



DocumentOr

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A Newsletter of the Documents Interest Group of Oregon

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Message from the Chair

Dena Hutto
outgoing DIGOR Chair
dena.hutto@reed.edu

Dear Colleagues,

In my final column as chair of DIGOR, I'd like to take this opportunity to make note of our achievements during the past year and acknowledge the contributions of our members that made those achievements possible.

Our most visible activity this year was co-sponsorship, along with ACRL-Oregon, of the Oregon Library Association preconference, "Census 101: The Basics of Finding Census Data." We can all be proud of planning a fine program, locating a top-notch panel of speakers, and preparing a very useful packet of handouts. While the preconference unfortunately was not a moneymaker, many of the thirty-plus participants commented on the quality of the session and expressed their appreciation. Once again, DIGOR succeeded in presenting itself as a unit with active members and vital issues to discuss during the Oregon Library Association conference. Special thanks go to Arlene Weible, who spearheaded preconference planning, and to Carrie Ottow and Valery King for their contributions.

Several members of DIGOR participated in the Orbis Government Documents Task Force, which submitted its final report to Orbis Council in July (available from Internet:

http://libweb.uoregon.edu/orbis/staffhome/GDTF_final_report,2000june.doc). The Task Force, whose charge was to find ways of representing government documents more fully in the Orbis Union Catalog, presented several

recommendations. These included a proposal for retrospective cataloging of documents collections and developing a plan for cooperative collection of the publications of regional U.S. federal agencies, such as the Pacific Northwest Forest Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service. These recommendations were well received by Orbis Council, which has decided to convert the Task Force into a standing committee. These plans are important to DIGOR members because they will have a positive effect on access to government documents collections for all Oregon libraries. Now that more libraries are joining Orbis (Central Oregon Community College is one Oregon depository library that has joined during the past year, and we expect that Pacific University will not be far behind), we look forward to welcoming more DIGOR members into the work of this important "new" committee. Thanks to all of the DIGOR members who participated in the work of the Task

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NEXT DIGOR BUSINESS MEETING

September 15, 2000

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Oregon Institute of Technology

Library

Klamath Falls, Oregon

Contact: Carrie Ottow (Carrie.Ottow@orst.edu) to submit agenda items.

Force. In particular, Tom Stave, Roy Bennett, Arlene Weible, and Ted Smith wrote substantial contributions to the 1999 and 2000 annual reports. Thanks also to Judy Andrews, who contributed valuable insights as Regional Depository Librarian for Oregon.

Finally, I would like to recognize two DIGOR members who are going on to exciting new job responsibilities. Roy Bennett, who has served as Documents Librarian at Western Oregon University since 1982, has been named Computer Systems and Services Librarian. We're pleased to hear that Roy plans to continue his membership in DIGOR, and we look forward to welcoming Laura Groves, WOU's new Documents Librarian, into the documents community. Arlene Weible, formerly Periodicals and Documents Librarian at Willamette University, became Federal Depository Coordinator at the Washington State Library in July. In her new position, she will serve as Regional Depository Librarian for Washington and Alaska. I know everyone will join me in wishing Arlene all the best in her new endeavor. She will be sorely missed by DIGOR, which she has served with tireless dedication in many roles during the last several years. Many thanks to Ted Smith, University of Oregon, who has volunteered to succeed Arlene as DIGOR web master and to assume full editorship of the Documentor.

I look forward to working with our new slate of officers during the coming year: Carrie Ottow, incoming chair; Valery King, secretary; and Judy Andrews, vice-chair/chair-elect. Hope to see you all in Klamath Falls in September!

LIBRARY PROFILE

Oregon Institute of Technology
Klamath Falls, OR
 By Susanna Flodin

The OIT Library is located on the first floor of the Learning Resources enter (LRC), on the OIT campus in Klamath Falls, Oregon. The Library contains approximately 140,000 books and bound periodicals, and subscribes to over 1,200 periodicals. Resources and services include a web-based catalog named Hedgehog,

over 70 online databases, federal and Oregon state documents, CD-ROMs, interlibrary loans, classes, tours, and seminars. There is a small classroom with 10 online workstations, as well as quiet study rooms. Thirty networked computer workstations with full Internet access are available for public use.

The collection is comprised mainly of engineering material covering Mechanical, Civil, Electronics, Manufacturing, and Computer Science. With the new programs in the Health Sciences and Psychology our collection is becoming more diverse. Another significant area of the collection includes materials on local and regional history that are housed in the Shaw Historical Library.

The library also has a separate collection of Federal and State documents. Currently we collect about 16% of Federal documents, focusing on local/regional issues and information that will support our degree programs. This past summer OIT became a full Oregon State depository and is in the process of making the collection available to the public.

