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DttP

Documents to the People

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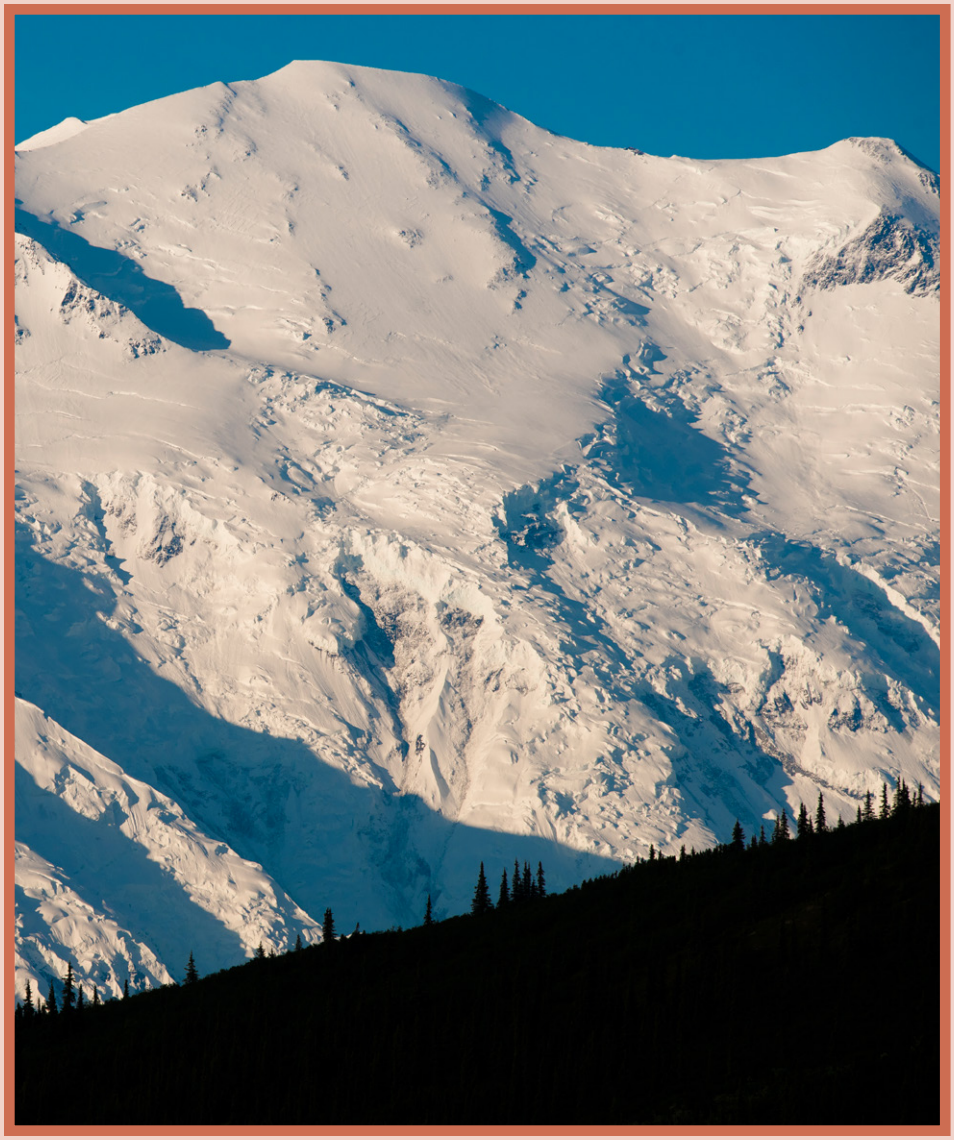
INTERNATIONAL · U.S. FEDERAL · STATE · LOCAL
GODORT



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DttP

Documents to the People

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About the Cover: Denali National Park and Preserve—Denali is North America's tallest mountain, at 20,310 feet. National Park Service 2017. https://www.nps.gov/media/photo/view.htm?id=140b1b3e-21a0-407e-bbd7-b022e7f588f0

Editor's Corner

Laura Sare

Howdy everyone,

I have been rewatching the X-Files series (my favorite episodes are the ones by Darin Morgan) and this reminded me of a display I did on government information about UFOs. Many are available due to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. I like to use these sources as a good way to introduce students to FOIA.

Air Force

Report of Air Force Research Regarding the "Roswell Incident"
purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS1061

The Roswell Report: Fact versus Fiction in the New Mexico Desert
Much discussion on weather balloons.
www.afhra.af.mil/Portals/16/documents/AFD-101201-038.pdf

Unidentified Flying Objects and Air Force Project Blue Book
From 1947 to 1969, the Air Force investigated Unidentified Flying Objects under Project Blue Book. The project, headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, was terminated December 17, 1969. Of a total of 12,618 sightings reported to Project Blue Book, 701 remained "unidentified."
purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS99199

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Roswell—A one-page teletype dated July 8, 1947, conveyed information originating from the United States Air Force. The details purported that an object, possibly a flying disc, was recovered near Roswell, New Mexico.
purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS98141

Majestic 12. An FBI investigation of a possible unauthorized disclosure of classified information when a document marked "Top Secret" was made public. The investigation was closed after it was learned that the document—concerning UFOs—was completely bogus.
purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS97935

NASA

From NASA's Ames Research Center—*The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, SETI*
purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS70491

Dr. Seth Shostak, of the SETI Institute presents a Director's Colloquium at NASA Ames titled "When Will We Discover the Extraterrestrials?" images-assets.nasa.gov/image/ARC-2008-ACD08-0185-008/ARC-2008-ACD08-0185-008~orig.jpg.

FOIA Reading Rooms

The Central Intelligence Agency has placed the full texts of recently declassified documents concerning UFO's on line at the CIA's *UFOs: Fact or Fiction?*
www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/collection/ufos-fact-or-fiction

The National Security Agency has placed the full texts of recently declassified documents concerning UFOs online at their *UFO Documents Index.*
www.nsa.gov/news-features/declassified-documents/ufo/

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has placed the full texts of recently declassified documents concerning UFOs in the "Unexplained Phenomenon" section of the Records Vault.
vault.fbi.gov/unexplained-phenomenon

GAO Report

Government Records: Results of a Search for Records Concerning the 1947 Crash near Roswell, New Mexico. A GAO report to the Honorable Steven H. Schiff, House of Representatives.
purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS20511

CRS Report

The UFO Enigma. Surveys various definitions of UFOs and types of encounters, considers witness credibility factors, and presents selected views on the UFO problem. Reviews UFO accounts in the U.S. and selected foreign countries, and related private and Government activities, 1947-82 with historical trends. Appendixes include selected case summaries and sample Air Force document released through the Freedom of Information Act.
www.nicap.org/docs/TheUFOEnigma.pdf

Hearings

Unidentified Flying Objects. The Committee on Armed Services hearing on UFOs, sightings, and evaluations. Considers sightings of unidentified flying objects, together with U.S. Air Force evaluations of the sightings as part of Project Blue Book.
catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/102300346

Symposium on Unidentified Flying Objects. Scientists discuss the probability of sightings validity.
nicap.org/books/1968Sym/1968_UFO_Symposium.pdf

Congressional Record

A lively exchange over funding for SETI has Congressional House members introducing materials about intergalactic frog and tadpole theft on June 28, 1990—starting on page 16135
www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GPO-CRECB-1990-pt11/pdf/GPO-CRECB-1990-pt11-6-1.pdf

Speaking of displays, another good place for display ideas is the Government Document Display Clearinghouse at Minnesota State University: cornerstone.lib.mnsu.edu/lib-services-govdoc-displays/

Join GODORT!

