FDLP State Forecast - Virginia

Instructions

PLEASE SUBMIT ONLY ONE FDLP STATE FORECAST PER STATE.

In order to obtain the critical viewpoints from the FDLP community at the state level that impact participation in the Program and to support these viewpoints with quantitative and qualitative data, we have designed the following questionnaire. This questionnaire contains open-ended questions and the time to complete it will vary based on your responses. The information gathered in this study is vitally important and it will be used to inform a National FDLP Plan and shape the future of the Program.

This FDLP State Forecast builds on the responses of individual FDLP libraries in your state. It represents a consensus of opinion at the state level of the FDLP libraries in a state and should be based on the responses to the FDLP Library Forecasts submitted by FDLP members in your state and discourse at the state level among FDLP members about plans or intentions that are designed to serve the state as a whole. Individuals with primary responsibility for FDLP collections within your state are encouraged to meet, discuss the state and library FDLP Forecast questionnaire answers, and collaborate to produce responses at the State level.

GPO recognizes that there are seven multistate regionals. We are asking for viewpoints and data to be collected at the state level. However, when information is asked about that is not strictly limited to occurring within the state or dealing only with those within the state, responses that represent relationships/agreements beyond the individual state should also be included if relevant. Please answer on behalf of the FDLP libraries in your state representing their collective experiences, their consensus on major issues when possible, and to the best of your knowledge.

Please join us in working together for a vibrant and shared vision of the future of the FDLP.

Note: Where mentioned, state represents state, district, or territory.

Respondents can print each survey page as they progress using their web browser's printing options. Before clicking the "Next" and "Done" buttons, a respondent can use the browser's printing options to print the current page of answers. However, language within text boxes that exceeds the size of the answer box will not appear in the printed page. It is suggested that respondents write their answers in a word processor and then cut and paste their answers into Survey Monkey's text boxes.

*1. State (Spell out name of state, district, or territory)

Virginia

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Preservation Issues

*2. If FDLP libraries within your state digitize FDLP materials (in-house or outsourced), where do they store the master digital files? (Please mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Libraries within this state do not digitize
- ☑ Local digital repository
- ☑ Hathi Trust
- ☐ Internet Archive
- ☐ Other (Please identify)

> While the vast majority of depository libraries in Virginia (18 of 22) report not digitizing depository materials several do and store these digital surrogates both locally and in the Hathi Trust. Of the 22 libraries which answered the GPO library forecast none reported using the Internet Archive as a storage repository for digitized federal content.

*3. Do FDLP libraries in your state plan to digitize publications from the FDLP/Government documents collection within the next five years?

- ⦿ **Yes**
- ○ No
- ○ Already digitizing FDLP publications

*4. Would it be useful for GPO to provide advice and guidance for libraries that want to digitize publications from the tangible collection?

- ⦿ **Yes**
- ○ No

*5. As Government information is increasingly produced and distributed in digital-only formats, what barriers to access, if any, do libraries in your state anticipate in the next five years?

- ○ Libraries in this state do not anticipate any barriers to access.
- ○ **Libraries in this state anticipate barriers to access**. (Please identify anticipated barriers)

> About half of responding libraries anticipated barriers to digital access. It should be noted that libraries also see many barriers to print access.
> *Possible* barriers to digital access include:
> - Fewer public workstations in many libraries
> - Limited simultaneous users in some databases and files
> - Dwindling funds for computer maintenance and upgrades
> - Patrons lacking home computing capabilities and/or being computer illiterate
> - Government information disappearing from federal agency web sites
> - Increased computer security may become an issue at some libraries
> - Difficulty using online information in times of crisis – Katrina, blackouts, lack of electrical power
> - Barriers for "guest users" in some libraries. They get access, but must show IDs or register.   This may have a "chilling effect."
> - Difficulty in identifying or discovering digital (or printed) government information that never gets cataloged by GPO.
> - Complicated online interfaces may not be easily mastered by library patrons
> - Fewer reference staff available to help less computer literate patrons.

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Barriers to print access:
- Difficulty finding the information needed – lack of "word search" capability in print documents
- Unwieldy large volumes that no one actually wants to read.
- Distance from a depository
- Selectives not owning needed volumes; only available at regional
- "Reference" material may not circulate
- Registering for a library card
- Materials not cataloged in library's online catalog – lack of easy access
-

Library Services and Content Management (LSCM) Projects

*6. Please rate the following current LSCM projects areas according to how users of Federal Government information in libraries within your state might benefit.

