

MINUTES
Ohio GOPORT MEETING
University of Cincinnati Library
October 21, 1988

The meeting was called to order by the president Carol Singer. The minutes were read and corrected to include Karen Kottsy on the Awards Committee with Evron Collins and George Kosman. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Several of the members who attended the recent Depository Council meeting in Washington, D.C., made comments on the proceedings. They included Karen Kottsy, Margaret Powell, Julia Baldwin, Jean Sears, and George Kosman. They reported that the Library Programs Service is expecting positive results from the survey of users of Depository Libraries. Libraries without a CD-ROM drive should include that in their next budget. The next Census information will definitely be distributed on CD-ROM. The Washington people, like spin doctors, seemed intent on giving the impression that everything is wonderful, but that must not be the case since Kennekel has recently resigned and will be working in private industry. There was an interesting program explaining government procurement procedure, specifically in relation to the problems GPO has had with microfiche contracts. Also discussed at the Depository Council meeting was the delay in publishing the bound volumes of Congressional Record which has been complicated by the dual format option. There is a project to provide the Federal Register on FM radio.

Depository Libraries recently received the report from the Office of Technology Assessment titled Informing the Nation: federal information dissemination in an electronic age. This is important reading for depository librarians, as it deals among other things with the future of the federal depository library program.

Several members from Ohio libraries that are testing the CD-ROM of Census information made comments on their experience. The same tables are available on CD-ROM as you find in the paper format. There have been some problems with having to change the computer's configuration to access the information. Other CD-ROM products use a different configuration. In order to manipulate the data you need to know D-Base III, select codes and set tabs.

Carol Singer announced that she with Margie Powell, Sara Gail Lynch and Mary Prophet will be presenting a program at the ACRL convention in Cincinnati in April 1989 on "The Tightening Noose: Decreasing Access to Federal Information."

Carol Singer invited Ohio GOPORT to have their spring meeting at Kenyon College. Friday May 19, 1989 was selected as the date by a show of hands.

A discussion followed about various government publications. Mary Prophet pointed out that the latest wage estimate for women in a Labor Dept. News Release has changed

dramatically. She checked on how the figure was derived and found that new figures include all part time highschool students, so the figures have changed because the definition has changed. One TIAS bound volume which appears to be missing has not yet been published. Also a new Serial Set Numerical List has been distributed, but the previous list has not been published yet.

The question of establishing an archives for Ohio GODORT was referred to Graham Walden. He is still working on that possibility.

Julia Baldwin mentioned that Jean Sears and Peggy Lewis were given a commendation at the Depository Council meeting for their recent article "Currency of Selected U.S. Federal Government Agency Annual Reports Received by Depository Libraries" which appeared in *Government Publications Review*, volume 15, pages 323-341, 1988. Also at the Council meeting there was a great deal of discussion about state plans. It may be necessary to revise the Ohio state plan.

A member asked if the "Clyde" award would be presented this year. This is not necessarily an annual award. It was suggested that if there are any recommendations this year they should be sent to Carol Singer.

One library that was recently inspected has an on-line shelf list which includes both SUDOCs items and LC items. The inspector was not pleased with this arrangement, apparently because you could not printout a list of all SUDOCs holdings.

There was a discussion of the national survey of users of depository collections. The following points were made:

1. The directions are difficult to follow.
2. It is not possible for one person to be responsible for the blue log if the library is open long hours.
3. Some libraries are attaching a letter explaining the problems they have had in administering the survey.
4. Some libraries have decided not to conduct the survey because of the problems in administering it.
5. Since the government apparently would like to make the depository system smaller it is logical for librarians to be concerned that the survey might be used to cut some collections out of the system.
6. If use seems untypically low, should a library estimate use, pass out forms to generate false figures, or refuse to participate in the survey? It seems likely that some libraries will do each of these things.
7. The survey cards were poorly designed. They seem geared to show little use of documents.
8. Extra staff would be needed to conduct the survey in any library where documents are used in multiple locations.
9. The limit of one card per individual, even if that individual uses documents several times during the survey period for different purposes, seems an unreasonable stipulation.

It was suggested that Ohio GODORT send an official letter

based on the comments made at the meeting. President Carol Singer offered to draft a letter based on the comments recorded in the minutes. Members present at the meeting were able to sign a list which is to be included with the letter. Constance Whittaker so moved, Mary Prophet seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a show of hands.

The business meeting was adjourned at 11:05.

Following lunch, there were three presentations on CD-ROM. First CIS: Congressional Masterfile 1789-1969 on CD-ROM, then Silver Platter's GPO CD-ROM, and finally OCLC's Search CD-450 system which includes NTIS, AGRICOLA and will have the GPO Monthly Catalog.

Respectfully submitted,

NANI BALL

Nani Ball, Secretary