Depository Library Access to Online Resources from Library Home Pages: Using the Depository Logo on the "Front Door"

FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY CONFERENCE

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Introduction of Depository Logo Usage

Administrative Notes 25(11): Oct. 15, 2004

Readers Exchange

Zach S. Henderson Library

Government Information Resources

Promoting Access to Federal Information Resources

FDLP guidelines for traditional materials
   Federal Depository Library Manual
      Chapter 7 – Depository Promotion

   Instructions to Depository Libraries
      Chapter 7 – Public Service – A. Access

   Self-Study of a Federal Depository Library
      Public Service – Question 6.10 – regarding depository emblem

Promoting Access to Electronic Resources from Depository Library Home Pages

FDLP Internet Use Policy Guidelines

Public access to FDLP electronic information

Public Service Guidelines

No. 5 – Depository library home pages

What Should Depository Libraries Do to Promote Online Resources?

If library home page is gateway to library resources,
   should not notice/access to FDLP resources
   be provided on library home page via:

   Depository logo or other evidence of depository
       status

   Prominent hyperlink to FDLP resources

What are FDLP Requirements for Library Home Pages

Public Service Guidelines

    No. 5 – development of library home pages for government information

Self-Study of a Federal Depository Library

    Public Service – Question 6.18:

        Library web home page?

        GPO Access/FDLP Electronic Collection?

Questions to Ask for This Study

1. Does library use Depository logo on home page?

2. Does library provide direct link to FDLP resources, or government information in general?

3. Does library provide direct link to statement of Depository status and function of public access to government information?

Methodology-How to Determine Nature of Library Access to FDLP Resources

In absence of software to analyze library home pages, visual inspection is necessary

Survey of library home pages to determine

    A. If Depository logo is present

    B. If direct link to FDLP resources is present

    C. If direct link to page with statement of Depository status and function is present

Sources for Depository Libraries

Locate a Federal Depository Library
    Federal Depository Library Directory

Library Directory and Profile Database

Federal Depository Library Directory
    at Denver University

Documents Data Miner 2©
    Depository Selection and Directory

Building Tables for Analysis Based on DDM2© Data

Copy and paste data into Excel file:
Example – Georgia Depository Libraries

Add link to DDM2© Home URL

If URL is link to documents resource, locate library home page

Paste library home page URL into Home URL cell

Additional Steps Introduced During Study

Paste Gov Docs home page URL in Gov Docs URL cell

Add descriptive note in Notes column

Obtain totals for states for results of questions

Calculate percentages of libraries for results

Georgia Depository Libraries

Georgia Depository Libraries

Libraries with 3xYes responses

10-8-05 Table – 0

12-13-05 Table – 1

State Comparison Table

26 libraries with 3xYes responses

Questions About the Process

Duration of study—possibility of changes in library home pages, URLs, government information links

Although two additional steps were introduced (modifications of tables), fundamental steps (3 questions to be answered) were not altered

Conclusions

Percentages of libraries that use Depository logo were extremely low

Percentages of libraries that provided direct links to FDLP resources were low

Percentages of libraries that provided direct links to statements of Depository status & function were low

Conclusions

Little uniformity among depository libraries, and among types of libraries, in methods of access

Use of any of three features independent of any other

Difficult to determine best method of access without more precise guidelines or more precise measures

Depository libraries, in general, need to do more to provide better electronic access to FDLP resources

Possibilities for Future Study

Conduct survey to determine if libraries provide access to GPO Access & FDLP Electronic Collection

Conduct analysis to determine/evaluate means of access by library type

Conduct second survey to determine Depository library practices since Depository Library Council meeting of April, 2006 – Council Briefing Topic: Transition to a Mostly Electronic FDLP Collection

For Further Information

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