

Congress's Publisher

BY JORDAIN CARNEY

Gridlock or not, Congress still cranks out documents at a steady pace—from bills, amendments, and resolutions to hearing records, committee reports, and the daily transcripts of floor proceedings in the Congressional Record.

As the new chief of staff for the Government Printing Office, **Andrew Sherman** makes sure the information flow is smooth, accessible, and up-to-date.

“We’re a nation of documents; we always have been,” Sherman said. “What created this nation is written documents.”

GPO has been the government’s official producer of documents for 200 years, since Congress decided in 1813 that information about the three branches of government should be available to all Americans. And Sherman, who turns 59 this week, has been at the heart of the operations for more than three decades.

He joined GPO in 1980 when he was offered a job in the budget office after taking the civil-service test. He was a graduate teaching assistant at Old Dominion University at the time. “I had to go back and tell my department chair ... that I had taken this job with the federal government.... He wasn’t very happy about it,” he said, adding that he agreed to grade papers for the rest of the term.

Since then, Sherman has spent most of



Sherman: Maintains document flow.

his time at GPO interacting with Congress. He went from the budget office to the Office of the Public Printer in 1985, where he acted as GPO’s director of legislative and public affairs from 1997 to 2003; as director of congressional relations from 2003 to 2011; and as chief communications officer from 2011 until his appointment as chief of staff earlier this month.

During that time, information processing has changed dramatically at GPO, just as it has in society at large. “In the last 25 years or so, the role of print has changed,” Sherman said. “The basic mode of access is digital.” But he

noted that print is still needed for official copies, court records, and other legal documents.

To reflect the changing methods, Davita Vance-Cooks, who was sworn in as the 27th public printer last month, has suggested changing GPO’s name from the Government Printing Office to the Government Publishing Office. Vance-Cooks is “quite serious” about the suggestion, Sherman said. “It’s more accurate, and a more up-to-date representation of what GPO is and does.”

Sherman said the printing office has been “basically doing the same job, just a completely different process.” It has gone to computerized typesetting and online publishing, disseminating more data with fewer staff, he said.

As chief of staff, Sherman will be involved with GPO’s efforts to continue to modernize its printing plant, and is overseeing expansion of apps that make documents more accessible. The office currently has four apps, and Sherman said more are “on the table for discussion.”

Sherman is a Beltway baby, having grown up in Falls Church, Va. “Washington has been my frame of reference for most of my life,” he said. His father worked at the Library of Congress, and Sherman said he wasn’t sure he “ever considered anything else [besides public service] seriously.” He graduated from the University of Virginia with a bachelor’s degree in government in 1976, and a master’s degree in government in 1981. ■

PEOPLE ROUNDUP

Traveling Man

Chris Kennedy is the new director of strategic communications for the U.S. Travel Association.

Since 2008, Kennedy has been director of media relations at the Cato Institute. Before that, he was in the communications offices at the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America and the Heritage Foundation.

Kennedy also worked on Capitol Hill for a number of members earlier in his career.

Marketing McKenna

Ellen R. Musante is the new chief marketing officer at McKenna Long & Aldridge.

Musante is a former director of marketing and business development at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, as well as a former director

of client services at Steptoe & Johnson.

Going With the Grain

Jared Hill, agriculture and trade counsel to Sen. **Chuck Grassley**, R-Iowa, has joined the National Grain and Feed Association as director of legislative affairs.

He previously was a partner at Iowa law firm Beving, Swanson & Forrest, and was government-relations manager for the Iowa Corn Growers Association.

New Associate

Ashley Garry has joined Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough as an associate.

A former law clerk for Jean Hoefler Toal, chief justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, Garry served as an Army officer in

Iraq, where he led combat and nation-building operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III.

CSIS Addition

David Berteau has been named director of a new National Security Program on Industry and Resources at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The program will combine research on the defense industry, government procurement, and national security programs and contracts, with an emphasis on increasing fiscal constraints.

Berteau, a senior vice president at CSIS, has directed the center’s Defense-Industrial Initiatives Group for half of his 12 years with the organization. He previously spent a dozen years at the Defense Department.

*Mike Magner
and Christopher Snow Hopkins*