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*THE DIGITAL FUTURE OF FDSYS AND THE FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY
PROGRAM: A PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS*



THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH LIBRARIES
GLOBAL RESOURCES COLLECTIONS FORUM

My Agency and Oversight Committees...

...require the following:

My presentation does not represent views or positions of the Congressional Research Service, which takes no policy positions, or the Library of Congress.

The Policy Process in Brief

- There is a problem
- Solutions proposed
 - Consensus, majority, or plurality solutions emerge among interested parties
- Government gets Involved
 - Congress
 - Hearings, investigation
 - Lawmaking
 - Oversight
 - Federal Agencies
 - Implement
 - Oversight
- Feedback
 - New problems identified
 - Unintended consequences

FDLP in the Policy Process

PROBLEMS

- Access & Service
 - Tangible, Digital, or Both?
- Costs
 - FDLP
 - GPO & Participants
 - FDSys

FDLP in the Policy Process

PROBLEMS

- Born Digital Materials
 - Identification
 - Retention
 - Preservation
 - Service

- Tangibles
 - Retention
 - Digitization
 - Consolidation
 - Service

FDLP in the Policy Process

TOWARD SOLUTIONS

- Ithaka Report
 - Rejected by GPO
- GPO FDLP Study
 - In progress
- ASERL

FDLP in the Policy Process

TOWARD SOLUTIONS

But Consensus?

- What is to be captured?
 - How to count
 - Websites
 - Documents v. Records
- How to Capture? And by Whom?
 - GPO, FDSys
 - Originating agencies
 - Third Parties
- Paper or Digital?
 - “There is absolutely no consensus on this issue, even among stakeholders within the same category of library. Some respondents want a balanced approach, with GPO continuing to work with the depository libraries to determine the correct balance of print and digital. Others expressed concern about the decreased access to print.” (NAPA, 2013)

FDLP in the Policy Process

GOVERNING

- Congress
 - Title 44, U.S. Code
 - Ch. 19, FDLP, 1962
 - Ch. 41, Digital Production of Congressional Record, Federal Register, FDSys, 1993
 - Change unlikely without clear agreement regarding solutions among stakeholders
- GPO
 - Follows the law
 - Assorted regulations

FDLP in the Policy Process

BACK TO PROPOSALS

- FDLP Community
- Related Professional Associations
- Other Stakeholders
 - Before Congress engages, clear proposals that are broadly supported must be offered by stakeholders. Interested parties
 - Unclear what they might be, or whether they exist
 - Enduring standard for digital retention?
 - Who collects/retains born digital content?
 - What about tangibles?
 - Costs
- Patience may be in order.

What Do You Think?

- Questions
- Comments
- Next Steps