	Extremely beneficial	Moderately beneficial	Not beneficial
Projects to provide greater access to Government information such as: Simultaneous searching of FDsys and the Catalog of Government Publications; increasing access to United States Courts' opinions provided in partnership with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts available on FDsys.	○	●	○
Projects to increase cataloging services such as: The Cataloging Record Distribution Project; Shelflist Transcription & Bibliographic Record Clean Up; Cooperative Cataloging Partnerships; enhancements to MetaLib.	○	●	○
Projects focusing on collection development and management tools such as: The National Bibliographic Inventory; Library Information System Transformation (LIST), PURL Referral Reports.	○	○	●
Projects focused on education and online communication with FDLP members such as: FDsys training sessions; acquiring an online tool for virtual meetings; scheduling online community forums to discuss current FDLP issues; communication through social media (blogs, twitter)	●	○	○

*7. Is there another area of service that FDLP libraries within your state would like LSCM to offer in the next five years? (Please describe.)

○ No

○ **Yes (**please describe)

Virginia libraries had several ideas of additional projects that LSCM might undertake which would be beneficial.
Current law would allow
- Partner with ASERL to expand the use of the excellent ASERL Depository Disposition Database and offers model to the entire FDLP.
- Partner with libraries to establish "levels of authenticity" for ingest into FDSys. Libraries are currently digitizing federal materials, GPO is not. GPO should proactively encourage libraries to deposit materials into FDSys. Allowing depository libraries to submit materials with a lower level of authenticity into FDSys would greatly increase access to online government information.

> - Include the CGP in FDSys.
> Future more flexible Title 44 would allow
>   - GPO digitizing documents and ingesting them into FDSys

Education

*8. Would FDLP libraries in your state participate in GPO-facilitated virtual meetings or seminars on topics of interest to the FDLP community?

○   No

○   **Yes (please tell us what topics would be most helpful to you)**

> Most Virginia depositories would participate in GPO-facilitated virtual training.
>
> - Courses or "train the trainer" sessions on following: CGP, FDSys, Finding Government Data , FDLP Desktop.
> - Library Management issues—Best practices/ Depository Management, Policy and Planning, Downsizing collections.
> - Digitizing- management of, selecting, process for, storage issues, etc.
> - Marketing FDLP resources
> - Digitizing- management of, selecting, process for, storage issues, etc.

Affiliations and Community Marketing

*9. Do FDLP libraries in your state have formal or informal relationships/agreements with local non-FDLP libraries to provide Federal Government information?

○   No

◉   **Yes (Please describe these relationships)**

> Around half of Virginia depository libraries report having informal relationships with local non-depository libraries. All agree we could do a better job of marketing our resources and services.

*10. Do FDLP libraries in your state market their FDLP collections and services to non-depository libraries or conduct other outreach activities that target the general public?

○   No

○   **Yes** (Please describe)

> While most Virginia depositories report little active marketing of their depository services or collections all have web sites for their government information materials. Additional promotional activities include:
> - "New & Noteworthy" blog about important or new government documents or web sites
> - Programs at Virginia Library Association annual conferences aimed at public librarians
> - Use campus radio station to promote government information in library
> - Provided GPO materials to local conferences
> - Conducted classes for local high school classes
> - Regional programming around the state aimed at public libraries.

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*11. How can GPO assist in effectively marketing FDLP libraries and services?

Virginia libraries like and use many GPO supplied promotional resources now. Additional promotional assistance from GPO might include:

- A flyer that depositories could send to non-depositories to highlight services and resources,
- Best practice ideas, marketing/promotional materials
- GPO support & presence at anniversaries.
- GPO could buy a LibGuides license and create guides that libraries could use and/or borrow from.
- Posters advertising FDL services which could be put in public libraries
- Both digital and print PR materials
- Mobile guide to local depositories with embedded map and links to depositories web sites
- Mini-training sessions about marketing
- Prepare a sample brochure for print/email marketing

*12. Within the next five years, are FDLP libraries in your state planning to enter into new or additional relationships/agreements with non-FDLP libraries to provide Federal Government information?

