

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chris Anglim, Chair, and the Officers the AALL Government Documents Special Interest Section (GD-SIS)
FROM: Scott Matheson and Susan Lyons, Committee Coordinators, AALL GD-SIS Fugitive & Electronic-Only Documents Committee
RE: 2005 Committee Annual Report
DATE: July 3, 2004

On behalf of the AALL GD-SIS Fugitive & Electronic-Only Documents Committee, we are pleased to present the Committee's 2004 Annual Report.

The committee's 18 members during 2003-04 were Aviva Adler*, Christopher Anglim, Mark Bartlett, Donald Blair*, A. Hays Butler, L. Virginia Davis*, Galen L. Fletcher*, Cecily A. H. Giardina, Peggy Roebuck Jarrett*, Gwendolyn Lohmann, Susan Lyons, Scott Matheson, Michelle Pearse, Caitlin Robinson, Michael H. Roffer, Randall Tenor, Allyssen Rice Watkins*, Gail F. Whittemore*, and Alice I. Youmans (*new members this year). Mark Bartlett stepped down as coordinator during the year due to a change in employment. He remains an active member.

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 hasn't 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, electronic-only, and tangibly-distributed U.S. federal documents on law and policy on the GD-SIS Website.
3. Facilitate hard copy publication of some of these documents.

Achievements and activities this year:

1. Co-coordinator Sue Lyons implemented "Fugitive Documents Week" with the support of GPO and the EDWG. The one-week effort resulted in 222 submissions to GPO's Lost Docs address. GPO staff noted that the titles submitted were only one benefit: the event also helped raise awareness of the fugitive problem in the documents community.

2. A listserv for fugitive “hunters” was set up and is hosted by AALL. The list is open to all interested fugitive hunters. All members of the committee are subscribed, as are several EDWG participants and GPO staff.
3. GPO resumed tangible distribution of Supreme Court slip opinions to law library depositories. SuDoc Judy Russell noted that this is an example of the new flexibility she hopes to bring to the program. The committee helped to draft AALL GD-SIS’s July 2002 resolution urging resumption of print depository distribution of U.S. Supreme Court Slip Opinions. With the help of Mary Alice Baish (AALL Washington Affairs Office) the resolution was approved by AALL Executive Board and forwarded to the
4. The committee’s website moved from Arizona State University to Yale Law School’s server. The current address is: <http://www.law.yale.edu/library/fugitives/> . The site features lists of 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. A search function has been added and forms for updating the database should be available by fall.
5. The William S. Hein Co, Inc. has continued publishing print copies of selected titles identified by the committee as electronic-only. This series is entitled “Hein’s electronic documents reprint series” and now includes 18 titles.
6. A partial group of the committee’s members met at the 2003 AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington. They discussed the committee’s work and plans for the next year. The committee members will meet again at AALL 2004 in Boston.
7. The committee’s work has been documented again this past year in publications, including:
Fugitive Documents Week Nets 222 New Titles, Admin. Notes, April 15, 2004, at 1. Also available on Internet (last visited May 19, 2004) <http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/ad041504.html>.

Thanks and gratitude:

The coordinators thank all of the committee members for their outstanding work during the past year, and extend a special thanks to Mark Bartlett for coordinating the committee for most of this past year.

The committee wishes to thank John Stevenson and our colleagues in GPO’s Electronic Documents Working Group; Superintendent of Documents Judy Russell and her very supportive, helpful and responsive staff; and our many colleagues in the law library and documents communities, especially AALL’s Washington Affairs Office, ALA’s GODORT, and AALL’s Government Relations Committee.

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