

Vol. 7, #1 Fall/Winter 1999-2000

From the Chair:

Greetings for the new year and millenium! It is a rich time to be interested in government publications. So many things are changing and improving in the documents world that keeping our finger on the pulse of documents developments seems incredibly challenging. Here are some trends and issues that seem to be the most challenging for the coming year.

The first challenge we face is the Y2K issue. When we read this INDIGO newsletter issue will we discover Y2K plan faws in some government agencies? We hope GPO's plan holds steady because of its importance as a resource. Library Programs Service (LPS) alerted us on govdoc-l that they intended to check their servers and desktops and that their plan was posted at <http://www.access.gpo.gov/y2kdiscl.html> . They also reminded us that depository libraries were asked to check computers and networks to ensure Y2K compliance. A point to consider is now that many government publications are only available electronically is whether these documents will be replaced if they suffer from Y2K problems. Most government agencies do not promise to preserve their online documents. Other difficulties occur in retrieving online documents from agencies implementing computer security firewalls that prevent access. This is happening on military sites. GPO's PURL's no longer work. Will we need to advocate for freely accessible websites for certain titles or agencies? Y2K problems or not, we still need to be alert for these barriers to access and actively work to eliminate them.

[More challenges include technological changes. We know the U.S. Patent Office will issue patents on DVD. How many of us in Indiana actually have a DVD drive yet? \(My guess is few\). This Digital Virtual Disc format has so much space available it allows many layers of graphics, text, and video for its subject. For example, a DVD movie can be viewed along with a choice of subtitles, foreign language audio, commentary, trailers, and criticisms. Also because of its memory the audio and visuals are beautiful. In our practical world, a few DVD's can contain the information needed on many CD-ROMs. I have heard the Indiana Visual and Audiovisual Network \(IVAN\) <http://birch.palni.edu/~ivan/ivan.htm> present a program on DVD in which they asserted that libraries will definitely want to collect in DVD format. Although this demonstration was impressive,](#)

I confess to a bit of cynicism-by the time we invest time and money in this format, will a more compact and technologically compelling format emerge? IVAN has received an LSTA grant to five their staff the opportunity to develop expertise on this technology and they will presenting a program at the ILF Annual Conference on April 8 entitled "DVD-Is It For You?"

Another trend affecting federal depository libraries is the fast pace at which GPO has been able to implement a more electronic environment and how this affects our collections and user services. Our shipping lists see an increase in the online electronic format (EL) and microfiche (M). Paper (P) and tangible electronic products (E) seem on the wane. First, we have the problem that we may not always have access to these online electronic titles unless they're captured in paper or electronic form. Because of time and money, only rarely do we preserve online documents, except in exceptional circumstances such as missing important periodical issues and major reports. This trend has the benefit of improving collection space but, on the other hand, may require more computer terminals for users. These users may have remote access for electronic

titles, but how do they know about them? Are Indiana depositories providing title access to these documents in their online catalogs? Are our users served by microfiche or should we deselect this unpopular format and depend on electronic versions, where available? Should we deselect paper titles when the official electronic version is on GPO Access? Also, although we may receive fewer CD-ROMs, they may require new software or cause still unknown complications. I believe we'll need to think constantly about providing collection access in the coming year. I encourage you to use the INDIGO listserv for discussion of issues concerning you, especially in this area . Sometimes I am surprised that our regional depository also failed to receive several periodical issues or that another library has trouble with different CD-ROM products than we do. We'd all be grateful for more in-state information and support in these areas.

I'd like to know how others in the state are using new resources such as PubScience [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/dpos/partner.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/partner.html) and [Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids](http://www.access.gpo.gov/ben/guide/) <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/index.html> on the GPO website and GPO Access. Ben's Guide was particularly appreciated by Bloomington middle school librarian Denise Schockley.