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Become a part of the Government Documents Round Table (GODORT)!

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Personal and organizational members are invited to select membership in GODORT for additional fees of $20 for regular members, $35 for organizational members, and $10 for student members.

For information about ALA membership see http://www.ala.org/membership/joinala.

For information about GODORT visit http://www.ala.org/rt/godort.

Review

Lewis, Michael. *The Fifth Risk*. W.W. Norton, 2018

In *The Fifth Risk*, Michael Lewis documents the chaotic transition from the Obama administration to the Trump administration. The Trump administration did not think it was necessary to fill most of the government positions vacated by Obama appointees so the departments that had carefully prepared briefing books for the new staff waited for them to arrive. Those that arrived had no interest in the briefing books. Lewis explores three departments: the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Energy. He interviews people from the Obama administration who staffed these agencies to see what they were responsible for and then documented the lack of action and the lack of qualified appointees in these agencies under the Trump administration. Many Trump appointees didn't even understand the work in the department they were to manage and were often quite surprised. Luckily there were civil servants in each department who continued to work, though in some cases there was no one to approve their work. Lewis ponders the possible budget cutting or elimination of programs such as food safety, school lunches, and food stamps in Agriculture, less information about the weather from NOAA, and issues related to nuclear waste and risk assessment in Energy. He also notes the cutting of funds for data collection. This is a very readable book, which I recommend to anyone interested in the Federal Government.—*Kay Cassell, Lecturer, Rutgers University Department of Library and Information Science*

DttP Student Papers Issue

DttP
Documents to the People

The student papers issue of *DttP* is designed to showcase the talents and interests of current library school students. Papers should focus on substantive issues in government information at all levels of government (local, state, federal, international) librarianship, including

- contemporary or historical problems related to government information access, dissemination, or preservation;
- challenges to providing reference and instructional services in public, academic, school, or government libraries;
- bibliographic control of government information;
- government efforts to promote and/or restrict access to information; and
- development of specific government programs that promote access to information.

Papers must be nominated and forwarded by a faculty member.

Required length: 2,000–3,000 words.

Please see our style guidelines at http://www.ala.org/rt/sites/ala.org.rt/files/content/godortcommittees/godortpublications/Instructionsforauthors_rev2018.pdf.

DttP is a professional journal. Class papers which do not conform to editorial guidelines should be reformatted to receive consideration. All papers must be submitted by September 1, 2019.

Selected papers will be printed in volume 47, issue 4 (Winter 2019).

If you are teaching a government information course or know someone who is, please contact:

Laura Sare
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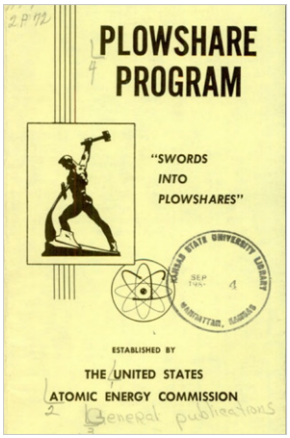
TRAIL Spotlight

TECHNICAL REPORT ARCHIVE & IMAGE LIBRARY

The United States emerged from World War II with technical knowledge about nuclear power, but very few options to use that power for positive outcomes. One attempt to funnel this knowledge into beneficial use was the Plowshare Program: "Swords Into Plowshares" established by the United States Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to study and develop peaceful uses for nuclear explosives in science and industry. Plowshare advocates proposed using nuclear explosions to create craters to be used for excavations for projects such as canals and harbors, and deep underground explosions to be used for mining as well as recovery of oil and gas. The plowshare program pamphlet (https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/100611354) explains these basic processes.

A second report is the letter "Nuclear Excavation" from GH Higgins of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory to Robert E Miller of the AEC in the Nevada Operations Office. Higgins is addressing the question of "Why are nuclear excavation experiments needed now?" and not "Why is nuclear excavation important?" Miller was trying to explain why the experiments were needed to establish the feasibility of implementing nuclear excavations. Assumptions and calculations needed to be shown as accurate prior to implementing a policy of large-scale excavations. Miller expresses a "deep concern" about the US Government assessing nuclear excavation applications without performing high-yield cratering experiments to back up the assessments.



https://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc679355/m2/1/high_res_d/443203.pdf

Alice Trussell (alitrus@ksu.edu), Kansas State University

Find more digitized TRAIL reports at www.technicalreports.org.

Not Just in English: Government Information in Other Languages

Getting Started with Docs in Other Languages

Jane Canfield

In a 1995 response letter to a request from Senator Richard Shelby to identify how many government documents are published in languages other than English, the General Accounting Office (GAO) identified 265 documents published from 1990 to 1994.[1] Of those documents, 50 had been published by the Social Security Administration, and 83 percent were written in Spanish. Today, a quick search in the Catalog of Government Publications (CGP) identifies 7,047 documents in Spanish.

Since I am the coordinator of a depository library in the territory of Puerto Rico, nearly all of my users speak Spanish and prefer information in Spanish. So, over the last twelve years, I have learned about documents in Spanish and am branching out to other languages. The need for government information in other languages is backed up by the increasing numbers of persons in the United States who speak a language other than English (LOTE) at home. In the Census Bureau publication *Language Projections 2010–2020,* the Bureau indicates that the use of a language other than English at home has increased by 148 percent. According to this same document, each of 13 languages have more than 500,000 speakers: Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, German, Russian, Polish, Hindi, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Arabic.[2]

In *People Who Spoke a Language Other than English at Home by Hispanic Origin and Race: 2009,* the Census Bureau indicated that 77 percent of those who identified as Asian and 76 percent of those who identified as Hispanic divulged that they speak a language other than English at home.[3] The states with the most speakers of a language other than English at home are California (43 percent), New Mexico (36 percent), and Texas (34 percent).[4]

These statistics indicate that all of us working in libraries and providing government information will encounter speakers of other languages who need information. How do you begin to provide this information? Start by identifying what languages are spoken in your area. Users of the library, communities of immigrants, newspapers in other languages, and businesses which provide services in other languages are good indicators. Then, ask your library users what they need in other languages and involve other library staff in the process. This can be done informally when users come to the library or more formally through focus groups or community surveys.

To get started on finding the resources, here are some ideas. In the CGP, do a search for "publications in _____" filling in the blank with the language needed. In www.usa.gov/ the same search will yield multiple results. The usa.gov website can also be changed to Spanish and allows for searches using Spanish vocabulary. An individual search of various agencies and government websites will also provide results in multiple languages. My search in various agencies turned up 28 distinct languages with government publications including languages as diverse as Bengali, Chamorro, Hmong, Samoan, Thai, Urdu, Farsi, Hindi, and Greek among others. Table 1 provides a sampling of seven agencies and websites with information on the languages in which each publishes.

