the Federal Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linking Field</td>
<td>Print version: United States, President, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URL</td>
<td><a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection">https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Holdings</td>
<td>All Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCLC Number</td>
<td>(OCoLC)478585835 (OCoLC)450079063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CGP Record Link</td>
<td>[<a href="https://test.catalog.gov/gp/f?funcatsi">https://test.catalog.gov/gp/f?funcatsi</a>]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Entire CGP Catalog - National Bibliography Holdings**

**Location**
- AE 2.114

**Summary Holdings**

**Preservation/Steward**
- 0170, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN (Midwest)
- 0054, Law Library for San Bernardino County, San Bernardino, CA (West)
- 0170, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN (Midwest)
- 0054, Law Library for San Bernardino County, San Bernardino, CA (West)

**Previous Preservation/Steward**
- 0455, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND (Midwest)
- 0170, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN (Midwest)
- 0054, Law Library for San Bernardino County, San Bernardino, CA (West)
- 0170, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN (Midwest)
- 0054, Law Library for San Bernardino County, San Bernardino, CA (West)

**Summary Holdings**
- 1920-1925, 1945-1975
- 1920-1925, 1945-1975
- 1920-1925, 1945-1975
- 1920-1925, 1945-1975
- 1920-1925, 1945-1975

**Locations**
- AE 2.114
- AE 2.114
- AE 2.114
- AE 2.114
- AE 2.114
What challenges do we face with the National Collection?

A lot of unknowns:

- Corpus of Government documents in scope of the FDLP and C&I
- Number of U.S. Government agencies
- Public information published each year
- Holdings in Federal depository libraries and difficult to inventory
- Condition of those holdings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th># Agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unified Agenda</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Conference of the United States</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOIA.gov (at Department of Justice)</td>
<td>252</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016 Federal Register Index</td>
<td>272</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regulations.gov</td>
<td>292</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States Government Manual</td>
<td>316</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Register Agency List</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA.gov (tally)</td>
<td>443</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2017, forbes.com
Challenges

Continued

- Library collections are evolving —
  - Libraries weeding
  - Becoming digital-only
  - Leaving the FDLP
- Transforming the FDLP
  - New service model
  - Task Force to Study the Feasibility of an All-Digital FDLP
- Resources
  - Staffing levels
  - Budget
- Potential legislative changes
The National Collection

- 1,114 libraries separated by
- 50 states
- 4 territories
- Designation dates for libraries from 1814 to the present
Risks to Permanent Access

- Physical Decay: brittle paper, poor binding
- Disasters: Flood, Fire, Mold
- Lack of comprehensive cataloging
- Obsolete Media: Diskettes, CD-ROMs
- Weeding collections without regard to rarity
- Human neglect: belief that all FDLP collections are duplicates; belief that everything is online
Preservation Best Practices

➢ Know what you have

➢ Assess risks:
  Number of copies?
  Age of copies?
  Condition of copies?
  Format obsolescence?

➢ Digitally Reformat for access and preservation

➢ Develop and maintain a digital repository

➢ Plan for and prevent disasters

✓ Cataloging and Collection Inventory

✓ Preservation Stewards

✓ Bibliographic assessment

✓ Condition assessment

✓ Collection repair

✓ Task Force on Obsolete Formats

✓ BPA for Digital Imaging

✓ govtinfo.gov ISO-16363 Certification

✓ Disaster Prevention and recovery webinars and training
Collection Services Provided by GPO

Cataloging and Metadata Services
• Cataloging Record Distribution
• Bibliographic access
• Record sets on GitHub
• Cataloging partnerships
• Records and eBooks delivered to DPLA

Collection Evaluation and Maintenance
• Collection assessment
• Community or user needs assessment
• PURL referral reports
• Collection development planning
• Inventory

Preservation
• Collection condition assessment
• Disaster preparedness, response, and recovery planning
• Collection care and conservation consultations
• Preservation training
• Digital reformatting

Tools
• FDLP eXchange (“needs” and “offers”)
• Catalog of U.S. Government Publications (CGP)
• govinfo
Partnerships and Collaborations

Who Can Be Partners?
- Federal depository libraries
- The Library of Congress
- National Archives and Records Administration
- U.S. national libraries
- Federal agencies & their libraries
- State libraries
- Law Libraries
- Library consortia
- Associations
- Public and private sector enterprises
- Others interested in Government information preservation
Pre-pilot Development

Pilots

• Developing collection plans
• Cataloging
• Assessing collection condition
• Conducting inventories
• Conducting bibliographic record comparisons and sharing
• Collection care and repair
• Developing disaster preparedness, response, and recovery plans
• Digital Deposit

Performed to date

• In planning
• Pilot Planning completed
• Pilot Planning completed
• To be developed
• In process
• In process
• In planning
• Managed by a LSCM/DLC working group
Introducing LSCM Pilot Projects: Apply Beginning September 1, 2021

**Details**
Last Updated: August 02 2021
Published: August 02 2021

Library Services & Content Management (LSCM) is pleased to announce the kickoff of pilot projects with Federal depository libraries in support of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).

Pilot projects will address the following aspects of Federal Government documents management:
- Cataloging
- Condition assessment
- Inventory
- Conservation

Though GPO does not have gift or grant authority as an agency, LSCM can carry out projects in conjunction with Federal depository libraries and can assist by providing resources and services on targeted initiatives. These jointly-conducted projects are envisioned to benefit the larger FDLP community and ultimately to enhance access to the National Collection of U.S. Government Public Information.

LSCM will be accepting applications for the first pilot project opportunity beginning **September 1 – 30, 2021**. Review the LSCM Pilot Projects web page to learn more about the first opportunity.

Both regional and selective libraries are encouraged to apply.

Learn more about LSCM Pilot Projects, and review the application to participate.
How can depository libraries help?

• Know your collection:
  Rare or special collection items? Federal publications with topics of local interest? Special collection items in need of repair? Do you have high use special collection items that need a digital surrogate (copy)?

• Know your building and the location of collection items in it:
  Do you have a Disaster Prevention and Recovery Plan?

• Share what you’ve digitally imaged:
  Become a Digital Content Contributor
  Discuss, Share, Collaborate: PreserveFedInfo@gpo.gov
How can depository libraries help?

- Thoughtful weeding, think of the bigger picture as part of a National Collection
- Use FDLP eXchange
- Review LSCM’s Needs Lists and create your own Needs List
- Review the Collection Development Plan for govinfo
- Notify GPO (askGPO)
  - If you want to be partner
  - If you are weeding and have materials GPO is looking to digitize
  - If you identify unreported publications
- Catalog your depository collection
- Continue the excellent job you are doing in stewarding and providing service to your depository collection and digital content
Think of a question later, contact us through askGPO!
If you have a preservation question email PreserveFedInfo@gpo.gov
Strategic Disposition to Support the National Collection

FDLP Academy Webinar
Thursday
August 26th
2:00 - 3:00 EDT

It's not too late!
Register at FDLP.gov

Speakers:
Abby McDermott
Collection Management Librarian, GPO

Jaime Hays
Outreach Librarian, GPO