○ No

○ **Yes** (Please describe these relationships)

> While most Virginia libraries reported no plans to enter into relationships/agreements with non-FDLP libraries after discussions at our state meeting we agreed that we would more actively promote our depository services to all libraries in Virginia.
>
> Additionally, It could be said that the ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository *is* a relationship with non-FDLP libraries. ASERL Centers of Excellence will provide interlibrary loan and other services for their collections to all libraries in the Southeast. Almost half of Virginia depository libraries are or are considering becoming Centers of Excellence and, therefore, could potentially provide services across the Southeast.

*13. Are FDLP libraries in your state planning to enter into new or additional relationships/agreements with other FDLP libraries to provide Government information?

○ No

◉ **Yes** (Please describe these relationships and with whom these relationships/agreements will be entered)

> 13 of 22 Virginia depository libraries report plans to enter into new relationships/agreements with other FDLP libraries. Almost all of these are centered around the ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository initiative. Even those depositories which are not planning on becoming Centers of Excellence are very actively participating in the ASERL Documents Disposition Database. Virginia depositories report actually placing their discards in other libraries – something that was not happening in the old "offers lists" days.
> Another collaborative effort that several Virginia libraries (Library of Virginia and U.Va.) are participating in is the Government Information Online collaborative reference service. In partnership with GPO, this is a model for virtual service collaboration.

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Future Roles and Opportunities

*14. Within the next five years in your state, is there any discussion or plan to have FDLP libraries commit to hosting a permanent digital collection(s) of Federal Government information?

    ○ **No**

    ⦿ Yes (Please elaborate, providing details addressing the specifics of your discussions or plans to host a permanent digital collection(s) of Federal Government information)

> **14 Virginia libraries are not interested in hosting or preserving digital content locally. 8 libraries could be interested in one or both.**
> Individual Virginia depositories are and may in the future participate in initiatives to host federal digital information. There is already some state participation in LOCKSS-DOCS, and it's possible this may increase.
> Virginia libraries are very interested in participating in digital initiatives which would be incorporated or hosted in FDSys.

*15. Within the next five years in your state, is there any discussion or plan to have FDLP libraries commit to preserving a permanent digital collection(s) of Federal Government information?

    ⦿ **No**

    ○ Yes (Please elaborate, providing details addressing the specifics of your discussions or plans to host a permanent digital collection(s) of Federal Government information)

>

*16. Within the next five years, would FDLP libraries in your state be willing to commit to the development of a specific collection area(s) and be willing to serve users beyond their local communities? (Your response to this question is not binding.)

    ○ No

    ⦿ **Yes** (If yes, please describe these subject area(s))

> 11 of 22 libraries responded that they either already are developing such a collection or may do so in the future. The ASERL initiative was the primary impetus for these specialized collections.

*17. What leadership opportunities and roles do FDLP libraries in your state foresee for themselves in the next five years?

> Community level
> Most depository libraries in Virginia do not foresee great leadership opportunities for their libraries. They see their role as supplying their local population and students with the government information that they need and want. Leadership is and would be at the local level in satisfying the federal government information needs of the community and Congressional district. Depositories in college and university libraries also provide curriculum support with their collections.
>
> ASERL CoE's
> Some libraries see their participation in the ASERL Centers of Excellence as an opportunity to demonstrate leadership. Their ability to build, inventory, catalog, and preserve these CoE collections would constitute leadership in the Southeast for federal collections.
>
> Collections
> The federal libraries in Virginia would continue to collect in the areas of interest to their clientele and agency. Their leadership could, at least in part, come from the strong collections supporting their agency's mission. In addition, the USGS is particularly interested in digitizing much of its "legacy" collection.
>
> Mentors
> Some larger depositories act as mentors and resources for smaller local depository libraries. Virginia

Tech supports the western part of the state in this way. The Richmond and Tidewater depository libraries often support one another with reference and collection assistance. Swem Library at the College of William and Mary, and U.Va. have assisted libraries in developing procedures for loading cataloging records into their online catalogs. Similarly, law library depositories support the legal information needs of non-law depositories.

Online Reference
Both the University of Virginia and the Library of Virginia were charter members of the Government Information Online collaborative reference service. As a model collaborative partnership with GPO this virtual reference service provides virtual reference assistance to those seeking government information. The Library of Virginia trained and mentored a library school student as a part of the Government Information Online project.

