



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Steering Committee Conference Call Summary
ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository Program
August 20, 2007

ATTENDING:

David Vidor, Emory University
John Burger, ASERL
James Staub, Tennessee State Library and Archives
Laura Harper, University of Mississippi
Marian Parker, Wake Forest University
Sandra McAninch, University of Kentucky, Chair
William Sudduth, University of South Carolina

OTHER ABBREVIATIONS:

ASERL: Association of Southeastern Research Libraries
ED: Department of Education (SuDoc class)
FW: Federal Works Agency and Works Projects Administration (SuDoc class)
GOVDOC-L: LISTSERV®-based discussion forum about government information issues

Steering Committee welcomes Law Librarian

Marian Parker was welcomed to her first Steering Committee meeting.

Feedback on Program Backgrounder

Steering Committee members have reached out to those with questions about our program in various ways. GOVDOC-L posting resulted in both supportive and concerned comments. Discussions on lists tended toward collaborative efforts. Two non-profit consortial groups are working toward identifying essential legal titles for preservation.

Final GPO guidelines for shared Regionals

The guidelines will be released with very few changes in the near future.

Initial ideas for comparing collections

Some committee members favored developing collection profiles for ASERL Regional depository libraries and asking Selectives and Regionals to self-identify as "centers of excellence" for collections from specific government agencies.

1438 WEST PEACHTREE STREET, N.W., SUITE 200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30309-2955

VOICE: 404.892.0943

TOLL-FREE: 800.999.8558
WEB: [HTTP://WWW.ASERL.ORG](http://www.aserl.org)

FAX: 404.892.7879

Another alternative would be to develop a survey to compare collections across participating Regionals, including a collection profile.

The Tennessee shared Regional responsibility was described briefly. As the University of Memphis was preparing to become the state's Regional library in 1989, FDLP libraries from across the state split responsibility for collecting and providing access to pre-1989 FDLP materials, e.g., the Tennessee State Library and Archives is responsible for I, LC, and W SuDoc classes.

There was an observation made that most Selectives are primarily interested in accurate cataloging of the Regionals' collections in order to know where they can get a given document via ILL.

A discussion ensued regarding what we hope to achieve in the collection management project. The committee also discussed how ambitious our "proof of concept" test-bed project should be. It was agreed that we should start small to prove our concept for collection analysis can work. If the test-bed project is successful, we can then address how we can create multiple "centers of excellence" for each agency. It was stressed that this test-bed project will be only hypothetical to see if it could be done, and will not actually result in the movement of any materials.

The collection management project will require that we be able to compare our collections, so the committee discussed various strategies for accomplishing this task, including OCLC's WorldCat Collection Analysis tool.

The committee agreed that Selectives could possibly be "centers of excellence," but that we will probably use Regional collections for our test-bed project. We need to focus initially on documenting what we are committing ourselves to, and what we will each need in order to be a "center of excellence." We need to focus narrowly on the tasks that would need to be accomplished. It was agreed that the collection comparison piece cannot happen quickly so we need to start small.

Another suggestion was made to start with GPO's Monthly Catalog as a comparison tool. It was also pointed out that Paratext has created MARC records from the title index to GPO's shelf list, so this might be another possibility.

Service and digitization activities

The committee discussed whether we will be developing service standards, and what we mean by "services." The committee agreed that we should attempt to have libraries self-identify as potential centers of service expertise that should be co-located with the actual collections.

The committee agreed to wait on incorporating digitization until a later date

Getting volunteers from other Regionals to help with these activities

The committee agreed that the more Regionals we have involved at the beginning, the better. Drafts of our documents will go out to ASERL Regionals for comment.

October Meeting date/time and standard teleconference day

Sunday, Oct. 14, 1:30-3:30 PM

The third Tuesday of each month will be our standard teleconference time.