

# LaDocs

Newsletter of the Government Documents Roundtable of the Louisiana Library Association

2005

March

2005

Message from the editor:

Hello again,

I am off to a slow start this year with the task of newsletter writing, but I hope to become more proficient as the year progresses. Thank you to all who have contributed to this issue. I am hopeful that we can continue to expand on member participation in this venture. The GODORT newsletter offers all of us an opportunity to stretch our creative and scholarly writing skills. I would like to see this newsletter become not only a place to report the activities of the GODORT membership, but also a venue to share our research with the Louisiana documents community.

All the best,

Lora Amsberryaugier

## 2005 GODORT Newsletter Message from the Chair.

The GODORT Section of LLA is strong and supporting government documents activities thanks to all of you who have joined this section and especially to the many of you who have assumed administrative positions and are carrying out those responsibilities. Gail Kwak has arranged for three good programs at the 2005 Annual Conference. Donna Vavrek and Gail will present an update to their highly successful Government Information for Teachers program. Judith Haydel will share the results of her research on the very early history of the State Library and the Louisiana State Documents Depository Program.

Lora Amsberryaugier reactivated our section's newsletter and generously volunteered to continue as editor this term. Pamela Tabor received her MLIS degree in December but volunteered to chair our Nominations Committee months before that. Her eagerness to become active in GODORT has been a real personal inspiration for me. Lori Smith makes us all proud by running for LLA VP-President Elect.

Please note that our 2004/2005 budget includes funds for a workshop. Those who attended the very successful one in May 2004 on cataloging government documents indicated they wanted MORE. Lori, Doris Hutson and Bambi Hernandez

produced a winner. It would be a service to Louisiana library staffs if we offered a follow-up in 2005 or 2006. Here, from the evaluations, are the attendees' suggestions for future workshops:

A. RECON of state docs, how much should we put in our databases? Will it be used? Should we be doing more weeding (deselecting) of older docs?

B. Workshop was worth twice as much. Please continue offering cataloging/maintenance topics.

C. Very helpful and fun but more extended workshop on serial control and Workflows' other features for everyday check-in, updating, and cataloging, would be helpful as well.

D. More on cataloging basics. Bobbie Ferguson is great! Processing state docs. Another cataloging workshop after ALA meeting, maybe next summer? LUC would be good but it may be at same time as GPO conference?

With reviews like that, LLA GODORT definitely met a need and is being asked to do more. The LLA Executive Board needs from 2 to 6 months to approve a workshop so we need to get busy on this soon. Please contact me with your suggestions, ideas and offers to help.

Ferol Foos, Chair, LLA GODORT 2004/2005

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LLA GODORT 2004/2005 Officers (Shaded are elected 11/10/04)

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Executive Council of GODORT

Current officers of LLA GODORT and the past chair (Maureen Olle)

Program Committee & ex-officio member of LLA Conference Program Sub-Committee

Gail Kwak (as vice chair)

Liaison to Louisiana Federal Depository Library Council

Gail Kwak (as vice chair)

Liaison to LLA Website

Mary DeMayo

Representative, Louisiana Libraries Editorial Board

Donna Vavrek

Margaret T. Lane Award Committee

1. Paula Singleton, Chair
2. Beate Kukainis
3. Lori Smith

Nominations Committee for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Second Vice-Chair, and Secretary

1. Pam Tabor
2. Lora Amsberryaugier, UNO

Tellers Committee stuffing and counting will be in Lafayette at ULL

1. Ferol Foos
2. Paula Byars
3. Jean Kiesel

Newsletter Editor

Lora Amsberryaugier, UNO

**LLA GODORT Section Budget 2004/2005**

REVENUES

Allocated Funds	\$ 121.00	(est. 32 @\$2.50; 41@\$1.00)
<u>Designated Funds</u>	<u>\$1203.95</u>	(\$300 designated from LLA)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1324.95	

