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Depository Library Conferences

In April 2001, more than 150 Government information librarians met in San Antonio, TX, to discuss issues of importance to Government information users nationwide as well as the national library community. The occasion for the gathering was the 58th semiannual meeting of the Depository Library Council, an advisory group to the Public Printer. The Council is composed of 15 representatives of the Government information community who advise GPO on issues related to the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).

Highlights of the April conference included remarks from the Public Printer and GPO's Superintendent of Documents on the outlook for the FDLP, presentations from the Census Bureau and the National Park Service, and programs such as "Local Strategies for Ongoing Access to Electronic U.S. Government Information," "Incorporating Federal Government Resources in Virtual Libraries," and "Electronic Spanish Language Information Resource Locators." The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) provided an update on its "Assessment of the Federal Government's Information Policies and Practices."

In spite of the September 11 attacks, in October 2001 nearly 400 Federal depository librarians and agency representatives attended the 10th annual Federal Depository Library Conference, the Nation's premier event for Government information librarians. The conference was held in Alexandria, VA, concurrent with the 59th

meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer.

Highlights of the October conference included discussions on depository library promotion, education resources on the Web, permanent public access strategies for electronic publications, baseline electronic proficiencies, and more. GPO's ongoing transition to a more electronic FDLP was the primary focus of the event, as was discussion of development of a mirror site for *GPO Access* at a location outside Washington, DC. One announcement welcomed by the group was that cataloging records for online electronic publications will now be included in the online *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications*. Other agency participants, such as the Census Bureau, U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Aviation Administration, National Imagery and Mapping Agency, Forest Service, Department of Energy, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, presented updates on their public information activities and products.

Withdrawal of USGS CD-ROM from Depository Libraries

In the wake of the September 11 attacks, Federal agencies began reviewing their public information products. One agency, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), determined that one of its publications, a CD-ROM entitled *Source Area Characteristics of Large Public Surface-Water Supplies in the Conterminous United States: An Information Resource for Source-Water Assessment, 1999*, should be withdrawn from public access in Federal depository libraries and destroyed.