

Depository Library Council

Advisory body to the Director of the U.S. Government Publishing Office

July 1, 2025

Hugh Nathaniel Halpern, Director
U.S. Government Publishing Office
732 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, DC 20401

Dear Director Halpern,

On behalf of the Depository Library Council (DLC), I am pleased to transmit, for your consideration, two recommendations that were approved at its Spring Business Meeting held May 1, 2025.

Both recommendations originate from the work of the Statistics and Metrics Working Group. They conducted a survey to determine the data collection landscape in Federal depository libraries. According to the [survey findings](#), of the 31% of depository library coordinators who responded, only 16% collect usage statistics for certain depository materials. It also is clear from the responses that depository coordinators desire assistance with data collection on the use of tangible and electronic government content. As a result of these findings, the DLC offers you these recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Promote data gathering efforts

Promote mechanisms to assist the depository community in data gathering efforts that offer guidance for quantitative and qualitative data collection and management.

- Methods could include mentorship opportunities, webinars, training, and resource guides that foster collaborative efforts among DLC members, Government Publishing Office staff, and depository community members.

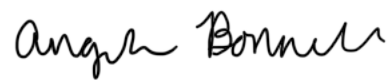
Recommendation 2: Expand the collection of stories on depository library use

Initiate efforts to expand the collection of stories in [The Essential FDLP: Share Your Experiences with GPO](#).

- Efforts could include oral, pictorial, or prose histories that share the benefits of data collection.
- Stories could represent anecdotes reflecting library patron successes from using depository collections.

We would like to express our appreciation to GPO for its thoughtful responses to previous recommendations that reflect the value of empowering depository librarians through communication, outreach, education, and involvement. I look forward to working with GPO in its mission of providing permanent public access to government information through the Federal Depository Library Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Bonnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and 'B'.

Angela Bonnell
Chair, Depository Library Council
Head of Government Information and Maps
Illinois State University, Milner Library

Copy:
Scott Matheson, Superintendent of Documents
Cynthia Etkin, DLC Designated Federal Officer
Stephani (Nia) Rodgers, DLC Secretary