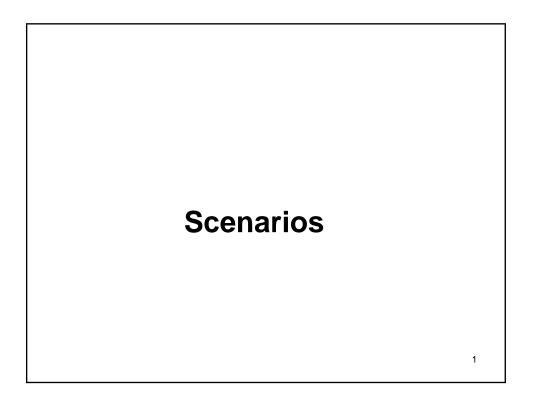
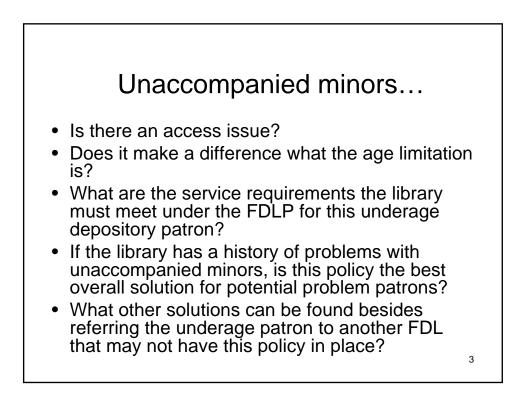
Juggling the issues: Balancing Access, Resources, & Security Concerns in FDLs

> October 21, 2008 David Cismowski Suzanne Sears Robin Haun-Mohamed

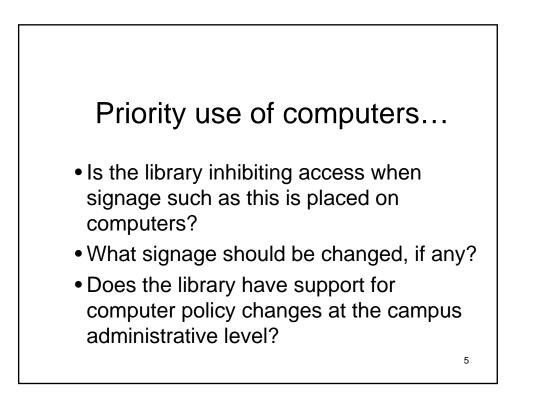


 A student is dropped off at a FDL to do research for a school project. The library has a policy that prohibits unaccompanied minors from using library resources. This information is posted on library Web pages and at the entrance to the library. The library's FDLP Web page states clearly that all government resources are freely available to researchers, no age limitation is mentioned.

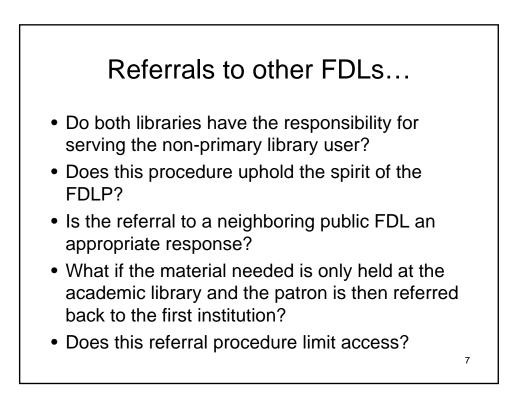


2. Computers in the library and across campus have a security & priority statement posted that clearly states computers are for the use of faculty, students, and staff at the educational institution.

The depository coordinator has one computer workstation in the government documents area, but it also has this label.

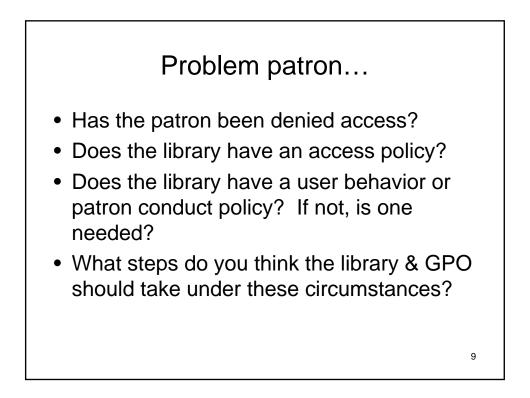


3. Two FDLs are located in the same area. Both have tangible collections and internet access. A patron walks into one library, an academic institution, and during the reference interview it is determined the patron does not attend that institution. The patron is then referred to the neighboring public depository library for reference assistance.