EXPENDITURES

CONFERENCE 2005		
Breakfast speakers/vendor meals (3)	\$	15
Breakfast speaker's & vendor's gifts (2)	\$	50
Breakfast Equipment	\$	50
Business meeting equipment & misc.	\$	50
Additional programs speakers	\$	100
Additional speaker gift	\$	25
<u>Additional programs equipment &amp; misc.</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>50</u>
SUBTOTAL		\$340
MARGARET T. LANE AWARD		
Award plaque	\$	35
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>30</u>
SUBTOTAL		\$ 65

**GPO Aims for an Electronic Only Distribution System in FY2006**

Congress has requested that agencies not ask for budget increases for FY2006. Judy Russell, the Superintendent of Documents, announced at the 2005 ALA midwinter conference in Boston (January 14-18, 2005) that GPO will ask for the same budget amount as FY2004 (the U.S. government runs from October to October, FY2004 covered the government budget from 2003-2004 - the budget from 2 years ago). FY2004 funding levels distributed to cover the entire GPO budget allows for only enough printing budget to print and distribute the Essential Titles List in tangible formats (listed below).

Depository libraries have supported GPO's efforts to transition from a paper based system of information distribution to an electronic disseminator of virtual information. This process began in 1996 with the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 which was then followed by the Government Paper Elimination Act of 1998. Throughout all of these changes GPO has promised the library community that it would have systems in place to preserve, protect and provide permanent public access to this digital information.

The concern of the depository community is that GPO has not followed through with promised safeguards. It has not finalized procuring a mirror site for its purl servers. It hasn't developed its promised electronic signature/authentication system to

guarantee unadulterated government information. It has not implemented version control to track agency modifications of born digital documents. Finally, GPO refuses to acknowledge the digital divide that continues to persist in many parts of the United States.

For those with internet connections and even basic searching skills, current government information has become easily attainable and most librarians would agree that it has improved access to information. Many of us have actively worked with GPO to make these advances happen, but it is alarming that GPO wants to dispense with distribution of tangible materials before they have implemented an IT infrastructure that will provide permanent public access to government information, protect the content of this information and be able to preserve it for future generations.

Another step that GPO is proposing is to create a print-on-demand (POD) system for those individuals and libraries that are willing to purchase a paper copy of the document. Selective depositories like UNO would receive a \$500 allowance for materials that GPO has admitted are not archival quality. Neither has GPO perfected the technology to print these POD documents with the same color levels and quality of the originals. This is alarming in that first we will be required to purchase titles that we have always received in print for free and on top of this we will receive poor, non-archival quality documents.

ALA is sending a resolution to congress to ask congress to require GPO to

March 2005

4

continue funding tangible products until they have established an appropriate electronic infrastructure.

Many librarians voiced their concern about what they had heard at the conference or had been told by those who had attended. Finally, on March 1, 2005, Ms. Russell sent an email announcement to the govdoc-l listserv to respond to librarians' concerns. The following is the last 2 paragraphs of her message:

All ongoing work on improvements to GPO's electronic information dissemination systems- including those projects associated with the authentication, preservation, and establishment of standards for electronic information products-will continue. GPO's Superintendent of Documents will actively seek the guidance and input of the library community in planning for and implementing changes in the dissemination of Government information products in either electronic or tangible formats.

To begin this consultation, the Superintendent will convene multiple sessions on the future of tangible information products in the FDLIP at the Spring 2005 meeting of the

Depository Library Council to the Public Printer, in Albuquerque, NM (April 17-20).

The Superintendent will also conduct a survey of Federal depository libraries nationwide on the same subject. No changes in existing policy or program practice regarding the dissemination of tangible products will be implemented until the results of these efforts have been fully reviewed in consultation with the library community and GPO's oversight committees in Congress.

Judy Russell says that GPO will work with the library community to revise the Essential Titles list, but they are not going to ask for a larger budget to continue supplying tangible documents while they pursue the tools that are necessary to support a completely electronic government information paradigm. The documents community must be even more vigilant in its demands that GPO not allow this information to disappear while it works to build this electronic infrastructure. Librarians must and will continue to work with GPO to guard against loss of access to the publications of the United States government. - L. Amsberryaugier, Ed.