An issue we can discuss is our handling of the U.S. Congressional Serial Set now that only regional depositories will receive bound volumes. Are you planning on binding your reports and documents or relying on GPO Access? When asked about the completeness of paper reports and documents at the "Government Information Issues in the 21st Century" conference, Public Printer Mike DiMario and Superintendent of Documents Fran Buckley admitted that neither the paper nor electronic versions would in themselves be complete serial sets. Users will have to depend on both paper and electronic versions to have access to the complete set.

State government online information and websites are growing so rapidly it is difficult to track them. Sharing information in this area is extremely important, particularly when new and useful reports and data are added. When you find a good site that was recently updated, inform us with a quick note so we can look at it.

Locally, Monroe County implemented a GIS online site for mapping property within the county at <http://in53.b-l-n.com/> [Once you load the map you want there are many](http://in53.b-l-n.com/) different and powerful ways to manipulate it! We'll see more government GIS information provided online in the coming year. USGS has included more GIS access in the past year. Basic information about this can be viewed at <http://www.usgs.gov/research/gis/title.html> and includes a description of GIS and its applications. INDIGO program planners are working on a GIS conference program for this year.

What about instruction and outreach for government documents? Even if this is not a central institutional mission, it can be a personal goal. I ask us all why don't citizens know more about what is available? Why don't students in our schools know about the basic reference texts we find so valuable? Why don't public libraries link to more government Internet sites? Do Hoosiers know enough about GPO Access? If we think there is more we can do in this area, how can we help?

I propose that INDIGO continue working on our successful Docs Tour project this year and try bringing this information to at least two more areas in our state. We can develop a Docs Tour internet site on the INDIGO homepage. This site can provide the basic information included in the Docs Tour instruction on government information to everyone in Indiana. In addition to the Docs Tour, I think INDIGO should focus on its conference programs, newsletter, and sharing information on INDIGO-L. We don't need to act on all these issues but should be challenged to be aware, informed, and share our knowledge with colleagues. Have a great 2000! (Andrea Morrison)

Government Information Issues in the 21st Century Symposium at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Sept. 16-18, 1999

This conference was designed to address a variety of topics of interest to librarians and researchers concerned with government information retrieval in the next century. Indiana attendees were Barbara Henn, Andrea Morrison, Lois Sewell, and Andrea Singer from IU-Bloomington and Bob Hinton from IUPUI. Conference speaker profiles are still available on the conference website

<http://www.lib.siu.edu/sii/index.html> These nationally recognized speakers included:

Prudence S. Adler, Assistant Executive Director, Federal Relations and Information Policy, Association of Research Libraries

Francis Buckley, Jr., Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office-Buckley is an enjoyable speaker in his formal presentations and enthusiastic in the smaller informal sessions. GPO partnerships and the issue of permanent public access are two of the major issues GPO is working on. See the new 1999 PubScience partnership at [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/dpos/partner.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/partner.html) PubScience provides users with the capability of searching across a large compendium of peer reviewed journal literature with emphasis on the physical sciences and other disciplines of concern to the Department of Energy (DOE).

Michael DiMario, Public Printer, U.S. Government Printing Office. His address was reprinted in Administrative Notes, v. 20, no. 15 and on the web at [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/dpos/ad111599.html#9](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/ad111599.html#9) He was inspiring on the topic of an informed citizenry and public access to documents finishing his speech with the words "As technology continues to change, government rules, as well as the rules and roles of those in the library community, must continue to evolve. But what must stay constant is a continuing adherence to the principle of public access and its centrality to our system of informed self-government." In one of the breakout sessions, DiMario and Buckley confirmed that they see GPO responding to private sector technology developments but not taking the lead to develop technology or select emerging technologies before widespread public use.

Jay Jordan, OCLC President and CEO, spoke about OCLC research and development and their technological leadership. He told us about some interesting experiences with e-books and trouble with the Internet connection at the last IFLA conference he attended within a context of standards development.