Table 1. Other than English Publications of Selected Federal Agencies

Agency	Internet Address	Arabic	Chinese	French	Haitian Creole	Japanese	Korean	Spanish
Food and Drug Administration	https://www.fda.gov/	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	https://www.osha.gov/							x
US Citizenship and Immigration Services	https://www.uscis.gov/	x	x					x
Equal Opportunity Employment Commission	https://www.eeoc.gov/	x	x		x			x
Official Medicare site	https://www.medicare.gov/	x	x	x		x	x	x
Social Security Administration	https://www.ssa.gov/	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Medline Plus	https://medlineplus.gov/	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

X indicates information present in the language.

The diversity of languages spoken in the United States is amazing and continues to grow. The federal government provides information in a surprising number of languages. Those of us who work in government information and have users who speak other languages, should be helping those users to find information to help them adapt to life in the United States. If we can do that in their native languages, then we are helping them to feel welcome.

I look forward to writing this column in the future and plan to cover specific agencies and websites which provide information in other languages. I also plan to cover topics such as education, health, housing, aging, immigration and other issues of interest to speakers of other languages. I would welcome suggestions from readers of this column on topics and agencies to include.

Jane Canfield (jcanfield@pucpr.edu), Government Information Coordinator, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico

References

1. United States General Accounting Office, GAO/GGD-95-243R, *Federal Foreign Language Documents*, 1995.
2. Hyon B. Shin and Jennifer Ortman, *Language Projections: 2010-2020* (Washington, DC: US Census Bureau, 2011).
3. Tallese D. Johnson et al., *American Community Survey Briefs: People Who Spoke a Language Other Than English at Home by Hispanic Origin and Race: 2009* (Washington, DC: US Census Bureau, 2010).
4. *People Who Spoke a Language Other than English: 2009* (Washington, DC: US Census Bureau, 2009).

The Documents Expediting Project, 1946–2004

Gwen Sinclair

The Documents Expediting Project (DocEx), an acquisition and distribution service for federal documents that operated out of the Library of Congress (LC) from 1946 to 2004, was an important source of non-depository items, second copies, and fugitive documents. In addition to distributing documents to subscribing libraries and other organizations, DocEx supplied documents to the Superintendent of Documents for inclusion in the *Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications* (*MoCat*). DocEx stands as a model of cooperation between libraries, library associations, LC, federal agencies, the Superintendent of Documents, and vendors to facilitate the acquisition and distribution of millions of documents that would otherwise have disappeared.

Origins and Early History, 1946–53

During World War II, dozens of federal agencies were created to support the war effort, including the Office of Price Administration, Office of War Information, War Production Board, War Food Administration, War Shipping Administration, Strategic Bombing Survey, and many others. These agencies produced masses of documents, many of which were not printed or distributed by the Government Printing Office (GPO). This explosion in government publications was reflected in the title of the American Library Association (ALA) Public Documents Committee's 1942 meeting: "World War II versus Public Documents."[1] At the close of the war, these wartime agencies and the armed services needed to dispose of vast quantities of surplus publications in an expeditious manner. More than a few of the documents had to be declassified before they could be distributed, so the agencies hurried to review them in preparation for disposal.

At the same time, LC and other libraries were frustrated in their efforts to obtain what were called "processed publications." These were "fugitive" publications that were duplicated by federal agencies through processes like mimeography and were therefore not printed or distributed by the Superintendent of Documents. Libraries that attempted to directly contact agencies often found that they did not have the staffing or infrastructure to maintain mailing lists or distribute publications. Even "full" depositories did not receive anywhere near all of the federal documents published, and in fact the number of documents not distributed by GPO equaled the quantity that was available through the Superintendent of Documents.[2]

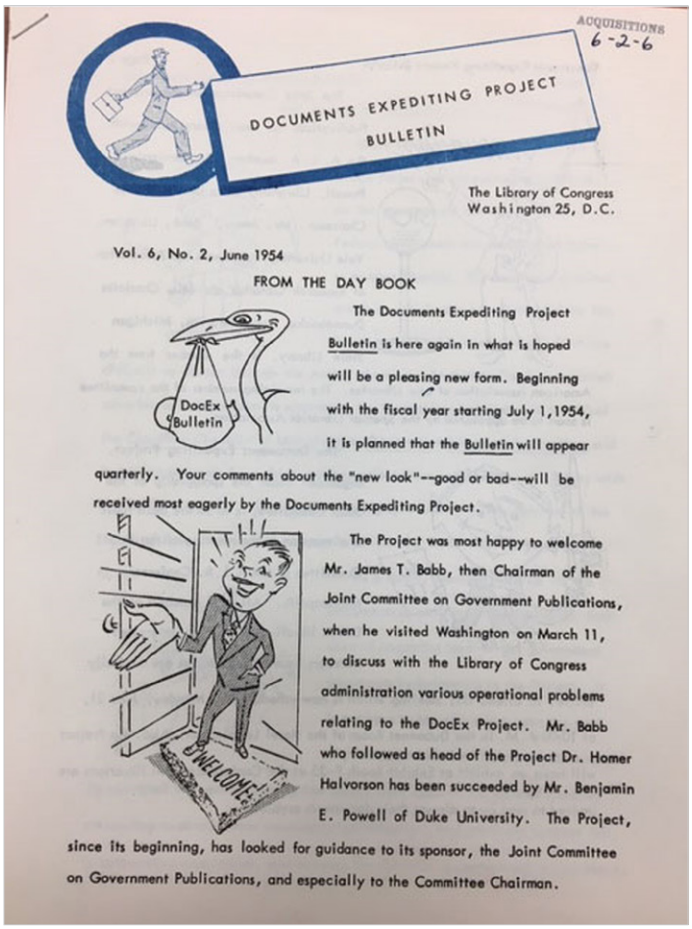
In October 1945, Librarian of Congress Luther Evans decided that the best approach would be to send letters to federal agency heads asking for their cooperation in the retention of surplus documents, which would allow their distribution to libraries through the Superintendent of Documents. The War and Navy Departments immediately complied, issuing orders that offices, branches, and installations should send up to 150 copies of documents that had not previously been provided to LC. The responses of other agencies were similarly encouraging. The Office of War Information agreed to transfer phonograph records, motion pictures, and books that had been accumulated for distribution overseas. The Publication Board of the Department of Commerce (predecessor of National Technical Information Service), which distributed technical publications such as translations, also issued a circular letter agreeing to participate.[3]

Earlier in 1945, ALA, the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Special Libraries Association (SLA), and American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) had combined forces to develop a strategy for improving the distribution of wartime materials and fugitive publications. The result was the formation of a Joint Committee on Government Documents ("Joint Committee"). The idea for a "documents expediter" originated with ARL, which had studied the possibility of stationing an individual in Washington, DC, to work with agencies to procure documents.[4]

The Joint Committee, in cooperation with LC, decided to establish DocEx, a program to distribute all of the publications that were not available through the Superintendent of Documents. The chair of the committee, Homer Halvorson of Johns Hopkins University, sent a letter to 178 libraries, which included ARL members, National Association of State Libraries members, selected large public libraries, and selected college and university libraries that were not ARL members. The letter was meant to gauge their interest in participating in DocEx, and thirty-two indicated that they were willing to give financial support to the effort. LC provided space in its Exchange and Gift Division, and Halvorson hired Walter B. "Bart" Greenwood, formerly of the Ethnogeographic Board, as the first Documents Expediter in 1946. The Documents Expediter was tasked with establishing relationships between government agencies and libraries that were interested in receiving their publications. In addition to supplying LC and subscribing libraries, the project also provided copies of documents to the Superintendent of Documents for listing in *MoCat*.[5]

