

MEMORANDUM

TO: A. Hays Butler, Chair, and the Officers of the AALL Government Documents Special Interest Section
FROM: Rob Richards, Coordinator, AALL GD-SIS Fugitive & Electronic-Only Documents Committee
RE: 2002 Annual Report
DATE: July 13, 2002 (revised Sep. 16, 2002)

Greetings:

On behalf of the AALL GD-SIS Fugitive & Electronic-Only Documents Committee, I am pleased to present the Committee's 2002 Annual Report.

The Committee's members during 2001-02 were Christopher Anglim, Mark Bartlett, A. Hays Butler, Georgia Chadwick, Cecily A. H. Giardina, Gwendolyn Lohmann, Susan Lyons, Susanna Marlowe, Scott Matheson, Rob Richards, Caitlin Robinson, Randall Tenor, and Alice I. Youmans. Susanna Marlowe resigned during the year after taking a new professional position.

The purpose of the Committee is to:

- 1) Identify and report to GPO fugitive and electronic-only U.S. federal documents on law and policy. A "fugitive document" is defined as a U.S. federal publication that, according to U.S. Code Title 44, should be distributed to libraries through the Federal Depository Library Program, but that has not been cataloged or distributed by GPO. An "electronic-only" document is defined as an electronic U.S. federal publication that GPO has cataloged and assigned a Persistent URL, but that GPO will not distribute to depository libraries in tangible format.
- 2) List fugitive and electronic-only U.S. federal documents on law and policy on the GD-SIS Website;
- 3) Facilitate hard copy publication of some of these documents.

The Committee had a very productive year, and accomplished the following:

* Since May 2001 Committee members have reported to GPO 110 fugitive federal publications on law and policy, which are listed at <http://www.colorado.edu/Law/lawlib/ts/fugitive>. Of these titles:

- 5 have been distributed to depositories in tangible format;
- 82 have been cataloged as "electronic only";
- 23 remain fugitive.

* Cecily Giardina and Caitlin Robinson have several times notified the law library and documents communities about the committee's lists of reported titles, through messages to the LAW-LIB, LAWACQ, and GOVDOC-L listservs.

* Susanna Marlowe and Cecily Giardina have coordinated the Committee's fugitive reporting activities with those of GPO's Electronic Documents Working Group, to avoid duplication of effort.

* Committee members now monitor the Websites of 67 federal agencies and departments, among them all the agencies of the U.S. Department of Justice. Mark Bartlett coordinated the Justice Department monitoring.

* Hays Butler and Scott Matheson assisted AALL's Washington Affairs Representatives Robert Oakley and Mary Alice Baish in urging the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts to provide public access to *The Guide to Judiciary Policies and Procedures*. In its response, the Office stated that our proposal was being seriously considered, and had been forwarded to the U.S. Judicial Conference.

* The Committee has reported to GPO - and GPO has corrected - more than one dozen broken PURLs for federal documents. David Bratman of Stanford University Robert Crown Law Library has notified the committee of many broken GPO PURLs. Through listserv messages law librarians have been asked to report broken GPO PURLs to the Committee.

* The Committee's work has been praised publicly by the Superintendent of Documents, the Chief of GPO's Cataloging Branch, and leaders in the law library community:

-- Francis J. Buckley, Jr., *GPO Update*, Admin. Notes, July 15, 2001, at 16, 20. Also available on Internet (last visited Apr. 5, 2002) < http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/ad071501.html#9>.

-- Peggy Roebuck Jarrett & Cheryl Rae Nyberg, *Should I Stay Or Should I Go Now? Law Libraries and the Federal Depository Program in the Electronic Age*, L. Libr. Lights, Fall 2001, at 1, 1. Also available on Internet (last visited Apr. 5, 2002) < http://www.lisdc.org/lights/pdf/45_1.pdf>.

-- Jan Oberla, *Fugitive Government Documents*, L. Libr. Lights, Fall 2001, at 14, 15. Also available on Internet (last visited Apr. 5, 2002) < http://www.lisdc.org/lights/pdf/45_1.pdf>.

-- Thomas A. Downing, *LPS Cataloging Update, American Library Association Midwinter Conference, January 2002*, Admin. Notes, Feb. 15, 2002, at 4, 4. Also available on Internet (last visited Apr. 7, 2002) < http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/ad021502.html#5>.

* In April 2002 the Depository Library Council commended the Committee and its partner, GPO's Electronic Documents Working Group, for helping GPO increase public access to government information. The text of the commendation reads:

Council commends the efforts of the Electronic Documents Working Group (EDWG) and the American Association of Law Libraries Government Documents Special Interest Section's (AALL GD-SIS) Fugitive & Electronic-Only Documents Committee for their efforts in bringing online titles into the Federal Depository Library Program. Their efforts in discovering titles, examining OCLC records, assigning SuDocs classification, and analyzing appropriate distribution format in accordance with SOD 71 and other collection policies allow GPO's Cataloging Branch staff to expeditiously acquire and catalog many new online titles into the Federal Depository Library Program's Electronic Collection. -- *Recommendations, Commendations, and Action Items, Spring 2002 Depository Library Council Meeting, Mobile, AL*, Admin. Notes, June 15, 2002, at 13, 16-17. Also available on Internet (last visited July 13, 2002) < http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/>.

* The Committee developed a Website at <http://www.colorado.edu/Law/lawlib/ts/fugitive/committee.htm>, which features lists of all the titles the Committee has reported to GPO, a roster of current Committee members, links to GPO's Electronic Documents Working Group, references in professional literature to the Committee's activities, and honors the Committee has received.

* The Committee has developed plans, approved by the Superintendent of Documents, for archiving fugitive federal documents not cataloged by GPO.

* The Committee has developed procedures for identifying and reporting fugitive federal documents.

* The Committee provided information about federal fugitive and electronic-only publications, to the AALL Washington Affairs Office. The Office used this information in creating Congressional testimony, and in educating members of Congress's Joint Committee on Printing, about the issues of fugitive information and electronic dissemination.

* The William S. Hein Co, Inc. has begun publishing print versions of some of the titles identified by the Committee as electronic-only.

A partial group of the Committee's members will meet during the 2002 AALL Annual Meeting to discuss the Committee's activities in the coming year.

The coordinator wishes to thank all of the committee members for their outstanding work during the past year.

The committee wishes to thank John Stevenson and our colleagues in GPO's Electronic Documents Working Group; Superintendent of Documents Francis Buckley; GPO's Director of Library Programs Service Gil Baldwin; GPO's Chief of Cataloging Branch Theodore Downing; all the GPO cataloging staff, and particularly PURL maintainer Theodore Defosse; GPO's Supervisory Program Analyst Laurie Beyer Hall and her staff members Cynthia Etkin and Joe Paskoski; GPO's Chief of Depository Services Staff Robin Haun-Mohamed; AALL's President Barbara Bintliff, AALL's Washington Affairs Representatives Robert Oakley and Mary Alice Baish; GD-SIS's leaders Greta Boeringer, Hays Butler, Charlene Cain, and Paul Arrigo; David Bratman of Stanford University Robert Crown Law Library; Tim Byrne of the ALA GODORT Cataloging Committee; Brian Jablonski, Daniel Rosati, and Richard Spinelli of W.S. Hein & Co., Inc.; and our colleagues in the law library and documents communities.