Julia Wallace, Head, Government Publications Library, University of Minnesota-Gave a

superb presentation on the use of statistics and advocated depository promotion of data usage. More information on this can be found here which provides background for understanding government data and good government data links. It also serves as a useful reference for quick government data site annotations and links to user guides and documentation.

Attendees were pleased with this conference. There was time for informal idea exchanges at the breakout sessions. At one GIS session, it was interesting hearing from a company providing GIS information for sale their perspective on the private use of free government GIS information, and how their product added value for consumers.

They mentioned they considered the time involved in digitizing maps an added value worth paying for even if the information was not added admitting that such digitization was not technically difficult. Andrea Singer's conference appraisal was:

"Though the extensive multiple presentations of Julia Wallace and updates from Washington luminaries were informative, the highlights of the conference for me as a non-U.S. docs person who does U.S. docs reference were an address by OCLC CEO Jay Jordan, and breakout session on Internet sites for legal research. SIU hospitality was wonderful." (Andrea Morrison)

#### Upcoming INDIGO Conference

Reserve Thursday, February 10 for the INDIGO Winter Conference! It will be held at the new Indiana Historical Society building (450 West Ohio Street) in Indianapolis. Free parking is provided behind the building and we will join a free public tour at 3:30 p.m. [The historical society web site can be reached at http://www.indianahistory.org/](http://www.indianahistory.org/) and contains information about the Cole Porter Room, William Henry Smith Memorial Library, Great Hall, other attractions, and directions. The tentative schedule is:

- 10:00-10:15 Welcome and Announcements-Andrea
- 10:15-11:15 Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management WWW Site
- 11:15-12:15 GIS Program-Matt Dye (IU-Bloomington)
- 12:15-1:30 Lunch
- 1:30-2:30 Business Meeting-Including Chair and Treasurers Reports, Doc Tour program report and future tour discussion, INDIGO website and newsletter, other issues
- 2:30-3:15 Open discussion issues or presentation
- 3:30 Indiana Historical Society Tour

#### Purdue Libraries News

The Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education (HSSE) Library, where a significant number of Purdue's government documents are located, will be remodeled. The renovation will start this fall and go on until 2002. Once completed, the first floor of this library will be transformed into a state of the art electronic facility. Connect to <http://www.lib.purdue.edu/hsse/> for future information about this project. Purdue's Documents Department homepage was demonstrated at an electronic poster session during a fall 1999 visit from the North Central Association reaccreditation team. North Central members viewing this site came from universities as diverse as the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign, Oklahoma State University, and

the University of Houston. The Purdue Libraries Documents Department homepage continues to grow. The subject guides section of this page has added handouts on aviation, intelligence, and public administration. These handouts can be reached at: [http://www.lib.purdue.edu/library\\_info/departments/govdocs/Aviation.html](http://www.lib.purdue.edu/library_info/departments/govdocs/Aviation.html) , [http://www.lib.purdue.edu/library\\_info/departments/govdocs/Intelligence.html](http://www.lib.purdue.edu/library_info/departments/govdocs/Intelligence.html) , and [http://www.lib.purdue.edu/library\\_info/departments/govdocs/PubAdmin.html](http://www.lib.purdue.edu/library_info/departments/govdocs/PubAdmin.html) .

#### Indiana History News-American State Papers as Resources

The American State Papers are excellent primary source materials for Indiana's final years as a territory and early years of statehood. Consisting of 40 volumes these documents are divided into categories such as foreign relations, Indian Affairs, finance, commerce/navigation, military affairs, naval affairs, Post Office Department, public lands, claims, and miscellaneous. They contain subject indexes and are also indexed in CIS' Congressional Serial Set Index. Topics covered within the state papers include the military activities of Indiana territorial governor William Henry Harrison, federal relations with the Miami Indians, Indian treaties, and numerous other topics.