In its early years, DocEx provided a mechanism for wartime agencies to distribute surplus documents that otherwise would not have been disseminated because most agencies did not have the staff or expertise to set up their own distribution systems. DocEx was able to distribute recently declassified documents quickly. The Documents Expediter even persuaded some agencies to initiate declassification for certain categories of publications. DocEx also developed liaison relationships with declassification committees of government agencies to learn of declassified documents as they were released.[6]

In DocEx's first year, Greenwood negotiated with agencies to send specific publications to DocEx participants. These included the US Maritime Commission, Federal Communications Commission, Inter-American Defense Board, Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, Pan American Union, Bureau of Mines, and Securities and Exchange Commission. An agency-by-agency list of the number of titles distributed included Army technical manuals, field manuals, Civil Affairs handbooks, and technical bulletins; Navy Bureau of Ships and Bureau of Aeronautics publications; Army and Navy unit histories; and miscellaneous other titles.[7] DocEx distributed documents such as Office of Strategic Services maps, Petroleum Administration reports on German oil technology, and Office of War Information audiovisual materials.[8] It also distributed documents obtained by LC's Mission in Europe, such as the Office of the Military Government of the U.S.'s *Military Government Regulations,* and it assembled copies of *Official Gazette of the U.S. Army Military Government in Korea*.[9] In August 1946, DocEx began sending a newsletter, *Documents Expediting Project Bulletin*, to participating libraries to highlight new or forthcoming publications (see figure 1).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DOCUMENTS EXPEDITING PROJECT
BULLETIN

The Library of Congress
Washington 25, D.C.

Vol. 6, No. 2, June 1954

FROM THE DAY BOOK

DocEx Bulletin

The Documents Expediting Project Bulletin is here again in what is hoped will be a pleasing new form. Beginning with the fiscal year starting July 1, 1954, it is planned that the Bulletin will appear quarterly. Your comments about the "new look"--good or bad--will be received most eagerly by the Documents Expediting Project.

WELCOME!

The Project was most happy to welcome Mr. James T. Babb, then Chairman of the Joint Committee on Government Publications, when he visited Washington on March 11, to discuss with the Library of Congress administration various operational problems relating to the DocEx Project. Mr. Babb who followed as head of the Project Dr. Homer Halvorson has been succeeded by Mr. Benjamin E. Powell of Duke University. The Project, since its beginning, has looked for guidance to its sponsor, the Joint Committee on Government Publications, and especially to the Committee Chairman.

Figure 1. Cover of *Documents Expediting Project Bulletin*, vol. 6, no. 2 (June 1954).

In 1947, DocEx distributed additional wartime publications, including the Far Eastern Commission's *Press Release Series*; the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations' *International Agricultural Collaboration Series*, including reports of the Agricultural Mission to China; and the War Department Civil Affairs Division's *Weekly Report on Japan to the Far Eastern Commission* and *SCAP Directives to the Imperial Japanese Government.* DocEx also prepared sets of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration documents for interested libraries. The Department of Commerce's Office of Technical Services (OTS), which distributed captured German and Japanese scientific and technical documents, was a source for 400,000 German documents acquired by DocEx. DocEx distributed thousands of British Intelligence Objectives Subcommittee (BIOS), Combined Intelligence Objectives Subcommittee (CIOS), and Field Information Agency, Technical (FIAT) reports. The *Bulletin* also reported that DocEx was attempting to obtain a sixty-volume series reviewing the progress of German science during the war years from OTS.[10]

In 1948, DocEx continued to acquire both wartime publications and fugitive publications from agencies, including the Office of Strategic Services Research and Analysis Branch, State Department European Recovery Program, Office of Scientific Research and Development, Economic Cooperation Administration, Munitions Board, and defense agencies.[11] Before the Atomic Energy Commission established its own depository system, DocEx distributed its declassified reports.[12]

Many large research libraries, large public libraries, and state libraries joined DocEx in the first fifteen years of the project. Each member library was assigned a priority number based on the dollar amount of its subscription and its date of entry into DocEx. When there were insufficient copies of a document for all DocEx members, the priority list determined which libraries would be recipients. Similar to GPO's lighted bin system, which was once used to prepare materials for shipment to depository libraries, publications were distributed into boxes according to this numerical priority. When enough material had accumulated for a shipment, the boxes were packed and shipped.[13]

DocEx distributed wartime publications to both subscribing libraries and to federal depositories that selected 100 percent of available documents. By 1950, DocEx had completed the distribution of wartime documents. It increased its efforts to have agencies send documents directly to libraries. At this point, the project began taking orders for publications listed in *MoCat* that were not distributed through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).[14] In the early 1950s, DocEx distributed a variety of State Department publications, including Office of Intelligence Research declassified *OIR Reports* and back copies of US-sponsored German-language periodicals *Heute*, *Der Monat*, *Die Amerikanische Rundschau*, and *Neue Auslese.* DocEx continued to provide documents from occupied countries and territories, including the proceedings of the Japanese and German war crimes trials.[15]

Greenwood saw to it that libraries were added to agencies' existing mailing lists and he encouraged other agencies to develop lists. The Naval Research Laboratory, Atomic Energy Commission, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Tariff Commission, Weather Bureau, and Federal Public Housing Administration were among those agencies with which DocEx arranged mailing lists. DocEx concentrated on identifying publications that were mentioned in news articles for inclusion in the program. The project also sought publications from international agencies with offices in Washington, including the Far Eastern Commission, Inter-American Defense Board, and the War Department's Civil Affairs Division.[16]

In 1949, John L. Andriot succeeded Greenwood as Documents Expediter. He is primarily remembered for his monumental *Guide to U.S. Government Publications*. To attract new members to DocEx, Andriot attended library conferences armed with a one-page information sheet that explained DocEx's services. Prospective members learned first that DocEx acquired and distributed fugitive publications. Second, it arranged for libraries to be added to agencies' mailing lists. Third, it acquired requested publications on behalf of subscribers by allowing libraries to send a consolidated list of documents desired to DocEx, thereby saving them from having to correspond with each agency separately. The handout also explained that DocEx documents were not available through any other means because some agencies did not maintain mailing lists or have distribution systems. Andriot reported that many librarians were unaware of DocEx's valuable services.[17]

Andriot was particularly interested in compiling a comprehensive list of non-depository documents. His first attempt, *Classified Checklist of United States Government Processed Publications* (1951), was designed to simplify the ordering of fugitive and difficult-to-obtain publications. Prior to the compilation of the *Classified Checklist*, libraries had no alternative but to review each issue of *MoCat* for items that were not distributed through the depository system before requesting them from DocEx.[18]

Beginning in 1951, DocEx attempted, with limited success, to acquire congressional committee prints but was unable to obtain enough copies for distribution. Instead, the project provided a copy of each print to University Microfilms, Inc. (UMI) for microfilming. DocEx similarly contributed to Readex Microprint Corporation's microprint edition of non-depository documents, supplying copies of documents to the Superintendent of Documents for this purpose.[19]

