Collaborative Federal Depository Program
Activity Report – March 2021

FDLP Deans’ Committee: Cecilia Botero (U-Mississippi) and Judy Russell (U-Florida)
CFDP Steering Committee Chair: Renee Bosman (UNC-Chapel Hill)
For full member list: https://bit.ly/2NZnp7U

Overview
In 2006, ASERL established its first program to explore options for cooperative services and collection management of tangible federal government publications. Participating libraries, collectively known as Centers of Excellence (COE), seek to ensure that the Southeast region includes at least one complete cataloged set of print publications and maps distributed as part of the Federal Depository Library Program. In these efforts, COEs agree to inventory and catalog their chosen agency/subject collection, actively replace damaged or lost items, fill gaps in their collections, and provide preservation for the collection.

Activities
41 libraries serve as Centers of Excellence (COE); 30 of which are Selective Depositories. Of these, 32 COE libraries are ASERL members; nine do not hold membership in ASERL. Together, these libraries seek to ensure that the Southeast region includes at least one complete cataloged set of print publications and maps distributed as part of the Federal Depository Library Program. COE collections include six Cabinet-level agencies, 1 format collection (maps), 2 subject collections (Panama Canal and Cuba) and over 200 SuDoc classifications.

Program Review: A review of the Program Guidelines is conducted every 3 years, with the next review to take place in 2021.


The ASERL Documents Disposition Database continues to be a valuable resource for ensuring FDLP libraries can fill gaps and build collections throughout the region. Since the database was launched in 2012, 99,120 offered items have been claimed to fill gaps in FDLP collections; 48,723 items have been claimed for Centers of Excellence collections. 232 libraries (78% of eligible libraries in the SE) use the ASERL Documents Disposition Database to manage their disposition processes.
The CFDP Steering Committee annual networking get-together at the Depository Library Conference (DLC) was held virtually on December 7, 2020. The get-together is an opportunity for collegial information sharing about depository activities in the Southeast, highlighting important take-a-ways from DLC programming, plus a brief update on the program. 35 people attended the session.

Will Stringfellow, Coordinator of Government Documents – Vanderbilt University was named as the next Depository Library Council Chair. His term begins June 1, 2021. Also serving on the Council is Renee Bosman, Government Information Librarian at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, who began her term in June 2020. Renee also Chairs the CFDP Steering Committee.

Renee Bosman (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill), Abigail DeSoto (Louisiana Tech University), Amy Laub-Carroll (University of Kentucky) and Cheryle Cole-Bennett, ASERL co-authored an article “From the Field” in the recent issue of Collaborative Librarianship. The article, entitled “The Collaborative Federal Depository Program: Managing Federal Depository Library Program Collections in the Southeast”, can be found via direct link at: https://digitalcommons.du.edu/collaborativelibrarianship/vol12/iss2/3.

Challenges/Opportunities
CFDP Steering Committee member, Abigail Desoto (Government Documents Librarian, Louisiana Tech University) accepted a new position at Louisiana State University Shreveport and resigned her position on the CFDP Steering Cmte, effective November 13, 2020.

CFDP libraries may withdraw from the program with two years’ written notice, to allow other libraries the opportunity to adopt the collections that are being withdrawn. In August 2020, Hollins University (COE for the Women’s Bureau) and Georgia State University (Subject COE for the City of Atlanta) were removed from the program as COEs. Duke University continues to serve as the COE for the Women’s Bureau. The “City of Atlanta” is no longer a subject COE.

Northern Kentucky University, who serves as a COE for the three agencies – the Copyright Office, the Small Business Administration, and the American Folklife Center - will withdraw from the program in May 2022. The University of Florida has assumed responsibility for the Copyright Office and the University of Mississippi assumed responsibility for the Small Business Administration, ensuring these collections are sustained. The Tennessee State Library and Archives continues to serve as the COE for the American Folklife Center.

Recent enhancements to the infrastructure of OCLC Worldcat for shared print presents an opportunity for streamlined registration processes and greater discoverability of these important collections. The Steering Committee will redraft the best practices documentation for cataloging/metadata guidelines of COE materials to take advantage of these enhancements.

The Steering Committee is seeking opportunities to support Preservation Stewards in the ASERL region who are not currently participants in the CFDP. Like COEs, Preservation Stewards make a commitment to retain and preserve specified tangible depository resources. 7 of the 11 Preservation Stewards in the Southeast are COE libraries.