The Rhetoric of GPO Funding

Compiled By Ted D. Smith, University of Oregon Library

The Federal Depository Library program (FDLP) has stood for over a century as a major tool by which the citizens of the United States have kept themselves informed about the activities of their government. Over the years the program has enjoyed broad bipartisan support in the Congress as a cost-effective way for the government to promulgate its information. In recent years this support has wavered, however, as some members of Congress, entranced by the promise and potential of networked information, have sought to defund the program in favor of "putting it all on the Internet".

This year's battle over the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2001 is but the latest (and perhaps most serious) effort to cut funding for the FDLP behind the rationale that online access is sufficient for all. Predictably, it has sparked debate over the continuing value of distributing physical documents to libraries in the Internet era.

In light of the importance of this issue to the membership of DIGOR, it is appropriate to listen to some of the voices in this debate. Following are some quotes from members of Congress who have spoken on this topic. Given the issue being debated, it is important to point out that all six of the quotes are in sources that are available (in print format) in most depository

libraries. Five of the six are from sources that are also available online through *GPO Access*; the other is available only in print.

I know a lot of very poor people who have computers. It amazes me as to who is getting a PC with the prices today. Sometimes they are hand-me-downs from other family members, but I want to tell you most anybody who wants a PC today seems to be able to figure out how to get one.... I think we have to really realize what's happening out there. I guess the cost effectiveness of not buying this book but printing a chapter out of it is what I am concerned about. I don't care about the whole book, but there might be a chapter that I want, so I print out the chapter. I guess that is how we need to think today of how we provide information. We need to change faster, all of us, in everything we do. -- Congressman John E. Peterson, questioning the Public Printer on the need for funding for the printing of paper documents. *Legislative Branch Appropriations for 2001, Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations*. Tuesday, February 1st, 2000. [page 305]

The bill removes funding, except for close-out costs, for distributing paper and other tangible media-based copies of government publications to the Federal depository libraries and to international exchange recipients. Electronic versions of publications, made available from the depository program through GPO ACCESS either directly or through the ACCESS gateway, have been funded and will still be available.... The Committee recognizes that the public availability of government information is a basic right of every American citizen that must be maintained. The Superintendent of Documents performs an important role in making government information available to the public through the administration and operation of the sales, international exchange, electronic dissemination, and depository library programs. Dramatic advances in technology provide new opportunities for enhancing and improving such programs and activities, including their efficiency and economy of operation. The Committee believes that the programs for which the Superintendent of Documents is responsible could be performed with more cost effectiveness by making greater use of electronic information technology. Consequently, the Committee has reduced the amount of funds available to the Superintendent for managing and distributing copies of government documents printed by or through the Government Printing Office. -- House Report 106-635, *Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, 2001*. [Majority opinion, Legislative Appropriations Subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations]

I find this bill deeply disturbing. I simply have to scratch my head and ask what are we trying to do in this institution when we report out a bill like this. -- "Dissenting Views of Hon. David R. Obey", in House Report 106-635, *Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, 2001*.

This measure takes a meat-axe to the Government Printing Office, lopping off a breathtaking 25% of its funding and at least 400 employees. The bill effectively ends the Federal Depository Library Program by ceasing distribution of paper

and other tangible products to the 1,337 depository libraries across this country. It will thus leave the tens of thousands of Americans who use those libraries without the bulk of the Federal information that is now made available, including many congressional documents. All Americans should wonder what their Congress suddenly doesn't want them to know. -- "Dissenting Views of Hon. Steny H. Hoyer", in House Report 106-635, *Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, 2001*.

The depository is a bargain when one considers the program as a whole. While the GPO supplies the printed materials, the university, college, and other public libraries which participate in the Federal Depository Library Program supply the space to house the documents, the staff to assist the public, as well as the computers, the photocopiers, and other equipment needed to use this information. In other words, the GPO embodies the public's access to government. What if we were to cut off that access? There would be--rightfully so--a public outcry that such access to government had been denied. If we were to cut back the staff the way the other body did, that is what we would have to do--limit the public's access to their government. -- Senator Harry Reid of Nevada [*Congressional Record*, May 24, 2000. Pages S4350-51]

The committee bill would have effectively ended the depository library program used by thousands and thousands of Americans weekly in most of our districts, eliminated entire classes of congressional printing... -- Congressman Steny Hoyer of Maryland [*Congressional Record*, June 22, 2000. Page H4938]

DIGOR NEWS

Items of Note from Around the State

Digor web site

The Digor web site has a new home at the University of Oregon. The base url is now: <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/govdocs/digor/> This *may* be a temporary new location, as we are working on the possibility of giving the web site a permanent home on OLA's web server. Notice of any subsequent change will be posted on the Digor listserv. In the meantime, please use the above url to access the Digor web site. -Ted Smith