In 1952, DocEx considered distributing documents on microfilm. The January 1952 issue of the *Bulletin* included a sample of microfilmed Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) *Daily Reports*, which was meant to demonstrate the quality of the Diebold Flow-Film camera. DocEx proposed three types of publications to distribute on microfilm: the FBIS *Daily Reports* and *Foreign Radio Broadcasts*, committee prints, and Voice of America (VOA) scripts.[20] In a December 1951 meeting, LC Exchange and Gift Division chief Alton Keller, Halvorson, and Andriot decided not to pursue microfilming.[21] Apparently, a decision was later made to have the VOA scripts and FBIS *Daily Reports* microfilmed by the LC Photoduplication Service, which provided them to DocEx for distribution.[22]

Peak Years, 1954–79

In an article for *Library Journal*, Andriot highlighted the availability of congressional committee prints through DocEx, noting that many of the prints were not listed in *MoCat*. He also explained the lengths to which the Documents Expediter would go to obtain publications, such as making phone calls and personal visits to agencies.[23] Further evidence of the legwork involved in acquiring publications appeared in the June 1954 *Bulletin*:

> From July 1, 1953 to March 31, 1954 the Documents Expediter and his assistant made 2,083 visits to federal agencies and congressional committees. They acquired 149 committee prints and 187 other titles. In addition to making personal visits, they read the *Congressional Record, [Public Affairs Information Service], Public Management Sources, Recent Publications on Governmental Problems*, proof sheets of LC catalog cards, and proofs of *MoCat* to find additional material.[24]

From 1946 to 1954, DocEx operated under an agreement between the Joint Committee and the Librarian of Congress. In 1954, arrangements were formalized through a contract signed by Ben Powell, chairman of the Joint Committee, and Luther Evans.[25] That same year, Andriot left LC to devote his time to the Documents Index Company he had established with his wife Jeanne.[26] His successor was Allen L. Heyneman, an acquisitions specialist at LC. He resigned in 1955 and was replaced by Shirley Bystrom of the Exchange and Gift Division.[27] She continued to attend library conferences and visit libraries to recruit more members.

Ironically, the Readex microprint created serious competition for DocEx. LC's 1955 *Annual Report* noted:

> The advent of the Readex Microprint edition of nondepository Federal documents has affected the operations of the Documents Expediting Project and has led to a search for additional revenue. Efforts to increase the number of participating libraries met with some success, the minimum subscription rate was raised, and libraries were asked to pay postal charges on materials received.[28]

During the early 1960s, DocEx was successful in attracting many new members by advertising both the materials it routinely distributed and the services it provided to libraries in procuring hard-to-find titles. In 1968, the contract with the Joint Committee ended, and DocEx was attached to the Federal Documents Section within the Exchange and Gift Division.[29] By 1970, DocEx had 142 participating libraries and five staff members: the Documents Expediter, Assistant Documents Expediter, Documents Expediting Assistant, Shipping Assistant, and Clerk-Typist. The peak membership was 144, reached in 1975.[30]

Not all libraries found DocEx membership to be of value. ARL libraries were already losing interest in DocEx as early as 1959. During the annual meeting that year, it was suggested that DocEx "had probably outlived its usefulness" and ARL voted to recommend to the Joint Committee that its participation in DocEx be phased out.[31] Harban S. Chona of Oregon State University (OSU) may have expressed the views of some libraries when he wrote of his disappointment with DocEx. Responding to a positive article by former Assistant Documents Expediter John Brewster, Chona described how his library had joined and subsequently quit DocEx twice. OSU found that DocEx provided documents that mostly duplicated what the library received via direct mail or through the FDLP, while it did not provide needed documents. He argued that it was more efficient for his library to obtain documents by requesting them from agencies.[32]

During the 1970s, DocEx distributed more congressional material, including duplicates of congressional hearings that it acquired from LC, congressional committees, and other agency libraries.[33] It distributed 537 committee prints to members in FY1973 and it provided copies of committee prints to the GPO Library for permanent retention and inclusion in *MoCat*.[34] However, some libraries withdrew from DocEx when the committee prints became available through the FDLP in 1976.[35] Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) publications were a popular addition to DocEx's offerings. The CIA began to provide documents, primarily *Reference Aids* and maps, to DocEx in 1972. In 1979, the FDLP began to distribute these CIA publications. DocEx also distributed *Reference Aids* to non-members for a flat rate.[36] Much of what DocEx provided to members were unneeded duplicates that had been sent to LC by federal agencies. The greatest value of DocEx continued to be its pursuit of documents requested by individual libraries. It achieved greater success in requesting documents from agencies than individual libraries could because of its standing as a legislative branch agency.[37] DocEx proudly reported that it was able to fill 62 percent of special requests.[38]

DocEx's Later Years, 1980–2004

Coverage of DocEx in the library literature was practically nonexistent after the mid-1970s, nor did the project merit mention in the *Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress* or the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* beyond the reporting of statistics. Evidently, DocEx did not market its services much in its later years, and the staff focused their efforts on providing excellent service to existing members. In 1980, DocEx notified members that it would expand the number of agencies whose documents it distributed and that it would produce a monthly newsletter.[39] There is no evidence, however, that the newsletter was ever issued.

In 1981, DocEx became a separate section in the Acquisitions and Overseas Operations Division.[40] Donnie Draughon, Jr. was the last to hold the title "Documents Expediter." Following his retirement in 1983, David Bloxsom, who held the title "Head, Documents Expediting Project/Section," led the project until he retired at the end of 1996. Thereafter, DocEx was nominally headed by the Assistant Chief, Exchange and Gift Division. A reorganization at LC in 1998 placed DocEx in the Government Documents Section of the Anglo-American Acquisitions Division. The reorganization made DocEx employees permanent, whereas they had previously been in "indefinite" appointments.[41]

As an increasing number of documents distributed by DocEx became available through the FDLP in the 1980s and 1990s, there was further attrition in the membership. Nevertheless, many librarians still found DocEx useful for obtaining duplicate copies, print of materials only distributed by the FDLP in microfiche, and documents not received on claim. DocEx also supplied libraries with second copies of popular reports, which it acquired by requesting an additional twenty copies from GPO's print run.[42] By 2003, the membership had dropped to eighty-seven libraries, and DocEx had only two employees assigned to the project part-time.[43] LC's decision to end DocEx was prompted by the decline in membership, which was in part due to the discontinuation of CIA publications and the increasing availability of documents online. Michael W. Albin, Chief of the Anglo-American Acquisitions Division of LC, notified participating libraries of the project's discontinuation as of September 30, 2004, stating that the service was no longer self-supporting due to the participation of fewer libraries.[44] While some librarians lamented its demise, most recognized that the availability of documents on agency websites meant that DocEx's time had come and gone. In acknowledgement of its accomplishments, the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer (DLC) commended DocEx, citing its contributions and outstanding service at the 2004 DLC Spring meeting.[45]

Conclusion

About 220 libraries participated in DocEx throughout its lifespan, and many still hold extensive collections of publications acquired through DocEx. It was an unparalleled source of documents to fill gaps, and it enabled the acquisition of fugitive publications not distributed through the FDLP. Thanks to DocEx, participating libraries were able to assemble comprehensive federal documents collections that extended well beyond FDLP materials. Today, as a result of digitization projects in former DocEx member libraries, many publications distributed by DocEx are freely available in online repositories such as HathiTrust. DocEx's legacy is a testament to the dedication and efforts of its staff and the participating libraries.