Digitizing
Some libraries see a role for them in digitizing discrete depository collections of interest to their primary clientele. Ideally, these digital materials could be ingested into FDSys to the benefit of all.

Regional
The Regional Depository in Virginia will work with all depositories in the state to promote and provide government information to researchers, citizens, and anyone needing it.   The Virginia State Action Plan will address future plans in more detail.

*18. What would an ideal FDLP look like that met all of your current and anticipated needs for Federal Government information?

An ideal FDLP would have many aspects – flexible and able to evolve without Congressional approval, embracing of third party efforts, comprehensive for U.S. government information, geographically distributed, well described and cataloged collections, fewer "regional" type collections, strong digital presence, holdings and on-going digitization efforts, preservation, tiered and collaborative service and collections agreements, training at state, regional and national levels.

- **Flexible**
  An ideal FDLP would be flexible and responsive to the needs of both regional and selective depository libraries. Specifically, the FDLP would collaborate with depository libraries to develop selection and retention guidelines which would allow more flexibility on the part of both regional and selective depositories. Such guidelines would, of course, ensure preservation and access to these materials; however, there are opportunities to create a network of comprehensive collections that can achieve this goal without the necessity of every regional depository library replicating their collections.   Reducing the physical footprint for depository libraries would not only address pressing space issues for depositories, it would allow librarians to build and maintain collections most useful to their target audiences. More flexible and finely grained Item Numbers, separating print and digital versions, would aid selective depository libraries as they refine their collections.
- **Proactive**
  Work proactively with the Congress to change the Title 44 that mandates the regional depositories to retain all government documents. Work to retain, catalog, and preserve a certain number of "legacy" collections. Allow flexibility in how regional libraries operate and fulfill their responsibilities.
- **Advocate for No-fee Public Access**
  GPO, and especially, depository libraries will advocate for no-fee access to government information, especially with regard to the loss of important government information to private publishers. Depository librarians will ensure that Congress is aware of how costly short-sighted budget cuts can be to the long-term health of an informed citizenry. Such advocacy would include awareness of, and advocacy for certain materials to remain available in print. Populations served by public libraries, such as the homeless and poor, may not be as capable of easily using online resources and should be considered as agencies migrate to online formats.

- **Partnerships & Third Party Activities**
  First and foremost, the FDLP would act to promote and advance projects like the ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository Program, and would do nothing to hinder or hold back the work of such initiatives.
  An ideal FDLP should embrace other third party activities that enhance accessibility of government information in addition GPO's digitized old documents program through partnership with other depository libraries. Those activities include Haiti Trust Project and Google Digitization for government information.
  In an ideal FDLP GPO and depository libraries would be equal partners. Depositories would be able to work with GPO in order to contribute to efforts like FDSys on an equal basis. "Rules" would be more collaborative and flexible, and not so top down.
- **Comprehensive Coverage**
  GPO needs to proactively contact federal agencies to make sure that all of agencies' publications (except those confidential information) are available through the FDLP program and preserve the current digital format on GPO designated servers.
  GPO and libraries should proactively work with agency publishers to ensure comprehensive coverage and preservation of born digital information.
- **Geographically Distributed**
  Much like today's FDLP, the ideal FDLP would comprise geographically distributed collections. Important, current, often used materials would be available in many libraries around the country.
- **Fewer Comprehensive Collections**
  An ideal FDLP would be much more collaborative with greater dependence on digital delivery and cross-state ILL's. On-demand scanning on government-supplied scanners would be available from some of the comprehensive collections. These comprehensive collections would not have to be housed in individual libraries, but would take advantage of regional collaborations like the ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository. Today's regional libraries would have more flexibility in their retention decisions.
- **Cataloging**
  While GPO's retrospective conversion of the shelf list is important and a good thing, WorldCat is really the place where library collections should be reflected. Only when our holdings are reflected in WorldCat do they actually open up to the world.
  Ideally, GPO could include more extensive metadata included in cataloging records – online Tables of Contents would enhance findability and access.
- **Digitization & Digital Delivery**
  The ideal FDLP would be heavily involved in digitization of government materials – both at the library level and at GPO. GPO would have the authority to digitize "legacy" materials and would solicit materials from libraries discarding them. They would be able to do destructive digitization because there would be the backup of the comprehensive collections. Libraries would be actively partnering with GPO to scan their collections. Scans from institutions like Hathi Trust would be placed in the FDSys, but labeled "non-authoritative" or "not scanned by the U.S. Government" or some such.
- **Preservation**
  In an ideal FDLP libraries and the government would be able to better preserve print, other tangible government publications, and digital government information. Taking advantage of partnerships like the ASERL initiative and LOCKSS-DOCS, libraries could consider preserving portions of their collections.
- **Service-driven**
  In this "digital age" when much information really is "on the web" services will be of increasing importance for libraries in general and for federal depository libraries. All libraries are U.S. government information libraries. Allowing current regional libraries to divest of some collections responsibilities and focus more on their service/training responsibilities would enable them to do a better job in those areas. Large public libraries that are not interested in maintaining a large print collection could be very effective consumer service depositories – focusing on interactive agency websites that serve the public. Libraries at institutions with library schools might focus on a service like "Government Information Online" which could be a collaboration between the library and interns at the library school.
- **Training**

