Preservation Services Initiatives

The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) is developing support services for Federal Information Preservation Network (FIPNet) Preservation Stewardship Partners, such as funds for shipping items, cataloging, collection condition assessment, basic collection maintenance “tool kit,” and the conservation of special collection items.

Training Webinars

A series of six webinars on preservation topics of interest to the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and GPO partners have been developed and will be presented through the FDLP Academy Training Series this spring. Additional webinars or training activities will be periodically scheduled. Stay tuned to FDLP News & Events for announcements about upcoming webinars.

TDR Audit of FDsys/govinfo

GPO has begun the acquisitions process to procure an independent auditor to assess FDsys/govinfo according to the ISO16363 standard for Trustworthy Digital Repositories. A Request for Information was sent to a prospective vendor that has indicated an intent to become certified to audit Digital Repositories under ISO16919. However, at this time, the international accrediting body has not formally certified any organization to audit a digital repository against the metrics of ISO16363. Such an auditor would need to be accredited under ISO16919, a standard that specifies requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of digital repositories. GPO is prepared and determined to provide opportunities for accredited bodies to respond to an RFP.

Preservation Partnerships

Interest in collaborative FIPNet preservation partnerships continues to grow. We currently have six signed partnerships and ongoing discussions with several more potential Preservation Steward and digital imaging partners. Additional partner guidance is being developed for new partnership areas and will be available at https://www.fdlp.gov/about-the-fdlp/partnerships. If you are interested in becoming a Preservation Steward or have questions about the Preservation Steward program, contact GPO staff at https://www.fdlp.gov/partnership-inquiry-form.
Preservation Page on FDLP.gov

A preservation web page is currently in development for FDLP.gov. The page will consolidate existing Preservation Program information and serve as a resource for training webinars, preservation information, and FIPNet partners.

Removable and Obsolete Media Study

GPO recognizes that FDLP libraries have holdings consisting of digital Government publications on removable media that are now obsolete and the data is no longer accessible. To address this issue, GPO is undertaking a study and will produce a white paper with recommendations on how best to address the technological obsolescence of the tangible electronic information products distributed through the FDLP, thus working to ensure that this legacy content remains accessible to the public. A draft of the white paper will be available for comment following its presentation at the fall 2017 Depository Library Council Meeting and Federal Depository Library Conference.

Professionally Certified Staff

As part of the organizational infrastructure improvement for the TDR certification of FDsys, a Digital Preservation Librarian position has been developed and approved, and new Technical Services Librarians have been hired and will be trained to ingest digital content into FDsys/govinfo.