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## LaDocumenting Louisiana's Depositories

### Report on the meeting of the North Louisiana Government Depositories

On January 14th, 2005 Pat Ferguson from Shreve Memorial hosted depository personnel from Northwestern University: Gail Kwak, Mary Linn Wernet, Vernon Parish Library: Howard Coy, and Louisiana Tech University: Mary Shiveley, Donna L. Vavrek, LSU-S did not attend but dropped off some attractive guides from their library.

We had a wonderful tour of the library from Pat and swapped ideas on state documents, promotion of depository programs, Marcive, recycling and library kitchen parties.

Vernon Parish Library has a new web page with many government web sites listed under the reference section. <<http://www.youseemore.com/VernonParish/readyref.asp>>

An organization for recycling can be found at [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org) <<http://www.freecycle.org>> . Some cities in Louisiana participate. Material must be free.

This might provide a home for discarded CDs. - D. Vavrek

### **UNO State Documents Records Go into the OPAC**

UNO's Earl K. Long Library has been a complete depository for state documents since 1959. Until recently, these 46 years' worth of accumulated state documents has been largely inaccessible to our patrons since most of the documents are not in the UNO OPAC, iLink. When patrons don't find state documents records in their iLink searches, they often aren't inclined to go digging for them themselves, so a very useful collection has long been underused.

All this is going to change soon. Sean Benjamin, Library Associate in Louisiana and Special Collections is training with the EKL's serials and cataloging departments to learn how to get state documents records into iLink. After several months of preparation, EKL is now importing records from the State Library's catalog. There are still a few kinks to work out, but patrons will soon see these records turn up in their searches and UNO's extensive state documents collection will finally get the usage and attention it deserves. -S. Benjamin

### **Retrospective Serials Holding Project at UNO**

The Federal Documents unit of the UNO's Earl K. Long Library has been working for the past two years on entering retrospective serials holdings into the catalog. To date, the half-time staffer

assigned to the task has completed holdings for 120 paper titles as well as any corresponding microfiche. Some of the challenges confronted during the project include:

- A single title at two or three locations on the shelf under new *and* old SuDoc numbers
- Multiple records for a single title, usually occurring when the publication was moved to a different agency
- No record at all in the database, often in the case of titles that began and ceased publication before 1976
- Abrupt changes in enumeration style or extended periods of irregular frequency

The project also involves barcoding volumes which facilitates circulation and even permits the tracking of in-house usage. - E. Elmwood

### **New Hire in Docs at Southeastern Louisiana University**

Southeastern Louisiana University Library hired a new Library Specialist to work the evening shift (Tues.-Thurs., 2-11 p.m.). His name is Kevin Cutrer and he's worked for the library for the last two years as a student worker. He graduated in December 2004 with his degree in English, took the Civil Service test, and applied for the full-time position. He started work on Jan. 12 and the library staff has high hopes that he will be a long term employee at Sims Memorial Library.- L. Smith

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### **Calendar**

Spring Federal Depository Library Meeting – Albuquerque, NM, April 17-20, 2005  
 Annual Louisiana Library Association Meeting – Alexandria, LA, April 26-28, 2005  
 GODORT Breakfast and Business meeting, Wednesday, April 27, 2005  
 American Library Association annual meeting – Chicago, IL, June 23-29, 2005

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#### About the LaDocs contributors:

Lora Amsberryaugier is the Federal Documents Librarian at the Earl K. Long Library at the University of New Orleans.

Ferol Foos is the State Recorder of Documents for Louisiana.

Donna Vavrek is the Regional Librarian for the northern half of Louisiana.

Sean Benjamin is a Library Associate in the Louisiana and Special Collections department at the Earl K. Long Library at the University of New Orleans.

Elizabeth Elmwood is a Library Associate in the Reference and Federal Documents Departments at the Earl K. Long Library at the University of New Orleans.

Lori Smith is the Head of Government Documents at Sims Memorial Library at Southeastern University.