4. A problem patron returns to a library. The patron has been acting in a manner in which staff is concerned for the safety of the library users or materials in the collection. The library staff asks the patron to leave and the patron complies.

The patron then lodges a complaint with GPO against the library claiming the library is not fulfilling its obligations to provide free public access.



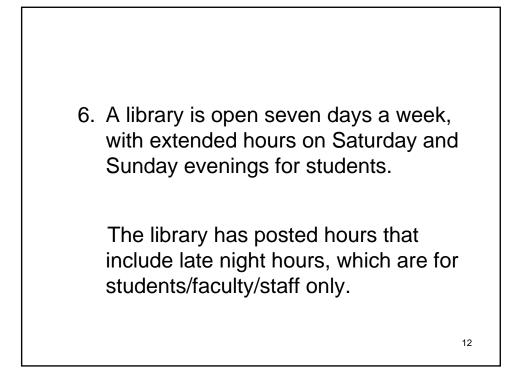
5. A patron has been banned from the entire campus, including the library, because of documented instances of violations of the University or Library Code of Conduct.

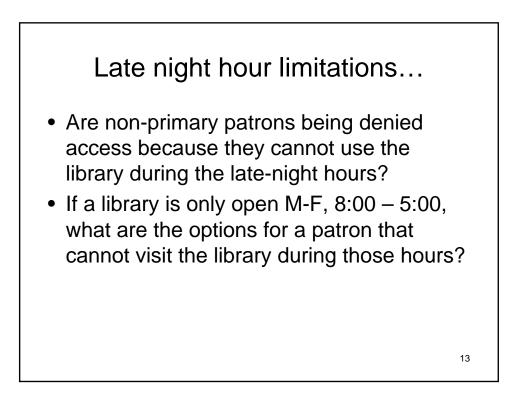
The patron was advised by the campus administration of this ban.

The patron then contacts GPO saying he was denied access to the use of depository materials.

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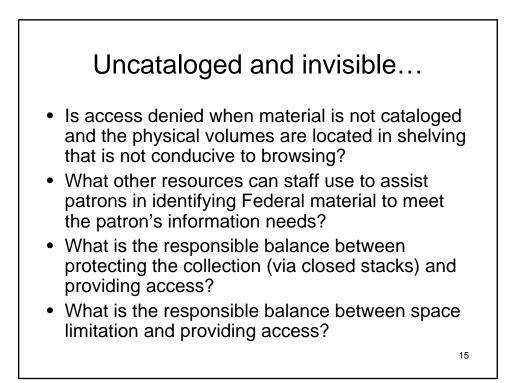
Banned from the campus...
Has the patron been denied access?
What are other options for the patron and the library with regard to a GPO inquiry into what has happened?
What should the library do, if anything, to advise neighboring institutions that there is a problem patron?

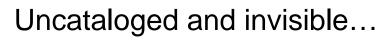




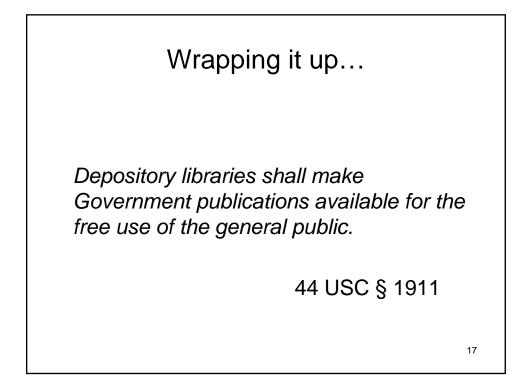
 Publications are generally shelved in closed stacks or non-browseable compact shelving, including depository resources. The library has cataloged some older depository publications. The government documents shelf list is not available in a public area.

Essentially, many depository materials are invisible to staff and the public because of their shelving situation.





- Is there a comparability issue when all publications in closed stacks or remote storage are cataloged except depository publications?
- Is access affected if a card catalog or shelflist and the depository publications are all housed in a non-public area so that library users are not able to access both the finding tool and the collection? What are the expectations of the public today to gain access to library resources?



## Questions?

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