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Appendix: List of DocEx Member Libraries

Note: This list, which may be incomplete, was compiled from LC annual reports, DocEx bulletins, DocEx annual reports, and other sources. Please contact the author with corrections (gsinclai@hawaii.edu). Corrections received by September 1, 2019 will be published in the Winter 2019 issue of *DttP*.

Air University
Alfred State College
American Institute for Research
American University
Antioch College
Arizona State University
Arkansas State University
Association of the Bar of the City of New York
Auburn University
Ball State University
Boston College
Boston Public Library
Bowling Green State University
Brigham Young University
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Brooklyn College
Brooklyn Public Library
Brown University
California State Library
California State University, Chico
California State University, Fresno
California State University, Hayward
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Los Angeles
California State University, Northridge
California State University, San Diego
California State University, San Francisco
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Central Michigan University
Cincinnati Public Library
Cleveland Public Library
College of William and Mary
Colorado State Library
Colorado State University
Columbia University
Community College of Philadelphia
Cornell University
Dallas Public Library
Dartmouth College
Detroit Public Library
Drake University
Duke University
Eastern Michigan University
Eastern Washington State University
Emory University
Enoch Pratt Free Library
Florida International University
Florida State University
Free Library of Philadelphia
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Harvard University Graduate School of Education
Honnold Library (Claremont, CA, Colleges)
Hoover Institution
Hunter College
Idaho State University
Illinois State Library
Illinois State University
Indiana State Library
Indiana State University
Indiana University
Iowa State University of Science and Technology
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
Johns Hopkins University
Kansas City Public Library
Kansas State University
Kent State University
Law Library of the University of Texas
Lehigh University
Lesley University
Library of Congress
Linda Hall Library
Los Angeles County Law Library
Los Angeles County Public Schools
Los Angeles Public Library
Louisiana State University
Lyndon State College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Miami University
Michigan State University
Midwest Inter-Library Center
Milwaukee Public Library
Minneapolis Public Library
Mississippi State University
Montgomery County (MD) Board of Education
Mount Holyoke
Nassau Library System
National Indian Law Library
National Library of Medicine
New York Public Library
New York State Library
New York University
New York University Law Library
North Carolina State College
North Texas State University
Northeastern Illinois University
Northern Illinois University

Northwestern University
Oakland University (MI)
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Ohio State University
Ohio University
Oklahoma State Library
Oklahoma State University
Oregon State Department of Education
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State Library
Pennsylvania State University
Portland State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Readex Microprint Corporation
Rutgers University
San Diego State University
San Francisco Public Library
San Francisco State University
University of Illinois at Springfield
Southern Illinois University
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
State University of New York at Binghamton
State University of New York at Buffalo
State University of New York at Geneseo
State University of New York at Potsdam
State University of New York at Stony Brook
State University of New York at Oneonta
Stetson University
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas Christian University
Texas State Library
U.S. Department of Justice Library
United Nations Library
United States Military Academy
University Microfilms
University of Akron
University of Alabama
University of Alaska
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
University of Bridgeport
University of California at Los Angeles
University of California at Santa Barbara
University of California at Santa Cruz
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Riverside
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
University of Idaho
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Maine
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri
University of Nebraska
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Hampshire
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina
University of Northern Iowa
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania Biddle Law Library
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of South Alabama
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Southern Mississippi
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
University of Tennessee, Nashville
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Texas at Austin
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
University of Wyoming
University of Oklahoma
Utah State University
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Washington State Library
Washington State University
Wayne State University
Wesleyan University
West Virginia University
Western Illinois University
Western Kentucky University
Western Michigan University
Wisconsin Historical Society
Wisconsin State University, Stevens Point
Wittenberg University
Yale University

The Poetry of Government Information

Amy Brunvand

Anne Carson's *Autobiography of Red* is one of those beloved poetry books that everyone kept telling me to read, but somehow I never got around to it until recently.[1] Imagine my surprise to find government documents librarianship at the crux of the story! In Carson's poetic novel, our hero Geryon is so full of artistic and erotic passion that he appears as a winged red monster. After he is dumped by a lover, "Geryon's life entered a numb time, caught between the tongue and the taste," a poetic dark-night-of-the-soul rendered metaphorically as a job shelving government documents in a joyless library basement.[2] The forlorn, distinctly unpoetic texts are stored on shelves labeled in all caps, "EXTINGUISH LIGHT WHEN NOT IN USE."[3] This accuracy of detail suggests that back in 1998 when the poem was written Carson had most likely encountered an actual Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) collection. Nonetheless, she is kind to the librarians who occupy their dusty world willingly and consider Geryon "a talented boy with a shadow side."[4] Now that so much government information is online, this gloomy subterranean library may someday come to seem like pure imagination, a poet's fanciful invention of an impossibly drab occupation.

Yet government information is not without its poetic side. The title of *Whereas*, a 2017 National Book Award finalist by Lakota poet Layli Long Soldier, refers to the *Congressional Resolution of Apology to Native Americans* signed by President Barack Obama on December 19, 2009.[5] Long Soldier points out that "no tribal leaders or official representatives were invited to witness and receive the Apology," which was later unceremoniously buried deep inside the *2010 Defense Appropriations Act*.[6] Perhaps because American Indian tribes are so closely tied to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, government publications crop up especially frequently in works by indigenous poets. In his collection *First Indian on the Moon*, Sherman Alexie (Spokane-Coeur d'Alene) has one poem titled "How to Obtain Eagle Feathers for Religious Use" that references federal wildlife laws, and another called "On the Amtrak from Boston to New York City" in which the poet politely conceals his irritation with a talkative white woman as the government-run train chugs through a stolen indigenous landscape.[7] In her collection *National Monuments,* Ojibwe poet Heid E. Erdrich references the *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act*.[8] Her subsequent collection, *Curator of Ephemera at the New Museum for Archaic Media*, focuses on themes of cultural preservation and should be essential reading for all librarians. It opens with an ekphrastic poem titled "Curatorial Statement for *Wiindigo* Eye," in which the artist's DNA is cited as a non-visible element of the artwork that "creates an image of the indigenous corpus."[9] Librarians will also be amused by the way Erdrich deliberately employs QR Codes to represent ephemeral media phenomena.

The emergence of the environmental humanities as an academic discipline has created a new clientele for government information among poets and writers. Planning documents such as Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) or Resource Management Plans (RMP) offer a kind of detailed place-based history that is hard to find elsewhere. *Breathing the West: Great Basin Poems* by Liane Ellison Norman is based on journals her father kept while he worked for the US Forest Service.[10] There is an entry for the collection in *Great Basin Experimental Range: Annotated Bibliography* that notes, "Of the 70 poems included in this book, 14 treat life at the Station and another 11 are descriptive, philosophical, or insightful of ecology and natural history drawn from her father's journal entries or her experiences at the Station."[11] Nature poetry, particularly from the United Sates, is often inspired by experiences on public lands, especially the extraordinary landscapes managed by the National Park Service. Indeed, C. L. Rawlins titled his book of regional poetry *In Gravity National Park* to evoke the way that public lands shape the character of the American West.[12] "BioBlitz" events to document biodiversity in National Parks

inspired *A Poetic Inventory of Seguaro National Park* as well as *A Poetic Inventory of Rocky Mountain National Park*, the latter bound to resemble a guidebook.[13] You can take it with you to deepen the emotional impact of your summer vacation.