#### Energy Department Espionage Resources

Revelation of Chinese espionage at DOE labs in 1999 provoked a political firestorm whose consequences continue to rage. There are a variety of government resources on this subject that are available on the web or distributed to depository libraries. Representative executive branch materials include the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB) report *Science at Its Best: Security at Its Worst* [http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/pfiab/pfiab\\_report.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/pfiab/pfiab_report.pdf) and its appendix <http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/pfiab/appendix.pdf> , Public Law 106-65 (National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000-Sections 3141-3156), House Reports 106-162 and 106-301 (Conference Report), and Senate Report 106-56. Relevant DOE materials include DOE's Office of Nuclear Proliferation and National Security <http://www.nn.doe.gov/> , DOE's Inspector General <http://www.ig.doe.gov/> , DOE's Office of Defense Programs <http://www.dp.doe.gov/> , and DOE's Implementation Plan for the National Nuclear Security Administration <http://www.doe.gov/news/nnsa.pdf> which was created by Congress in response to these security breaches. Important legislative branch resources include General Accounting Office reports <http://www.gao.gov/> , the Cox Report <http://www.house.gov/coxreport/> , House Armed Services Committee <http://www.house.gov/hasc/> , House Commerce Committee <http://www.house.gov/commerce/> , Senate Armed Services Committee [http://www.senate.gov/~armed\\_services/](http://www.senate.gov/~armed_services/) , Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee <http://www.senate.gov/~energy/> , and a Senate Governmental Affairs Committee report on the FBI and DOE investigation of Wen-Ho Lee [http://www.senate.gov/~gov\\_affairs/china\\_investigation.htm](http://www.senate.gov/~gov_affairs/china_investigation.htm)

#### Indiana Congressional Web Site Review-Senator Richard Lugar

Senator Richard Lugar (R) is Indiana's senior senator having served since 1977. His site can be found at <http://www.senate.gov/~lugar/> . Contents include Washington and Indiana office location information biographical material, the full text of press releases since 1999, links to Senate committees Lugar serves on, constituent service information such as casework, Washington, DC tours, and service academy

nominations, and information on ordering constituent resource handbooks on topics such as consumer affairs and economic development. This information is acceptable but far short of what's needed for an effective website. Additional information should include links to legislation Senator Lugar has sponsored along with the names of staff members and their subject responsibilities with particular emphasis on legislative assistants.

#### Indiana Department of Education Web Site Review

Located at <http://ideanet.doe.state.in.us/>, the Indiana Department of Education website is one of Indiana's most extensive in its coverage. Site contents include the department's current General Assembly legislative agenda, individual school performance reports, individual school student expulsion information, individual teacher licensing data, links to K-12 school web sites, academic standards for selected subjects and grades K-12 as required by Public Law 143-1999, and video feeds of Indiana State Board of Education meetings. Although the homepage is crowded with links which may intimidate the initial user, this must be regarded as one of Indiana State Government's premier Internet resources and is "must surfing" for anyone interested in Indiana educational policy. Regrettably, the site no longer contains individual teacher salary information which I enjoyed demonstrating for education law classes.

#### Hamilton County Web Site Review

Hamilton County <http://www.co.hamilton.in.us/> is located just north of Indianapolis and ranks as one of Indiana's most affluent and technologically sophisticated counties. Their web site contains a vast diversity of county government information. Site contents include government office location information, agendas and minutes of organizations such as the county commissioners, and links to county offices such as the county council, clerk's office, assessor, courts, and auditor.

A particularly noteworthy feature is GIS material including zoning and other map images requiring the use of Autodesk Map and MapGuide plugins. A users guide to various county government agencies is also included.

This site ranks very highly on content but it receives lower presentation marks. The homepage uses frames and the presence of different background colors makes printing this page impossible. The use of frames throughout this site also detracts from its user friendliness. If this unfortunate emphasis on frames is corrected for an aesthetically plainer appearance, than this resource could qualify as a model local government web site.

#### Upcoming Events

Depository Library Council Conference-Newport, RI-April 10-12