University of Oregon Library

The University of Oregon Library has merged the Maps & Aerial Photography (MAP) Library with the Government & Business Information Service. The new unit is to be called the Document Center, and is located on the main floor of the Knight Library. The move will allow for continued growth of the MAP Collection and allow for expanded hours of service. The Document Center is

comprised of four distinct collections: business reference materials, government publications, maps & aerial photographs, and microforms. Having all four collections housed in one department will allow for improved service for patrons using all of the collections. - Tom Stave

Southern Oregon University Library

Southern Oregon University Library has a brand new Government Documents Office! We are thrilled to be re-located into an old classroom next to the GovDocs collection on the 3rd floor of the Library. Our new space gives us just about twice the office space and WINDOWS to the OUTSIDE! Although SOU is busy planning for a new library addition, they may never get us out of our new digs. We also gained new shelving for Oregon documents and expanded instructional space outside the office. Life couldn't be better! -Deb Hollens



OrDoc Depository Conference

By
Jey Wann
Oregon State Library
Email: jey.a.wann@state.or.us

On October 13, the State Library will host a one-day conference for staff from Oregon Documents Depository Program libraries and from state agencies that produce Oregon documents. As far as we can tell from the records we have, the last (and perhaps only) time the OrDoc depositories gathered previously was in August of 1979. At that meeting, staff from depositories received copies of the beginning of the OrDocs classification scheme, and also had the opportunity to request that a catalog card be sent for each new title in each shipment.

The year's conference will be an opportunity for staff from depositories to learn more about the program, and to discuss best practices, problems, and ideas with each other. It will also give state agency folks and depository library folks and a chance to and discuss issues of mutual concern regarding state government information.

To gather information about other state depository program conferences, I posted a question on st-doc.

Oklahoma, Texas, Florida, New Mexico, and Wisconsin replied that they either had regular meetings for state depository personnel, or had done so at least once. Some meetings also include federal depository personnel, and some were done in cooperation with the state's equivalent of DIGOR.

We know that staff at depository libraries appreciate the information they receive in OrDocs, and we know that publishing agencies are anxious for the information they produce to be disseminated. By bringing the two groups together, we hope that the October 13 conference will give them an understanding and appreciation of each other, which can lead to better access to state government information for the citizens of Oregon.

Minutes DIGOR Business Meeting April 6, 2000 Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel

**Submitted by Valery King
DIGOR Secretary**

Present

Roy Bennett, Arlys Fones, Dena Hutto, Valery King, Carrie Ottow, Ted Smith, Alex Toth

Welcome and Announcements

Meeting was called to order shortly after 5 pm by chair Dena Hutto. There were no additions to the agenda.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

There were no announcements.

Reports

Membership and budget

As of 3/31/00, DIGOR has a balance of \$ 638.57. We had a total of 20 membership renewals between 9/1/99 and 3/31/00.

Old Business

Census preconference

There were 30 participants registered, which was low as we had estimated for 40. We thought to break even, but when an unexpectedly high price for the equipment rental came to us (\$519 when we budgeted \$150) it was too late to cancel as the key speaker's plane ticket had

already been purchased. ACRL-Oregon will file a complaint with the OLA Conference Committee about how late we were informed of this. We lost money on the preconference, but ACRL will absorb some of that loss. Other than this disappointment, the preconference went well. All of the presenters (Michael Lavin, George Hough, Cam McIntosh and Carrie Ottow) were complimented on their presentations. The handouts will be very helpful. Many very positive comments were received from those attending.

New Business

Election of officers

By secret ballot, Judy Andrews was elected Chair-Elect; Valery King was elected secretary.

Site for Fall 2000 meeting

Roy proposed Western as the site for the winter meeting, since their new library building will be finished by then.

After some discussion, Klamath Falls was proposed as site of the fall meeting. This idea will be submitted to the DIGOR listserv members for comment, and if agreed upon we will be meeting in Klamath Falls on September 15 (tentative). Discussion of the date occurred, and a tentative date of Friday, September 15 was proposed.

Some ideas for programming include a scientific/ technical information program, with possibly a speaker from an agency office in the area, and a presentation on PubScience. Also, the "Notable Oregon Documents" taskforce will have a proposal ready to present.

Adjorn

Meeting adjourned at 5:45.

2000-2001 DIGOR Officers

Past Chair: Dena Hutto, Reed College
email: dena.hutto@reed.edu

Chair: Carrie Ottow, Oregon State Univ
email: Carrie.Ottow@orst.edu

Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Judy Andrews, Portland State University
email: andrewsj@odin.pdx.edu

Secretary: Valery King, Oregon State Univ
email: Valery.King@orst.edu

Newsletter Editor: Ted Smith, University of Oregon
email: tedsmith@oregon.uoregon.edu