An ideal FDLP would be an education and service driven organization. Training (education) would be provided by GPO, both in-person and virtually, and by libraries – regionals and selectives. Training would be provided to depository staff, public (non-depository) library staff, and the public. FDLs would take advantage of GPO training platforms, ALA platforms, and regional or state supplied training platforms.

*19. Thinking about the next five years, what specific things would you like GPO to do to help FDLP libraries in your state improve public access to Federal Government information?

- Continue to ensure free and no-fee access to government information. Advocate for open access to government information and resist efforts to transfer important government information to private, subscription sources in an era when parallel efforts to open scholarly information through digital repositories is getting much attention.

Partnerships
- Partner with ASERL to take advantage of the ASERL Documents Disposition Database at the national level
- Partner with library associations, librarians, and the public to promote workable changes to Title 44 to allow for flexibility and evolution with the FDLP without requiring Congressional approval at every step
- Liaise with federal agencies to change the way government information is published

Flexibility (within current law)
- Encourage collaborative initiatives like the ASERL initiative
- Be responsive to the pressing issues facing regional libraries and demonstrate flexibility in developing solutions. Listen to the concerns not only of depository librarians but also library administrators.
- Allow more flexibility in retention, offers, and claims processes

Findability
- Catalog all the retrospective collection (into WorldCat). Allow depository libraries to catalog into CGP.
- Update and redesign the FDLP Desktop to enhance usability
- Include CGP in FDSys. Simplify and clarify the variety of search GPO search platforms – CGP, FDSys, Metalib. Make searching by topic or subject more seamless and comprehensive.
- If the FDSys version of a title is different from the print version (redacts any commercial content, for instatnce) include this information in the bibliographic record.

In-house procedures
- Improve in-house procedures which result in extra maintenance for FDLP libraries (for example the class changes problems which necessitate class corrections in catalogs and on materials)
- Refine the List of Classes so that selectives can be more effective in their selection profiles. "Unbundle" digital and print items.
- Improve expertise and comprehensiveness in harvesting information from agency websites
- When the FDSys digital version of a title differs from the print (exclusion of commercial content, for instance), add that information in the bibliographic record.

Training & Promotion
- Continue to provide at least one, preferably two, face to face meetings focused on government information each year. Virtual meetings and training is wonderful, but the value of DLC discussions and networking is immense.
- Continue to develop promotional materials with which depositories can reach into their communities
- Provide patron-focused tutorials for using digital products – FDSys, American FactFinder II, etc.

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Digital Initiatives
- Provide for "levels of authenticity" within FDSys so that depository libraries, and others can contribute to it
- Authenticate and provide permanent public access to all online legal information
- Make discontinued databases and publications available via CyberCemetery, PURLs, etc.
- Digitize older publications or partner with depository libraries to allow ingest of their digitized materials into FDSys.

*20. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the current and future vision of the FDLP?

   ◉   **No**

   ○   Yes (Please explain)

Certification

*21. We certify that the above FDLP State Forecast represents a group effort and is based on the responses to the FDLP Library Forecasts of FDLP members in this state. Individuals with primary responsibility for FDLP collections within our state have met, discussed our state and library FDLP Forecast questionnaire answers, and collaborated to produce these responses.

   ☐   The above statement is correct.

*22. The following individuals participated in the completion of this questionnaire.