Government regulation and policy can serve to protect natural beauty, but can also cause environmental and social harm. Energy policy drives destructive land use practices described in activist poetry collections such as *Shale Play* about the fracking boom in the Marcellus Shale or *Coal: A Poetry Anthology* about mining in Appalachia.[14] In G. C. Compton's coal poem "The Strip Miner's Psalm to John C.C. Mayo Holy Father of the Broad Form Deed," he lampoons the inefficacy of government safely regulations: "Yea, though I mine through the valley of the shadow of death, / I will fear no evil: for MSHA and OSHA art with me."[15] Likewise, in the anthology, *Fracture: Essays, Poems, and Stories of Fracking in America*, Rachel Morgan writes, "In the fracking fields, burn-off glows / and roads connect, but lanes and places / lead nowhere"—a clear reference to the Obama-era EPA methane rule threatened with regulatory roll-back by President Trump.[16]

Government information frequently turns up in poetry with a social justice focus. Cameron Conway's *Malaria Poems* about the global threat of insect-borne disease was named one of NPR's best books of 2014.[17] In notes to accompany the poems, Conway cites the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the US Surgeon General, development of antimalarial drugs by the US Army, and World Health Organization guidelines for Artimisinin-based combination therapies.[18] Poems in Rob Carney's *88 Maps* refer to federal and state wolf management plans as well as imaginary congressional hearings.[19] He parodies the verbosity of government titles by giving his poems names like, "To the Man Who Scored 300k to Cry Wolf Before Congress on Behalf of Utah, a State in Which there are No Wolves," or "To the Representative on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, Who in 2012 said, 'Evolution, Big Bang Theory, All That is Lies Straight from the Pit of Hell,' I Offer This Quick Study on Natural Selection, in Which the Eagle is Thought; the River is Reason; the Salmon is Insight; Tomorrow is a Salmon; and the Crows, of Course, Are You."[20] On *New Verse News*, a website that publishes progressive poetic responses to current events, recent poems have included references to government publications as varied as the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*, Oregon State Senate hearings on *SB 608 Relating to Residential Tenancies* to enact a statewide rent control policy, and the recent shift in magnetic poles documented by NOAA.[21]

It's an amusing game to seek out government information in poetry, but is it relevant to the practice of librarianship? I believe that it is, since poetry can fundamentally change the relationship between librarians and government documents collections. We are accustomed to emphasizing the documentary, fact-based aspect of publications that record government activity, yet integrated with the humanities, documents tell a profoundly human story. Poetry shows us how government information is expressive of human relationships with the land, oppression and justice, and activism to make the world a better place. In Anne Carson's poem, the ghostly librarians offer a temporary refuge to a bright spirit. Once we librarians become aware of the bright spirit in even the most drab government publications we can start to imagine better ways to nurture it.

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Interview with Incoming GODORT Chair

Susanne Caro

Favorite spot in Fargo / North Dakota

My favorite spot is Island Park. It is near the river, has music and dancing during the summer, and wonderful, big trees. It is like a little forest in the middle of Fargo.

Favorite pastime/hobby

I am a cos-player. It mixes some of my passions: science fiction, sewing, and art. I enjoy the challenge of taking something that was a 2-D image and making something that works on a real human. I've also started doing standup comedy.

Favorite TV shows

Buffy the Vampire Slayer for the great writing and character development; *Dr. Who* for the creativity and variety; *Game of Thrones* because I now I just want to know what happens next and I don't think George R. R. Martin is going to finish writing the series.

Favorite book

I have a favorite series: Discworld, by Terry Pratchett. They are funny and cover so many topics, from politics to vampires. Reoccurring characters include Death, semi-sentient luggage, witches, wizards, a police detective, and gods. There are over forty books in the series and are a great form of escapism.

Favorite government document

I still love *Dream Anatomy* (National Institutes of Health, 2006). It explores the National Library of Medicine's collection of historic anatomy texts. It is a beautiful book. I had one of the images from the book enlarged to a poster for an exhibit, and it is now in my office.

Favorite movies

Six String Samurai. In a world where the Russians won a war against the US in the 1960s, the only free territory left is Las Vegas where Elvis rules as king. But the king is dead and Buddy Holly is making his way there to claim the throne armed with a guitar and a katana. Russian rockabilly soundtrack by the Red Elvises.

On your reading list now

- *In the Name of Science: A History of Secret Programs, Medical Research, and Human Experimentation* by Andrew Goliszek.
- *Cold War in a Cold Land: Fighting Communism on the Northern Plains* by David Walter Mills.
- *The Long Cosmos* by Terry Pratchett.

Music on your phone

Fallout 4 Playlist. It is a mix of 1950s and 1960s with an atomic theme.

Favorite drink

Red wine or green tea with jasmine.

Favorite type of food

The state question of New Mexico comes from the restaurant industry: "Red or green (chile)?" For me, it is green. I lived in Santa Fe, New Mexico, for many years and became addicted to green chile. You can add it to just about anything. Christmas (red and green chile) is a valid answer.

Favorite conference city

New Orleans, for the food. The conference center is great for getting your steps in but the crawfish étouffée and beautiful restaurants in the French Quarter are the best. I need to explore more of the restaurants there.

Favorite vacation spot

Camping on the California coast. I love going up Highway 1, the beaches and hiking around Big Sur, walking among the redwoods, and if you are there at the right time of year, picking wild blackberries.

Historical figure you'd like to meet

This is worse than the favorite book question! Either Mary Edwards Walker, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Eleanor Roosevelt, Dorothea Dix, or Mark Twain.

Pet peeve

Saying that someone was a person of their time to excuse whatever they did.

What inspires you about your job?

My colleagues. I've had the honor to work with some wonderful, passionate, quirky, and interesting people.

GODORT Midwinter Update

GODORT Awards Committee

2019 GODORT Award Recipients

ProQuest/GODORT/ALA "Documents to the People" Award
Laura Harper

Newsbank/Readex/GODORT/ALA Catharine J. Reynolds Research Grant
Hayley Johnson

Bernadine Abbott Hoduski Founders Award
Kris Kasianovitz

W. David Rozkuszka Scholarships
Ben Chiewphasa
Lauren Hall

Margaret T. Lane/Virginia F. Saunders Memorial Research Award
Authors of *Government Information Essentials*, edited by Susanne Caro: Jane Canfield, Susanne Caro, David Dillard, Latanya N. Jenkins, Hayley Johnson, Valery King, Shari Laster, Andrew Lopez, Lori Looney, Vickie Mix, Lisa Pritchard, Aimee Quinn, Antoinette Satterfield, Julia Stewart, and Jill Vassilakos-Long

Larry Romans Mentorship Award
July Siebecker

GODORT Emerging Leader
Azalea Janel Ebbay

GODORT Education Committee

The GODORT Education Committee met in person on January 26, 2018. Members and guests received an update on the Government Information Online (GIO) service, which handled 232 questions in calendar year 2018 after moving to the GODORT LibAnswers platform in May 2018 (https://godort.libguides.com/GIO). About two-thirds of the questions are entered by GPO staff, and the remainder are entered directly by patrons. Sixteen librarians currently volunteer to answer questions.

The four members of the Emerging Leaders team working on GODORT's Emerging Leaders project, Librarian's Election Reference Toolkit, were in attendance: Azalea Ebbay (San Diego Public Library), who is GODORT's sponsored Emerging Leader; Shelley Guerrero, Toledo Public Library; Megan Hamlin-Black, Rhode Island State Library; Leslie Purdie, Folsom Prison. Committee members Gwen Sinclair and Rachel Dobkin met with the team and will serve as Member Guides for the project, which is to create a marketing, implementation, and continuity plan for the toolkit. A prototype of the toolkit is available at https://godort.libguides.com/voting. The team will present the final project as a poster at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference.

The group discussed surveying LIS programs to learn about how government information is taught so that we can learn about needs and attitudes toward teaching government information. In addition, possible ways to extend government information education beyond LIS programs were discussed, such as a certification program, hosting a continuing education site on LibGuides, and coordinating with Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)'s continuing education efforts.

GODORT Publications Committee

The Committee discussed the possibility of *DttP* having a peer-reviewed section/option that would be discussed in more detail at a later meeting.

The embargo on *DttP* was discussed as several columnists wish their columns to be open access immediately, and the problem that authors from the student issue could not access their own articles. The issue was brought to Steering and they were favorable to the idea of ending the embargo. This was put to a vote in the Committee and it passed unanimously. Starting with issue 47:1 *DttP* will be completely open access.

Notable Documents Update

The Notable Documents Panel has four new members:

- Richard Mikulski, Portland State University—federal documents selector
- Laura Sare, Texas A&M University—international documents judge
- Esther Fatuyi, Morgan State University—state and local documents selector
- Bryan Fuller, Morgan State University—panel chair

The following members are continuing on the Panel:

- Suzanne Reinman who was federal documents selector and an international judge, will continue as a federal documents judge
- Christine Adams will continue as a judge for federal documents
- Aimée C. Quinn and Melanie Sims are continuing as judges for state and local documents
- Annelise Sklar will continue as an international documents judge

- Sonnet Ireland, who was an international documents judge, continues as the international documents selector

The Panel received seventy-four responses from twenty-four people

- thirty-three nominations for Federal Documents
- twenty-eight nominations for State and Local Documents
- thirteen nominations for International Documents

Goals for next year:

- Relocate nomination form to the ALA website
- Highlight international documents from or about Africa and Asia

GODORT Membership Update

Following a brief message from one of the candidates for ALA president, Councilor Bill Sudduth asked for GODORT to support in principle a Committee on Legislation resolution to acknowledge those who worked to make CRS reports available to the public. This was unanimously approved. He also provided an update on Council activities, including the passage of a resolution to add sustainability as a core value of librarianship and ongoing discussions regarding eliminating library fines and meeting room interpretations.

Treasurer Rebecca Hyde proposed a new budget for the coming fiscal year based on slight decrease in estimates to production costs to *DttP*. All voted in favor, with one abstention.

Gwen Sinclair, Chair of Education, provided an update on the Emerging Leaders project to create a librarian-to-librarian toolkit for election reference.

Chair Hallie Pritchett provided an update on the new GODORT website, which is almost complete. Steering will discuss how the website will be maintained in the future.

Past-Chair Shari Laster gave an update about GODORT program proposals for Annual. The juried program "Counting on trust, trusting the count: Census 2020" was accepted and will be held on June 23, 2019, at 9 a.m. GODORT's program will be on the PEGI project and analyzing the results from the 2018 progress report. Chair-Elect Susanne Caro stated that the two programs GODORT co-sponsored were accepted. "The Data of D.C.: Open Sources for Business Research" will take place on June 23, 2019 at 4 p.m. The all-day pre-conference "Guardians of the (Financial) Galaxy: Financial Regulations Generating Free Data, Tools, and Information Along the Way" will be held June 21, 2019.

Past-Chair Shari Laster provided an update on the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. An interim report has been presented to Steering and the report will be sent to membership at large after Steering has had a chance to discuss it.

Simon Healey, acting as proxy for the chair of the Cataloging Committee stated that the Cataloging Committee has been working on three cataloging toolkits and they have made great progress on the federal toolkit, which will be added to the website in February. The committee would appreciate feedback and suggestions to improve these toolkits.

GODORT Chair Hallie Pritchett led discussion about ALA's upcoming changes to the Midwinter Meeting and how this will affect GODORT.—*Julia Frankosky, GODORT Secretary*

GODORT Steering Committee

During the course of the meeting, Steering unanimously voted to approve the award winners as communicated by the Awards Committee chair, Emily Rogers. Steering also unanimously voted to approve the proposed budget presented by Treasurer Rebecca Hyde. The ALA Executive Board Liaison Andrew Pace gave a report.

Chair Hallie Pritchett stated that the new GODORT website is almost done but that Steering will need to determine how best to manage the content on the new site, as well as GODORT's online presence as a whole. Hallie proposed creating a new committee, chaired by the Web Master position currently in the Bylaws, and made up of two or three other people on a rotating basis. This committee would not be responsible for creating content, but would solicit content from the various committees and ensure content is added in a timely manner. They would also be responsible for managing permissions to post on behalf of GODORT. Hallie will draft a proposal for this committee and distribute to Steering for additional discussion.

Chair Hallie Pritchett provided an update regarding GODORT's loss of their dedicated Councilor due to individual membership numbers falling below 1 percent of ALA's membership. Strategies for increasing outreach and engagement of both our current members and prospective members were discussed.

Past-Chair Shari Laster submitted a draft report to Steering with recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. This report will be sent to GODORT membership for feedback.

Awards Committee Chair Emily Rogers requested Steering vote to approve additional funding for two 2019

Rozkuska Scholarship recipients. Steering unanimously voted to approve the increase in funding.

Past-Chair Shari Laster provided an update on the 2019 Annual Schedule.

Chair of Publications Laura Sare stated that the Publications Committee will be voting to consider ending the *DttP* embargo and making *DttP* issues open access immediately upon publication.

International Documents Task Force chair Jim Church will submit a proposal to Steering asking that they endorse an IFLA statement supporting open access and international government information.

Chair Hallie Pritchett will send a proposal to Steering to vote on changing our remaining "Task Forces" (State and Local Documents and International Documents) to "Interest Groups."—*Julia Frankosky, GODORT Secretary*

GODORT Election Results

DttP
Documents to the People

The results of the 2019 ALA elections are in!
The following people have been elected to leadership positions in GODORT:

Assistant Chair/Chair-elect: Lynda Kellam
Treasurer: Rebecca C. Hyde
Secretary: Emily Alford
Publications Committee Chair-elect: Michael L. Smith

All terms will start at the end of the ALA Annual Conference in June.
Congratulations to all!